No. 864,206. PATENTED AUG. 27, 1907.

W. J. SMITH.

SHOE TONGUE.

APPLICATION FILED APR. 17, 1907.

Fig. 1.

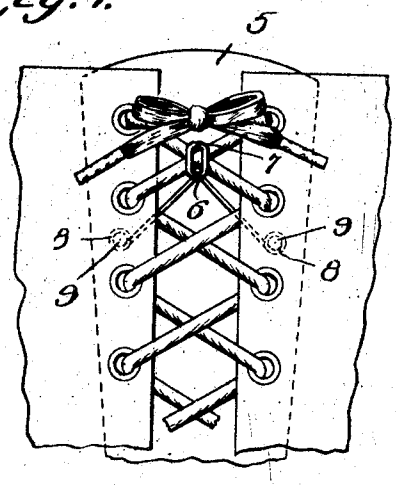
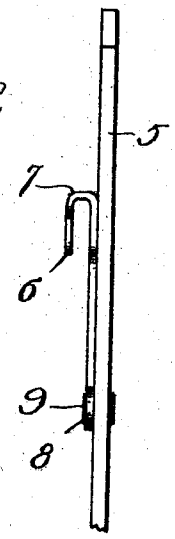


Fig. 2.



Witnesses

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLIAM J. SMITH, OF SCHUYLER, PENNSYLVANIA.

SHOE-TONGUE.

No. 864,206. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Aug. 27, 1907.

Application filed April 17, 1907. Serial No. 368,683.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM J. SMITH, a citizen of the United States, residing at Schuyler, in the county of Northumberland, State of Pennsylvania, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Shoe-Tongues; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same.

This invention relates to shoe tongues and has for its object to provide a tongue of such nature that it will be prevented from slipping down in the shoe or from rolling or curling, this result being attained by providing upon the tongue an element which engages the shoe-lace at one point where they intersect.

One of the novel features of the device resides in the fact that the element includes diverging arms which at their ends are secured to the tongue at points adjacent the longitudinal edges thereof and consequently serve to hold the tongue spread out under all conditions.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is a front elevation of the upper end of a shoe-tongue showing the construction and application of my lace engaging element, and, Fig. 2 is a side elevation of the tongue and the said element.

In the drawings the tongue is indicated by the numeral 5 and is of the usual form. The lace engaging element is formed of a single strand of wire which is bent at its middle as at 6 to form a bight portion and a pair of branches which, adjacent the bight portion extend in engagement with each other, the said portions of the branches being bent as at 7 to form a hook which is engaged over the shoe lace at one point where it intersects. From a point adjacent the bill of the hook formed by bending the branches as stated above, they are extended downwardly and laterally in diverging planes and have their ends bent to form eyes 8 through which, and the tongues, adjacent its longitudinal edges, are engaged eye rivets 9 which rivets serve to secure the element upon the tongue as will be readily understood.

As stated above the ends of the branches of the lace engaging element are secured to the tongue adjacent the longitudinal edges thereof and as this element is formed of a stiff wire the tongue is held perfectly flat at all times and will not be permitted to roll or double. As heretofore stated, the hook portion of the lace engaging member receives the lace and this engagement of the said member with the lace prevents downward slipping of the tongue and also lateral slipping of the same.

What is claimed is—

The combination with a shoe tongue, of a shoe lace engaging member formed of a single strand of wire bent at its middle to form a hook and also to form diverging branches which are secured at their ends and the tongue adjacent the longitudinal edges thereof, the said shoe lace engaging member being adapted to hold the tongue in spread position.

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

WILLIAM J. SMITH.

Witnesses:
H. A. REYNOLDS,
ELIZABETH E. SNYDER.