

(No Model.)

A. B. QUINAN.

MAIL BAG.

No. 398,185.

Patented Feb. 19, 1889.

Fig. 1

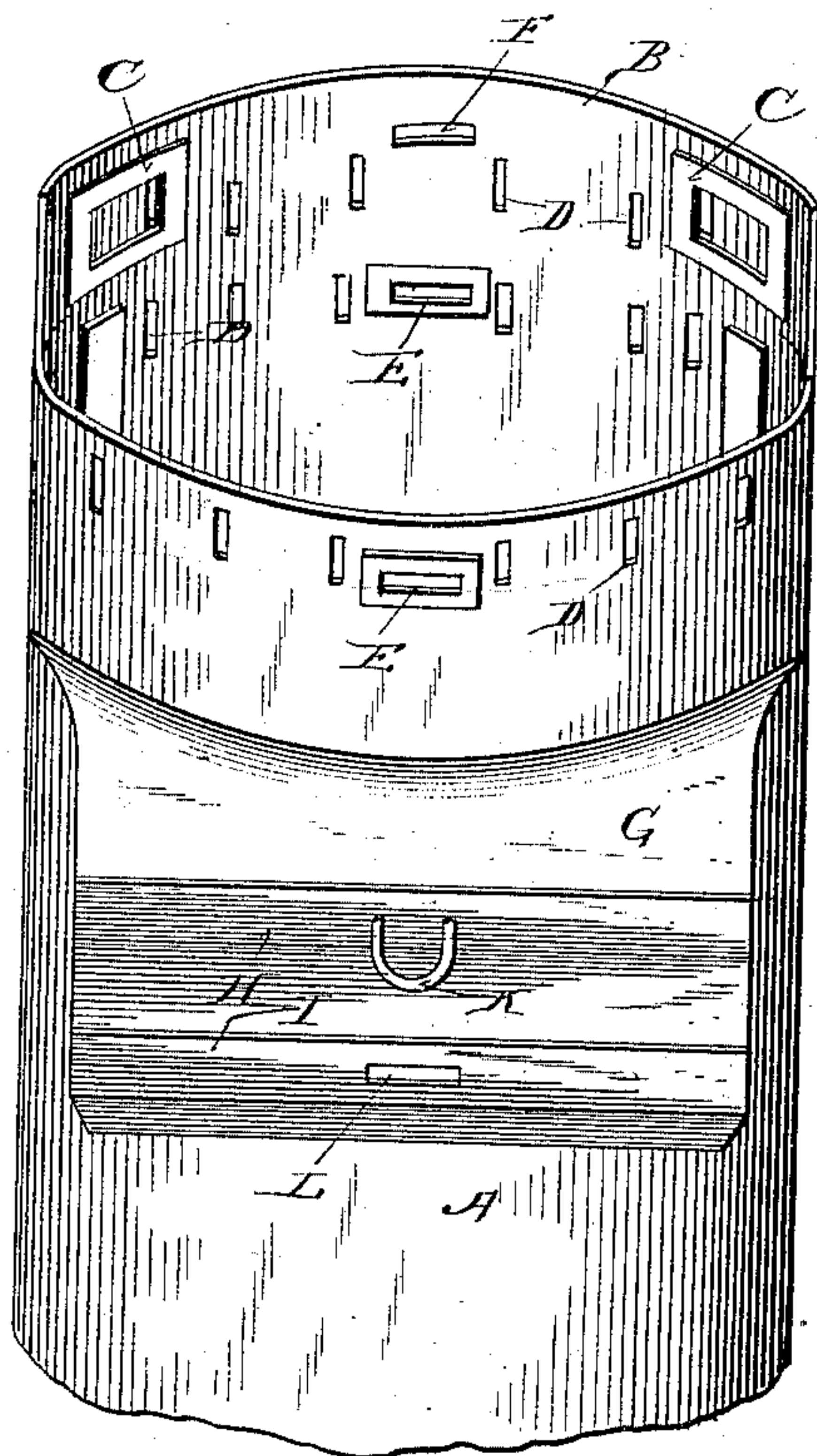


Fig. 2.

