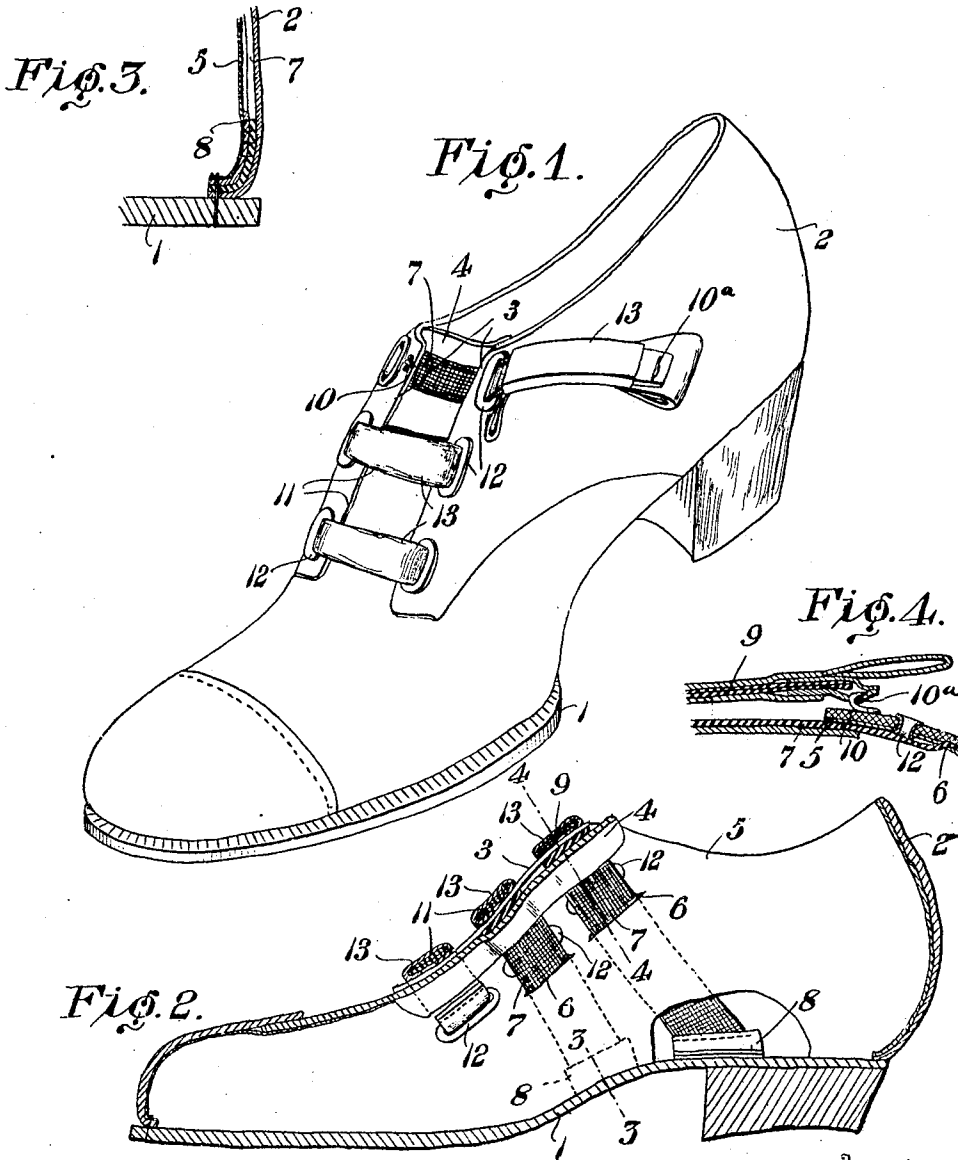


M. E. JACKSON.
 FASTENER FOR SHOES.
 APPLICATION FILED MAY 19, 1908.

913,012.

Patented Feb. 23, 1909.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

MARY E. JACKSON, OF WILMINGTON, DELAWARE.

FASTENER FOR SHOES.

No. 913,012.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Feb. 23, 1909.

Application filed May 19, 1908. Serial No. 433,690.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, MARY E. JACKSON, citizen of the United States, residing at Wilmington, in the county of Newcastle and State of Delaware, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Fasteners for Shoes, of which the following is a specification.

The present invention relates to an improved article of foot wear embodying a novel construction whereby the same may be easily and quickly placed in position upon the foot or removed therefrom and which has the further advantage of possessing a neat and attractive appearance.

More particularly, the invention contemplates a novel arrangement of elastics for holding the flaps at the front of the shoe firmly and yieldingly across the instep when the shoe is being worn, the elastic members being mounted in a peculiar manner so that they are effectively shielded from deteriorating influences and will last as long as the rest of the shoe.

For a full understanding of the invention and the merits thereof and also to acquire a knowledge of the details of construction and the means for effecting the result, reference is to be had to the following description and accompanying drawings, in which:

Figure 1 is a perspective view of a shoe provided with fastening means embodying the invention. Fig. 2 is a longitudinal sectional view through the same. Fig. 3 is a sectional view on the line 3—3 of Fig. 2. Fig. 4 is a similar view on the line 4—4 of Fig. 2.

