

S. W. Marsh.

Tags.

N^o 27,728.

Patented Apr. 3, 1860.

Fig. 1.

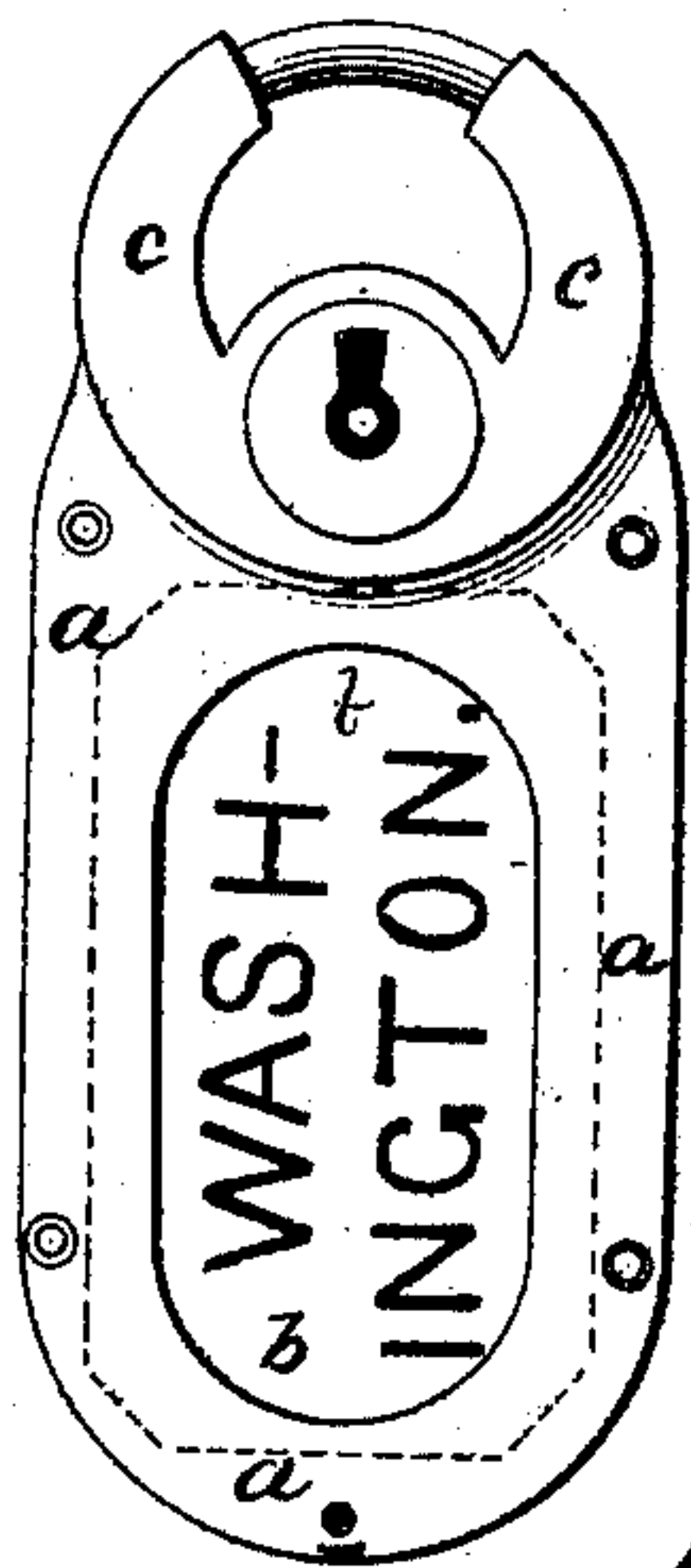


Fig. 2.

