(No Model.)

W. P. ORNE.

SHOE STRING FASTENING.

No. 352,064. Patented Nov. 2, 1886.

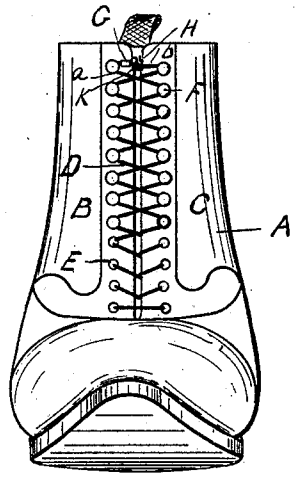

Fig. 1.

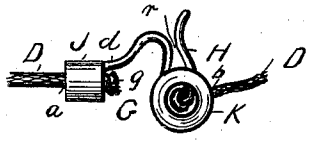

Fig. 2.

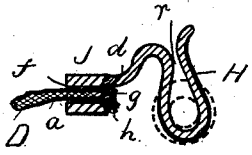

Fig. 3.

Fig. 4.

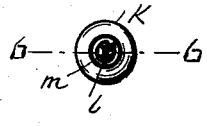

Fig. 5.

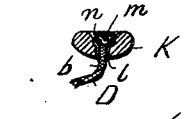

Fig. 6.

WITNESSES
Percy Bryant.
H. P. Fellows

INVENTOR
Wm. P. Orne
per
Edwin W. Brown
Attorney.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLIAM P. ORNE, OF BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS.

SHOE-STRING FASTENING.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 352,064, dated November 2, 1886.

Application filed June 28, 1886. Serial No. 206,487. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM P. ORNE, of Boston, in the county of Suffolk and State of Massachusetts, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Boot or Shoe String Fastenings, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description.

This invention has for its object the fastening and securing of the lacing cord or string of a boot or shoe after it has been laced, to prevent its unlacing, and in such manner that the lacing cord or string can be conveniently fastened and unfastened; and the invention consists, in combination with a cord or string for lacing a boot or shoe provided with a knot, stop, or button at or near one end, of a hook having a tubular portion adapted to fit over said cord or string, and preferably to freely slide back and forth thereon and secured from accidental detachment therefrom, by which, after the boot or shoe is laced, the free ends of the lacing cord or string can be easily and conveniently fastened or secured together, to prevent the accidental unlacing of the boot or shoe, and as easily and conveniently unfastened when desirous of unlacing the boot or shoe, all substantially as hereinafter fully described.

In the accompanying sheet of drawings this invention is illustrated, Figure 1 representing in front view a boot as laced and having its lacing cord or string fastened by the fastening device of the present invention. Fig. 2 is a front view of the fastening device, separate from the boot; Figs. 3 and 4, front and edge views, respectively, of the hook; Figs. 5 and 6, front and sectional views, respectively, of the stop or button, Figs. 2 to 6, both inclusive, being enlarged.

In the drawings, A represents a boot having its front quarters, B C, laced by the lacing cord or string D, passing through the eyelet-holes E and over the hooks F, all as usual in lacing boots or shoes, except that the ends *a b* of the cord are secured and fastened, to prevent accidental unlacing, by the fastening device G, which constitutes the present invention.

H is a hook made of wire, and of the shape shown, and firmly secured by its end *d* to the end of a short tube or sleeve, J. Through the opening *f* of this tube J is passed the end *a* of the cord D, and a knot, *g*, made on such end to prevent the detachment of the hook from the cord. The tube J is preferably countersunk at the end next the hook, as at *h*, for the disposal of the knot *g* therein.

K is a button or knob having a central opening or passage, *l*, through it, through which is passed the other end, *b*, of the cord D, and a knot, *m*, made thereon to prevent accidental detachment of the button therefrom, the knot *m* lying in the depression *n*, countersunk in the end of the button.

In applying this invention to a boot or shoe, the lacing-cord D, cut to the proper length, is first passed through all of the eyelet-holes E on the boot, and then the hook H and button K attached to the cord, as described. The lacing of the boot is then finished about the hooks F, and the end *b* of the cord, just back of the stop or button K, is placed in the hook H through its opening *r*, which fastens and secures the lacing-cord as the stop or button abuts against the hook and prevents the escape of the cord therefrom, preventing the accidental unlacing of the boot. To unlace the boot, slip the cord out from the hook through the opening, when the boot can be unlaced, as usual.

The opening *r* of the hook is preferably less than the diameter of the cord, which prevents its escape from the hook, while the spring of the wire of which the hook is made allows for the easy insertion of the cord in the hook and its removal therefrom when desirous of fastening or unfastening the lacing-cord.

The tube J, by which the hook is attached and secured to the cord, and the button can be moved or slid along the cord, by which the length of the cord can be adjusted for the proper lacing of the boot and have its ends fastened, this adjustment of the length of the cord being done at the time it is applied to the boot; but it can be done after, should the cord become stretched from use.

When the boot has lacing-hooks F, the cord need not be longer than as shown in Fig. 1— that is, sufficient for the lacing portion and the securing of its ends from the two upper lacing-hooks F; but, when eyelets only are used, or eyelet-holes for the two upper lacing-hooks F, the cord should be longer, to extend at least once around the ankle, or more times, if desired, and then fasten at the front, as shown,

for the reason that as the hook or button cannot pass through the eyelet-holes the cord should be thus longer, for it, when unfastened, to slide through the eyelet-holes for the loosening of the lacing sufficient for the putting on or taking off of the boot. The button K can be dispensed with, and a knot, *m*, in the cord only used; or any suitable stop or button can be used and secured in any suitable manner to the cord. It is preferable, however, to use a stop attached to the cord, as it gives a better finish.

The cord can be secured to the tubular portion J of the hook H in other ways than by a knot, *g*, and permanently, if desired; but it is preferable to secure it so it can slide thereon, for the convenient adjustment of the length of the cord, as described.

The hook and button are made of any suitable material, and the hook integral with the tubular portion or separate and attached thereto in any suitable manner, and it can be of any form desired, and either open or closed in the form of an eye; also, obviously, the tubular portion can be shorter or longer, or of any length desired.

Although this device is particularly shown and described in connection with a boot, it is applicable in connection with any article fastened by a cord or string—such as a glove, bag, &c.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim is—

1. The combination, with a cord or string for lacing a boot or shoe provided with a knot, stop, or button at or near one end, of a hook, H, having a tubular portion, J, adapted to fit over said cord or string, and secured from accidental detachment therefrom to engage with said knot, stop, or button, for the purpose specified.

2. The combination, with a cord or string for lacing a boot or shoe provided with a stop or button, K, having a depression, *n*, at or near one end, of a hook, H, having a tubular portion, J, adapted to fit over said cord or string, and secured from accidental detachment therefrom to engage with said stop or button, for the purpose specified.

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

WM. P. ORNE.

Witnesses:
EDWIN W. BROWN,
PERCY BRYANT.