

(No Model.)

G. W. WENTWORTH.
TAG OR LABEL FOR MAIL BAGS.

No. 294,707.

Patented Mar. 4, 1884.

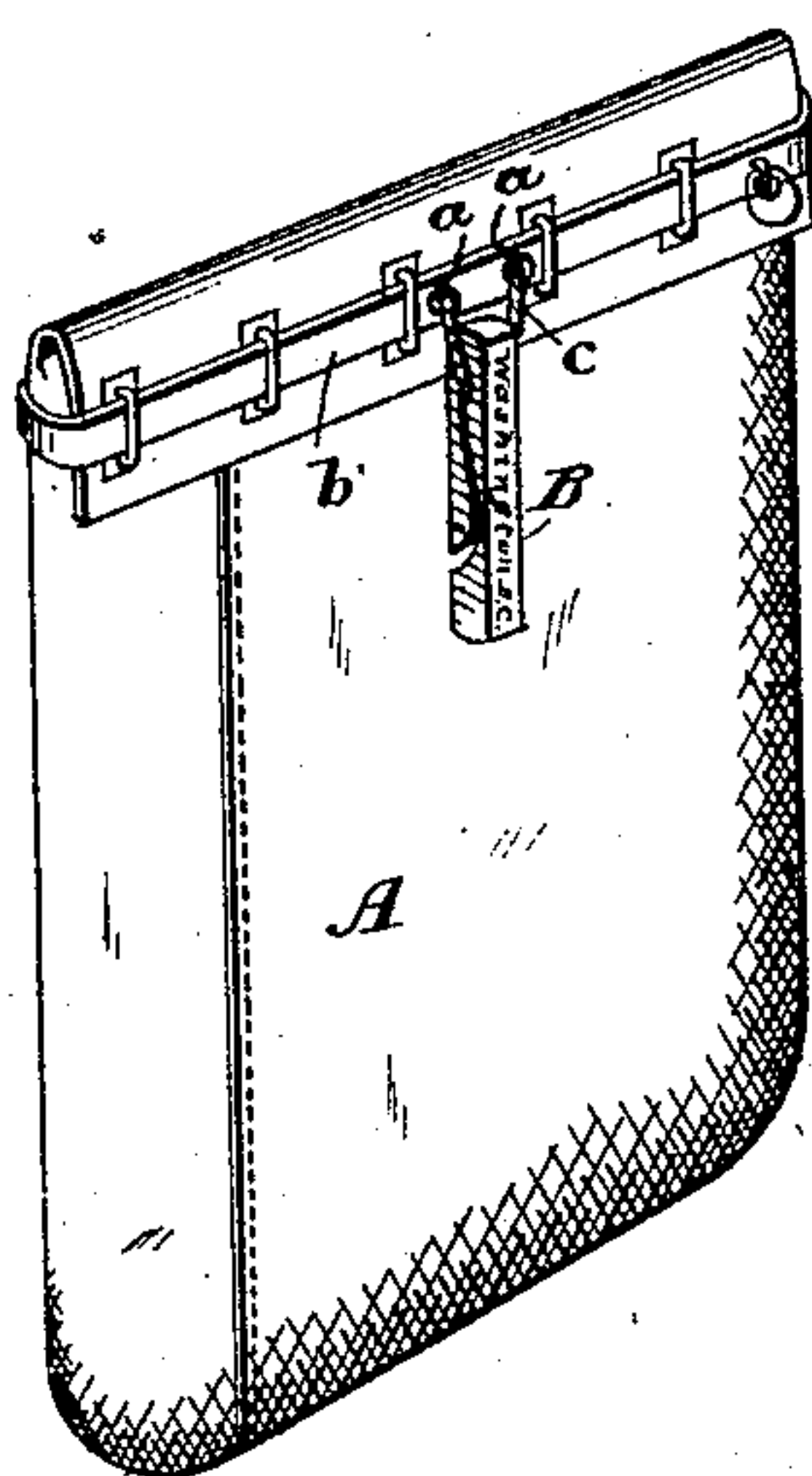


Fig. 1.