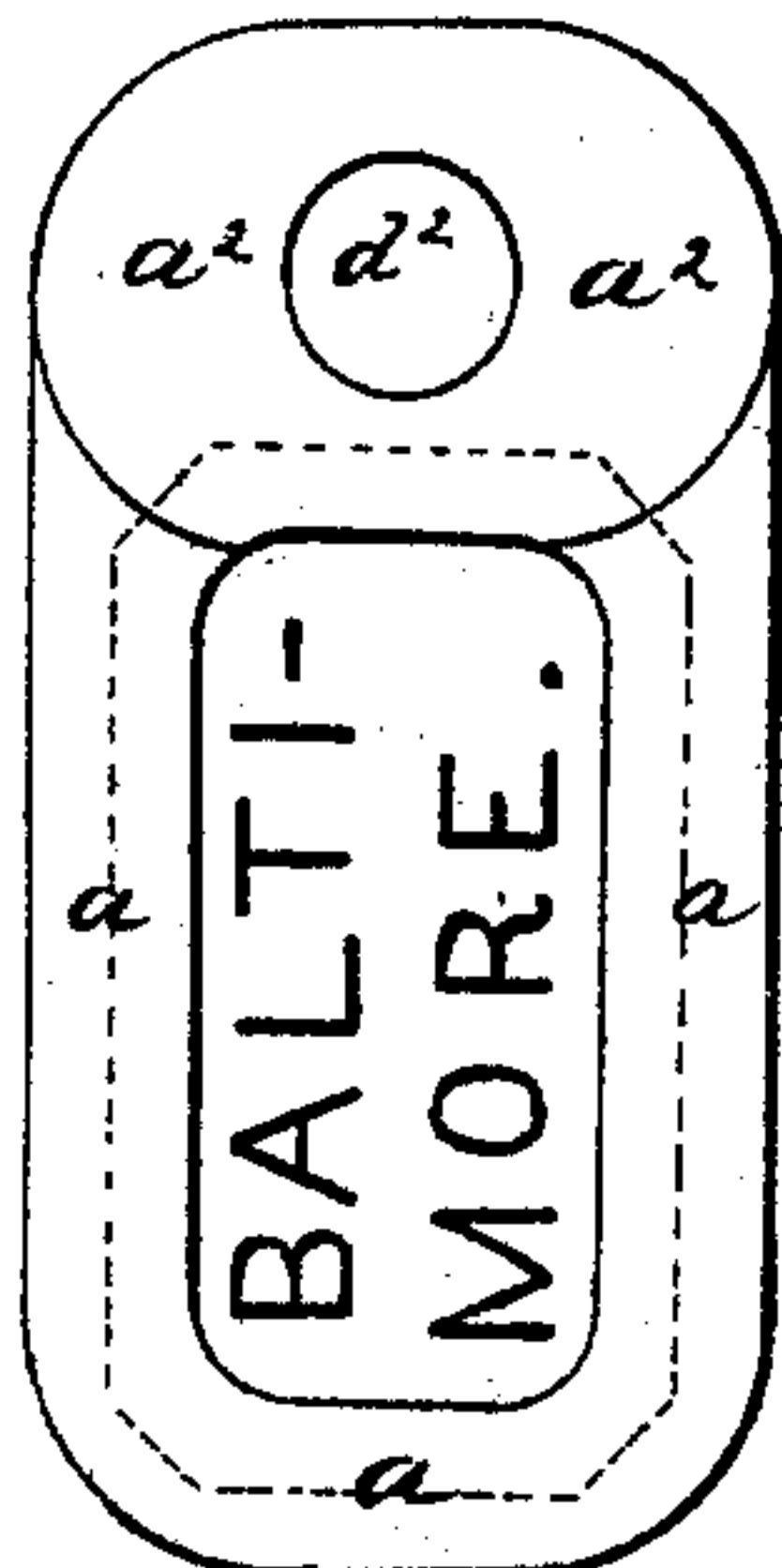


Fig. 3.

