

(No Model.)

W. E. BENNETT.
FASTENING FOR BOOTS OR SHOES.

No. 477,923.

Patented June 28, 1892.

Fig. 1.

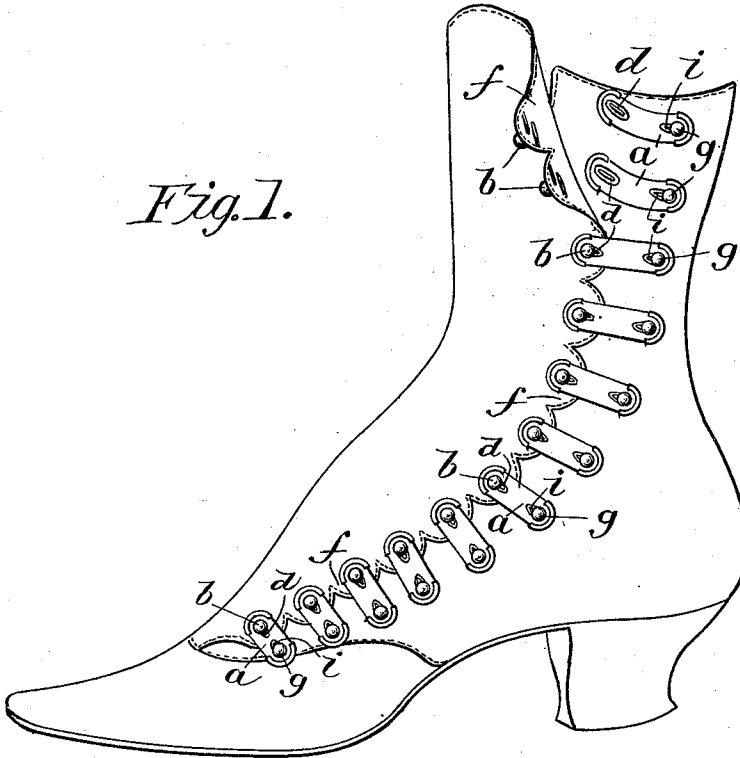
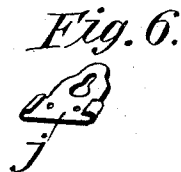
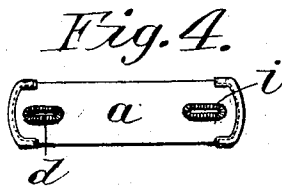
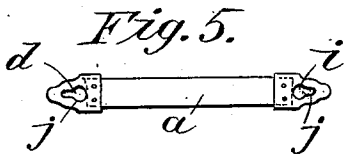
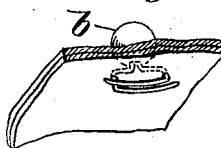


Fig. 2.



Fig. 3.



Witnesses:
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WALTER E. BENNETT, OF BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS.

FASTENING FOR BOOTS OR SHOES.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 477,923, dated June 28, 1892.

Application filed August 28, 1891. Serial No. 403,948. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WALTER E. BENNETT, a citizen of the United States, residing at Boston, in the county of Suffolk and State of Massachusetts, have invented new and useful Improvements in Fastenings for Boots or Shoes, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to improved devices for closing and securing the flaps or portions of a boot or shoe adjacent the opening, the object being to provide devices for the purpose indicated which are simple and inexpensive, which conduce to a greater ease and better fit upon and about the foot of the parts of the shoe adjacent the opening thereof, and otherwise to insure advantageous results, as will be hereinafter more fully explained.

The invention consists in the construction and combination of parts of and relative to the shoe, all substantially as will hereinafter more fully appear, and be set forth in the claim.

Referring to the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is a side view of a boot with the present improved fastening devices thereon. Figs. 2 and 3 are views illustrative of a form of studs which may serve, and Fig. 4 is a view of one of the securing-bands. Fig. 5 is a view of one of the securing-bands of a slightly-modified form, and Fig. 6 is a detail view of the end section of the securing device which comprises the eye.

Referring to the drawings, it will be seen that the shoe and the fastenings therefor embody separate flexible strips or cord-like sections *a a*, which at or near their ends are connected with the portion of the shoe at the one side of the opening and extend over upon the portion of the shoe at the other side of the opening, such latter portion of the shoe having a series of studs *b b*, with which the ends of the said bands, which are formed with eyes *d*, are engaged. Therefore, with respect to Fig. 1, assuming that the series of strips *a* are at their right-hand ends and at intervals secured to the part of the vamp or upper in a line adjacent the portion overlaid by the flap *f*, the flap is on its outer side near its edge at corresponding intervals provided with the said series of studs *a a*, each of which has

the neck under the enlarged or overhanging outermost part. The eyes *d*, formed in the left-hand ends of the strips *a*, are adapted when the flap is laid in place and the strips *a* extended across the edge thereof to engage the studs, the retention of the engagement being secured by the retractile strain or tension on the strip.

The strips are formed elastic, requiring to be somewhat stretched in order to be carried to their engagement with the studs; and, furthermore, it is deemed desirable that the right-hand ends of the strips may be detachably connected to the boot, and therefore there is provided, as shown, the second series of studs *g g* opposite the studs *b*, and the strips *a* have also eyes *i* in their right-hand ends. The lower ones of the series of studs *g* are set more closely to the borders of the flap *f*, or the other section of the shoe-top which is adjacent the opening, and the flexible and elastic strips are correspondingly provided shorter for the lower fastenings, becoming longer as they are applied higher, substantially as shown.

In Fig. 5 the eye-formed strip is constituted by the metallic section *j*, which is connected to the flexible and elastic strip, the hole in said section comprising a greater extent at its inner area to freely pass over the head of the stud, and the lesser extent at its outer area to fit the stud-neck and interlock under the head as tension is brought upon the strip.

The utility and advantages of the present fastenings may be manifest; but it will be mentioned that by the use of the said fastenings the ease and elasticity of a Congress gaiter is insured, at the same time securing the capability for a more close fitting or conformation of the upper part of the boot or shoe over all portions of the instep-ankle. There are no buttons which require to be reset as the shoe becomes worn and looser, for it is the intention to provide quantities of the eye-provided strips, which are graded or of variable lengths, shorter ones of which may replace those which after having been applied do not exert the desired tension or those which have become worn, soiled, or dull in appearance.

There is, of course, in the original applica-

tion or the substitution of the strips no necessity for the use of any machine or hand tool.

5 I claim, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

The combination, with a boot or shoe having at each side of its opening opposing series of permanently-attached studs, of a se-

ries of flexible and elastic strips of varying lengths, each having at both ends eyes for removable engagement with opposite pairs of the studs, substantially as described.

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Witnesses:

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