

T. J. MAYO.
Mail Bag.

No. 230,308.

Patented July 20, 1880.

Fig. 1.

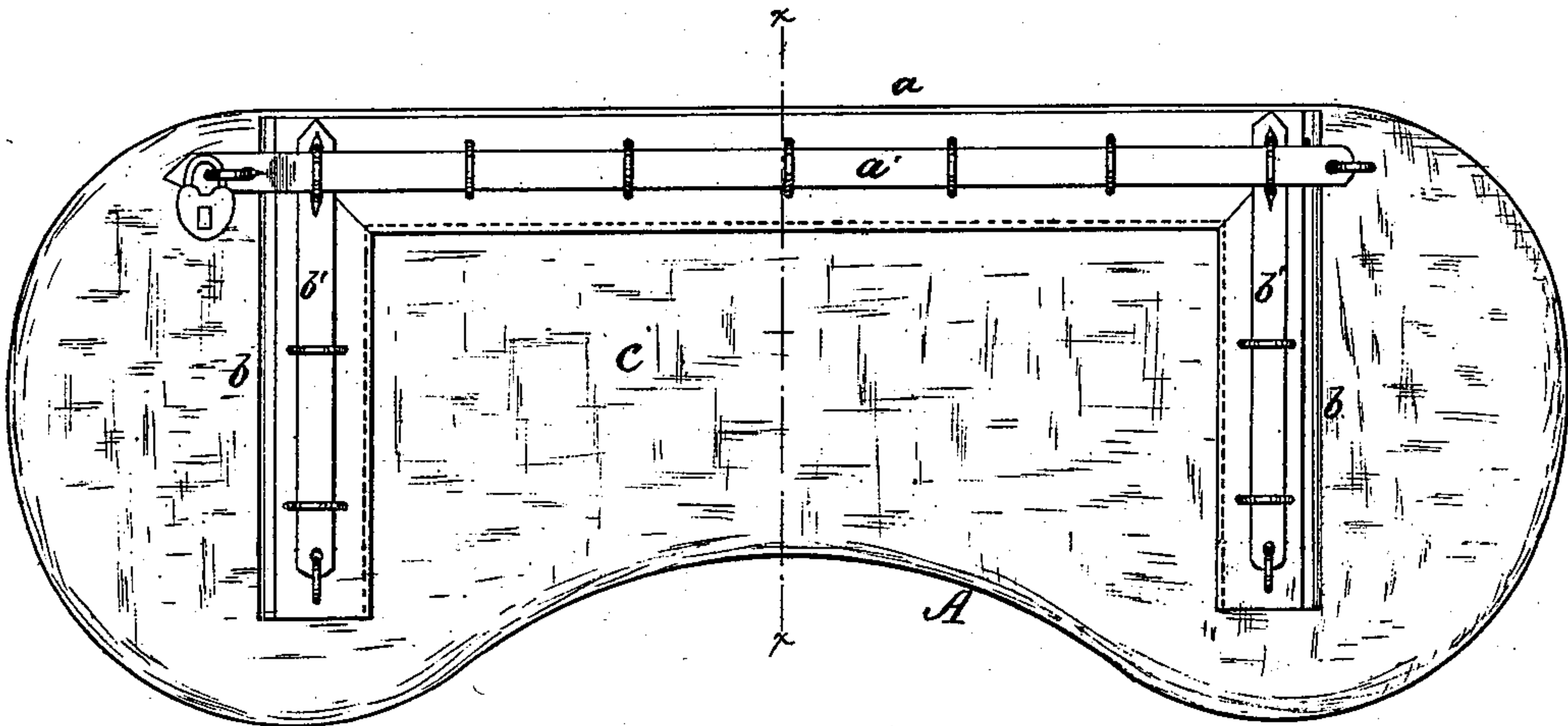


Fig. 2.

