(No Model.) 2 Sheets—Sheet 1.

C. H. VOLL.

ENVELOPE FASTENER.

No. 444,932. Patented Jan. 20, 1891.

Fig. 1

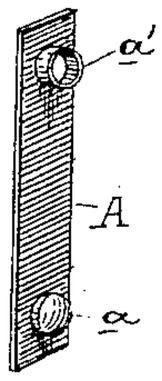


Fig. 2.

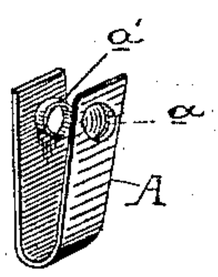
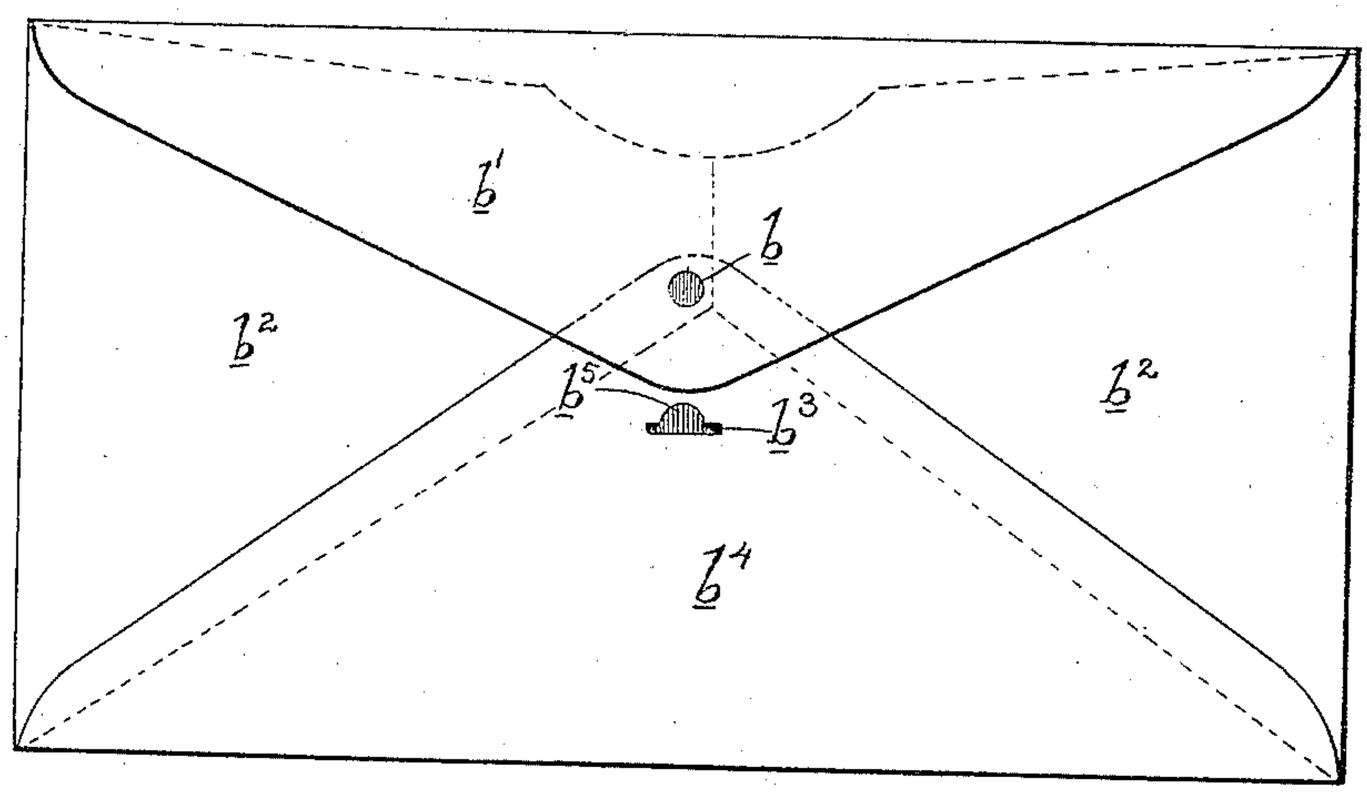


Fig-3. B



Witnesses,
Geo. H. Strong.
J. B. Howe

Inventor,
Charles H. Voll
by Dewey & Co
Atty

(No Model.) 2 Sheets—Sheet 2.

C. H. VOLL.

ENVELOPE FASTENER

No. 444,932. Patented Jan. 20, 1891.

