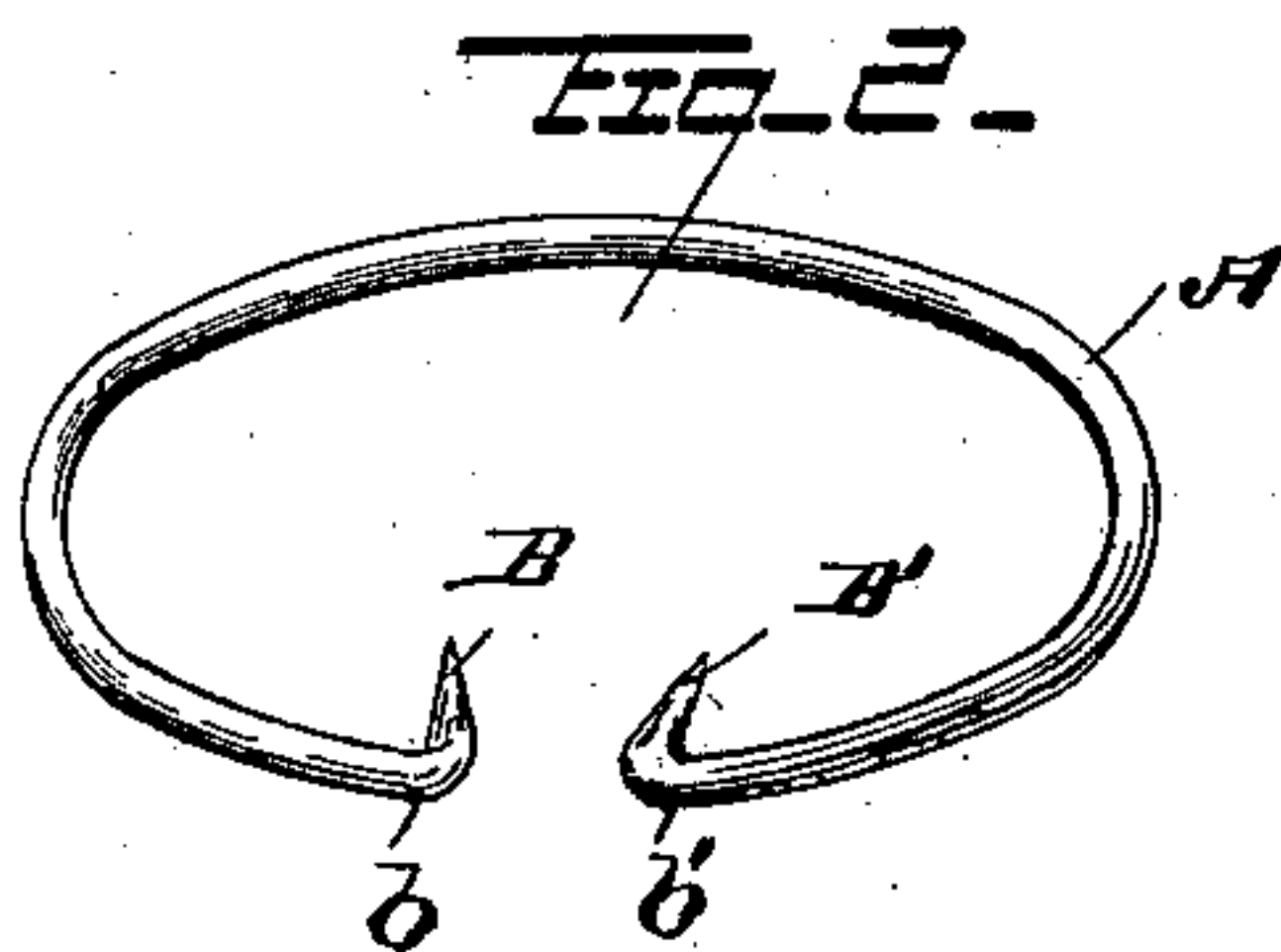
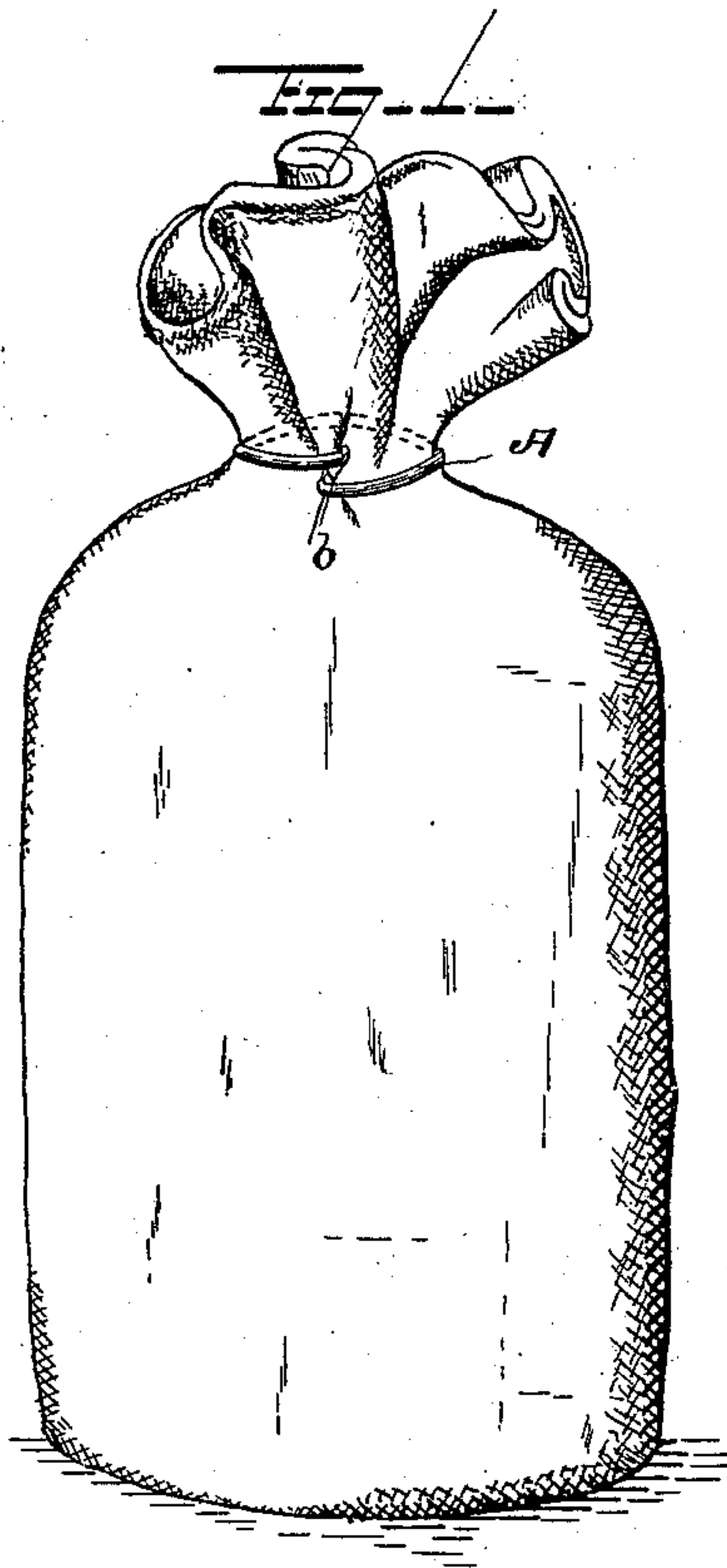


