(No Model.) 2 Sheets—Sheet 1.

W. D. SMITH.

TAG.

No. 408,359. Patented Aug. 6, 1889.

Fig. 1.

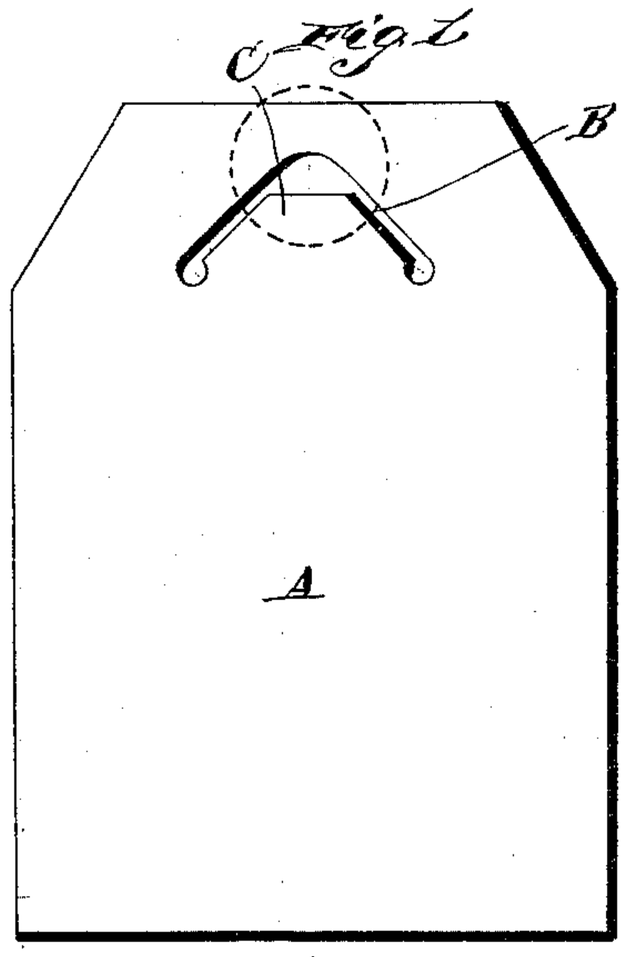


Fig. 10.

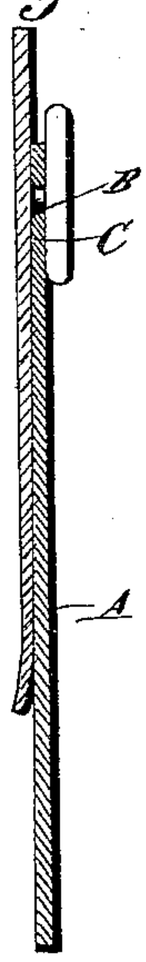


Fig. 11.

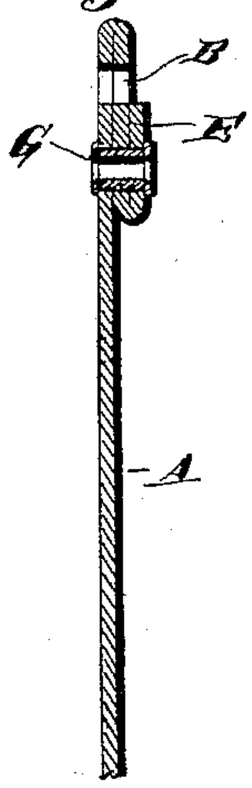


Fig. 2.

Fig. 3.

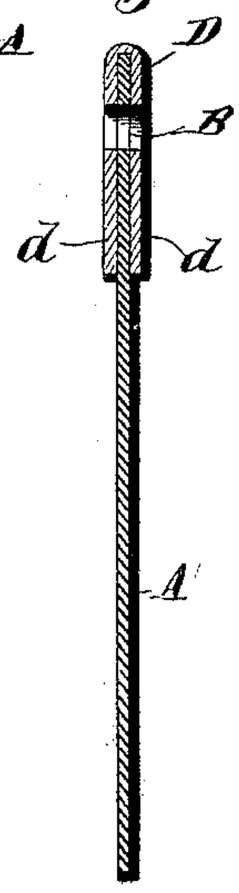


Fig. 6.

