

(No Model.)

S. VETSBURG.
FASTENING FOR SHOES.

No. 314,550.

Patented Mar. 24, 1885.

Fig. 1.

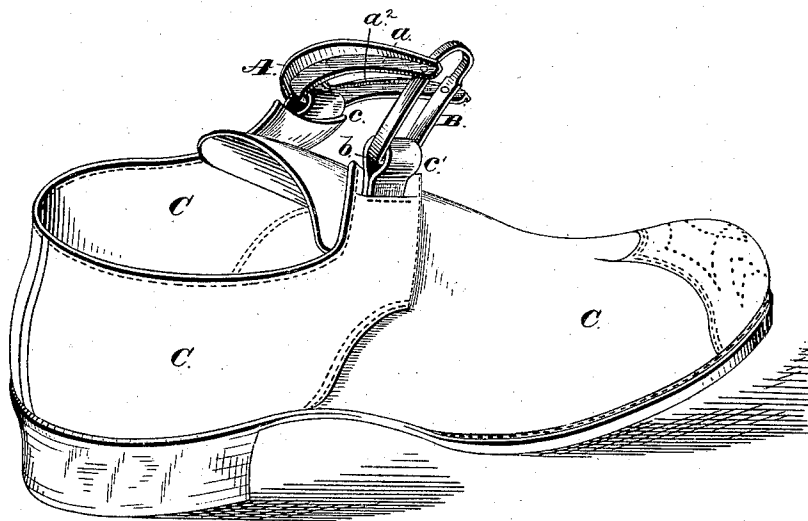


Fig. 2.

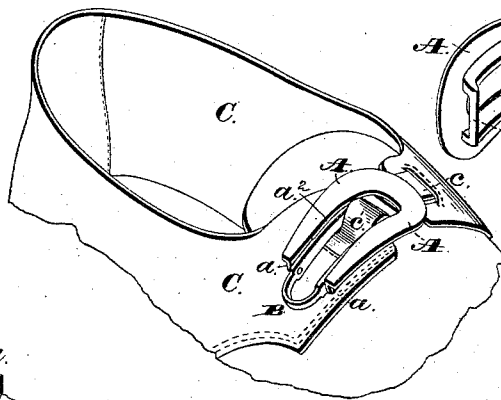


Fig. 3.

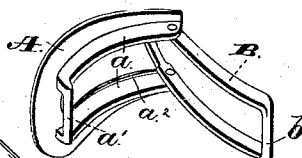


Fig. 4.

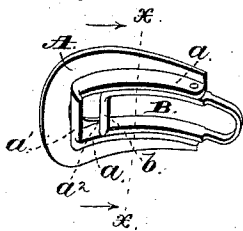
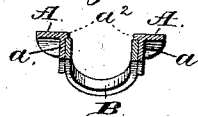


Fig. 5.



Witnesses:

Jas. C. Hutchinson.
 Henry C. Hazard

Inventor.

Sigmund Vetsburg, by
 Finkle & Russell, his Attys

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

SIGMUND VETSBURG, OF JEFFERSON CITY, MISSOURI, ASSIGNOR OF ONE-HALF TO JOHN URBAN, OF SAME PLACE.

FASTENING FOR SHOES.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 314,550, dated March 24, 1885.

Application filed August 28, 1884. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, SIGMUND VETSBURG, of Jefferson City, in the county of Cole, and in the State of Missouri, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Fastenings for Shoes; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description thereof, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of a shoe provided with my improved fastening, said fastening being opened. Fig. 2 is a like view of the same with the fastening closed. Fig. 3 is a perspective view from the lower side of said fastening separated from the shoe and having its parts opened. Fig. 4 is a like view of the same when closed, and Fig. 5 is a sectional view of the fastening on line *x x* of Fig. 4.

Letters of like name and kind refer to like parts in each of the figures.

The design of my invention is to enable a shoe to be easily and quickly fastened and unfastened; to which end said invention consists in the construction of parts and their combination with the straps of a shoe, substantially as and for the purpose hereinafter specified.

