

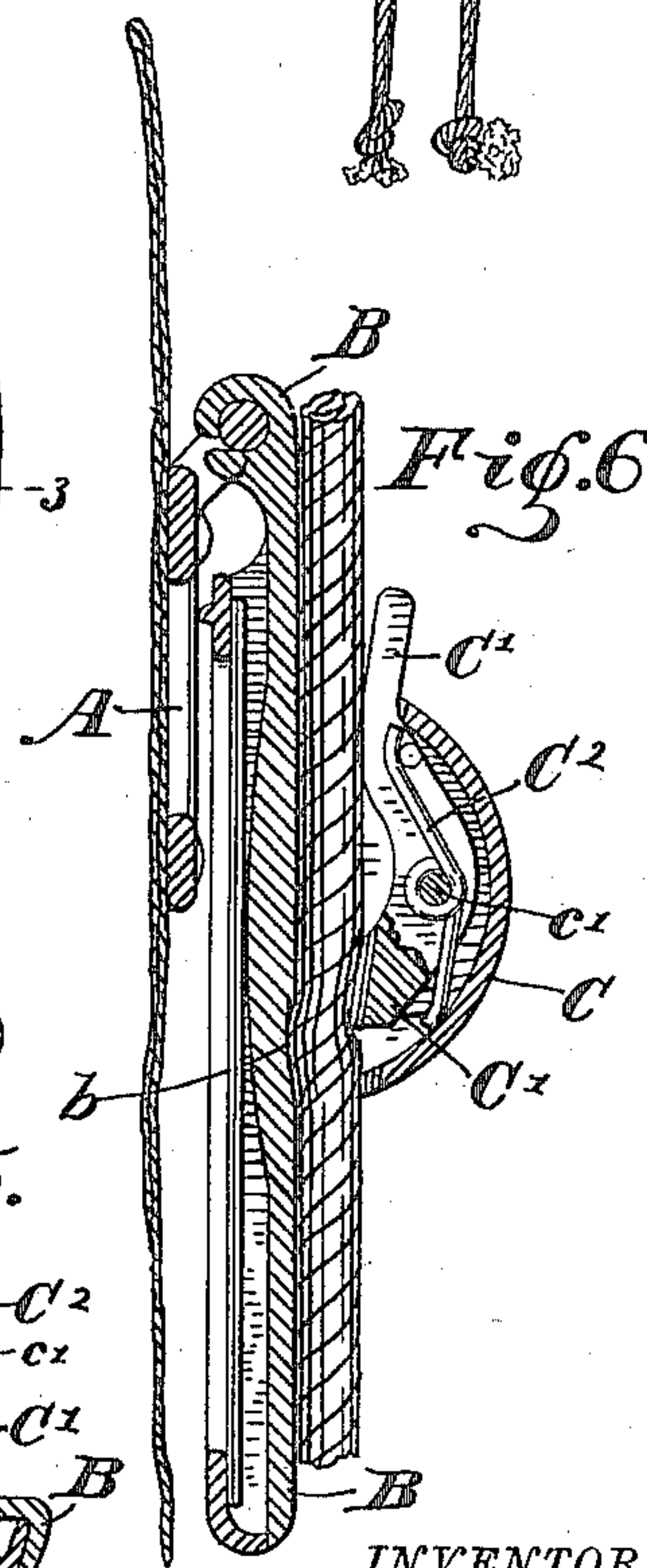