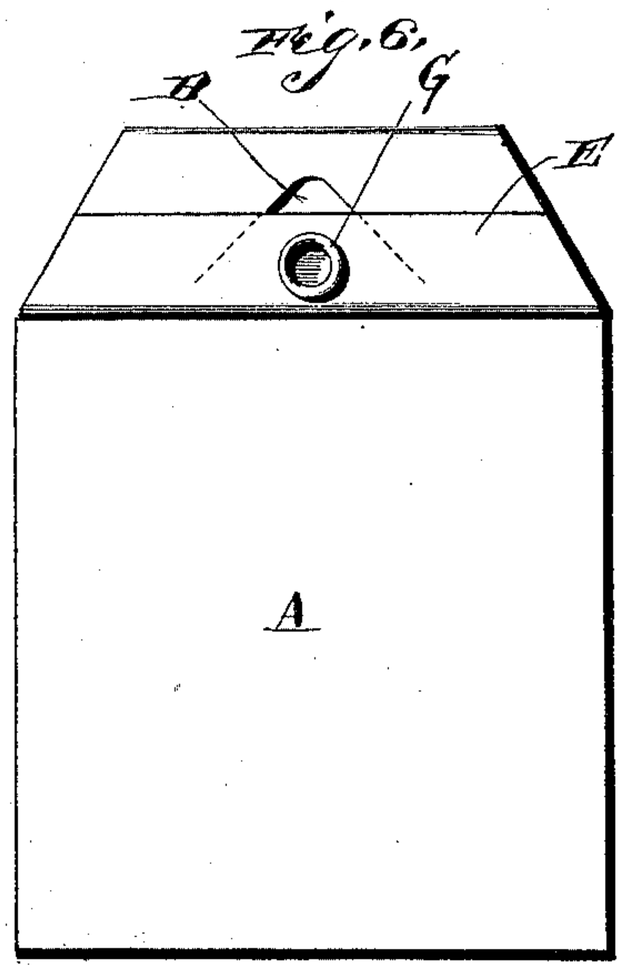
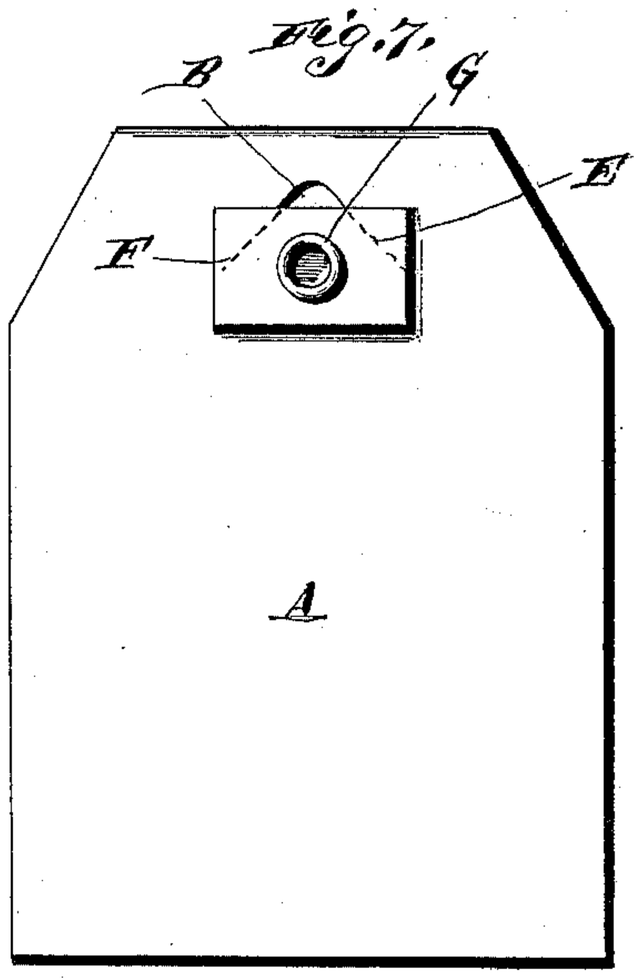


Fig. 7.