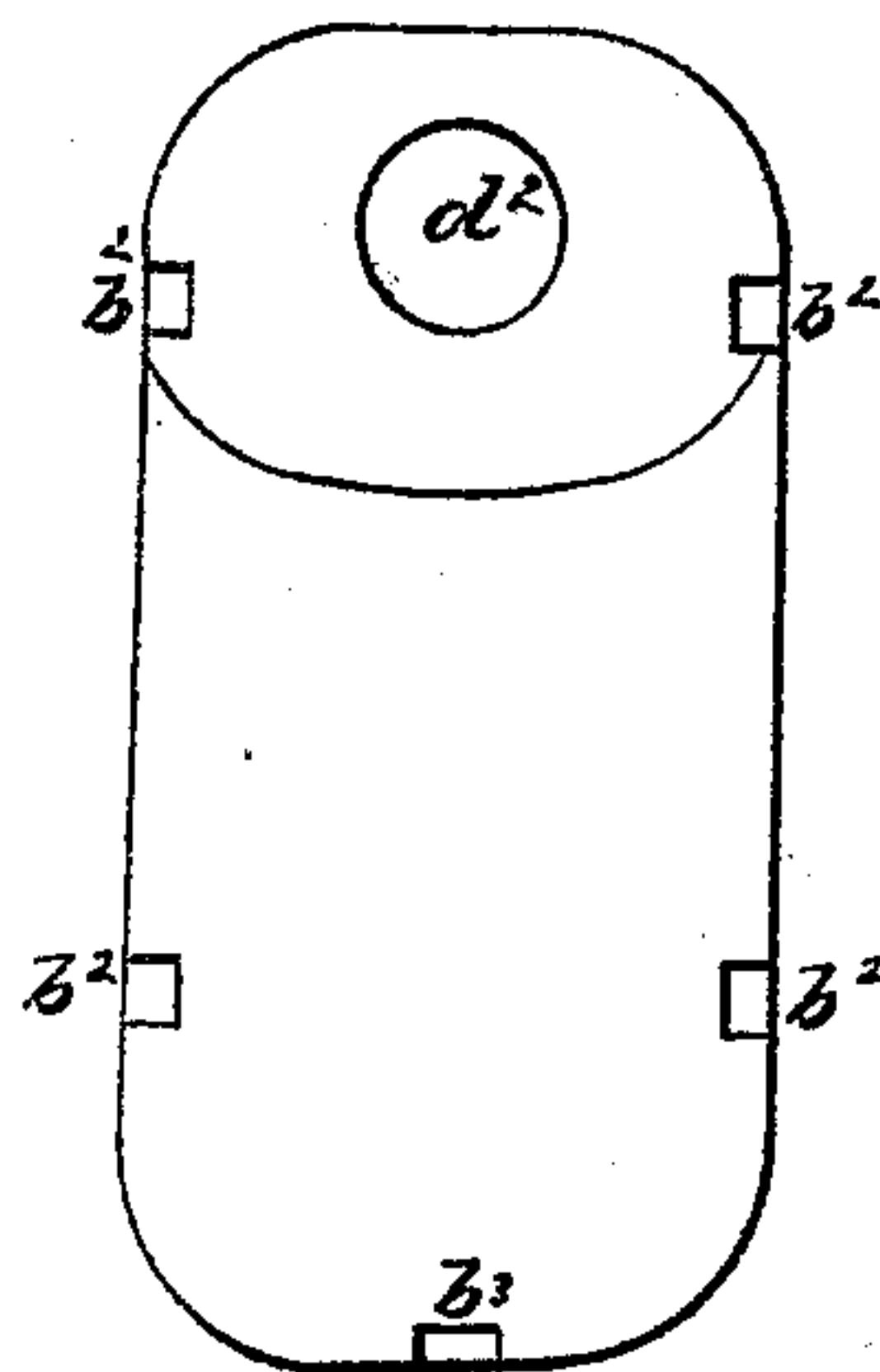


Fig. 6.



Fig. 7.

