

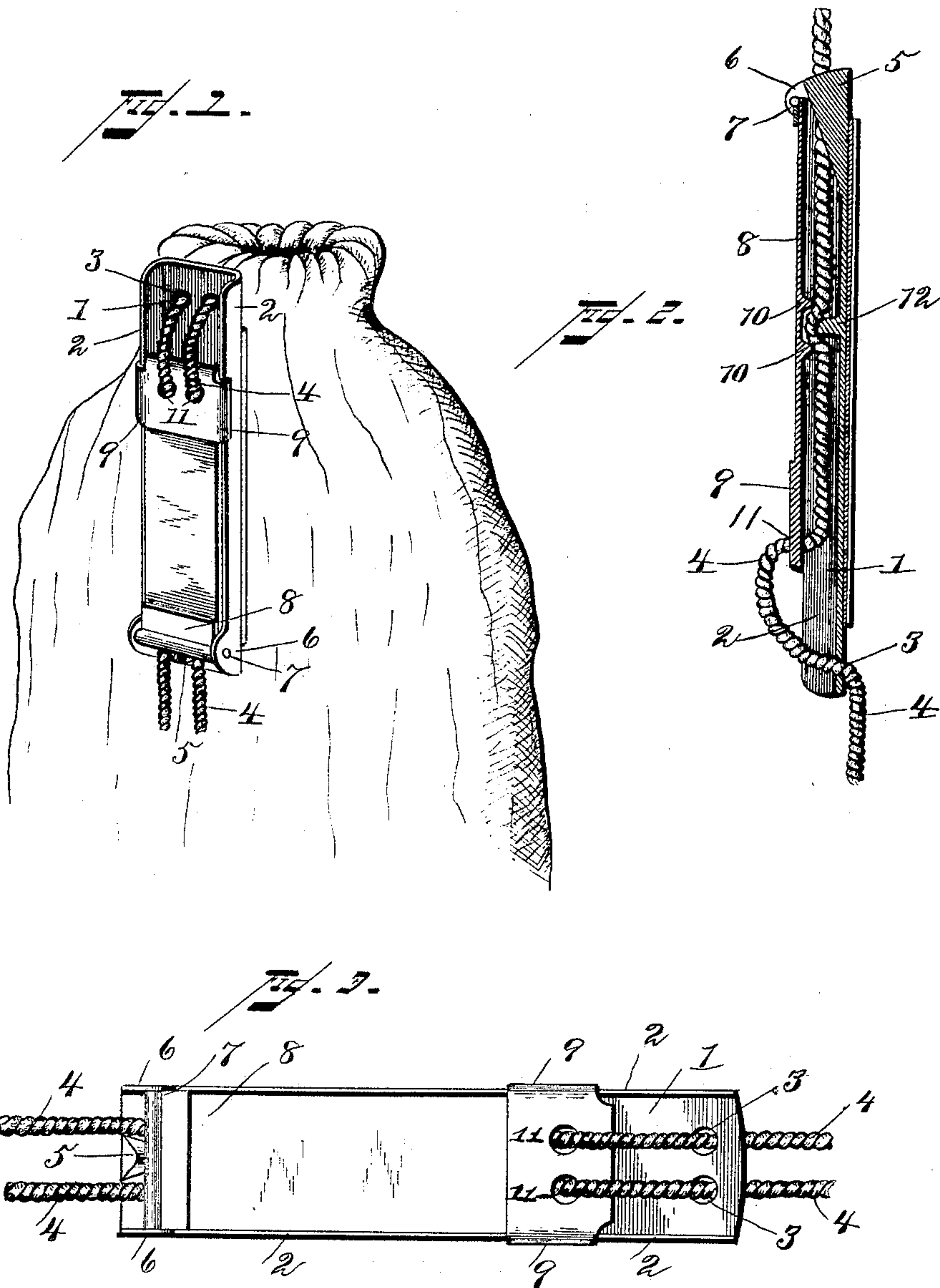
(No Model.)

