

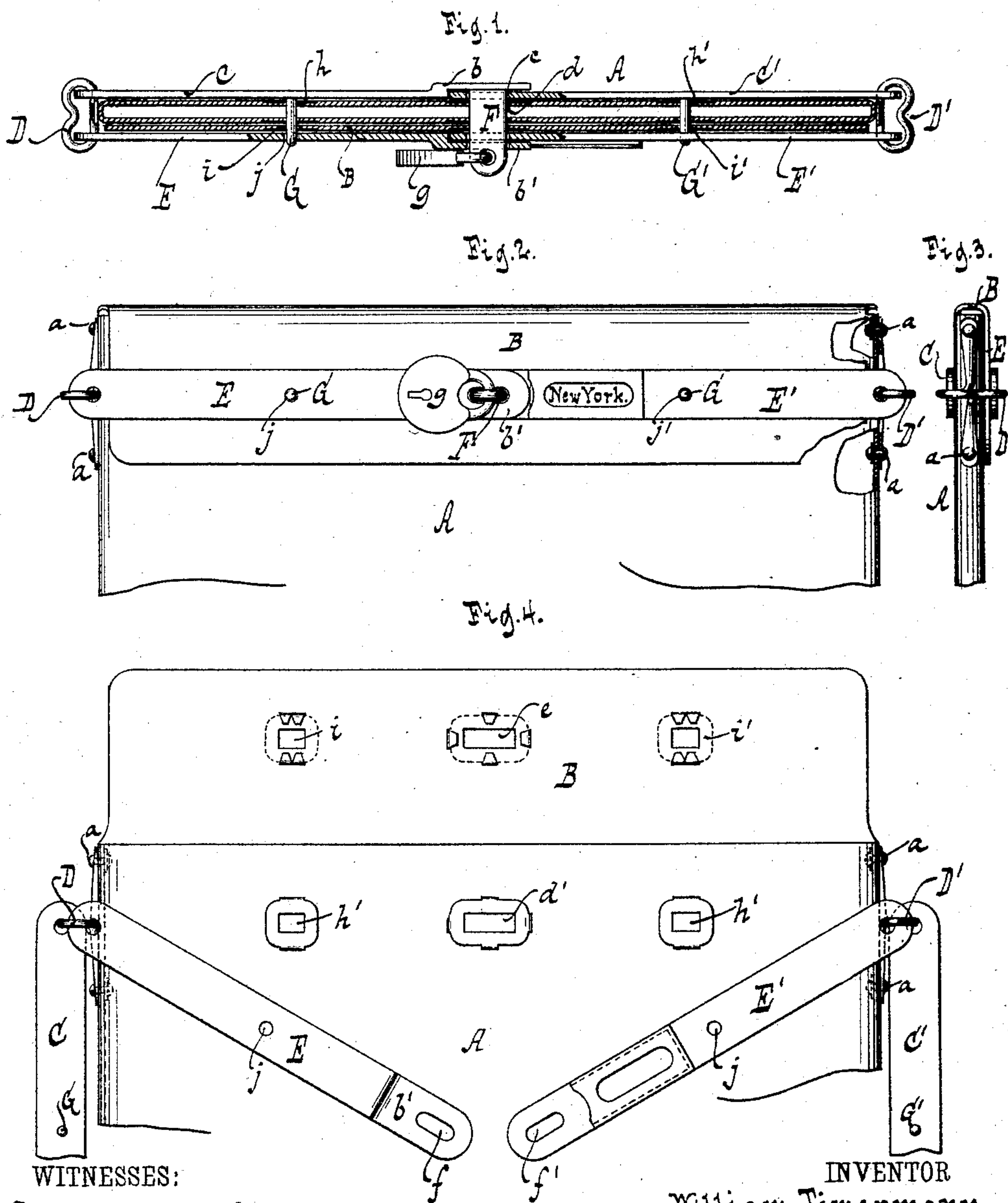
(No Model.)

W. TIMERMANN.

FASTENING FOR MAIL BAGS, &c.

No. 327,972.

Patented Oct. 6, 1885.



WITNESSES:
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLIAM TIMERMANN, OF NEW YORK, N. Y., ASSIGNOR TO HIMSELF AND
JAMES H. TWADDELL, OF SAME PLACE.

FASTENING FOR MAIL-BAGS, &c.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 327,972, dated October 6, 1885.

