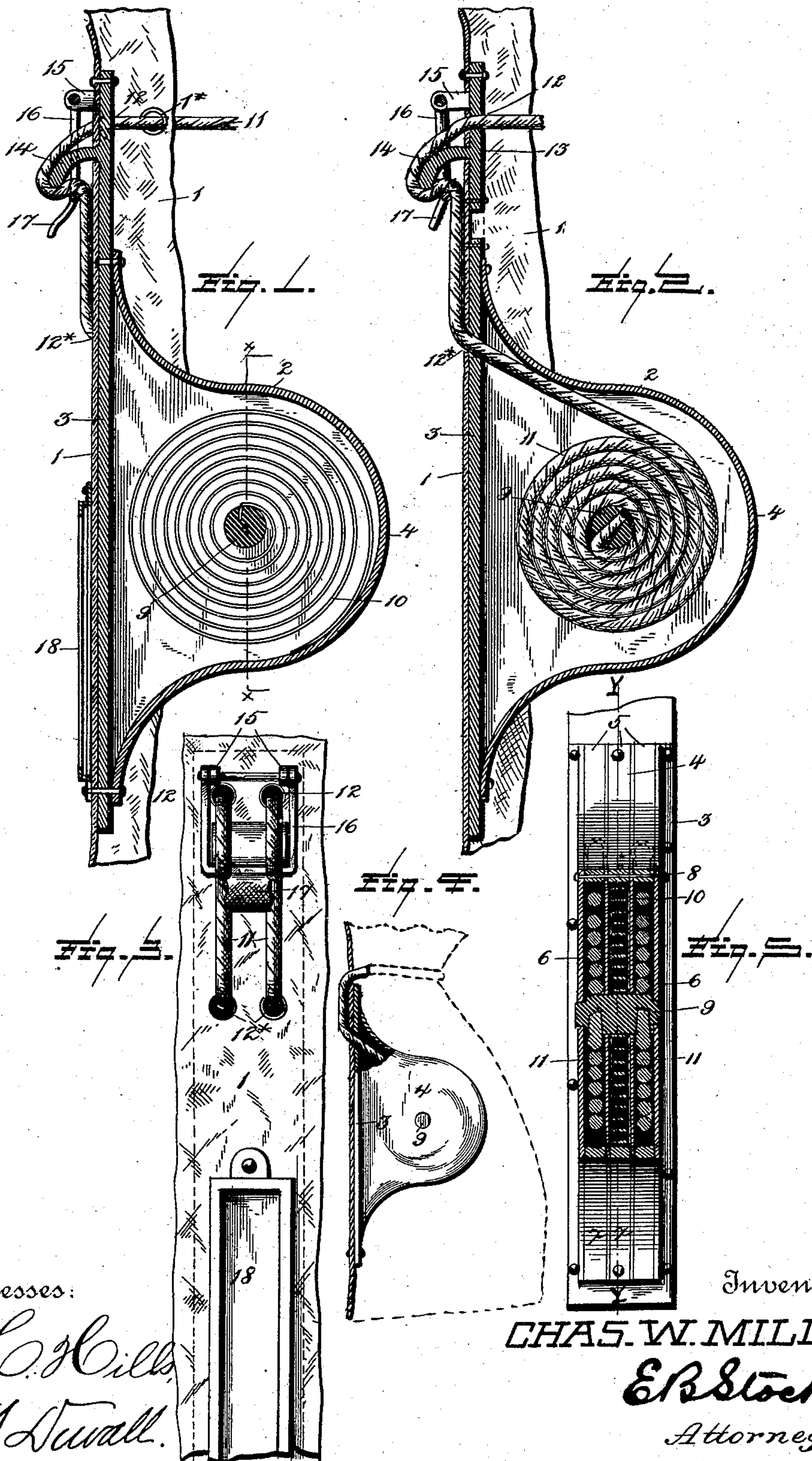


(No Model.)

C. W. MILLER.
MAIL POUCH.

No. 406,528.

Patented July 9, 1889.



Witnesses:
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

CHARLES W. MILLER, OF CLIFTON, ARIZONA TERRITORY, ASSIGNOR OF
ONE-HALF TO CHARLES ROYCE, OF SAME PLACE.