W. A. HORRALL.

MAIL BAG FASTENER.

No. 435,895.

Patented Sept. 2, 1890.



WITNESSES:
H. L. Ourand
J. L. Coombs

INVENTOR:
William A. Norrall
by James Packer & Co.
Attorneys.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLIAM A. HORRALL, OF WASHINGTON, INDIANA, ASSIGNOR OF TWO-THIRDS TO JOHN C. BILLHEIMER AND FRANCIS M. MYERS, BOTH OF SAME PLACE.

MAIL-BAG FASTENER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 435,895, dated September 2, 1890.

Application filed June 23, 1890. Serial No. 356,359. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM A. HORRALL, a citizen of the United States, and a resident of Washington, in the county of Daviess and State of Indiana, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Mail-Bag Fasteners; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, which will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, which form a part of this specification.

My invention relates to improvements in fasteners for mail pouches or bags of that class in which the mouth of the bag is brought together and closed by means of drawing-cords.

The object of the invention is to provide simple, economical, and efficient means for fastening the drawing-cords of said bag, by which they are securely held and the mouth of the bag closed against accidental opening, yet at the same time readily allow the drawing-cords to be released when it is desired to open the bag.

The invention consists in the novel construction and combination of parts hereinafter fully described, and specifically pointed out in the claim.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is a perspective view of a mail-bag fastener constructed according to my invention. Fig. 2 is a central sectional view of the same. Fig. 3 is a plan view.

In the said drawings, the reference numeral 1 designates a metal plate provided at its sides with upturned flanges 2, and at one end with apertures 3 for the passage of the drawing-cords 4. At its opposite end the plate is provided with a central upwardly-extending projection 5 to keep the cords separated, and also has at each side a lug 6, which forms the bearings for the journals 7 of a plate 8, which fits between the flanges 2 of plate 1. This pivoted plate 8 is somewhat shorter than plate 1, and has at its free end two downwardly-depending flanges 9, which are designed to embrace the flanges 2. It is also provided with two apertures 11 for the passage of the drawing-cord. About midway of its length this plate is provided with one or more transverse ribs 10, (two being

illustrated in the drawings,) and the plate 1 is provided with a corresponding rib 12, so that when the two plates are brought together the drawing-cords will be gripped and held by these ribs 10 and 12. It is not necessary that both the plates 1 and 8 be provided with these ribs, (although it is the preferable construction,) as said ribs may be dispensed with on one of the plates.

The operation is as follows: The drawing-cords from a mail-bag are passed through the apertures 3 in plate 1 from underneath. They are then carried up over the free end of the plate 8 and passed through the apertures 11. Thence they pass between the plates 1 and 8 and out at the opposite or pivoted end thereof. To close the mouth of the bag and securely hold the drawing-cords, the fastener is grasped with one hand and the free ends of the drawing-cords with the other. The fastener is now slid along the cords while they are being pulled until the edges of the mouth of the bag are brought close together. The fastener is prevented from any backward movement by means of the ribs on the plates, which grasp and hold the cords. It will be obvious that the greater the strain on the cords the tighter they will be held, as the strain causes the free end of plate 8 to be depressed, thus bringing the ribs into closer or firmer contact with the cords. When it is desired to release the cords from the fastener, it is simply necessary to raise the plate 8, which will free the cords from the ribs and allow the bag to be opened.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim is—

In a mail-bag fastener, the combination, with the plate 1, having upturned flanges 2 at the sides, apertures 3 at one end, a central upwardly-extending projection 5, lugs 6 and journal 7 at the opposite end, and an intermediate rib 12, of the plate 8, pivoted at one end to plate 1 and having apertures 11 at its free end, and ribs 10 intermediate of its ends, substantially as described.

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

WILLIAM A. HORRALL.

Witnesses:

JAMES W. OGDON,
MILTON S. HASTINGS.