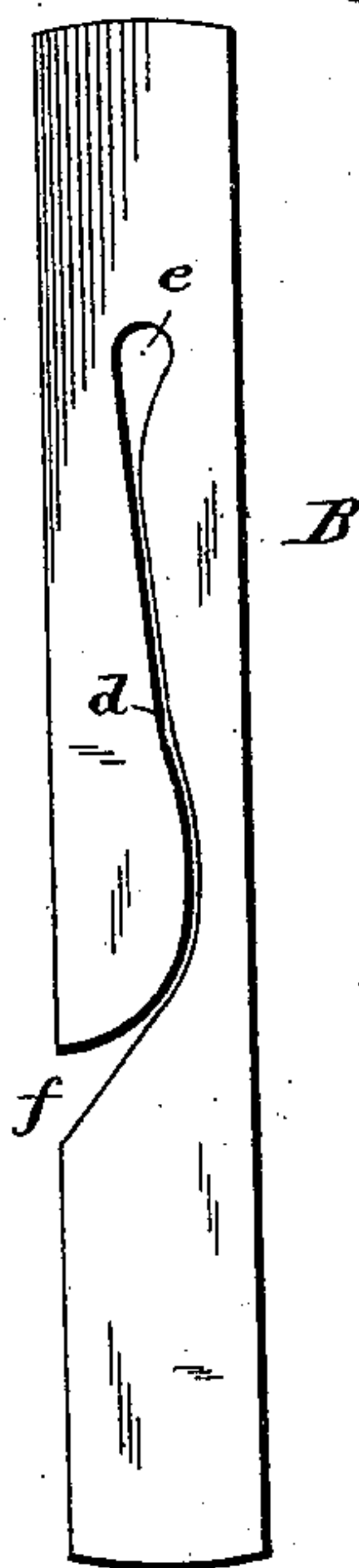


Fig. 2.

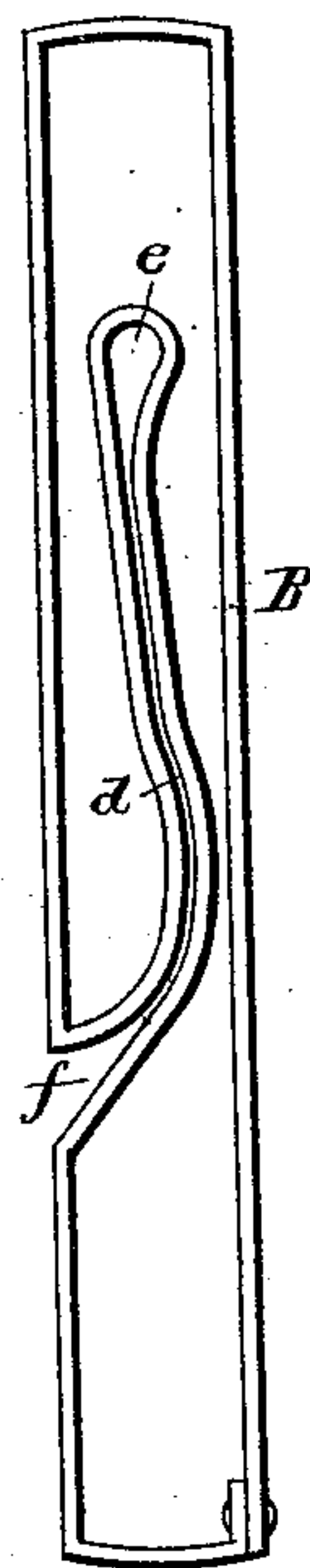


Fig. 3.

Attest:

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GEORGE W. WENTWORTH, OF BOONVILLE, NEW YORK.

TAG OR LABEL FOR MAIL-BAGS.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 294,707, dated March 4, 1884.