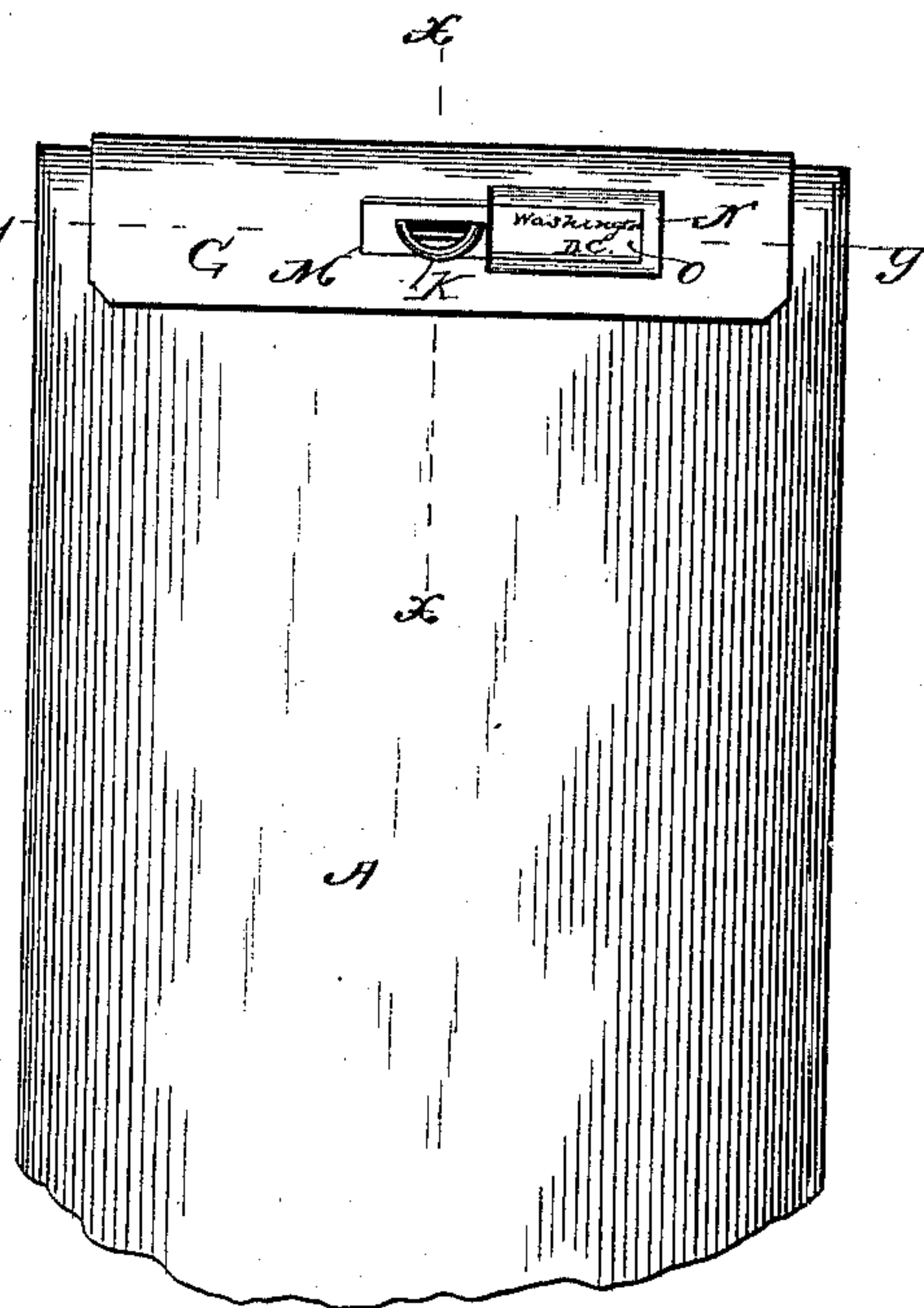


Fig. 3

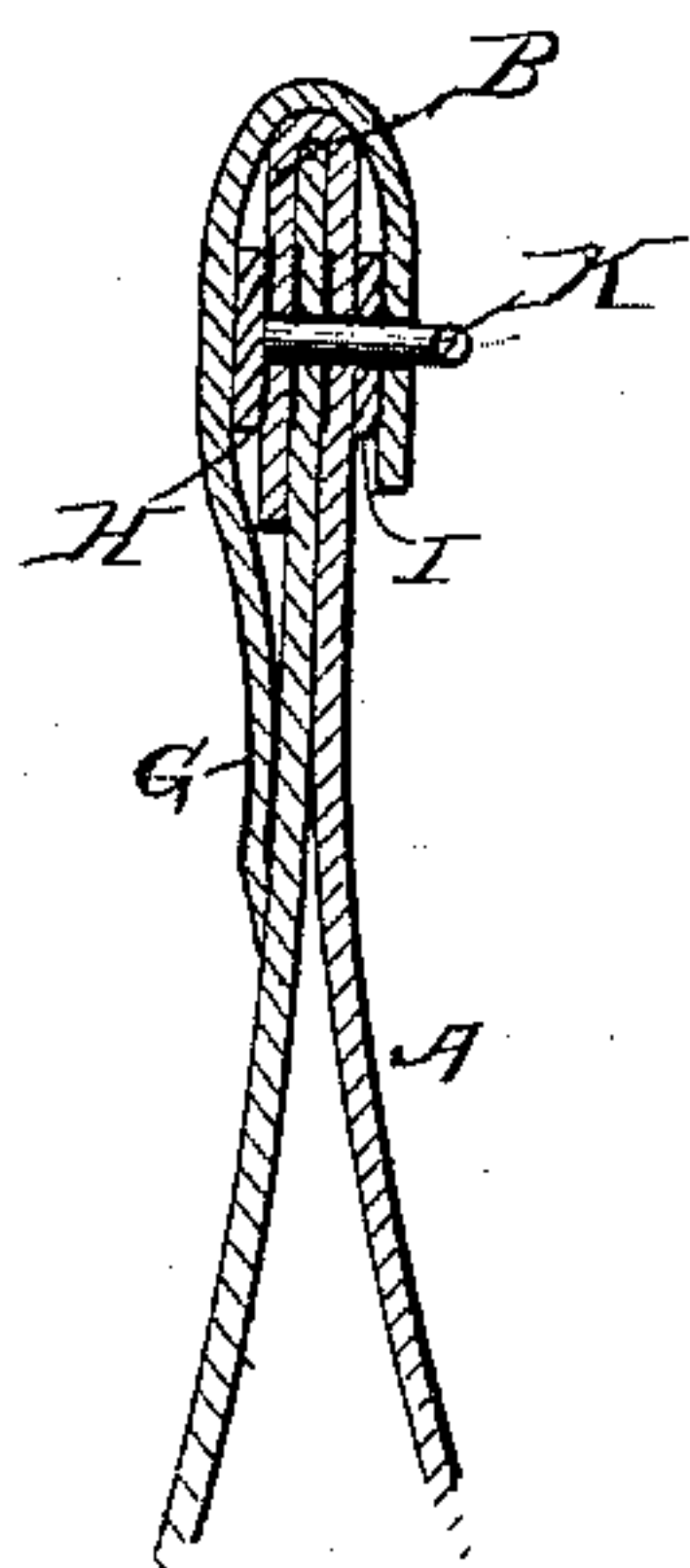