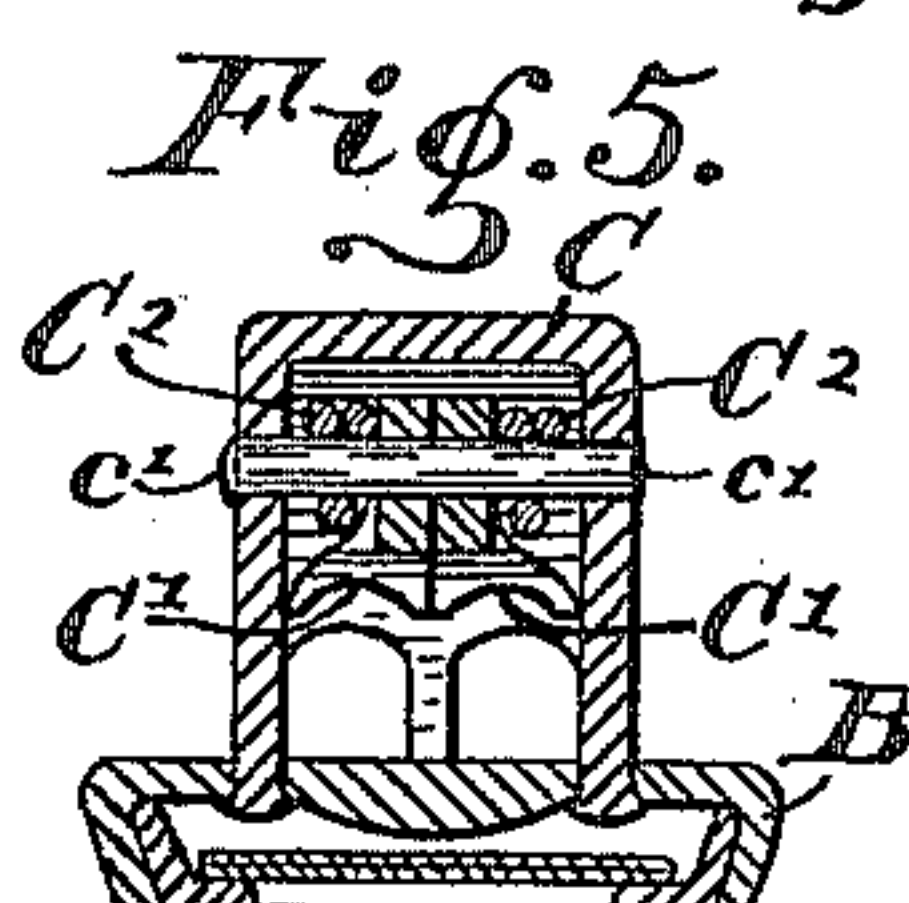
