

J. C. MORRISON.
LACING HOOK OR FASTENER.
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992,028.

Patented May 9, 1911.

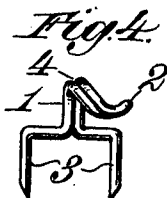
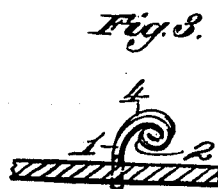


Fig. 5.

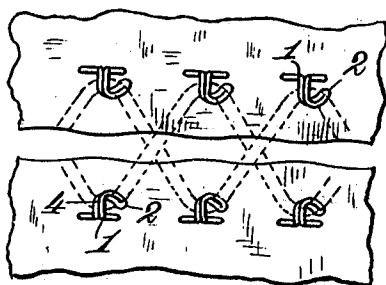
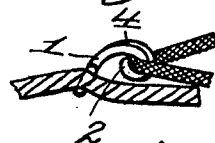


Fig. 6.



Witnesses.
Robert Smith.
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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LACING HOOK OR FASTENER.

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Specification of Letters Patent.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOHN C. MORRISON, a citizen of the United States, residing at New York, in the county of New York and State of New York, have invented new and useful Improvements in Lacing Hooks or Fasteners, of which the following is a specification.

My present invention relates to improvements in shoe lacing hooks or fasteners, and it has for its object primarily to provide an improved hook or fastener of this character which is so constructed as to avoid the catching of wearing apparel thereon, thereby obviating an objectionable feature which has heretofore rendered the use of the ordinary lacing hooks by women impracticable, the operations of lacing and unlacing the shoes being facilitated by the improved hooks while the strength and security thereof is greatly increased, the formation of the hooks being such that their bills are turned downwardly or in a direction toward the leather of the shoe so that they not only retain the lacing in engagement therewith, but they also prevent the catching of clothing thereon while the lacing cannot bear upon and chafe the leather adjacent to the hook.

To these and other ends, the invention consists in certain improvements, and combinations and arrangements of parts, all as will be hereinafter more fully described, the novel features being pointed out particularly in the claims at the end of the specification.

In the accompanying drawing: Figure 1 is a perspective view of a lacing hook or fastener constructed in accordance with my present invention; Fig. 2 represents a top plan view of the hook as viewed from the outer side; Fig. 3 is a view of the hook as viewed edgewise; Fig. 4 is an elevation of the hook as viewed from its inner side; Fig. 5 is a diagrammatic view illustrating several hooks applied to a shoe fly, the position of the lacing relatively to the hooks being indicated by dotted lines; Fig. 6 is a diagrammatic view representing the hook as applied to the material of the shoe and showing the manner in which the hook is rocked so as to cause its bill to engage the surface of the material under the tension of the lacing.

Similar parts are designated by the same reference characters in the several views.

Lacing hooks or fasteners constructed in

accordance with my present invention are capable of use generally upon articles of wearing apparel of various kinds, and they are especially adapted for use upon shoes, for the reason that when applied thereto, there are no exposed projections which might catch upon the clothing, while the formation of the bill of the hook or fastener is such that the lacing may be engaged therewith with facility, and when so engaged, the bill of the hook underlies the lacing so as to prevent the same from chafing the leather of the shoe, the hook being so constructed that the tension of the lacing will be effectually resisted by the bill of the hook which acts as a support.

In the accompanying drawing, I have illustrated one specific form of hook in accordance with my present invention, the hook in the form shown being composed of a double strand of wire. It will be understood, however, that I have illustrated only one form of the invention, and that the hook or fastener may be made in various ways and from material of different shapes, which changes or modifications are included within the claims at the end of the specification.

In the present instance, the hook is composed of a length of wire 1 which is doubled intermediately, the strands of the wire lying preferably closely one beside the other to form a bill 2. Toward the free ends of the strands, the same are bent apart in opposite directions and are finally bent downwardly to form a pair of attaching arms 3 which are adapted to perforate the leather of the shoe and to be clenched against the under side thereof. In forming the hook, both strands of wire are extended in a direction from the exposed surface of the shoe, first upwardly, thence curving inwardly and downwardly to form a bight 4 within which the lacing is adapted to be engaged. In forming the bill of the hook, the doubled ends of the strands are twisted and also bent laterally to form a coil having its axis arranged transverse to the plane of the bight 4, the under side of the bill lying in a plane slightly above the base of the hook and being preferably upturned slightly at its free end so as to facilitate the entrance of the lacing between the bill and the material to which the hook is attached. This bill is recurved or turned outwardly toward the base of the hook whereby the lacing is prevented from disengagement.

In applying the hooks or fasteners to

shoes or other garments, they are arranged in rows in opposite relation, the bills being arranged at the inner sides of the hooks and directed upwardly or toward the top of the shoe at which point the ends of the lacing are fastened. As the bills are arranged in a plane slightly above the bases of the hooks, they will lie in proximity to the surface of the material to which the hooks are attached, and in lacing up the shoe, the laces are first slipped beneath the bills of each opposite pair of hooks and, in crossing the laces, preparatory to their engagement with the next pair of hooks, the laces are so engaged with the hooks as to prevent their accidental disengagement, although the laces should become untied. In unlacing, the end of the forefinger may be placed beneath the laces at the point where they cross, and by pulling the laces upwardly toward the top of the shoe, the laces will slip out from beneath the bills of the hooks quite easily. The hooks will, of course, be made in rights and lefts in order that the bills of the hooks in both rows may be directed upwardly.

I claim as my invention:

1. A one-piece lacing hook comprising a base having clenching prongs extending perpendicularly from the under side thereof, a shank proceeding perpendicularly

from the top of the base and parallel to the clenching prongs, and a hook formed as a continuation of said shank, said hook embodying a coil having its axis parallel to the length of said base, and the terminal of the coil being upturned, the shank, base and clenching prongs being in the same perpendicular plane which forms a tangent with the coil composing the hook.

2. A one-piece lacing hook composed of a single length of doubled wiring having its terminals bent in opposite directions from a common point to form a base portion and then extended parallel to form clenching prongs, the opposite end of the device being coiled flatwise of the doubled wire and about an axis parallel to the base portion, the terminal of the coil being bent flatwise of the doubled wire to form a flat upturned bill, the base portion and clenching prongs being arranged in a perpendicular plane tangential to the coiled portion of the hook.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand in presence of two subscribing witnesses.

JOHN C. MORRISON.

Witnesses:

E. T. ANDERSON,
A. L. KILMER.