MAIL-POUCH.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 406,528, dated July 9, 1889.

Application filed November 27, 1888. Serial No. 291,972. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, CHARLES W. MILLER, a citizen of the United States, residing at Clifton, in the county of Graham and Territory of Arizona, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Mail-Pouches, of which the following is a specification, reference being had therein to the accompanying drawings.

10 This invention has relation to mail-pouches employed for the transmission of unimportant mail-matter, such as of the second and third class, wherein a cord is interlaced through eyelets inserted in holes near the
15 mouth of the pouch; and among the objects in view is to provide an automatic device located upon the inside of the pouch and adapted to instantly take up all slack cord when the pouch is gathered or closed, and
20 which will easily pay out the same when the pouch is opened.

A further object of the invention is to provide a simple and effective fastening device for retaining the cord against paying out
25 when the pouch is closed, which device may be operated with great facility.

Other objects and advantages will hereinafter appear, and the novel features will be particularly pointed out in the claims.

30 Referring to the drawings, Figure 1 is a central longitudinal section of a take-up and fastener constructed in accordance with my invention, the mail-pouch being broken away. Fig. 2 is a similar view, the section being
35 taken at one side of the center. Fig. 3 is a front view. Fig. 4 is a side elevation, and Fig. 5 is a longitudinal section on the line *xx* of Fig. 1.

Like numerals of reference indicate like
40 parts in all the figures of the drawings.

1 represents a mail-pouch, which, it will be understood, is provided with a series of eyelet-holes 1 $\frac{1}{2}$, arranged at suitable distances apart and near the mouth of the pouch.

45 2 represents a cord take-up constructed after my invention, and it comprises a securing or face plate 3, which is riveted or otherwise secured to the inner surface of the pouch, and a casing or housing 4, in this instance
50 formed of several strips of metal 5, Fig. 5,

bent outwardly to form the housing, and provided with side plates 6, the housing being divided, in this instance, into three compartments by means of partitions 7, which partitions and side plates and sectional strips 5
55 are bound together by bolts or rivets 8. If desired, the housing and its partitions may be cast integral; but for the purpose of permitting easy access to the casing I prefer to form the same as described. Passing through
60 the casing 2, and journaled in the side plates 6 thereof, is a loose rotatable shaft 9, around which is coiled a spring 10, one end of the spring being connected with the shaft and the opposite end to the casing.
65

Interlaced through the series of eyelet-holes of the pouch is the usual cord 11, which is passed around the bag or pouch in and out, and its two ends emerge through openings 12, formed in the bag and in the plate 3 above
70 the housing and through corresponding holes formed in the pouch, and pass downwardly in parallelism to points opposite the compartments or chambers formed by the partitions 7 at each side of the spring-receiving chamber and into said compartments, where they
75 are secured to the shaft or drum 9.

If desired, separate springs may be employed for each terminal of the cord 11, in which case the shafts would be independent
80 of each other and independently rotated. (See dotted line Y, Fig. 5.)

For the purpose of non-interference with the rolling or packing of the pouches when returned empty, and in other pouches, the
85 plate 3 may terminate, as shown in Fig. 2, at about the point at which it is connected with the housing, and the plate having the apertures 12 may be independent and located above the plate 3, as shown at 13. In either
90 instance there is formed upon the plate 3 or the plate 13 an outwardly-protruding horn-shaped lug 14, which projects through the pouch and is located between the two eyelet-holes 12 and slightly below the same. If de-
95 sired, and in order to save the formation of eyelet-holes, the plate 13 may be located upon the outside of the pouch and riveted or otherwise secured to a securing-plate placed
100 upon the inside of the pouch, in which in-

stance merely punctures or openings need be cut in the pouch registering with similar openings formed in the plates.

In lugs 15, formed in the plate 3 or 13, as the case may be, there is pivoted a swinging bail 16, preferably formed of wire and of a size adapted to be sprung over the horn-shaped lug 14. A thumb-piece or projection 17 is formed on the bail 16, so that said bail may be operated with ease and dispatch.