Witnesses

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(No Model.) 2 Sheets—Sheet 2.

W. D. SMITH.

TAG.

No. 408,359. Patented Aug. 6, 1889.

Fig. 4.

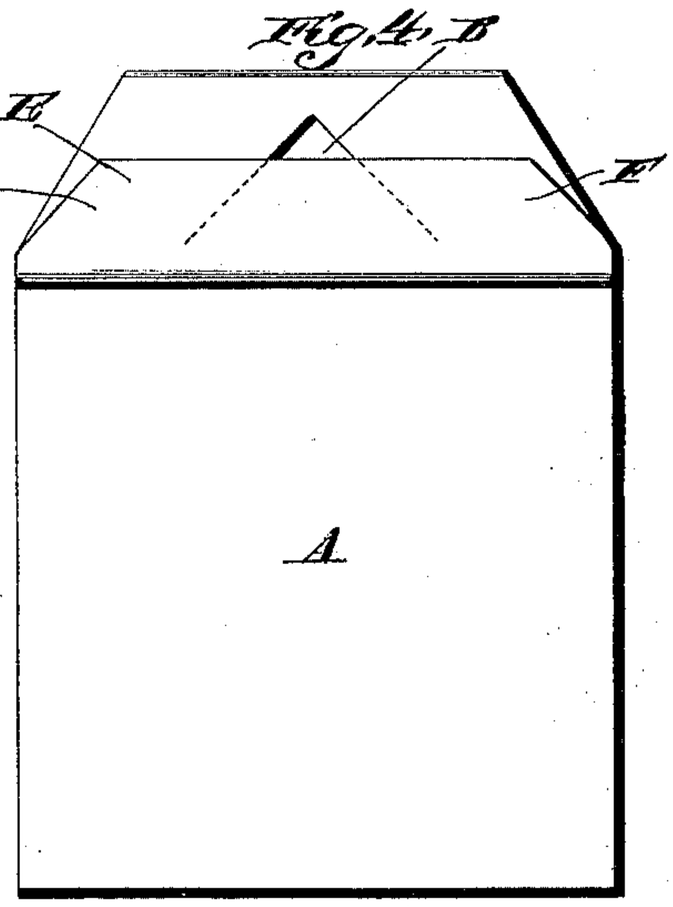


Fig. 8.

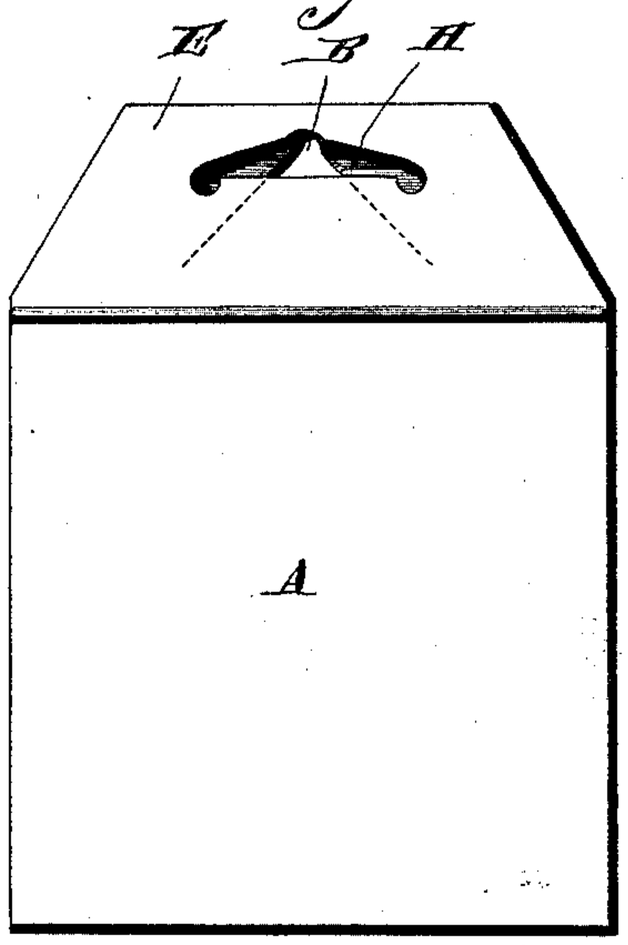


Fig. 5.