(No Model.)

W. K. SMITH.  
BAG FASTENER.

No. 351,539.

Patented Oct. 26, 1886.



Witnesses

*Wm. S. Gill*  
*John H. Moore*

Inventor

*W. K. Smith*

By his Attorneys

*C. A. Snowden*

# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLIAM K. SMITH, OF EATON RAPIDS, MICHIGAN.

## BAG-FASTENER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 351,539, dated October 26, 1886,

Application filed May 29, 1886. Serial No. 203,641. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, WILLIAM K. SMITH, a citizen of the United States, residing at Eaton Rapids, in the county of Eaton and State of Michigan, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Bag-Fasteners, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to an improved bag-fastener, or, in other words, a device for fastening the mouths of bags; and it consists of the novel and improved construction hereinafter set forth and claimed.

Heretofore one of the expedients employed has been to fasten the mouths of bags with cord, which is objectionable for the reason that it requires considerable time and the fastening cannot be relied on for security.

It is the object of my invention to provide a cheap and simple bag-fastener, which can be quickly placed around the mouth of the bag, and which will be proof against unfastening.

I illustrate a bag-fastener embodying my improvements in the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a side elevation of a bag with one of my improved fasteners applied thereto. Fig. 2 is a perspective view of the fastener detached from the bag.

Referring by letters to the drawings, A designates my improved bag-fastener. This fastener is constructed from a single piece of wire, either brass, steel, or copper, and is curved or bent in the form of a circle, the meeting ends *b b'* of which are bent inward, nearly at right angles, to form the retaining or engaging points B and B', as shown.

The manner of securing a bag with my device is as follows: The top of the bag is closed

in the usual manner, and held so with the left hand. Then, with the right hand, one of the retaining-points B or B' is inserted in the folds of the bag at one side, and the device is then carried around the bag so as to tightly bind against its closed mouth, the other free end or point of the fastener being inserted or caught in the folds of the bag. To draw the fastener tightly around the folds of the bag, any suitable tool may be employed. I have found an awl quite sufficient for the purpose; but pinchers or like devices will also answer.

The many advantages of my fastener will be readily apparent to those skilled in the art.

The fastener can be quickly and conveniently employed to hold the mouth of the bag tightly closed, and when the bag is once fastened in place there is no possibility of its becoming detached, for in proportion to the strain brought to bear on the fastener the tighter it grasps. It will also be observed that it presents a neat appearance, is strong and durable, and can be manufactured and sold at a remarkably low price.

Having thus described my invention, I claim—

As a new article of manufacture, the herein-described bag-fastener, constructed from a single piece of spring-wire bent in the form of a ring, and provided with retaining-points at both ends of the wire, as set forth.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing as my own I have hereto affixed my signature in presence of two witnesses.

WILLIAM K. SMITH.

Witnesses:

FRED Z. HAMILTON,  
J. WALLIE CRAGG.