

R. H. BERKSTRESSER.
SHOE LACE.
APPLICATION FILED MAY 15, 1912.

1,058,345.

Patented Apr. 8, 1913.

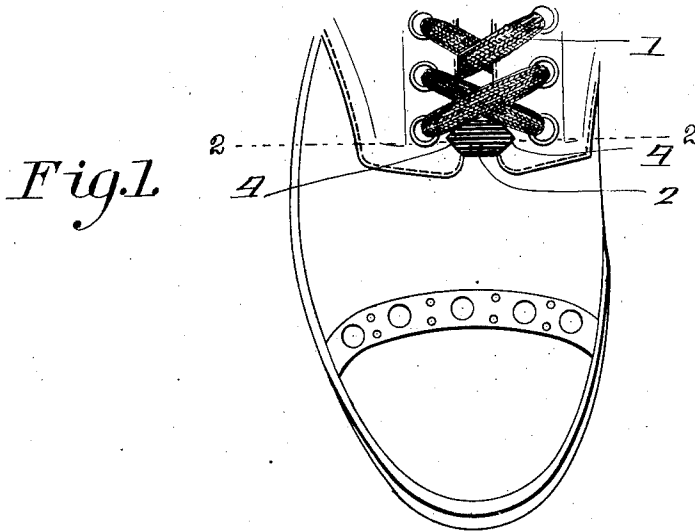


Fig. 2.

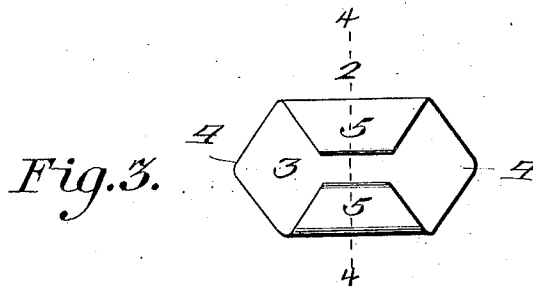
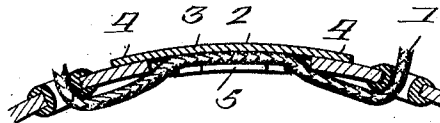
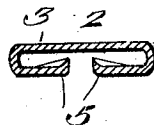


Fig. 4.



WITNESSES
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ROBERT H. BERKSTRESSER, OF YORK, PENNSYLVANIA.

SHOE-LACE.

1,058,345.

Specification of Letters Patent.

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Application filed May 15, 1912. Serial No. 697,413.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ROBERT H. BERKSTRESSER, citizen of the United States, residing at York, in the county of York and State of Pennsylvania, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Shoe-Laces, of which the following is a specification.

My present invention has to do with shoe laces; and it consists in the shoe lace characterized by the peculiar and advantageous centering device hereinafter described and definitely claimed.

In the accompanying drawings which are hereby made a part hereof: Figure 1 is a view of a shoe equipped with my novel lace. Fig. 2 is an enlarged detail section taken in the plane indicated by the line 2—2 of Fig. 1. Fig. 3 is a detail view of a portion of the lace showing the opposite side thereof to that shown in Fig. 1. Fig. 4 is a transverse section on line 4—4 of Fig. 3.

Similar numerals of reference designate corresponding parts in all of the views of the drawings.

My improved shoe lace comprises a conventional shoe lace body 1 of textile or other material compatible with its purpose, and a centering device 2 which, as its name imports, is designed to center the lace body in a shoe vamp so that the free end portions of the lace when in use will be of equal length as is always desirable.

My novel centering device is formed of a single piece of light or thin sheet metal, preferably brass, and it comprises an outer or forward wall 3 having pointed ends 4, and clips 5, of less length than the wall 3, for a material purpose hereinafter set forth.

In applying the centering device to the lace body so as to fix the former on the latter, it is simply necessary to press or clamp the clips 5 in a straddling position on the edges of the lace body. This obviously may be accomplished without the employment of skilled labor or expensive tools or machinery, and hence it will be manifest that a lace embodying my invention may be produced

at a cost very little more than that entailed in the production of a conventional lace of the kind that have for some time been upon the market.

In applying the lace carrying my improvement, the end portions of the lace are threaded through the eyelets of a shoe vamp from the lower end of the front opening upward in the usual manner and so that the device 2 lies between the lower portions of the vamp edges at opposite sides of said front opening, with its wall 3 foremost.

When the improved lace is applied as stated, it will be manifest that the device 2 will accurately center the lace and at the same time will enhance rather than detract from the finished appearance of a lace shoe. It will also be manifest that the wall 3 of the device 2 bridges the space between the vamp edges at opposite sides of the front opening in the shoe and overlaps the said edges so as to increase the finished appearance of the improved lace and the shoe, while the end portions of the clips 5 of the device and the portion of the lace body in said clip serve by abutting against the vamp edges to effectually hold the lace against endwise movement, and at the same time permit of the vamp edges being drawn quite close together as is always desirable in the lacing of a shoe.

Having described my invention, what I claim and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is:

In combination with a lace, a holder mounted upon the lace at a point between the ends thereof and comprising a plate curved longitudinally and having at its side edges inturned clips, the edges of which are spaced from each other, said clips being of a length less than the length of the plate and having converging end edges.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature in presence of two witnesses.

ROBERT H. BERKSTRESSER.

Witnesses:

JACOB E. WEAVER,
DONALD H. YOST.