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LACING EYELET.
APPLICATION FILED AUG. 21, 1919.

1,381,949. Patented June 21, 1921.

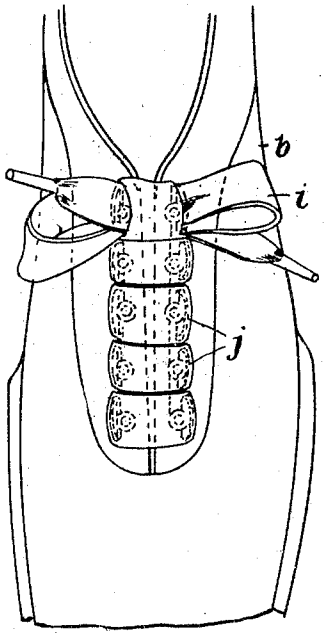


Fig. 1.

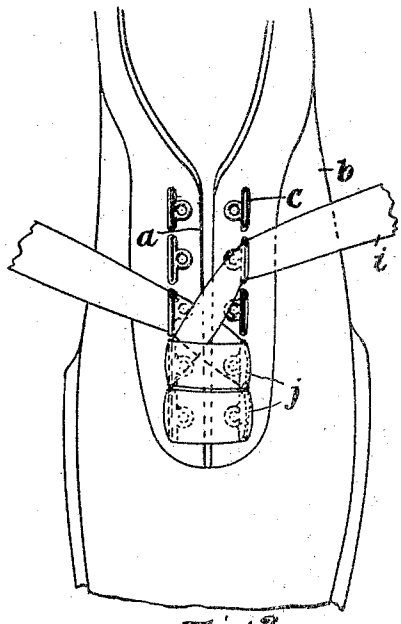


Fig. 2.

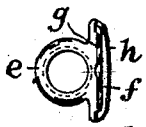


Fig. 3.

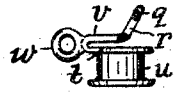


Fig. 9.

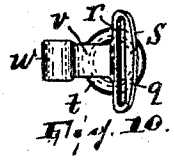


Fig. 10.



Fig. 4.



Fig. 5.



Fig. 6.



Fig. 7.

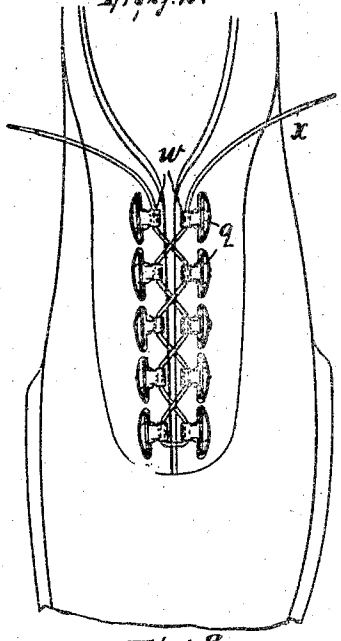


Fig. 8.

WITNESS
Wm. Dell.

INVENTOR,
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BY
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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

MACARTHUR VAN DEUSEN, OF MIDLAND PARK, NEW JERSEY; ANNIE P. VAN DEUSEN ADMINISTRATRIX OF SAID MACARTHUR VAN DEUSEN, DECEASED.

## LACING-EYELET.

1,381,949. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented June 21, 1921.

Application filed August 21, 1919. Serial No. 318,046.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, MACARTHUR VAN DEUSEN, a citizen of the United States, residing at Midland Park, in the county of Bergen and State of New Jersey, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Lacing-Eyelets, of which the following is a specification.

The principal object of this invention is to provide a lacing eyelet for laced shoes, especially low shoes, which will permit a broad or flat lace to be used therewith and in such manner that the loops of the lace may be formed and retained flat throughout their whole extent—thus to impart a neat and attractive appearance to the shoe—and may further in the best form of the invention conceal the eyelets themselves; a further object is to provide an eyelet of the kind contemplated above with means to receive a lacing for use in actually drawing and holding the sides of the placket opening of the shoe together, such means being so located that the lacing will be concealed by the flat lace, whereby the latter will serve only or mainly as an ornament and will be saved the wear and tear of an actual securing means. So far as the provision of an eyelet which will have means to receive a lacing or equivalent for actually drawing and retaining the sides of the placket together and which will receive a flat lace or equivalent to conceal the lacing is concerned I do not wish to be limited, however, to the eyelet being formed so as to retain the loops of the lace flat throughout their whole extent, for an eyelet provided with an eye for the lace and with means to receive the lacing at a point relatively between the eye and the adjoining edge of the placket opening, as hereinafter pointed out, is broadly new and if a fairly wide lace is employed the lacing will be concealed thereby.

In the drawing,

Figure 1 is a plan view of a shoe provided with an eyelet such as is shown in Figs. 2 to 5 and showing a lace assembled therewith;

Fig. 2 is a view similar to Fig. 1, the lace being partly outlined;

Figs. 3, 4 and 5 are a plan view, a side elevation, partly in section, and an inside elevation of one form of the improved eyelet;

Figs. 6 and 7 are a side elevation, partly in section, and an inside elevation of another form of the improved eyelet; and

Figs. 8, 9 and 10 show that form of the eyelet in which provision is made for the reception of both a securing lacing and an ornamental lace, Fig. 8 showing the eyelets in plan on a shoe and also showing the lacing but omitting the lace, and Figs. 9 and 10 being respectively a side elevation, partly in section, and a plan of said eyelet.

