H. F. LEVI.

LACE FASTENER.

APPLICATION FILED MAR. 16, 1909.

975,139. Patented Nov. 8, 1910.

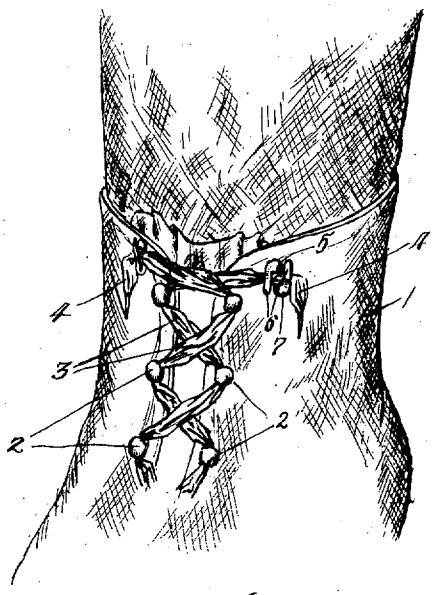


Fig. 1.

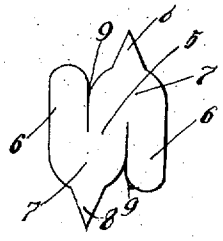


Fig. 2.

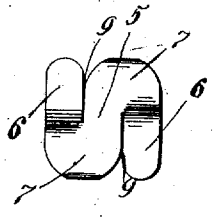


Fig. 3.

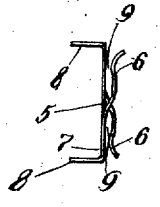


Fig. 4.

Witnesses
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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

HARRY F. LEVI, OF PITTSBURG, PENNSYLVANIA.

## LACE-FASTENER.

975,139. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Nov. 8, 1910.

Application filed March 16, 1909. Serial No. 483,700.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, HARRY F. LEVI, a citizen of the United States of America, residing at Pittsburg, in the county of Allegheny and State of Pennsylvania, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Lace-Fasteners, of which the following is a specification, reference being had therein to the accompanying drawing.

This invention relates to lace fasteners, and more particularly to certain improvements in the lace holder disclosed by my application for patent March 27, 1908, Serial No. 423,655 and allowed October 17, 1908.

The present invention aims to provide a flat fastener made of light and durable metal that will not interfere with or injure trousers extending down over them, the fasteners being provided with integral means whereby they can be easily and quickly fastened to conform to the shoe in connection with which they are used.

Another improvement in the present case over my prior application resides in the simplicity of construction, the shape of said fasteners being such that they can be readily cut and stamped from sheet metal.

The above objects are attained by a structure that will be hereinafter described in detail, and reference will now be had to the drawings, wherein there is illustrated the preferred embodiments of the invention, but it is to be understood that the structural details thereof can be varied or changed without departing from the spirit or scope of the invention.

In the drawings, Figure 1 is a perspective view of the upper of a shoe provided with the lace fasteners. Fig. 2 is a plan of a blank lace fastener prior to being bent, Fig. 3 is a similar view of a bent fastener, and Fig. 4 is a side elevation of the same.

The reference numeral 1 designates the upper of a shoe provided with hooks 2 adapted to be engaged by a shoe lace 3 having ends 4.

The fasteners are secured to the upper 1 of the shoe adjacent to each hook at the upper end of the upper and said fasteners are to receive the ends 4 of the shoe lace 3 and hold the same so as to maintain the shoe closed. Each fastener comprises an S-shaped plate comprising a body 5, and oppositely projecting tongues 6, said tongues being parallel and connecting with the body 5 by shanks 7, said shanks having tapering prongs 8. The inner edges of the tongues 6 in connection with the side edges of the body 5 provide slits or openings 9 which extend in parallel planes. The inner walls of the slits or openings 9 are formed by the shanks 7, but the inner wall of one slit or opening 9 is out of alinement with respect to the inner wall of the other slit or opening 9 whereby a lace extending through said slits or openings and engaging the said inner walls will have that portion thereof bearing upon the body 5 disposed at an angle and tending to bend the lace upon the body 5 and against the tongues 6 whereby the lace will be prevented from movement except when swung out of the slits or openings 9. The prongs 8 are adapted to be bent at right angles to the body 5, as shown in Fig. 4 of the drawings, whereby the prongs can be forced through the material of the upper 1 and clenched upon the inner side of the upper to positively retain the body 5 of each fastener, in the shank thereof in engagement with the upper of the shoe.

To facilitate the placing of the ends 4 of the lace 3 in the slits or openings 9, the tongues are offset with respect to the body portion, as clearly shown in Fig. 4, and the free ends of each of the tongues extend outwardly in a curvilinear manner. The offsetting of the tongue will cause the major portion of said tongue to extend in a horizontal plane parallel with the body 5, which, in connection with the curved end of the tongue, permit of the ends of the lace being quickly placed under one tongue and over the opposing tongue to bind the lace upon the body portion 5.

The fastener can be used in connection with gloves, corsets, and wearing apparel for holding the ends of the lace.

Having now described my invention, what I claim as new, is:—

A lace fastener comprising a vertically-disposed body-portion having a right-angularly disposed shank at each end, said shanks extending in opposite directions with respect to each other, a tongue formed integral with each of said shanks and extending in opposite directions with respect to each other and at right angles to its respective shank, the inner edges of said tongues in connection with the side edges of the body-portion providing a pair of slits for the reception of a lace, each of said tongues at its juncture with its respective shank off-set, whereby

each of said tongues will extend in a lateral plane to one side of the plane in which the body-portion extends, said body-portion having each of its outer corners cut-away and rounded, and each of said shanks having its longitudinal edge provided with a fastening prong.

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

HARRY F. LEVI.

Witnesses:
K. H. BUTLER,
A. J. TRIGG.