The operation of my invention is as follows: The bail being raised out of contact with the lug and the mouth of the pouch being open after said pouch has been filled, in order to close and lock the mouth it is only necessary to grasp the cord intermediate the openings 12 and 12 \times and draw upon the cord until the mouth is gathered or closed. When this has been accomplished, the slack caused by the contraction or gathering of the mouth of the bag will be taken up by the take-up device 2 described, the spring 10 serving to rotate the shaft and wind the cord thereupon. The openings 12 and 12 \times are so located with relation to the lug 14 that the cords run over the same in being taken up and paid out, so that in order to fasten said cords and prevent their paying out after the bag is closed it is only necessary to swing the bail upon the horn-shaped lug and spring it down and under the same, by which operation the cords, being interposed between the bail and lug, are bound firmly against movement until released again by the upward swinging of the bail.

The facility and dispatch with which fasteners constructed after my invention may be operated will be readily apparent and appreciable from the above description.

18 represents a plate adapted for the reception of the direction-card, the plate being of the usual construction, and may be secured at any suitable point upon the pouch, it in this instance being secured to the plate 3.

By locating the take-up upon the inside of the pouch, no protrusions are formed for the injury of mail contained in other pouches, and the pouches thus provided are the more easily packed, the ordinary manner being to roll a number together and insert them in a pouch.

Having described my invention, what I claim is—

1. The combination, with a mail pouch or bag and with its closing-cord, of a spring take-up secured within the bag and having the closing-cord connected therewith, substantially as specified.

2. The combination, with a mail pouch or bag and its closing-cord, of a face-plate secured to the pouch and having cord passages or openings and provided with take-up mechanism attached to said face-plate, substantially as specified.

3. The combination, with a mail pouch or bag and with its closing-cord, the bag being

provided with an opening for the entrance of the slack portion of the cord into the bag, of a take-up and of an independent cord-fastening device, substantially as specified.

4. The combination, with a mail pouch or bag, of a face-plate and a housing attached thereto and divided into parallel compartments for the reception and operation of springs and cords, respectively, substantially as specified.

5. The combination, with a mail bag or pouch, of a face-plate secured to the bag, a housing secured within the bag over a cord-receiving opening in the face-plate and having a partition separating the part of the housing over said opening from the remaining portion of the housing, and a spring arranged in said remaining portion of the housing, and a shaft connected with a spring and passing through the housing and partition, substantially as specified.

6. The combination, with a mail pouch or bag, of a take-up mechanism arranged within the bag, closing-cords connected with said take-up mechanism, and a cord-fastener consisting of a bail and a projecting horn, against which the bail is adapted to bind the cord, substantially as specified.

7. The combination, with a pouch or bag, of a plate fastened within said bag, a horn projecting through the side of said bag, a bracket also projecting through the side of said bag, a bail hung to said bracket and taking over said horn, and a closing-cord passing through an opening in said plate, substantially as described.

8. The combination, with a mail pouch or bag, of a face-plate secured to the pouch and having a take-up, and provided with inlet and outlet cord passages or openings, and with an independent cord-fastening device located intermediate the openings, substantially as specified.

9. The combination, with a mail pouch or bag, of a face-plate secured to the pouch and having a take-up fastened thereto, and provided with inlet and outlet cord passages or openings, and with a protruding horn-shaped lug, over which the cord passes, and a swinging bail adapted to take over the lug and fasten the cords, substantially as specified.

10. The combination, with a mail pouch or bag, of a face-plate secured to the pouch and having a take-up, and provided with inlet and outlet cord passages or openings, and with a protruding horn-shaped lug, over which the cord passes, and a swinging pivoted spring-bail adapted to be sprung over the lug and bind the cords thereupon, substantially as specified.

11. The combination, with a mail pouch or bag, of a face-plate secured thereto and having inlet and outlet cord-passages, and provided with a cord-receiving shaft, and a coiled spring for rotating the shaft and

placed at one side thereof, substantially as specified.

12. The combination, with a mail pouch or bag, of a face-plate secured upon the inside thereof, provided with inlet and outlet cord passages or openings, and a housing secured to the plate, consisting of bent end strips, interposed partitions, and side strips, the whole being bound together and provided with a

transverse shaft having a coiled spring, substantially as specified.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature in presence of two witnesses.

CHARLES W. MILLER.

Witnesses:

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W. S. DUVALL.