*a* designates the placket opening of a shoe *b*. *c* in Figs. 1 and 2 designates the improved eyelets in that form which is illustrated in Figs. 3 to 5.

Referring to Figs. 3 to 5 *d* is a gromet in itself of ordinary form and adapted to be secured in the edge portion of the placket of the shoe the same as ordinary gromets. Formed preferably integral with its upper rim or flange *e* is a projecting T-shaped head *f*, which is bent upwardly and has an elongated eye *g*. Preferably the outer edge *h* of said head is convex. Gromets of this form are secured in the edge portions of the placket opening in two rows, one on each side of said opening, so that their heads are all substantially parallel to the adjoining edge of the placket opening and consequently, with respect to each row, all in alinement; further, the gromets are so secured in position that the head *f* of each stands at the outer side thereof, that is, at the side of the gromet relatively away from the adjoining edge of the placket. Now in view of the elongated form of the eye *g* of each gromet it will be seen that when a flat lace *i* is threaded through the several eyes of the gromets, especially so as to form a series of parallel loops *j*, the said loops may be formed and will be retained by the eyelets flat, so that the tie formed by the lace has and retains a definite and conventional shape and the shoe therefore assumes a neat and attractive appearance. The edge *h* of the head of each gromet is made convex so as to insure the gromet preserving the lace loops *j* transversely extended. The head *f* of each gromet is arranged at the relatively outer side thereof with respect to the adjoining edge of the placket opening so that the lace will as much as possible cover and thus conceal the gromet; to this end it is desirable to arrange the head so that it will be canted somewhat away from the adjoining edge of the placket opening, which

will also facilitate threading the lace through the eye *g*.

In Figs. 6 and 7 the T-head *k* having the elongated eye *l* and its outer edge *m* preferably convex (the parts *k*, *l* and *m* being substantially the same as the parts *f*, *g* and *h* already described) is connected with the upper rim *n* of the gromet *o* by a neck *p*, which is rebent over the gromet, the rebent neck *p* extending far enough across the gromet, in the preferred form, so that the top of the T-head *k*, at least, is relatively beyond the vertical axis of the gromet. When gromets of this form are secured in the edge portion of the placket those in each row are arranged with their heads all substantially parallel with the edge of the placket and in alinement with each other, and also so that their heads are outward from said edge, *i. e.*, of the vertical axes of the several gromets. The heads are also preferably canted away from the adjoining placket edge. When the lace *i* is threaded through gromets of this type, arranged as described, the loops *j* thereof will assume and retain the desired form hereinbefore described and shown in Figs. 1 and 2, and will also conceal the gromets.

Referring to Figs. 8 to 10, the parts *q*, *r*, *s*, *t*, *u* and *v* have been given, by way of example, the same form and arrangement as the parts *k* to *p*, in Figs. 6 and 7. But an eye *w*, preferably cylindrical, projects inwardly (that is, toward the adjoining placket edge) from the neck *v*. The eyes *r* are adapted to have threaded through them a lace (not shown) the same as the lace *i* in Figs. 1 and 2. But this lace serves in the present case only or mainly as an ornament, and for drawing and retaining the placket edges together a lacing *x* is threaded through the eyes *w*. The ends of the lacing, when tied, may be tucked in the top of the shoe, so as to be concealed.

Having thus fully described my invention, what I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent is:—

1. In combination, with the placket portion of a shoe, a lacing eyelet including a gromet secured to said portion at one side of the placket opening and a head on the gromet having a lace-receiving opening transversely elongated and extending substantially parallel with the adjoining edge of the placket.

2. In combination, with the placket portion of a shoe, a lacing eyelet including a gromet secured to said portion at one side of the placket opening and a head on and upstanding from the gromet having a lace-receiving opening transversely elongated and extending substantially parallel with the adjoining edge of the placket.

3. In combination, with the placket portion of a shoe, a lacing eyelet including a gromet secured to said portion at one side of the placket opening and a head on the gromet arranged at the side of the gromet relatively away from the placket opening and having a lace-receiving opening elongated and extending substantially parallel with the adjoining edge of the placket.

4. In combination, with the placket portion of a shoe, a lacing eyelet including a gromet secured to said portion at one side of the placket opening and a head on and upstanding from the gromet having a lace-receiving opening elongated and extending substantially parallel with the adjoining edge of the placket, said head being canted away from said edge of the placket.

5. In combination, with the placket portion of a shoe, a lacing eyelet including a gromet secured to said portion at one side of the placket opening and a head on the gromet having a lace-receiving opening elongated and extending substantially parallel with the adjoining edge of the placket, the outer edge of said head forming a convex curve.

6. In combination, with the placket portion of a shoe, a lacing eyelet including a gromet secured to said portion at one side of the placket opening and a head on the gromet having an elongated lace-receiving eye extending substantially parallel with the adjoining edge of the placket, and lacing-receiving means relatively between the eye and said placket, said means being adapted to receive a lacing for securing the shoe to the wearer's foot and the eye being adapted to receive a flat lace to conceal the lacing.

7. In combination, with the placket portion of a shoe, a lacing eyelet including a gromet secured to said portion at one side of the placket opening and a head on the gromet having a lace-receiving eye, and lacing-receiving means relatively between the eye and said placket, said means being adapted to receive a lacing for securing the shoe to the wearer's foot and the eye being adapted to receive a flat lace to conceal the lacing.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature.

MACARTHUR VAN DEUSEN.