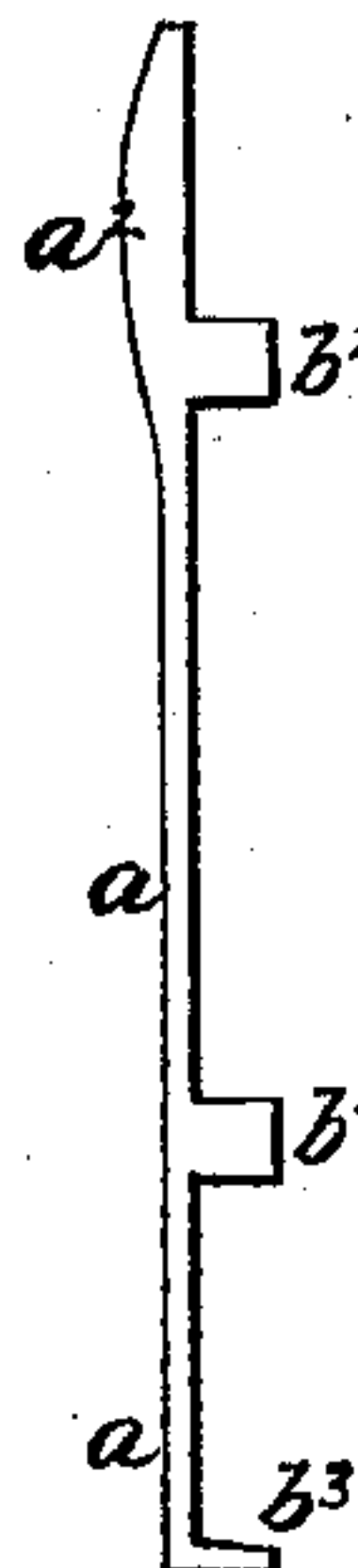


Fig. 5.