Fig-4-

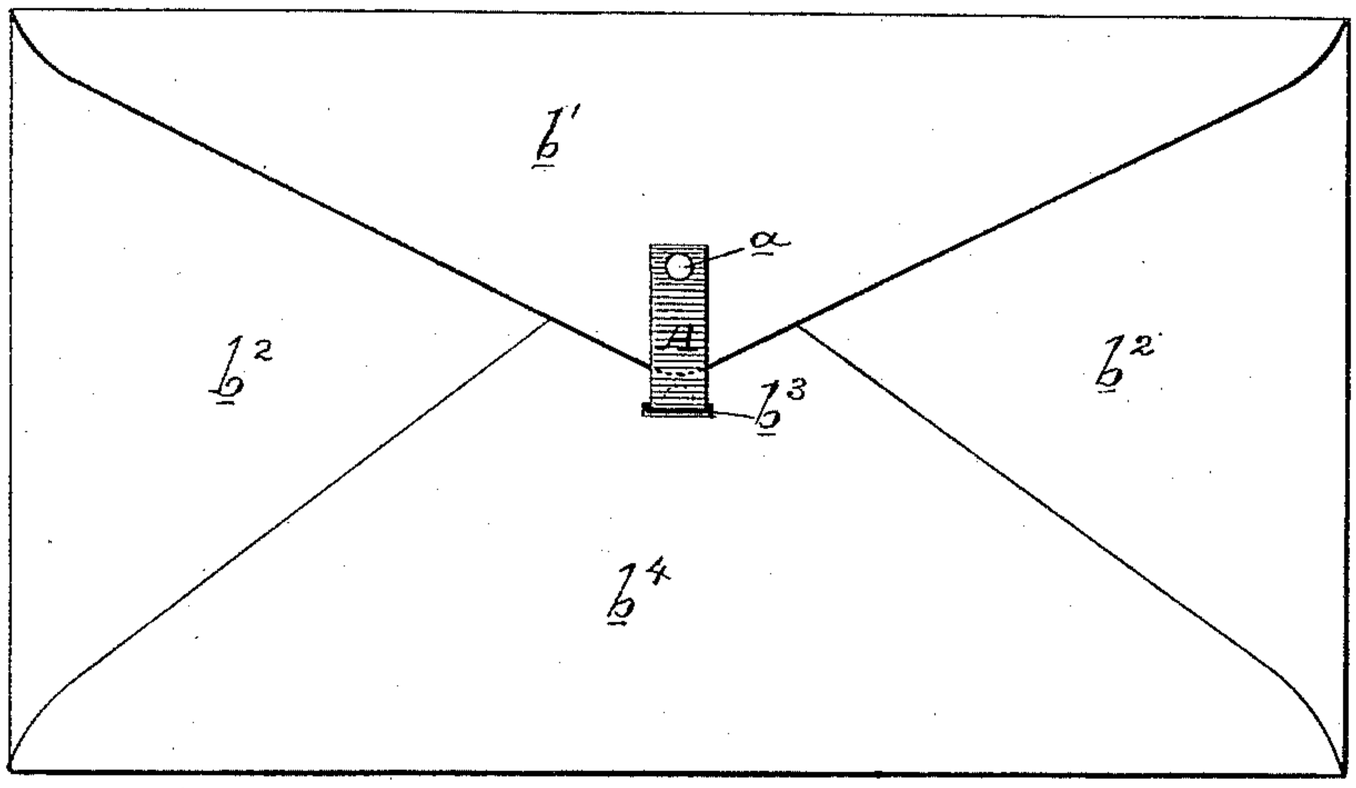
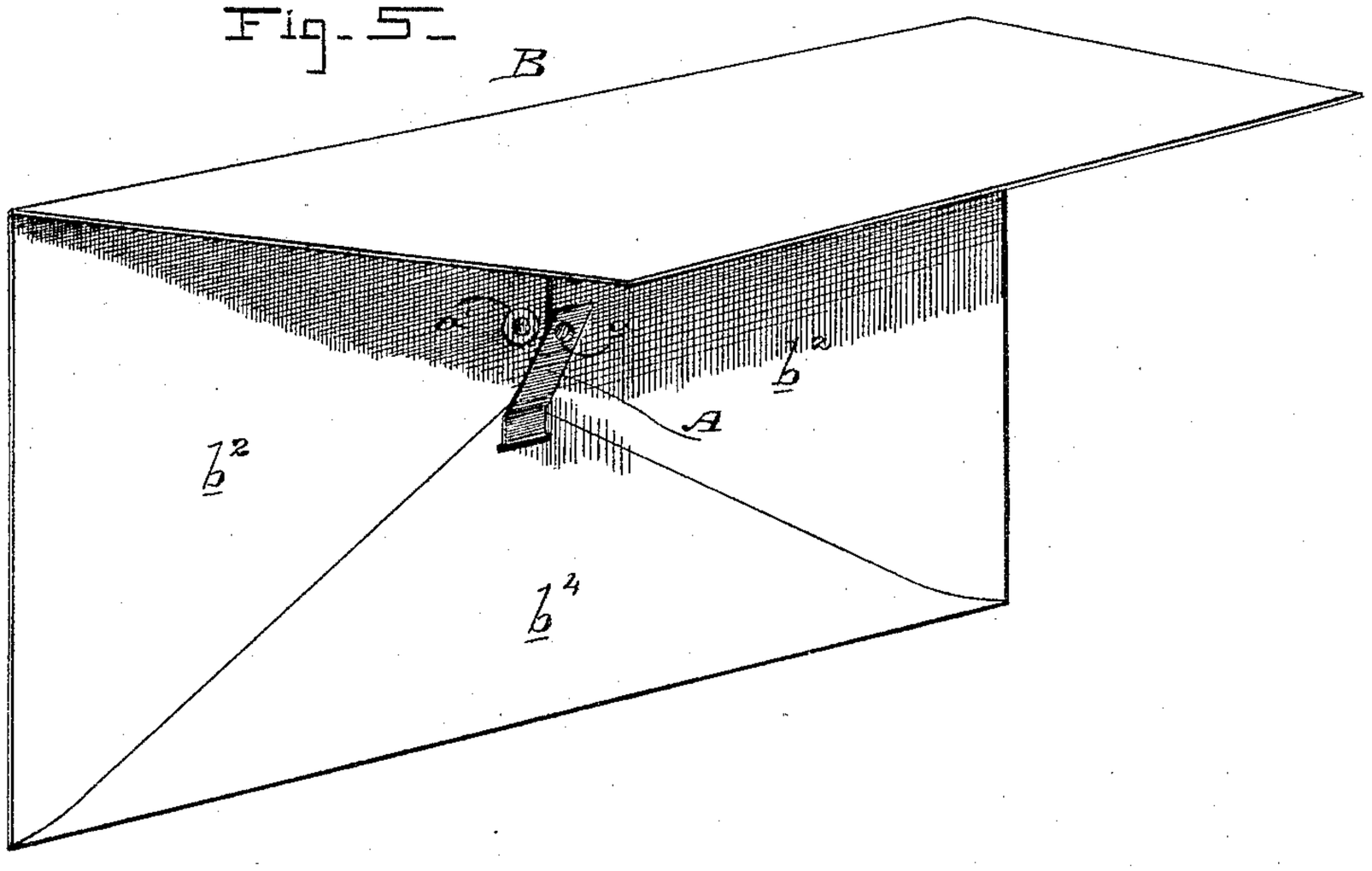