In the annexed drawings, A represents the frame or body of my device, which in plan view has substantially the general form of a horse-shoe, is curved longitudinally, and around its inner edge is provided with a flange, *a*, that extends downward at a right angle to the face of said frame. At its rear end said flange is slotted, so as to form at such point a cross-bar, *a'*, that is adapted to receive a strap.

Pivoted to the front ends of the flanges *a* is an open bar or link, B, which has a width that just permits it to be contained within the space between said flanges and a length slightly greater than the length of said space. The inner end, *b*, of said bar or link has substantially a right angle to its sides, and serves to receive one of the shoe-straps, while the opposite end of said link is preferably curved, as shown.

In use the strap *c*, at the inner side of a shoe, C, is attached to or upon the cross-bar *a'*, and the opposite outer strap, *c'*, is attached to the inner end, *b*, of the pivoted link B, the length

of said straps being such as to cause them to hold the shoe firmly upon the foot of its wearer when said pivoted link B is closed inward to the position shown in Figs. 2 and 4. The link B being pivoted near its outer end, and in consequence of the curvature of said link and its frame A the plane of such pivotal bearing and the cross-bar *a'* being lower than its inner end, *b*, the outward pressure of the strap *c'* operates to hold said inner end firmly upward against said frame, and thus keeps the shoe fastened.

To unfasten the shoe, the outer end of the pivoted link B, with the outer end of the frame A, is raised until the inner end of the former falls below the plane of its pivots and the cross-bar *a'*, after which said bar may be turned to the position shown in Figs. 1 and 3, and the straps *c* and *c'* liberated, so as to permit of the removal of the shoe from the foot of its wearer.

To fasten the shoe in place, it is only necessary that the outer end of the fastening be turned downward to its former position, when it will be so firmly locked in place as to be incapable of accidental displacement.

It is desirable to provide a stop to limit the upward movement of the inner end of pivoted link B. Without some such stop as this end of the link is when the shoe is fastened above the plane of the pivotal bearing of the bar and the cross-bar *a'*, the pull or stress of strap *c'* upon such inner end will tend to swing it farther outward or upward, and so will cause the outer shorter end of link B to bear down upon the shoe and foot. This is objectionable, not only on account of the pressure upon the foot, but because with feet of different sizes and shapes the inner end of link B would be allowed to stand at different heights with reference to the frame to which the link is pivoted. Besides, as the outer end of the link would be forced down against the shoe, it could not be conveniently taken hold of for raising when the shoe is to be unfastened. I avoid all these objections by making my fastening with the inner edges of the horseshoe-shaped plate A overlapping or extending at *a'' a''* inward beyond the flanges *a a*.

When the inner end of the link B is swung

inward and upward, as in fastening the shoe, it comes in contact with and is stopped by these overlapping edges of plate A. The outer short end of the link then stands close to but
5 out of contact with the shoe, in position to be easily raised when desired to undo the fastening.

To allow free swing of the link on its pivots when the outer end thereof is raised, the overlapping inner edges, $a^2 a^2$, of the plate A are
10 cut away near such pivots, so as to be substantially flush with the inner sides of flanges aa , as shown in the drawings.

The cross-bar a' is below and entirely concealed by the broad end of the plate A, so that
15 the loop of the strap c is concealed and protected by the plate, and consequently cannot act to catch the bottom of the pantaloons of the wearer.

20 Having thus fully set forth the nature and merits of my invention, what I claim is—

1. The fastening for shoes and the like, consisting of the curved bifurcated frame provided with a cross-bar, in combination with
25 the curved link pivoted to and within the

frame and provided with a cross-bar at or near its inner end, and the stop on the frame adapted to limit the upward swing of the inner end of the curved pivoted link, all substantially as
and for the purpose described. 30

2. In a fastening for shoes and the like, the curved flanges, the cross-bar adapted to receive a strap, the curved link pivoted to and between the flanges formed at its inner end
35 with a cross-bar to receive a second strap, and the curved covering-plate attached to or made in one piece with the flanges and former cross-bar and having portions overlapping or projecting inward beyond the sides of the flanges
40 to form a stop for the inner end of the pivoted link, all combined substantially as and for the purpose described.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing I have hereunto set my hand this 15th day of August, 1884.

SIGMUND VETSBURG.

Witnesses:

J. D. THURMOND,
JOHN PRICE.