Application filed May 7, 1885. Serial No. 164,691. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM TIMERMANN, a citizen of the United States, residing at New York, in the county and State of New York, have invented new and useful Improvements in Bag-Fasteners, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to certain new and useful improvements in fasteners for mail-bags and the like, the object of my invention being to obtain greater celerity in opening and closing the bag, accompanied at the same time with greater security than has been previously attained, while the device itself is exceedingly simple, requiring very little time for its adjustment, and during the process of filling the bags it is entirely out of the way and does not interfere in the least with the process, as does the more complicated devices.

My invention consists, essentially, in the combination, in a bag-fastening device, of back hasps swung from the bag, one of which overlaps the other and is provided with a suitable staple and the other with a suitable slot, and overlapping front hasps swung from the bag, slots formed therein for the reception of a staple, and a padlock or other means for securing the entire device, all of which, together with other essential features, is more fully pointed out in the following specification and claims and illustrated in the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a horizontal transverse section through the top of a bag provided with my improved fastening. Fig. 2 is a front elevation of the same with part broken away, showing the bag locked. Fig. 3 is an end elevation. Fig. 4 is a front elevation showing the bag unlocked and opened.

Similar letters indicate corresponding parts.

In the drawings the letter A designates a mail-bag of any ordinary construction, having a flap, B, thereon, by which the bag is opened or closed in the usual manner.

C C' are the back hasps, consisting of bars of rigid material swung at one of their ends from wire loops D D', secured to the ends of the bags, and in the example shown these loops are provided with extensions, which are secured at a to the bag; but any other form will

answer the purpose. The back hasps, C C', extend across the bag and overlap each other at the center, one of them, C, having a raised extension, b, Fig. 1, which extends over the end of the other hasp, C'. The front hasps, E E', are likewise swung from the loops D D' and overlap each other, the hasp E having a raised extension, b', which extends over the end of the other hasp, E'. In order to lock these connected hasps, the back hasp, C, is provided with a staple or eyebar, F, which is secured thereto in any suitable manner; or it may be formed integral therewith. The said staple extends through a slot, c, formed in the back hasp, C', through slots or holes d d' in the bag, a hole, e, in the flap, and finally through slots f and f' in the front hasps, projecting beyond the latter sufficiently far to allow the introduction of the hasp of a padlock, g, or similar device, whereby the set of hasps are securely held and cannot be disengaged until the locking device is unlocked or detached.

In order to further secure the hasps to the bag and prevent them from being easily torn out, I provide each of the back hasps, C C', with a pin, G G', which pins extend through sockets h h' in the bag, corresponding sockets, i i', in the flap of the bag, and through sockets j j' in the front hasps, their ends being flush, or nearly so, with the surface of the hasps. When the bag is unlocked, all the hasps will fall along the edge of the bag, Fig. 4, and will be entirely out of the way during the operation of filling the bag, which makes the said operation more expeditious than with bags having more complicated fastenings, which interfere with the filling of the bag.

The edges of the various sockets which are formed in the bag are preferably protected by metal plates secured around their peripheries or edges, as shown in the drawings.

In the example shown in the drawings each of the back hasps, C C', is provided with only one pin G; but for larger bags I use several such pins to each hasp, for an obvious purpose.

Heretofore a mail-bag has been provided with a plate riveted to the back of the bag, and having an attached staple to extend

through a hole in the front of the bag and also through flaps which close the mouth of the bag, two bars being hung, respectively, from eyes or loops at the ends of the bag, and each
5 having at its other end an eye to engage the staple at the front of the bag, where such bars are secured by a padlock. Such, therefore, I do not claim, as it does not constitute my invention.

10 What I claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. In a bag-fastening device, the combination of the back hasps, pivoted as described, and adapted to swing away from the bag, one
15 of which hasps overlaps the other when closed, and is provided with a staple or eyebar extending through a slot in the other, the pivoted overlapping front hasps also adapted to swing from the bag-frame and having the slots

therein for the reception of the staple, substantially as shown and described. 20

2. The combination, with a bag and its flap, of the back and front hasps pivoted on loops secured to the bag, the staple secured to one
25 of the back hasps and extending through the remaining back hasp, the bag-flap and front hasps, the pins on the back hasps extending through the bag-flap and front hasps, and means for locking the hasps, substantially as shown and described. 30

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand and seal in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

WILLIAM TIMERMANN. [L. S.]

Witnesses:

W. HAUFF,

E. F. KASTENHUBER.