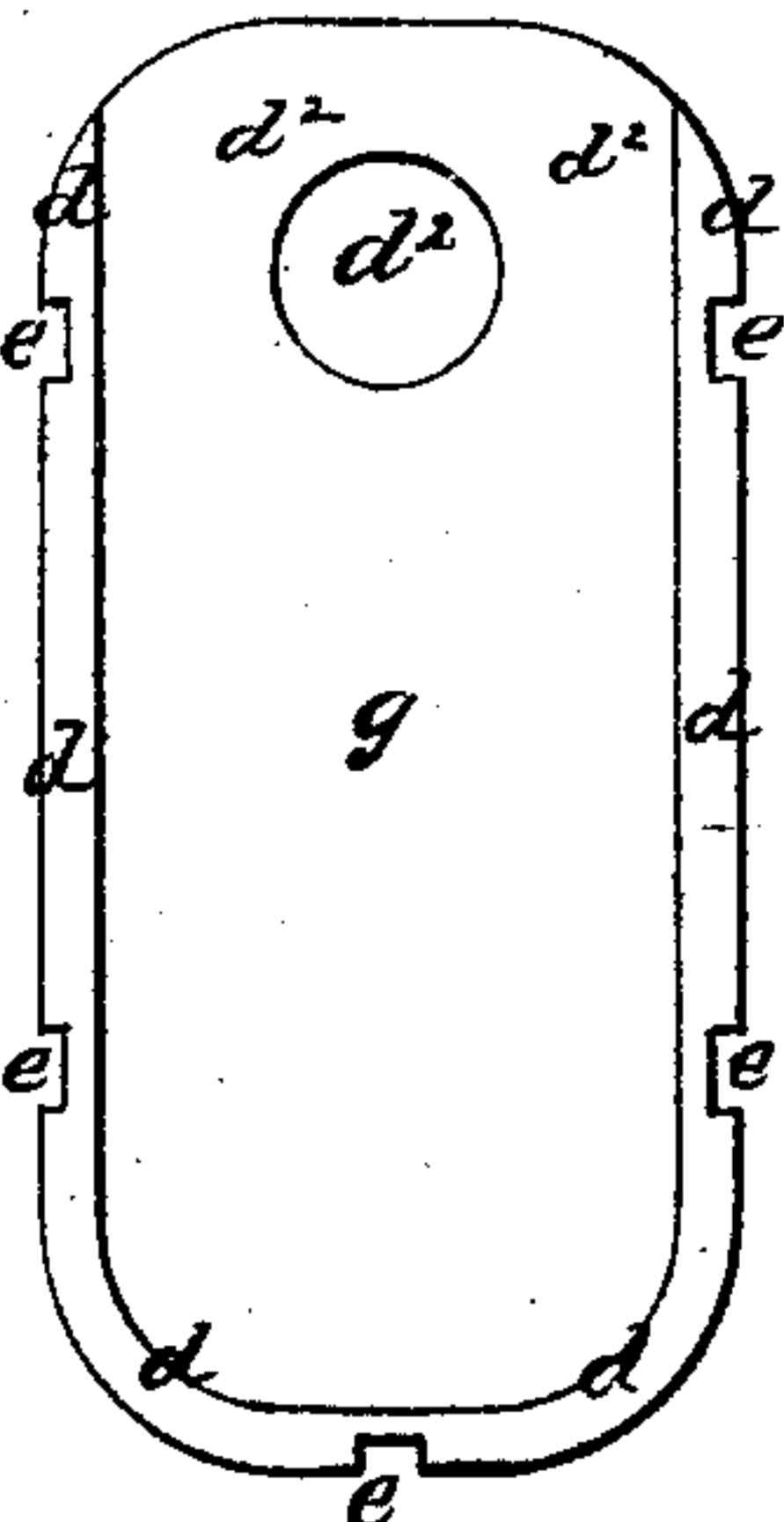


Fig. 4.