Corresponding and like parts are referred to in the following description and indicated in all the views of the drawings by the same reference characters.

For the purpose of illustration the invention is shown as employed in connection with a low shoe embodying a sole 1 and an upper 2, the said upper being formed at its forward portion with the flaps 3 which are spread apart when the shoe is being placed in position upon the foot or removed therefrom, but which are held firmly and smoothly across the instep when the shoe is in use. The space between the flaps 3 is designed to be bridged by means of a tongue 4 which is of the usual construction. A lining 5 which may be of kid or other suitable material is applied to the upper 2, and this lining is provided adjacent the edge of each of the

flaps 3 with a pair of openings 6. Extending across the space between these flaps 3 are the elastic bands 7 which pass through the corresponding openings 6 upon opposite sides of the shoe. After passing through these openings the ends of the elastic bands 7 extend downwardly and rearwardly between the upper 2 and the lining 5 and have their extremities secured to strips 8 at the lower portion of the shoe. Two of these strips are preferably disposed upon each side of the shoe and are arranged between the lining 5 and the outer covering of the shoe, and are secured in position when the upper of the shoe is stitched to the sole. It will thus be obvious that these elastic bands 7 have a loose connection with the flaps 3 and normally tend to draw the said flaps together. However, by stretching the elastic bands the flaps can be readily spread apart when placing the shoe in position upon the foot or removing it therefrom. Attention may also be directed to the fact that these bands also extend around the instep of the foot and hold the shoe securely in position upon the foot. A strap 9 is employed for connecting the upper portions of the flaps 3 and the said strap when in position extends across the uppermost elastic band 7 so as to shield the same from view. In the present instance this strap 9 is composed of two thicknesses of elastic and one end of the strap is permanently secured to one of the flaps 3 while the opposite end is provided with a loop 10^a designed to detachably engage a hook 10 upon the opposite flap 3. Arranged below this uppermost strap 9 is a pair of straps 11 which are also shown as formed of two thicknesses of elastic and which connect the flaps 3, the upper strap 11 extending across the lowermost elastic band 7 so as to shield the same from view. For the purpose of attaching the straps 11 and the strap 9 to the shoe the flaps 3 are shown as formed with the elongated openings 12 which if desired may be fitted with metal eyelets in the usual manner. The two straps 11 and the strap 9 are each provided with a covering 13 which may be either of a plain or ornamental character as desired and which serves to cover the elastic and protect the same from the deteriorating influence of the atmosphere.

When the shoe is applied to the foot the tongue 4 and lining 5 protect the elastic bands 7 from the perspiration of the foot and the straps 11 and 9 protect the said

bands from the action of the atmosphere. It will also be apparent that the elastic nature of these bands and straps will serve to hold the flaps 3 securely and firmly across the instep of the foot. When it is desired to remove the shoe from the foot the uppermost strap 9 is disengaged from the hook 10 and the flaps 3 spread apart against the action of the elastic members. From the foregoing description it will be clearly apparent that the arrangement of the elastic members is such as to permit of the shoe being quickly and easily removed from the foot and is also such as to protect the elastic members from those deteriorating influences which would normally render them extremely short lived.

Having thus described the invention, what is claimed as new is:

1. The combination of a shoe in which the upper is formed with front flaps, an elastic band loosely connected to the front flaps and having its opposite extremities secured to the lower portion of the shoe, and a strap connecting the flaps.

2. The combination of a shoe in which the upper is formed with front flaps, an elastic band loosely connected to the front flaps and having its opposite extremities secured to the lower portion of the shoe, and a strap detachably connecting the flaps.

3. The combination of a shoe in which the upper is formed with front flaps, an elastic band loosely connected to the front flaps and having its opposite extremities secured to the lower portion of the shoe, an elastic strap connecting the flaps, and a covering for the elastic strap.

4. The combination of a shoe in which the upper is formed with front flaps and is provided with a lining, and an elastic band

loosely connecting the flaps, the ends of the band extending between the lining and the outer covering of the upper and being secured to the lower portion of the shoe.

5. The combination of a shoe in which the upper is formed with front flaps and is provided with a lining, strips arranged between the lining and the outer covering at the lower portion of the shoe, and an elastic band loosely connecting the flaps, the ends of the band passing between the lining and the outer covering of the shoe and being secured to the before mentioned strips

6. The combination of a shoe in which the upper is formed with front flaps and is provided with a lining, an elastic band loosely connecting the flaps, the ends of the elastic band extending between the lining and the outer covering of the upper and having their extremities secured to the lower portion of the shoe, a strap detachably connecting the flaps, and an elastic strap permanently connecting the flaps.

7. The combination of a shoe in which the upper is formed with front flaps and is provided with a lining, an elastic band loosely connecting the flaps, the ends of the band extending between the lining and the outer covering of the upper and having their extremities secured to the lower portion of the shoe, an elastic strap detachably connecting the flaps, a second elastic strap permanently connecting the flaps, and coverings for the said elastic straps.

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

MARY E. JACKSON. [L. s.]

Witnesses:

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