

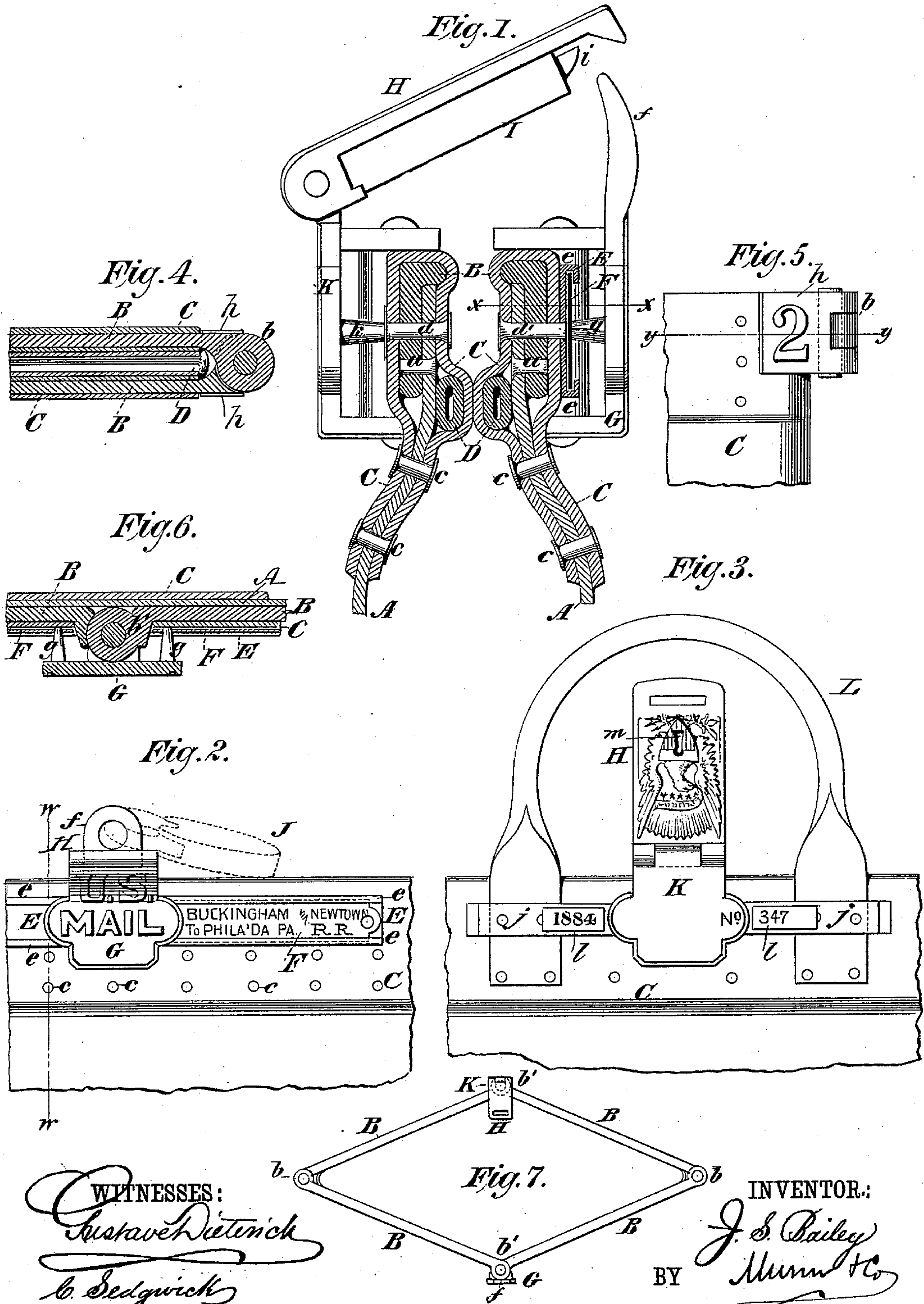
(No Model.)

J. S. BAILEY.

MAIL BAG.

No. 296,910.

Patented Apr. 15, 1884.



WITNESSES:
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOHN S. BAILEY, OF BUCKINGHAM, PENNSYLVANIA.

MAIL-BAG.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 296,910, dated April 15, 1884.

Application filed February 18, 1884. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOHN S. BAILEY, of Buckingham, in the county of Bucks and State of Pennsylvania, have invented a new and Improved Mail-Bag, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description.

This invention relates to certain improvements in mail-bags; and it consists of the construction, arrangement, and combination of parts, all as hereinafter described and claimed.

Reference is to be had to the accompanying drawings, forming part of this specification, in which similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts in all the figures.

