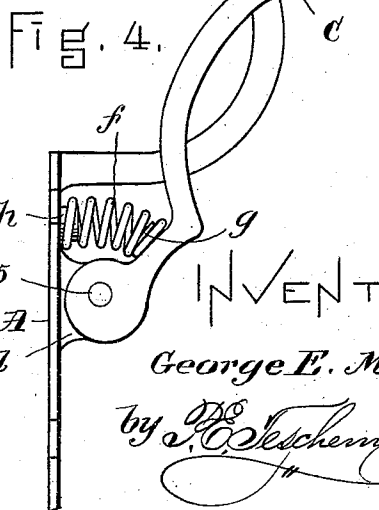


G. E. MONGEAU,
SHOE LACE HOLDER.

Patented Oct. 30, 1894.



Henry Marsh.
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by ^{his} A. C. Keschmacker
Att'y.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

GEORGE E. MONGEAU, OF LOWELL, MASSACHUSETTS.

SHOE-LACE HOLDER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 528,300, dated October 30, 1894.

Application filed August 9, 1894. Serial No. 519,870. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, GEORGE E. MONGEAU, a citizen of the United States, residing at Lowell, in the county of Middlesex and State of Massachusetts, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Shoe-Lace Holders, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, making part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of my shoe-lace holder. Fig. 2 is a side elevation of the same. Fig. 3 is a front elevation of the same. Fig. 4 is a modification to be referred to.

My invention has for its object to provide for boot and shoe dealers a neat, simple, and effective device for holding and displaying a bunch or quantity of shoe-laces in such manner that they can be conveniently withdrawn singly or several at a time without disarranging the remainder of the bunch.

To this end my invention consists in a base or body adapted to be secured to a wall or other convenient surface, and having an outwardly projecting bow-shaped portion or loop adapted to receive and support the double shoe-laces, combined with a spring-actuated arm or lever adapted to extend up behind the shoe-laces when introduced within said bow and serving to press the laces forward, whereby they are confined between said bow and lever with a yielding pressure as herein-after set forth.

In the said drawings, A represents the base or body of the holder, which is adapted to be secured in a vertical position to a wall or other convenient surface in a store or apartment by means of screws *a* as shown in Fig. 1. The base A is provided at its center with an outwardly projecting bow-shaped portion or loop B for holding the bunch of shoe-laces *b* and by which they are supported at their centers or doubled portions with their ends hanging down, as shown in Fig. 1. The portion B is provided at its upper end with a latch-piece or lever *c* pivoted at 5 to a lug 6 and normally held by a spring 10 against the end 12 of said portion B to close the entrance to the same, the operation of introducing the doubled shoe-laces within the loop or bow B being thus greatly facilitated, as the latch *c* will readily

yield to permit the entrance of the laces and will instantly close to prevent their escape.

C is an inwardly curved arm or lever which extends up behind the shoe-laces as shown in Fig. 1, and is pivoted at 15 to a lug *d* projecting from the base A beneath the bow B, said lever being provided with a slot *e* to enable it to pass over the bow B which extends through said slot as shown in Figs. 1 and 2. Between the base A and the underside of the lever C is placed a spiral spring *f* which serves to press the lever C outward, said spring being held in place at its opposite ends by circular bosses or projections *g*, *h*, on the lever and base as shown in Fig. 2.

When a bunch of shoe-laces is to be placed within the holder, the lever C is pressed backward by the hand against the stress of the spring *f* over the bow B and beyond the lower end of its spring-actuated latch *c* and held back in this position by the hand until the shoe-laces have been passed in front of said lever down within the bow B by pressing their doubled portions against the yielding latch *c* which then immediately closes, after which the lever C is released, when it will be pressed forward by the spring *f* thus causing the bunch of shoe-laces to be held securely in place between the bow B and lever C as shown in Fig. 1 with a yielding pressure and enabling them to be conveniently withdrawn singly or several at a time without disturbing or disarranging those remaining in the holder.

I do not confine myself to the employment of a spiral spring *f* as shown, as a spring of any other suitable description may be used to actuate the arm or lever C. The arm or lever C is provided with rounded edges and is preferably curved as shown to enable it to better fit around the rear of the bunch of shoe-laces without cutting or injuring the same, and by means of the spring *f* the lever C is rendered self-adjusting so that it will follow up the bunch of shoe-laces as it becomes reduced in size and hold it securely until the last one is drawn out.

Instead of providing the bow-shaped holder B with a spring-actuated latch *c* as above described, it may be constructed in a single unbroken piece without a latch as shown in Fig. 4, in which case the ends of the shoe-laces

will be passed sidewise through the bow B in front of the lever C when the latter is pressed backward by the hand. I prefer however to employ a spring-actuated latch-piece as first described as the operation of introducing the shoe-laces within the holder is thereby greatly facilitated.

What I claim as my invention, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

10 1. A shoe-lace holder comprising a base or body having an outwardly projecting bow-shaped portion adapted to receive and support a bunch of shoe-laces and a spring-actuated clamping arm or lever extending up
15 behind the bow and pressed outwardly toward the front of the bow to hold said bunch against the front portion of the bow with a yielding pressure, substantially as described.

2. In a shoe-lace holder, the base or body A
20 having an outwardly projecting portion B adapted to receive and support a bunch of shoe-laces, said portion B being provided with a spring-actuated latch-piece *c*, in combination with a spring-actuated clamping arm or
25 lever C extending upwardly across the bow and pressed forwardly by its spring to hold said bunch against the front of the portion B with a yielding pressure, substantially as set forth.

3. In a shoe-lace holder, the base or body A 30 having an outwardly projecting portion B adapted to receive and support a bunch of shoe-laces, in combination with the spring actuated arm or lever C pivoted to the base beneath the bow B, and provided with a slot 35 *e*, whereby it is adapted to pass over said bow and exert an outward pressure against the bunch of shoe-laces within the same, substantially as set forth.

4. In a shoe-lace holder, the combination of 40 the base or body A having an outwardly projecting bow-shaped portion B, the curved-lever C pivoted to the base beneath the bow B and adapted to extend up behind the bunch of shoe-laces within said bow B, said lever 45 being provided with a slot *e* whereby it is adapted to pass over and embrace the bow B, and the spring *f* adapted to exert an outward pressure on the lever C to hold the shoe-laces against the bow B with a yielding pressure, 50 substantially as set forth.

Witness my hand this 3d day of August,
A. D. 1894.

GEO. E. MONGEAU.

In presence of—

P. E. TESCHEMACHER,
R. HENRY MARSH.