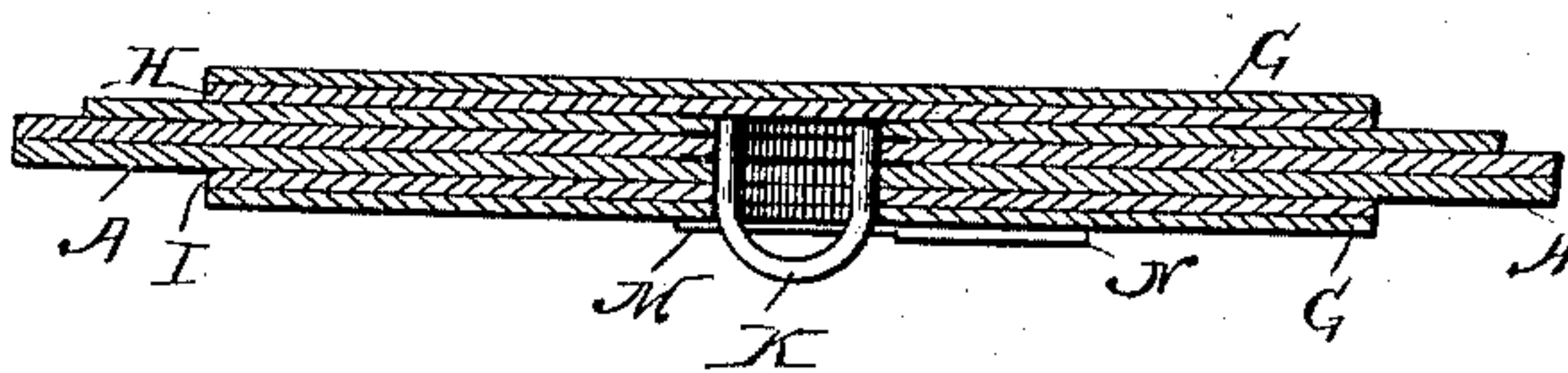


Fig. 4.