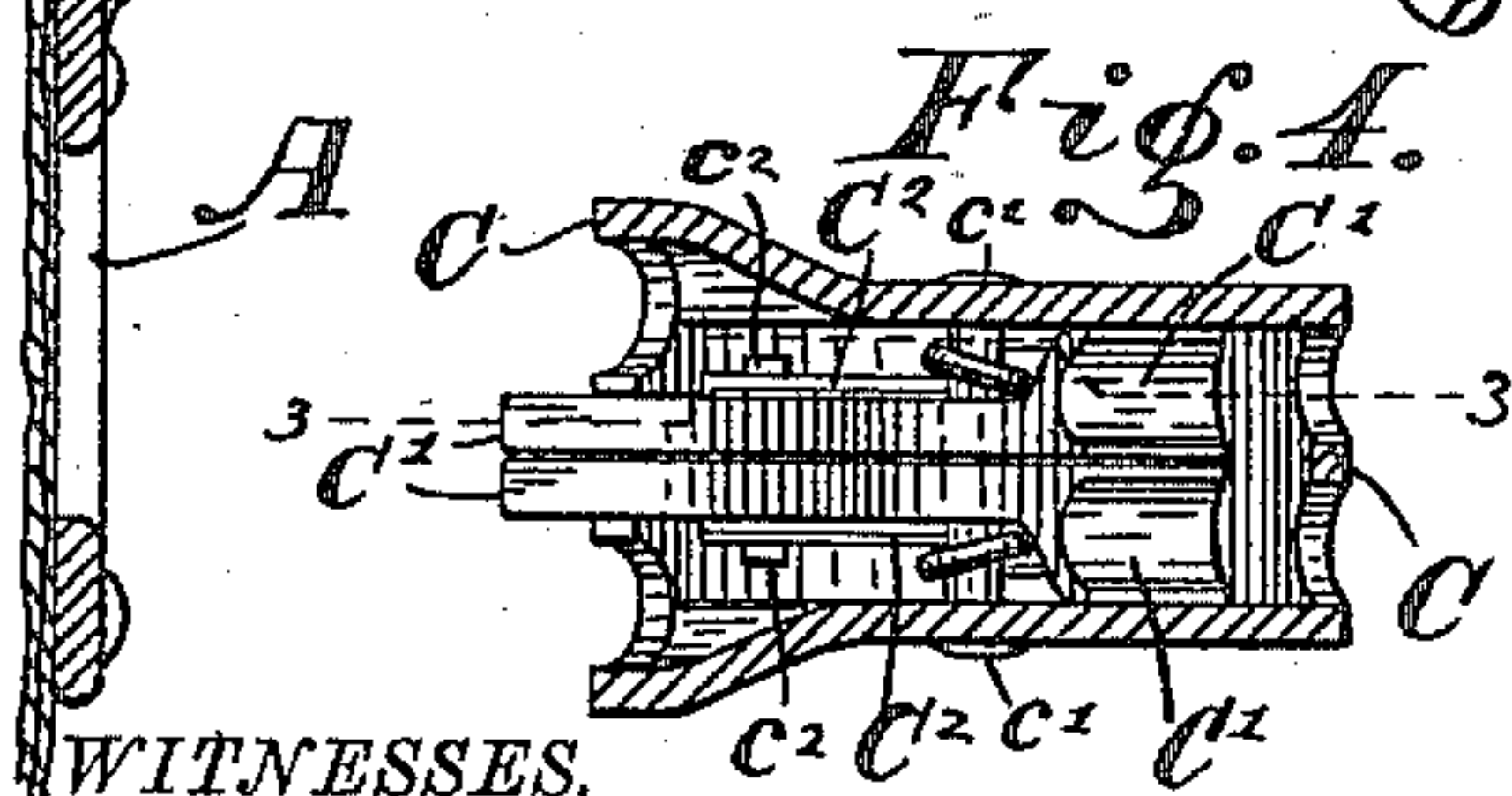
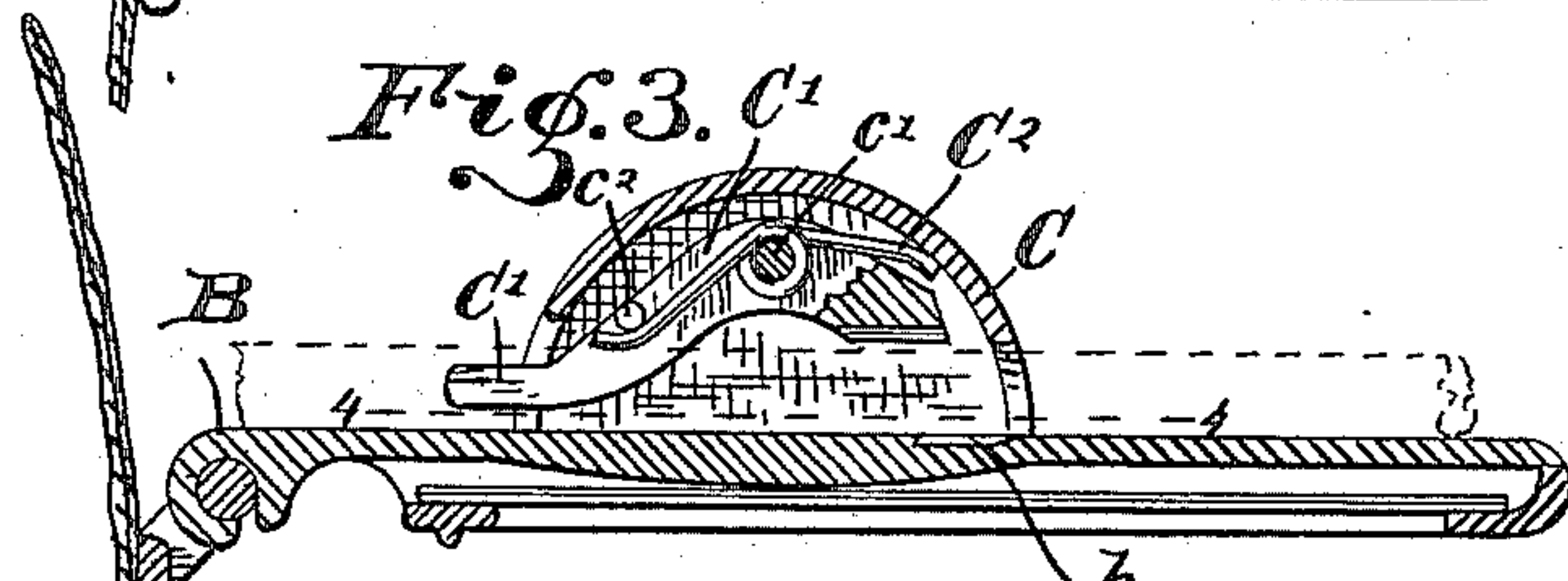