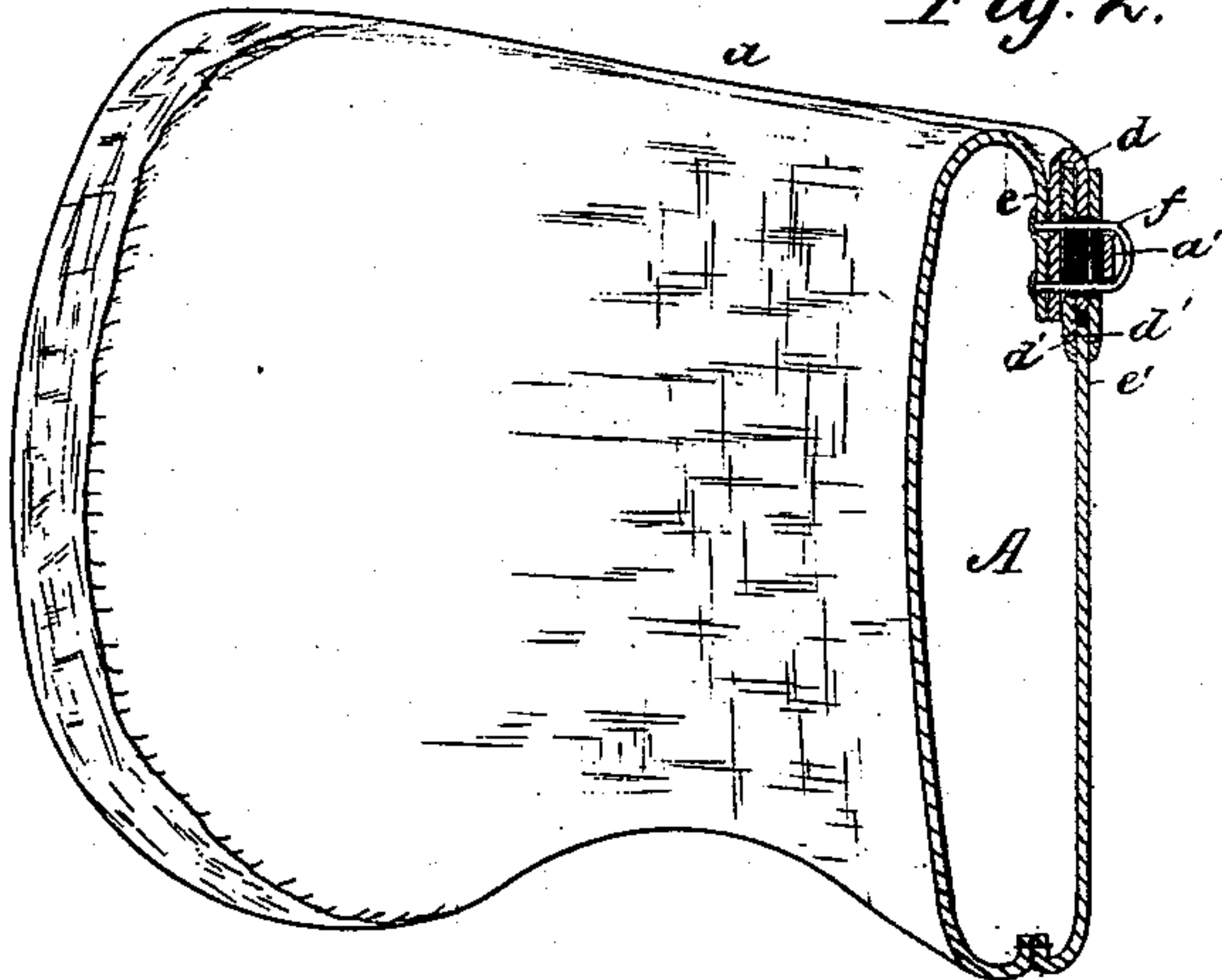
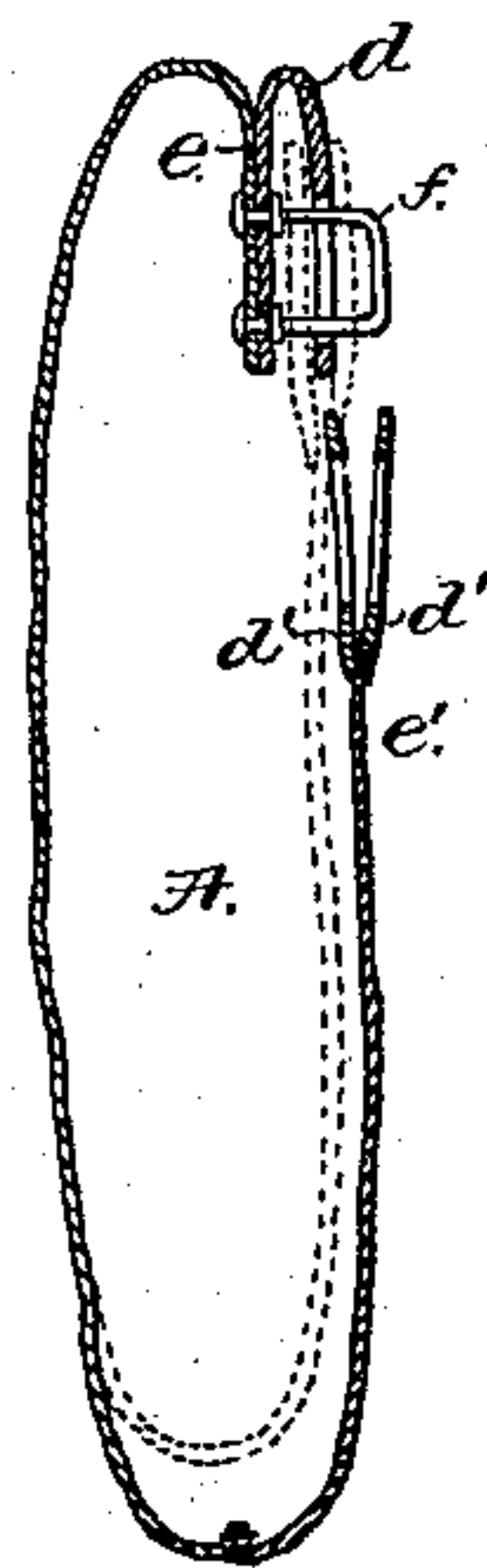