Witnesses,
Harry S. Rohrer
W. F. Ward

Inventor,
Allen B. Quinan,
By his Attorney
Shuyler Murray

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ALLEN B. QUINAN, OF BALTIMORE, MARYLAND.

MAIL-BAG.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 398,185, dated February 19, 1889.

Application filed December 6, 1888. Serial No. 292,795. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ALLEN B. QUINAN, a resident of Baltimore, in the State of Maryland, have invented certain new and useful

5 Improvements in 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

10 My invention relates to an improvement in mail-bags; and it consists in the peculiar construction and combination of devices, that will be more fully set forth hereinafter, and particularly pointed out in the claim.

15 In the drawings, Figure 1 is a perspective view of a mail-bag embodying my improvements, showing the same open. Fig. 2 is a similar view showing the bag closed. Fig. 3 is a detail sectional view taken on the line

20 *x x* of Fig. 2. Fig. 4 is a similar view taken on the line *y y* of Fig. 2.

The mail-bag A has the usual flap, B, adapted to fold over and close its mouth. The said flap is re-enforced at its ends by rectangular

25 plates of metal, C, secured to its inner side by rivets or other suitable means. The front of the bag over which the flap folds and the said flap and the back of the bag of which the flap forms a part are pro-

30 vided with vertical slots D, which are preferably chased with metal to prevent wear, and adapt the bag to be readily suspended from the hooks of the "dock" when distributing mail-matter and placing the same therein. The front and rear sides of the bag are pro-

35 vided near their upper edges, at their centers, with transverse slots E, which are adapted to register with each other when the bag is closed, and are also chased with metal, as shown. The flap B has a similar slot, F, that registers with the slots E when said flap is folded over the mouth of the bag. G represents a supplemental flap, which is

45 secured at its lower edge to the front side of the bag at a suitable distance from the upper end of the latter, and the said flap G is adapted to be closed over the flap B when the bag is closed and to lap over the rear side of the mouth of the bag. Said flap G is of some-

50 what less width than the bag, so as to enable the latter to hang distended from the dock

and to avoid crowding the adjacent mail-bags on either side.

The flap G is provided on its inner side with a pair of parallel transverse metallic re- 55 enforcing plates or strips, H I, the latter being nearest the edge of the flap. The plate H has on its center a projecting staple, K, adapted to pass through the registering slots E F when the bag is closed, and the plate I has a 60 central slot, L, that engages the said staple on the rear side of the bag when the flap G is folded over the mouth of the bag and over the flap B. The said slot L has a metallic chasing, M, provided with an extended plate, 65 N, on the outer side of the flap, and the edges of the said plate are turned up and grooved or beveled on their inner sides in such manner as to adapt them to receive and hold the label O, on which is the name of the post-office 70 to which the mail-bag is destined.

The keeper of a padlock—such as is commonly employed to fasten mail-bags—is passed through the staple, and the bag may be thereby locked. 75

The plates C serve to stiffen the ends of the flap B and prevent the same from being bent or lifted when the bag is closed and locked, and render it impossible for a person to insert his hand or any instrument into the mouth of 80 the bag at either corner thereof, as will be apparent. The re-enforce plates H I being on the inner side of the flap G are concealed from sight when the bag is closed and protected from the weather and dampness. 85

A mail-bag thus constructed is very cheap and simple, may be readily and quickly opened and closed, and when locked is secure against the abstraction of any its contents except by cutting or otherwise mutilating the bag. 90

Having thus described my invention, I claim and desire to secure by Letters Patent of the United States—

The bag having the openings E on opposite sides, adapted to register when the bag is 95 closed, the flap B, adapted to fold over the mouth of the bag and provided with the opening F, to register with openings E, and provided, further, with the stiffening metallic plates C at its corners, for the purpose set 100 forth, the supplemental flap G, secured to one side of the bag and adapted to fold over the

flap B, the stiffening-plates II I, secured to the
inner side of said supplemental flap, said
plate II having the staple K, adapted to ex-
tend through the registering openings E F,
5 and said plate I having the opening L,
adapted to receive the projecting end of the
staple, substantially as described.

In testimony whereof I have signed this
specification in the presence of two subscrib-
ing witnesses.

ALLEN B. QUINAN.

Witnesses:

MURRAY HANSON,
CHARLES L. SMITH.