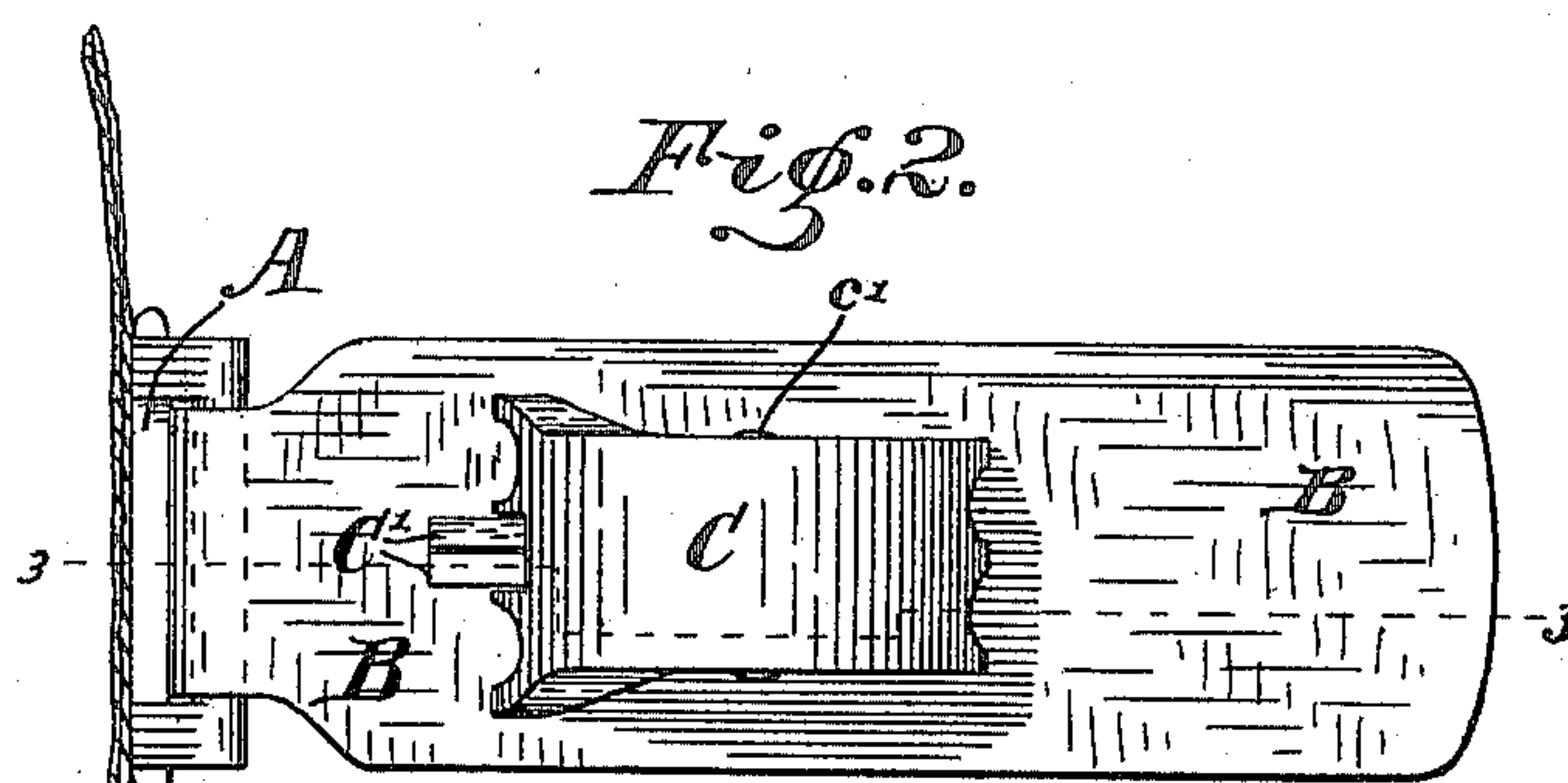
