No. 791,227. PATENTED MAY 30, 1905.

L. C. STRINGHAM & L. M. ZELL.

SHOE FASTENER.

APPLICATION FILED SEPT. 9, 1904.

Fig. 1.

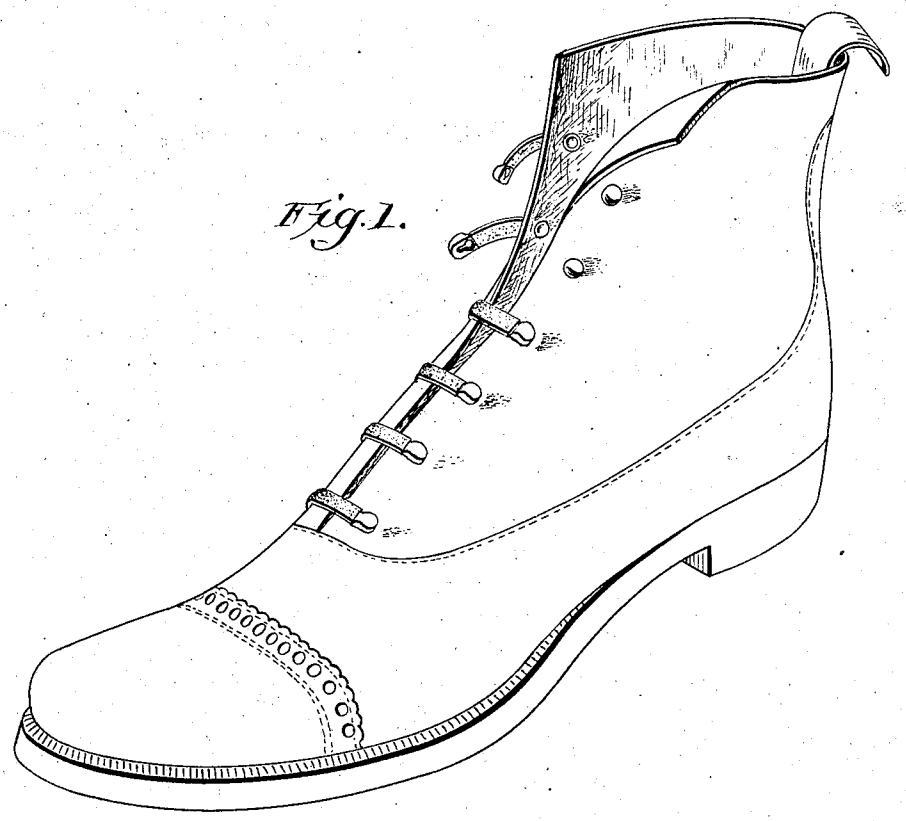


Fig. 2.

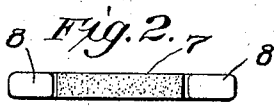
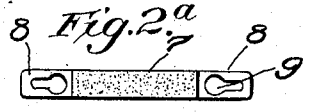


Fig. 2a.



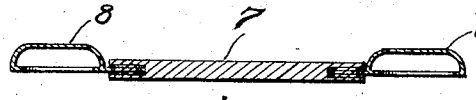


Fig. 3.

Fig. 4.

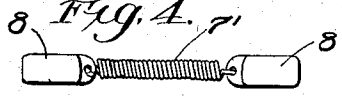
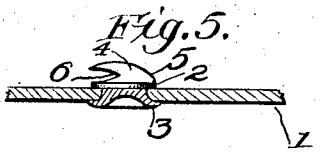


Fig. 5.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

LEWIS CLAYTON STRINGHAM AND LUCIAN MITCHELL ZELL, OF EAST ORANGE, NEW JERSEY.

SHOE-FASTENER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 791,227, dated May 30, 1905.

Application filed September 9, 1904. Serial No. 223,921.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that we, LEWIS CLAYTON STRINGHAM and LUCIAN MITCHELL ZELL, citizens of the United States, residing at East Orange, New Jersey, have invented new and useful Improvements in Shoe-Fasteners, of which the following is a specification.

Our invention relates to fasteners for general use, and is especially designed for application to shoes, slippers, gloves, and similar articles of wearing-apparel.

The object of the invention is to provide a yielding fastener, dispensing with shoe-laces, glove-buttons, and the like, and by the use of the fastener to afford the wearer ease and comfort.

In general terms, the invention consists of a yielding central member having a clasp or the like at each end and studs or their equivalents for engaging with the clasps.

Referring to the accompanying drawings, wherein like reference characters refer to like parts, we have illustrated our invention as applied to a shoe; but it is to be understood that we do not wish to limit ourselves to such restricted application, it being our intention to apply the invention to general use.

In the drawings, Figure 1 is a perspective view of a shoe, showing several of our improved fasteners secured thereto. Fig. 2 is a top plan view of the fastener. Fig. 2^a is a bottom plan view thereof. Fig. 3 is a vertical sectional view of the fastener shown in Fig. 2. Fig. 4 is a top plan view of a modified form of fastener; and Fig. 5 is a view, partly in section, showing a stud secured to a piece of material.

For convenience of description we will refer to the shoe shown in the accompanying illustration in describing our invention.

In the drawings, 1 represents a shoe provided with a series of studs 2, adjacent the edge of the upper. Each stud consists of an upset lower part or shank 3 and a head 4, sharply beveled off at 5. Opposite the beveled-off part of the head we provide a notch 6.

The fastener proper consists of a yielding member 7, supplied at each end with an eyeleted casing or the like 8. In the drawings the form of casing illustrated consists of a hollow metal casing having an elongated aperture 9 in the lower wall. The casings 8 are secured to the central member 7 in any appropriate manner. The central member 7 may be made of any yielding material, such as rubber, or, as shown in Fig. 4, it may consist of a light spiral spring 7′, covered or uncovered, as most convenient.

In practice we usually secure one end of the fastener permanently to the material and leave the opposite end free.

The operation of the fastener is as follows: Assuming that one end is secured to the material, the opposite end is placed with the aperture downward over the stud 2. Owing to the beveled head of the stud 2, the latter easily enters the larger part of the aperture 9, and as the fastener is allowed to assume its normal position the head of the stud will slide into the elongation of the aperture and is thus retained.

Having now described our invention, what we claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. A fastener comprising the combination of a coiled spring, an eyeleted casing secured to each end thereof and studs having beveled heads for entering said casings each of said heads having a recess in one side thereof, substantially as described.

2. A fastener comprising the combination of a yielding member, an eyeleted casing secured to each end thereof and studs having beveled heads for entering said casings, each of said heads having a recess in one side thereof, substantially as described.

In testimony whereof we have signed our names to this specification in the presence of the subscribing witnesses.

LEWIS CLAYTON STRINGHAM.
LUCIAN MITCHELL ZELL.

Witnesses:
OTTO MUNK,
E. READE.