Application filed December 29, 1883. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, GEORGE W. WENTWORTH, a citizen of the United States, residing at Boonville, in the county of Oneida and State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Destination Tags or Labels for Mail-Bags; 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.

Wooden tags, with labels to indicate their destination, have heretofore been attached to mail-bags by means of a strong cord or twine passed through a hole in the tag and secured to the bag by tying, and requiring that the cord should be cut in detaching it. This involved the expenditure of considerable time in attaching the tags and the consumption of a large amount of twine.

The object of my invention is to provide a tag or label which may be more expeditiously attached or detached, and the use of which will save the consumption of twine.

To this end it consists in constructing a tag of well-seasoned, close-grained wood of an elastic nature, and providing the same with a longitudinal sinuous slot, which, with the exertion of a little manual force, may be hooked or sprung upon a loop of cord permanently attached to the bag, and will be retained in place without liability to become accidentally detached, but may be quickly removed therefrom when desired by another slight application of manual force.

Manifestly the tag or label may be made of any desired size; but if made from six to seven inches in length by one inch in breadth and thickness it will present sufficient surface upon either its upper or lower sides to allow of printing thereon the name of the place of destination.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is a mail-bag with my improved destination tag or label attached thereto, showing the mode of attachment; and Fig. 2 is a side view of the tag or label, showing the position and peculiar form of the slot cut therein. Fig. 3 represents a modification.

A represents a mail-bag, the band *b* at the entrance of which is provided with eyelets *a a*,

through which a strong cord is passed, forming the loop *c*.

The ends of the cord used in forming the loop may be secured upon the inner side of the bag in any suitable manner, as by tying; or, if desired, may be secured between the outer band and the bag, thus preventing the liability of its catching or in any other manner offering an obstruction to the removal of the contents of the bag.

The tag *B* is provided with a longitudinal sinuous slot, *d*, commencing, preferably, at a point, *e*, near one of the ends of the tag, and upon a line drawn longitudinally through the center of one of its sides. The inner end of the slot *e* is provided with an enlarged opening, which will admit of the free movement of the tag upon the cord or loop when in use. From this inner end or opening the slot is continued longitudinally and sinuously toward the opposite end of the tag, narrowing or contracting as it recedes from its inner end until a point near its mouth or entrance is reached, when it winds abruptly to the surface, presenting upon one of the sides of the tag an enlarged or flaring entrance or opening, *f*.

With the peculiar form of slot described, the width of the entrance being considerably greater than the diameter of the cord intended to be used, it permits the tag to be readily caught or hooked upon the loop, while the narrowness of the slot within the entrance offers considerable resistance to the passage of the cord, and, in conjunction with the sinuous course traversed by the slot, serves to prevent the tag from becoming detached until manual force is exercised to remove it.

Although I have confined my description to tags or labels made of wood, deeming them preferable on account of cost of material and construction, still it is manifest that they may be constructed of metal or other material possessing a sufficient degree of elasticity, as shown in Fig. 3.

I am aware that tags have heretofore been constructed which have been provided with a hole, from which, to one of the outer edges of the tag, a slit has been cut, and the terminus of the slit has been provided with a notch to act as a guide when the tag is being attached, as shown and described in a patent

granted to Simon B. Fleisher, February 7,
1882, No. 253,274. My tag differs from such
construction in that it is provided with a lon-
gitudinal sinuous slot, whereby the liability
5 of the tags becoming accidentally detached is
avoided.

Having thus described my invention, what I
claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters
Patent, is—

10 1. A destination tag or label for mail-bags,
provided with a longitudinal sinuous open
slot, its inner end provided with an enlarged

opening, substantially as and for the purposes
set forth.

2. A destination tag or label for mail-bags, 15
having a longitudinal sinuous slot contracted
between its ends and terminating in an en-
larged opening, in which the cord may rest.

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

GEORGE W. WENTWORTH.

Witnesses:

W. R. TANNER,
H. R. HEADLEY.