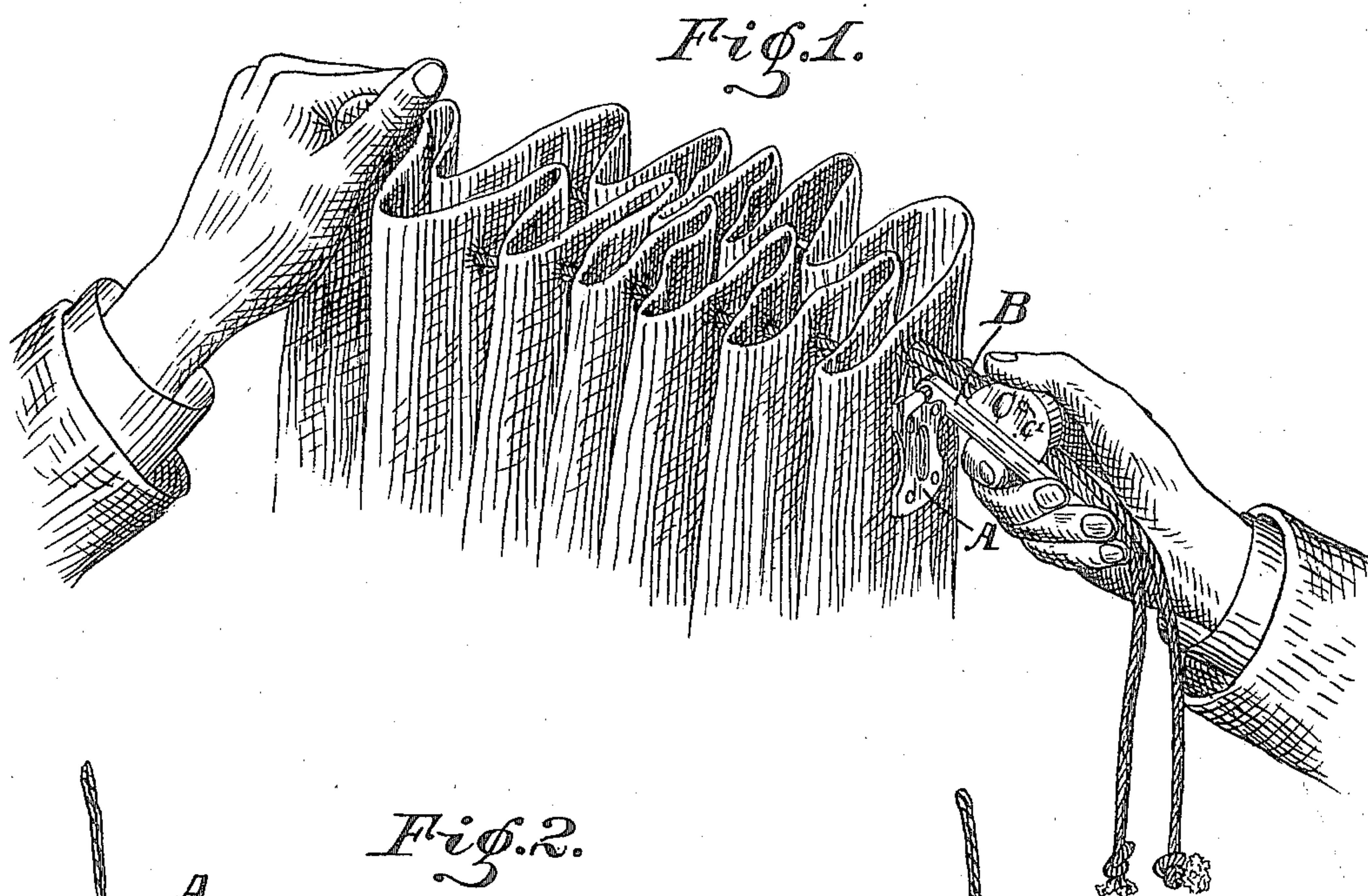
(No Model.)