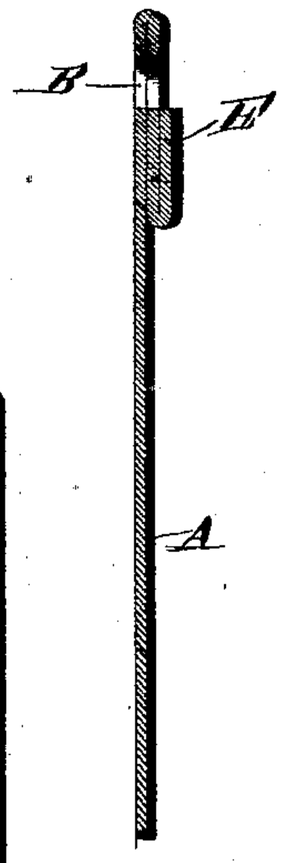


Fig. 9.

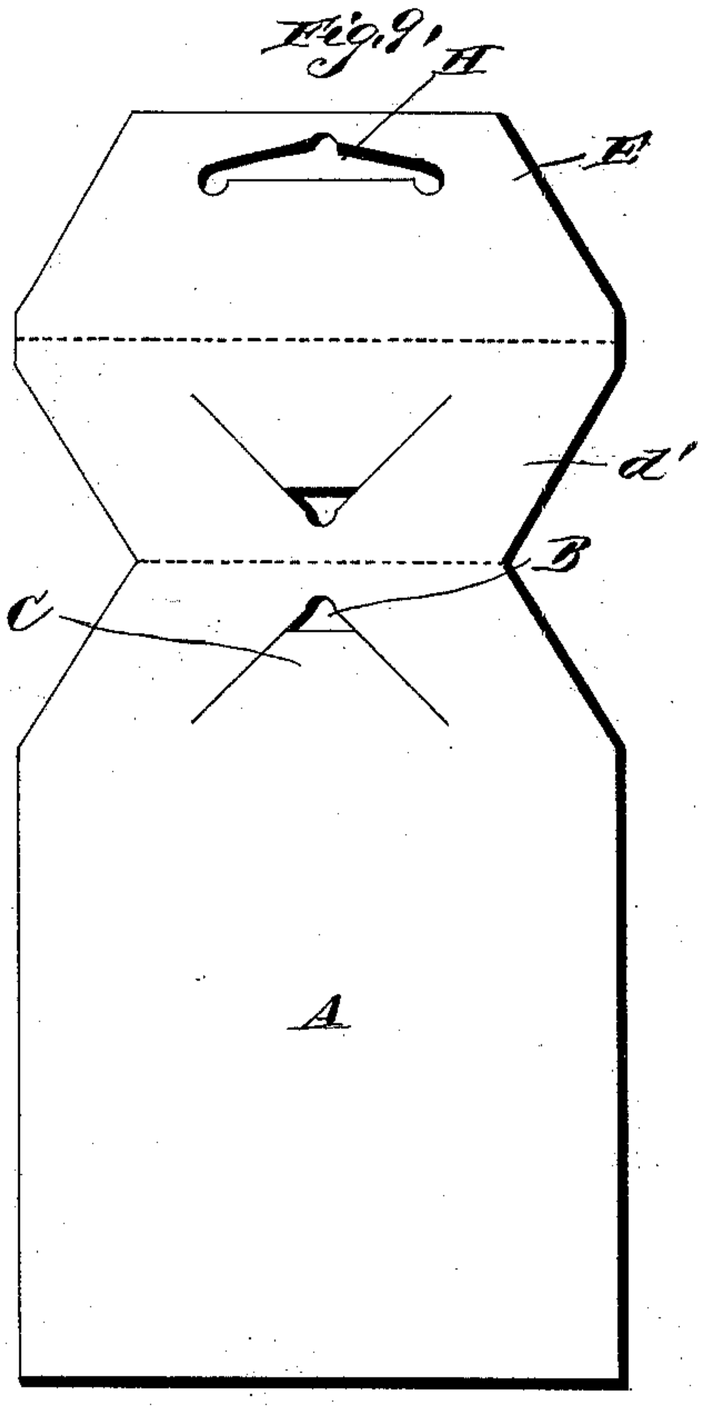
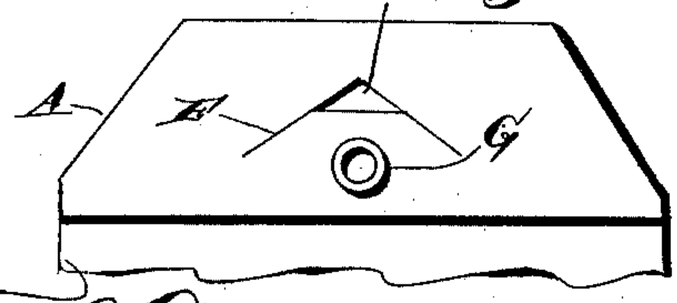


