

G. P. REEVES.
Shoe-Fastener.

No. 166,031.

Patented July 27, 1875.

Fig. 1

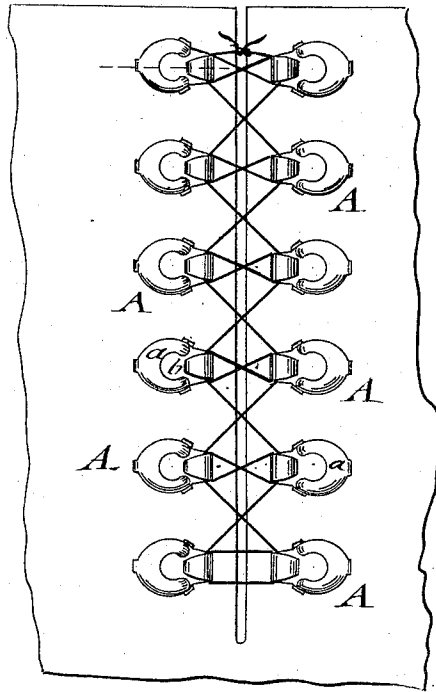


Fig. 2.



Fig. 3.



WITNESSES:

E. Wolff.
A. F. Terry

INVENTOR:

G. P. Reeves
BY *mmmm*
ATTORNEYS.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

GEORGE P. REEVES, OF HELENA, MONTANA TERRITORY, ASSIGNOR TO HIMSELF AND CHARLES RUMLEY, OF SAME PLACE.

IMPROVEMENT IN SHOE-FASTENERS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **166,031**, dated July 27, 1875; application filed March 29, 1875.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, GEORGE P. REEVES, of Helena, Lewis and Clarke county, Montana Territory, have invented a new and Improved Lacer, of which the following is a specification:

Figure 1 represents a top view of my improved open lacer shown as applied. Fig. 2 is a detail top view; and Fig. 3 is a vertical longitudinal section of the same.

Similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts.

My invention relates to an improved open lacer for shoes and other purposes by which the lacing-strings may be easily applied and securely tightened; and it consists of a lacer applied by prongs to the leather or other material, and provided with a central concavity and surrounding ridge, open toward a hook-shaped part, which is turned back far enough to prevent the catching of the dress or other objects thereon.

In the drawing, A represents my improved lacer, a suitable number of which is attached firmly by the pointed prongs to the leather or other material to be laced. Each lacer A is stamped by suitable machinery out of sheet metal with a raised circumferential ridge, *a*, having a central concavity or depression. The

ridge *a* is open at one side, so that a hook-shaped part, *d*, may be turned back and bent down far enough to admit readily the lacing-strings, but without catching the dress or other objects coming in contact therewith. The strings are readily passed around the hooks of the lacer, and applied tightly thereon, forming a neat and convenient open lacing for various purposes, which admit the quick application of the strings with greater facility and with greater comfort than the eyelet or other lacers hitherto in use.

I am aware that it is not new to make a shoe-lacer with a curved spring-shank and convex head, but the former is liable to straighten and become useless, while the latter is liable to be caught by some part of the dress; hence

What I claim is—

The shoe-fastening A provided with suitable prongs for securing it to the shoe, and having the central concavity *b*, the surrounding ridge or projection *a*, and the hook *d* bent to fall within the ends of the curved portion, substantially as and for the purpose specified.

GEORGE P. REEVES.

Witnesses:

WILLIAM C. CHILD,
PRESTON SCOTT.