Figure 1 is a sectional elevation of the mouth of the bag, taken on the line *ww* of Fig. 2, showing the bag closed and locked. Fig. 2 is a front view of the upper end of the bag. Fig. 3 is a rear view, showing the hasp raised. Fig. 4 is a sectional plan view taken on the line *yy* of Fig. 5. Fig. 5 is a front view of one of the side joints of the frame. Fig. 6 is a sectional plan view taken on the line *xx* of Fig. 1, and Fig. 7 is a plan view of the mail-bag frame.

A represents the main leather body of the mail-bag, which body may be of the ordinary or of any approved construction, size, and form.

To the upper edges of the body A are secured, by the rivets *a*, the four P-shaped metallic ribs, B B B B, which are hinged together at their ends, as shown at *b b* and *b' b'*, and constitute the frame of the mail-bag.

Over the upper edge of the body A and over the plates B is wrapped the outer covering-leather, C, which is secured in place by the lower rivets, *c*, and upper rivets, *d* and *d'*, and the said covering-leather C incloses, also, upon the inside of the plates B, the elastic strips or tubes D of soft rubber, which are arranged to come fairly together when the mail-bag is closed, and are of such size as to compress each other, as illustrated in Fig. 1, when the bag is closed, so that by this compression they are caused to make the bag water and dust tight at its mouth. The rivets *d'*, besides serving to hold the outer leather, C, in place, also hold in place upon the outside of the bag the label-plate E, which is bent at its edges, as shown at *e e*, Figs. 1 and

2, to receive and hold the metal end labels, F, on which is indicated the route of the mail-bag, as will be understood from Fig. 2.

To one of the joints *b'* of the frame of the bag is secured the plate or shield G, which is formed upon the inner surface with the fingers *g g*, which serve, when the bag is closed, to brace the plates B, and to grasp or enter small orifices in the inner ends of the labels F for holding them securely in place, as will be understood from Figs. 1 and 6, and upon the upper edge of the shield or plate G is formed the eye or staple plate *f*, on which the hasp-plate H is adapted to be placed and locked by the bolt *i* of the lock I, entering a suitable recess made in the staple-plate *f*, or by the padlock J, the bow of which is passed through the eye of the staple-plate *f*, as shown in dotted lines in Fig. 2. Attached to the other joint *b'* of the frame of the mail-bag is the plate or shield K, to which the hasp-plate H is hinged, and this plate K, like the plate or shield G, is formed upon the inner surface with the fingers or studs *k*, (shown in Fig. 1,) which serve to brace the frame of the bag when the bag is closed, and thus strengthen the joint. The lock I is attached to the under side of the hasp H, so as to be concealed when the bag is locked, as will be understood from Fig. 1.

To the plates B, near the outer hinges *b* are attached the plates *h*, on which the number of the bag is formed, as shown in Fig. 5, and upon the staple-loops *j j*, which attach the handle L to the bag, are attached the plates or tablets *l l*, for numbering and dating the bag.

When the lock I is used for locking the bag, the bolt *i* will be operated for unlocking the bag by a suitable key passed through the key-hole *m*, made through the hasp-plate H. (Shown in Fig. 3.)

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

1. The combination, with the jointed frame of a mail-bag, of the shield-plate G, attached to one of the center joints of the said frame, and provided with fingers on its inner face for bracing the frame and for holding the labels, as set forth.

2. The combination of the jointed frame of

a mail-bag and a suitable hasp, with the shield G, attached to one of the center joints *b* of said frame, and formed with a staple-plate, *f*, substantially as set forth.

5 3. The combination, with the jointed frame of a mail-bag and a suitable staple, of the plate K, attached to one of the joints *b'*, and formed with the bracing-fingers *k* on its inner face and the hasp-plate H, hinged to plate, substan-
10 tially as set forth.

4. The combination, with the jointed frame of a mail-bag and label-holding plate E, on either side of one of the joints *b'*, of the plate G, attached to the said joint *b'*, and provided
15 on its under side with fingers *g*, whereby the said fingers will hold the label firmly within the label-plate, and serve as a brace to the frame, substantially as set forth.

5. The combination of the jointed frame of
20 a mail-bag with a plate or shield attached to one of the central joints and formed with fin-

gers on its inner face, and with a staple on its upper end, and a similar plate attached to the opposite joint and formed with fingers on its inner face, and having a hinged hasp on its
25 upper end, whereby when the hinged frame is closed the fingers of the two plates will brace said central jointed portions, and the hasp be made to engage said staple, substantially as set forth.

6. The combination of the main leather
30 body A of the bag, metal plates B at the upper edge thereof, and elastic strips or tubes D below the edge, with the outer leather, C, folded to embrace the outer and inner edges
35 of the bag and inclose the plates and elastic material, and rivets for securing said parts together, substantially as shown and described.

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Witnesses:

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