Fig. 12.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WALTON DUANE SMITH, OF PROPHETSTOWN, ILLINOIS, ASSIGNOR OF ONE-HALF TO GEORGE SEYLLER, OF SAME PLACE.

TAG.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 408,359, dated August 6, 1889.

Application filed April 11, 1888. Serial No. 270,323. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WALTON DUANE SMITH, a citizen of the United States, residing at Prophetstown, in the county of Whiteside and State of Illinois, have invented new and useful Improvements in Tags, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to improvements in tags for application to clothing to display the price, size, &c; and it has for its object to provide a tag which may be readily attached to a button and will not be liable to be accidentally detached therefrom.

With these objects in view the invention consists in a certain novel construction and arrangement of devices, fully set forth hereinafter in connection with the accompanying drawings, wherein—

Figure 1 is a plan view of a tag provided with a V-shaped slot or button-hole, with a triangular tongue between the arms of the same. Fig. 2 is a central longitudinal sectional view of the same, illustrating the manner of attaching the tag to a button. Fig. 3 is a sectional view of a tag similar to that shown in Fig. 2, with its upper end re-enforced. Fig. 4 is a plan view of a tag having a locking-flap in addition to the triangular tongue, and showing the V-shaped slot or button-hole beneath the same in dotted lines. Fig. 5 is a central sectional view of the same. Fig. 6 is a plan view of a tag having a locking-flap secured to the triangular tongue by means of an eyelet. Fig. 7 is a plan view of a tag with a slightly-modified form of locking-flap. Fig. 8 is a plan view of a tag having a locking-flap provided with an additional slot, the center of which aligns with the apex of the V-shaped slot or button-hole. Fig. 9 is a plan view of the blank from which the tag shown in Fig. 8 is formed. Fig. 10 is a transverse section similar to Fig. 2, but showing the tongue engaged under the head of the button. Fig. 11 is a transverse section through the eyelet in Fig. 6. Fig. 12 is a face view of the other side of the tag shown in Fig. 7.

Referring by letter to the drawings, A represents the body of the tag, near the upper end of which is formed a V-shaped slot or button-hole B, having the triangular tongue C between the arms of the same. The button is engaged in the tag by inserting it in the slot until its shank strikes against the upper side or angle of the same, pressing the upper side of the button back and depressing the tongue until it passes the lower edge of the button and snaps under the same. It will be observed that the upper end or apex of the tongue extends up almost to the apex of the slot or button-hole, leaving just sufficient space to accommodate the shank of the button, which is thus held securely in place.

The operation of applying the tag to a button, above described, is clearly illustrated in Fig. 2 of the drawings.