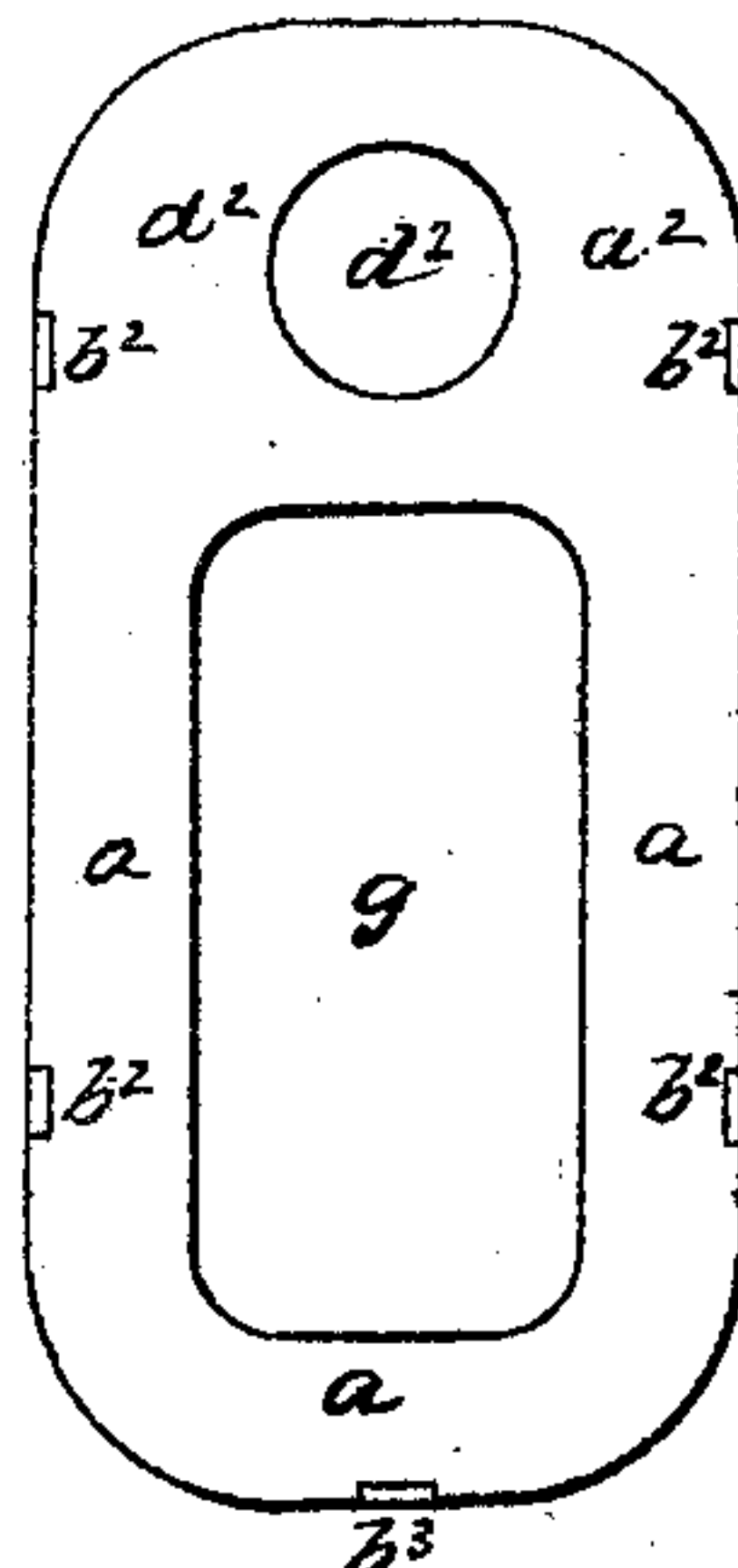


Fig. 8.

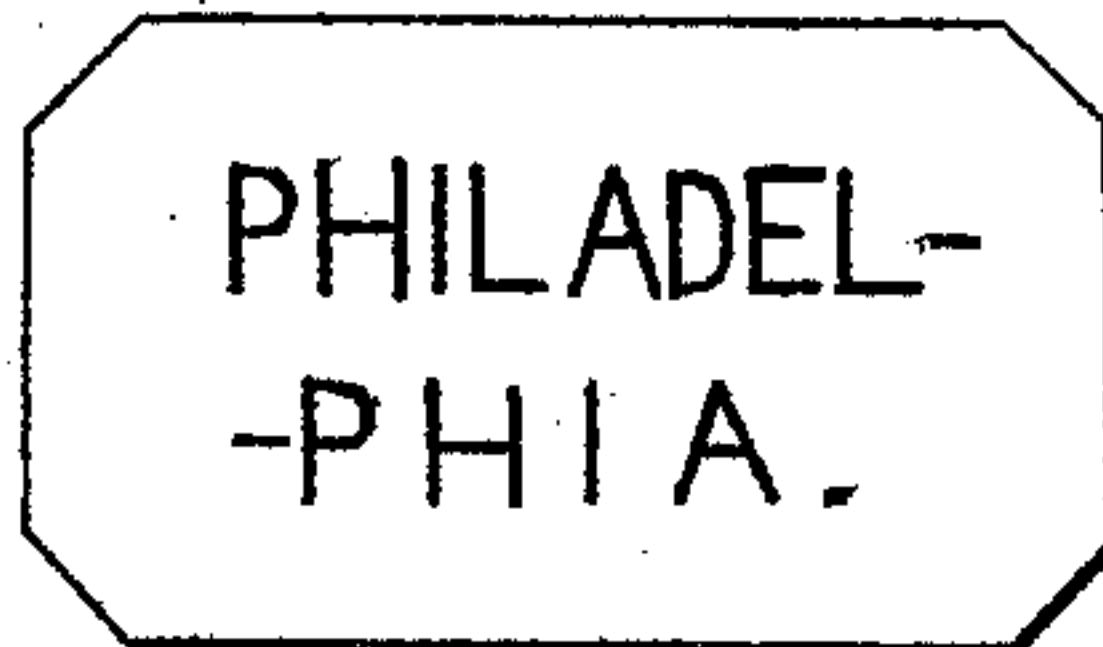


Fig. 11.



Fig. 9.