B. F. JONES & J. F. MAINS.

BAG LOCK.

No. 363,338.

Patented May 17, 1887.



Witnesses.
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

BENJAMIN F. JONES AND JOHN F. MAINS, OF INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA,
ASSIGNORS OF ONE-THIRD TO CHARLES C. CALDWELL, OF SAME PLACE.

BAG-LOCK.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 363,338, dated May 17, 1887.

Application filed March 29, 1887. Serial No. 232,824. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that we, BENJAMIN F. JONES and JOHN F. MAINS, of the city of Indianapolis, county of Marion, and State of Indiana, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Bag-Locks, of which the following is a specification.

Our said invention consists in an improved construction of a bag fastener or lock especially designed for use with mail-bags, whereby a very cheap, convenient, and automatic lock is provided, as will be hereinafter more particularly set forth.

Referring to the accompanying drawings, which are made a part hereof, and on which similar letters of reference indicate similar parts, Figure 1 is a perspective view of a half-opened bag with one of our improved locks attached; Fig. 2, a top or plan view of the lock separately; Fig. 3, a longitudinal section through the same on the dotted line 3 3; Fig. 4, a horizontal section, looking upwardly from the dotted line 4 4; Fig. 5, a cross-section on the dotted line 5 5; and Fig. 6, a longitudinal section similar to Fig. 3, except the parts are shown in locked position.

The bag illustrated is an ordinary mail-sack having a cord threaded through eyelets near its top in the ordinary manner; and as neither it nor the cord forms any part of our invention, but is simply shown to illustrate its use, they will not be further described, except incidentally in describing the bag-lock.

In said drawings, the portions marked A represent a clip to which the lock is hinged, B the base-piece of the locking device, and C the housing in which the locking mechanism is mounted.

The clip A and base-piece B are hinged together, as shown, (but this feature is made a part of our application, No. 232,823, filed March 29, 1887, and will not, therefore, be particularly described herein,) said clip A being secured to the side of the bag just below the eyelet, through which the free ends of the tie-rope extend, and said base-piece B being preferably formed as a label-holder, as shown. Shoulders or notches *b* are also preferably formed in the top face of the base-piece to assist in holding the rope, as will be presently described.

The housing C is of a suitable form to in-

close the locking mechanism—preferably semi-cylindrical, as shown—and is provided at its front and rear with orifices to permit the tie-rope to pass through. It is also provided on its front end with a slot, through which the ends of the operating-levers project, as will be presently described. Levers *C'* are mounted on a transverse pivot, *c'*, therein, and at their rear ends are formed with a concave face to fit or conform to the shape of the cord, and also are provided with a sharp or square corner to engage with the rope, as will be presently described. Near their front ends they are provided with lugs *c''* on their sides, and a spring, *C''*, is coiled around the pivot *c'*, on which they are mounted, one end bearing against the housing and the other being forced down under said lugs *c''*, thus tending to elevate said end and force the opposite end down into contact with the rope, as will be readily understood. The ends of said levers are extended out through the slot in the forward end of the housing, as before stated, a sufficient distance to afford convenient means for operating said levers.

The operation of our said invention is as follows: It is preferably attached to the bag and mounted on the tie-rope, as shown in Fig. 1. The bag may then be tied or fastened by simply pulling the tie-ropes through said fastening devices until the top of the bag is tightly gathered, when the sharp concave corners of the spring-mounted levers *C'* automatically engage with the rope, also tending to force it down to engage with the sharp corner or shoulder *b*, formed in the top face of the base B, and thus securely clamp and hold said rope and secure the bag in its tied position. When it is desired to open the bag, it is done by simply taking hold of the catch, as shown in Fig. 1, pressing down on the projecting ends of the levers with the thumb, thus relieving the rope from the clamp, when the bag can be readily opened by simply pulling outward on the device, as will be readily seen.

Having thus fully described our said invention, what we claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. The combination, with the bag and tie-rope, of a fastening device consisting of a base and a housing, levers *C'*, pivoted in said housing, the forward ends of which are extended

out through a slot in the front part of the housing, forming thumb-bearings, and a spring, C², arranged to force one end of said lever down against said rope, the end of said lever 5 which is forced down being formed with a concave corner, substantially as set forth.

2. The combination, with the bag and rope, of the fastening device mounted on said rope and consisting of the base B, formed with a 10 shoulder or corner, b, in its top face, a housing, C, levers C', pivoted in said housing, formed with a lug, c², and the spring C², one end of which is arranged to bear against said

housing and the other against said lug to force one end of said lever downward, said end of 15 said lever being formed with a concave face and a sharp or square corner, all substantially as shown and described.

In witness whereof we have hereunto set our hands and seals, at Indianapolis, Indiana, this 20 24th day of March, A. D. 1887.

BENJAMIN F. JONES. [L. S.]

JOHN F. MAINS. [L. S.]

In presence of—

E. W. BRADFORD,

CHARLES L. THURBER.