When the tags are made of thick or stiff material, it will be found sufficient to make them of a single thickness, (as shown in Fig. 1;) but if they are to be made of thin or limber material the upper end of the body in which the slot or button-hole is formed should be re-enforced by a strip pasted or otherwise firmly secured thereto. This strip may be formed integral with the upper end of the body by providing the blank with a flap, or it may be formed independent of the body.

Fig. 3 illustrates a re-enforcing strip D, which consists of two leaves *d d*, which are secured to opposite sides of the body, thus embracing the upper end of the same. This is the form which I prefer to use, and in either case V-shaped slots or button-holes are formed therein to correspond with the slot or button-hole in the body of the tag.

In order to attach the tag to a button, it is necessary, as will be apparent from the above description, that the tongue be capable of bending outward or forward, (as shown in Fig. 2,) and should possess elasticity sufficient to hold it in the proper position; but it is desirable to prevent the tongue from bending rearward, because in that case the button would be liable to slip out of the slot or button-hole.

When the tag is not subjected to unusual strains or rough usage, the elasticity of the material will be sufficient to prevent displacement of the tongue; but in some cases I find it expedient to attach to the front side of the tongue a locking-flap E, which projects laterally at its ends and bears on the sides of the slot or button-hole, thus forming limiting-

ears F F, which prevent the tongue from swinging rearward. This locking-flap may be formed independent of the body of the tag, as shown in Fig. 7, or it may be formed integral with the lower edge of the re-enforcing strip, as shown in Figs. 4, 5, and 6, and the said locking-flap may be secured to the tongue by paste, as indicated in Figs. 4 and 5, or by means of eyelets G, as shown in Figs. 6 and 7.

Fig. 8 illustrates a tag embodying all of my improvements; and it consists of the body A, having a V-shaped slot or button-hole near its upper end, a re-enforcing-strip *d'*, formed integral with the upper end of the body and pasted thereto, and a locking-flap E, integral with the lower edge of the re-enforcing strip, pasted or otherwise secured to the tongue, and having a horizontal slot H therein near its upper edge. The center of this slot aligns with the apex of the V-shaped slot or button-hole, so that an opening is formed directly through the tag to receive the shank of the button.

Fig. 9 illustrates the blank from which the tag shown in Fig. 8 is formed, and it will be seen that it is formed from a single sheet of paper, card, or other material.

The advantage of the additional slot formed in the movable locking-plate is that when the attempt is made to release the button by pressing the tongue out of position the said slot remains in engagement with the shank of the button. Therefore it is necessary to bend the elastic tongue to a greater angle to release the button than when the other forms of tags are employed.

My improvement is advantageous over tags heretofore employed in that they are provided with slots or enlarged openings of the peculiar shape herein described, which adapts them to be applied quickly and easily without tearing the tag or otherwise damaging it.

A further advantage of the improved tag is that it cannot become accidentally detached, owing to the elastic tongue, which fits in the button-hole and fills the same, with the exception of a small opening to accommodate the shank of the button. Further, the re-enforcing strip herein provided enables thin paper to be employed for the tags, the upper end of the same around the button-hole (where the greatest strain comes) being strengthened. Further, the locking-flap enable tags made of comparatively light material to be attached to articles of merchandise which are roughly handled, and from which ordinary tags would be detached.

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

1. As an improved article of manufacture, a tag having a tongue therein of truncated triangular form whose free edge projects toward the top of the tag, to provide a bearing-shoulder and an opening between the upper cut end thereof and the adjacent wall of the slot, which opening is adapted to receive and retain a headed fastening device, as set forth.

2. As an improved article of manufacture, a tag having a substantially triangular slit formed therein to provide a flexible tongue whose upper reduced end is cut away, providing an opening for the reception of the head of a fastening device whose free edge projects toward the top of the tag, as set forth.

3. As an improved article of manufacture, a tag having an inverted-V-shaped slit cut therein to form a tongue whose upper angular end is cut away to form a bearing-shoulder and aperture, for the purpose set forth, and provided with a re-enforcement, substantially as described.

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

WALTON DUANE SMITH.

Witnesses:

E. P. BROWN,

G. E. WARNER.