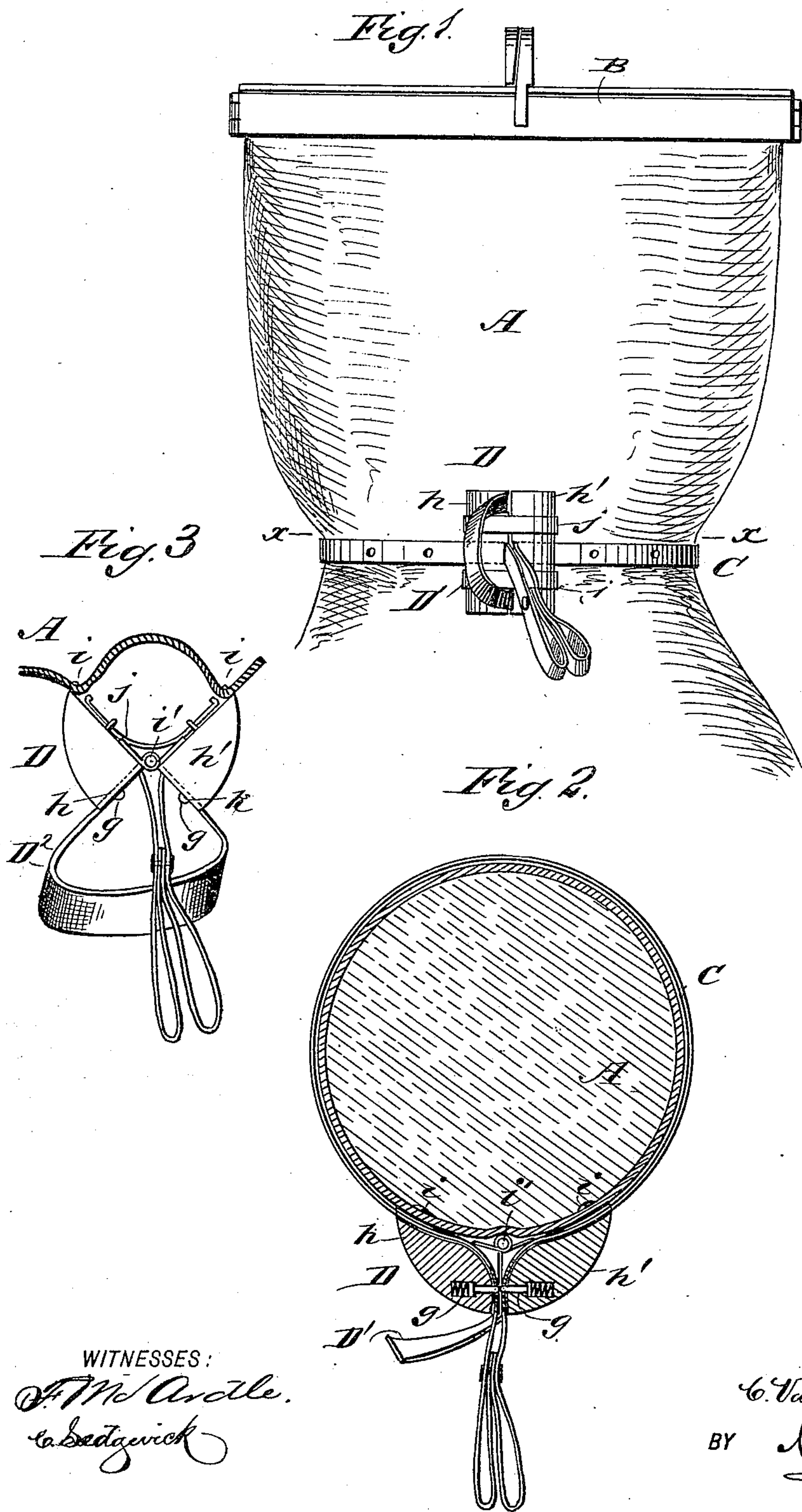


(No Model.)

C. VAN INWEGEN.
MAIL BAG.

No. 426,746.

Patented Apr. 29, 1890.



WITNESSES:

A. M. Arnold.
C. Sedgwick

INVENTOR:

C. Van Inwegen
BY *Murin & Co*

ATTORNEYS.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

CHARLES VAN INWEGEN, OF MONGAUP, NEW YORK.

MAIL-BAG.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 426,746, dated April 29, 1890.

Application filed April 16, 1889. Serial No. 307,405. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, CHARLES VAN INWEGEN, of Mongaup, in the county of Sullivan and State of New York, have invented a new and Improved Mail-Bag, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description.

The object of my invention is to provide a mail bag or pouch having such construction as to facilitate the handling of mail-matter—that is, constructed to obviate the hinderances and vexation incident to the pouches in common use; and to this end my invention consists of a draw-strap applied to the center of the pouch and a spring-grip for the same, all as hereinafter described and claimed.

Reference is to be had to the accompanying drawings, forming a part of this specification, in which similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts in all the figures.

Figure 1 is a front elevation of the upper part of a mail-bag having my invention applied thereto. Fig. 2 is a sectional view of the same on line *x x* of Fig. 1; and Fig. 3 is a detailed view of the grip, showing the same open and with a modified spring.

The body *A* of the bag or pouch may be of leather, canvas, or any other suitable material, and it is provided at the top with the frame *B* and at the center with the draw-strap *C* and grip *D* therefor, provided with a handle *D'*, to facilitate the lifting of the bag. The strap *C* is passed around the bag or pouch near its center, and its ends pass between the two blocks *h h'* of the grip *D*. These blocks *h h'* are secured to the bag by rivets *i*, and are hinged together by the hinges *i'*, one at each end, and the blocks are acted upon by

springs—either metal or rubber springs—*j j*, which normally hold the edges *k k* of the blocks together or gripped upon the strap *C*, for holding it firmly. By turning the blocks *h h'* on the hinges *i'* the edges *k* will be opened and release the strap *C*, so that it may be easily drawn through the grip in either direction.

In the face of each block *h h'* is fitted a spring-actuated point or pin *g*, which are adapted to enter holes in the strap *C*, to act as buckle-tongues to hold the strap from slipping through the grip.

In Fig. 3 I have shown the spring *j*, which closes the grip-blocks *h h'*, placed at the back or inner surface of the blocks.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. A mail-bag having a draw-strap applied to the center thereof, in combination with a grip comprising two blocks, each attached to the bag and hinged to each other and formed with square meeting faces normally held in contact with the draw-strap by springs applied to the blocks, substantially as described.

2. The grip comprising two sections hinged together at their lower or inner surfaces, one of said sections being provided with a handle *D'*, in combination with a spring or springs applied to the sections for closing their outer edges upon a strap or other object placed between them, substantially as described.

CHARLES VAN INWEGEN.

Witnesses:

C. F. VAN INWEGEN,
S. L. MAPES.