Fig. 3.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

THOMAS J. MAYO, OF PAINTSVILLE, KENTUCKY.

MAIL-BAG.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 230,308, dated July 20, 1880.

Application filed February 12, 1880.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, THOMAS J. MAYO, of Paintsville, in the county of Johnson and State of Kentucky, have invented a new and Improved Mail-Bag; 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, forming part of this specification, in which—

10 Figure 1 is a side view. Fig. 2 is a perspective of one-half of the bag cut through the line *xx* of Fig. 1. Fig. 3 is a cross-section of the bag, showing the parts of the fastening when disconnected.

15 My invention relates to an improved form of mail-bag for horseback routes, designed to facilitate the packing of mail matter therein and its removal therefrom.

20 In the old form of mail-bag one side is made straight and the other side curved inwardly, so as to make the bag narrowest in the middle, with the ends enlarged to form pouches, while the opening through which the mail is inserted or removed is along the straight edge.

25 With this form of bag there is a great annoyance to the operator in not being able to see what he is doing in placing in or removing the mail matter. There is also a great waste of time in putting in and taking out the mail,

30 which is an important item when the time for this work is limited, as is frequently the case. The mail matter cannot be packed compactly, so as to utilize the greatest capacity of the bag, and the indiscriminate cramming results frequently in serious damage to many articles contained in the mails. In using the present bag, also, there is danger of letters and registered packages being left in the folds of the bag and not removed at the proper office.

40 My invention is designed to obviate these objections; and to this end it consists in making this form of bag with a rectangular flap whose long side is parallel with the straight side of the bag, and whose ends are arranged transversely to the bag, and combining there-
45 with staples and three straps arranged at right angles for fastening the three sides of said flap.

The invention also consists in the peculiar

means for closing the edges of the opening in the bag, as hereinafter fully described. 50

In the drawings, A represents the mail-bag, which has one straight side, one curved side, and the two end pouches, as heretofore constructed.

55 Instead of a straight opening at the straight edge, I form a rectangular line of opening, the long and straight side *a* being parallel with the straight side of the bag, and the short sides *b* being at right angles to the length of the bag, so that the portion *c* becomes a flap that is folded toward the curved side of the bag in gaining access to the interior. This construction allows the operator to have access to every part of the bag, and to see what he is doing therein in packing or unpacking, the said operator standing on the curved side of the bag with his body pressed close up against the same, so as to bring every part of the bag within range of his hands. This construction also permits another person on the opposite side to assist, which could not be done with the old form. 60 65 70

In forming the joint at the opening of the bag, (see Fig. 2,) I attach to one side, *e*, of the two adjacent edges a flap, *d*, and to the other side, *e'*, I fasten two flaps, *d'* *d'*, between which the flap *d* is folded. 75

The flap *d* is made double and is bent parallel with itself, with one side permanently attached to the edge *e* of the bag, and with the other side free and adapted to be passed between flaps *d'* *d'*. All of these flaps *d* and *d'* have staple-eyes through them, and upon the edge *e* of the bag are fastened staples *f*, that pass through and are re-enforced by the permanent side of flap *a*, and then pass through said eyes, while a strap, *a'*, on the outside passes through the staples and secures the flaps in place. 80 85

The three sides *b a b* of the opening in the bag are secured by the three straps *b' a' b'*, crossing each other at the corners at right angles, and are fastened at one end by a padlock. 90

Having thus described my invention, what I claim as new is— 95

1. A mail-bag having a straight side and a curved side, as shown, and provided with a rectangular flap, *c*, opening at the line *b a b*, in combination with the three straps *b' a' b'*,
5 arranged substantially as described.
2. The combination, with the two edges *e e'* of a mail-bag, of a flap, *d*, made double and bent upon itself, and having one side permanently attached to the side *e*, and the two
10 flaps *d' d'* permanently attached to the other side, *e'*, of the bag, and adapted to receive the free side of flap *d*, together with the strap *a'*, and the staples secured in the side *e* and reinforced by the permanent side of the flap *d*, as described.

THOMAS JEFFERSON MAYO.

Witnesses:

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