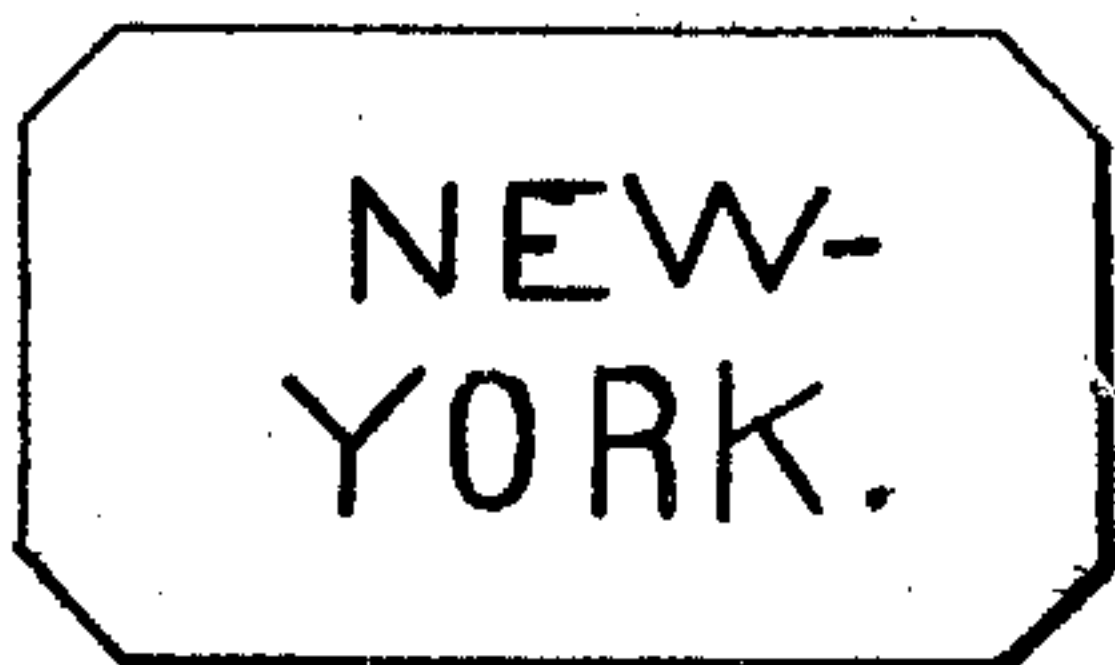


Fig. 10.



Witnesses.
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

SAMUEL W. MARSH, OF WASHINGTON, DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.

COMPOUND LOCK AND LABEL-SHEATH.

Specification of Letters Patent No. 27,728, dated April 3, 1860.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, SAMUEL W. MARSH, of the city and county of Washington, in the District of Columbia, have invented and made certain new and useful improvements in compound lock and label-sheaths for securing labels and addresses and attaching the same to mail-bags, trunks, packages, boxes, and for various other purposes; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description of the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, making a part of this specification.

Figure 1, represents a lock and label sheath combined, showing the address. Fig. 2, represents the face, or front of a label sheath, without the lock, combined. Fig. 3, represents the back part of the shell of the sheath. Fig. 4, represents a face or front part of the shell detached. Fig. 5, represents the back part of the other half of the shell. Fig. 6, represents an edge view of the back part half of the shell of the sheath. Fig. 7, represents an edge view of the front or face half of the shell of the sheath. Figs. 8 and 9, represent the label or card detached. Figs. 10 and 11, represent another form of label sheath and label, which like Figs. 2 and 3, may be confined or held by the hasp of a lock.

The nature of my invention, consists in constructing a compound lock and safety label sheath for, inclosing or holding, a printed, written, stamped, or other kind of label, printed address, or card, for the purpose of attaching the same, securely and expeditiously to mail bags, trunks, packages, boxes, and for other purposes.

The better to enable others to understand the nature of, construct and use my invention, I describe the same as follows; not however confining or limiting myself to any especial or particular shape, or manner of attaching the same.

At Fig. 1, a, a, a, a, a is indicated a metal sheath or case with solid or closed back, and open face or front part b, b , one end of the sheath or case being formed with, or attached to a lock of any required, suitable kind, and form. This metallic sheath or case may be made of two or more parts; a front part or shell as indicated at Fig. 4, a^2, a^2, a, a, a , formed of cast or stamped metal, of about an eighth of an inch thick the part having the hole in it, being something thicker or swelled as indicated at a^2

Fig. 7, and the sides or edges provided with small suitable ears or flanches $b^2-b^2-b^3$, Figs. 4 and 7. The back part of the shell or sheath is of similar shape to the front, but is solid, with a rim or flange-like formation $d-d-d-d-d-d$, from an eighth to three sixteenths of an inch thickness, across and in depth. This rim or flange, extends around the side edges and the lower end, while the upper or hole end d^2, d^2, d^2 , has no such formation, but is left open as indicated in Fig. 5.

The rim or flange, on the side edges and the end of the back part of the shell of the sheath, has small sunken formations or grooves $e-e-e$, corresponding in shape to the ears or flanches $b^2-b^2-b^2-b^2-b^3$. This back part Fig. 5, has also a swelled or thick end f , Fig. 6.

In order to form the sheath, the two parts, or the front and back, Figs. 4, and 5, are placed together the surfaces $g-g$, opposite, when the ears or flanches $b^2-b^2-b^2-b^2-b^3$, enter the sunken or groove places $e-e-e$, when a slight pressure by suitable machinery; or a blow of a hammer will turn down the ears or flanches and draw up closely and securely together the two halves; the front and back, and thus form a sheath, or case, with a cavity or space suitable to receive one or more labels as occasion may require, and thus constituting a safety label sheath or case as represented in Figs. 2 and 3, showing the front or open face, and the back or closed part, with the hole d^2 , for connecting the hasp of a lock.

The sheath can be of any design or shape and either be formed with a lock, or on the back of a lock, and with two holes, one at each end as at $h-h$ —Fig. 10, with one or both ends open for the convenience of slipping in the label.

The label sheath represented in Fig. 10 is designed to be attached by either a lock or strap, or hook, for which the holes d^2 , are intended.

The design of enlarging or making the end with the hole d^2 thick or swelled, is to give strength and to prevent mashing down of the shell where the label is inserted.

In the form of sheaths represented in Fig. 1, the label is introduced into the sheath at the lower end, and to prevent the falling out of the slip or label any little spring, or catch device can be attached with but little or no additional expense.

In the forms Figs. 2, 3, the label is inserted at the upper end, the hasp of the lock, preventing slipping out.

The advantages sought after, and claimed as belonging to my invention, are durability, simplicity, and cheapness of construction, and great utility; and in the use and adaptation thereof, all that is requisite is when a mail-bag, or any other article is to be forwarded, the label or slip with the direction or address is inserted in the sheath where it is secure from being torn off, or defaced by ordinary usage or wear and tear, and for greater protection the sheath or case can be provided with a facing or inserted shield of mica, or other transparent substance.

In the usual or ordinary mode of forwarding mail-bags, and packages, stamped checks, of metal, wood or leather are used, and, the device itself has to be taken off, and changed and others substituted, when different locations or places are to be forwarded to, thus requiring an immense number of separate individual checks, and requiring repeated, attaching, and detaching, thereby involving much expense, delay and trouble in forwarding. But with the aid of my compound lock and sheath, or safety label, all that is requisite is to have slips or cards printed or written on one or both sides, with the same, or different addresses, or directions, and for example, in forward-

ing from Washington to New York, a label with one side, having New York, and the other side Washington, thereon is inserted in the sheath, with the direction New York, visible, then when the mail-bag is to be returned to Washington the same slip or card is turned, and reinserted exposing the direction Washington. Thus, one sheath, and one label slip or card answers a double purpose, and in like manner, can one sheath, with various different addresses or directions be used, between numerous places, thus greatly facilitating the handling and forwarding of mail-bags, &c., affording much greater security, and safety in the forwarding, and greatly cheapening the present system of forwarding articles by address or direction.

Having shown, and described the nature, construction, application and many advantages of my invention, what I claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent of the United States, is—

The construction of a compound lock, and safety label sheath, or label case, and label as represented in the drawings Figs. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, and substantially as herein set forth and described.

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Witnesses:

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