Fig-5-



Witnesses,
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J. B. Howe

Inventor,
Charles H. Voll
by Dewey & Co.
attys

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

CHARLES H. VOLL, OF SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA, ASSIGNOR OF ONE-HALF TO OSCAR FISCHER, OF SAME PLACE.

ENVELOPE-FASTENER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 444,932, dated January 20, 1891.

Application filed April 25, 1890. Serial No. 349,540. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, CHARLES H. VOLL, a citizen of the United States, residing in the city and county of San Francisco, State of California, have invented an Improvement in Envelope-Fasteners; and I hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the same.

My invention relates to the class of envelope-fasteners; and it consists in the improved fastener the particular construction and use of which will be hereinafter fully described, and its features of novelty pointed out in the claim.

The object of my invention is to provide a simple and effective fastener adapted to be so applied to envelopes that they cannot by any possibility be opened without mutilation.

Referring to the accompanying drawings for a more complete explanation of my invention, Figure 1 is a view of my fastener before being bent for use. Fig. 2 is a view of the fastener, showing it bent and ready for application. Fig. 3 is a view of the back or reverse side of an envelope, showing the holes made in it preparatory to the application of my fastener. Fig. 4 is a view of the same, showing the fastener applied. Fig. 5 is a view of an envelope cut along its bottom, its face being raised up to show the inside of the envelope back, and the inner end of the fastener being slightly raised to show the flanging of the eyelet which binds the meeting edges of the back together.

The fastener A, Fig. 1, is a strip of metal. Stiff sheet brass or tin will answer. On one end it is provided or formed with a raised die *a*, and on the other end it is provided or formed with an eyelet *a'*. In practice the die and eyelet will be struck up from the strip itself, so that the whole will be a single integral piece.

To prepare the envelope B, Fig. 3, for the application of the fastener, a hole *b* is made through the free fly *b'* of the envelope and through the overlapping edges of the underlying side flaps b^2. A slit b^3 is made through the lower flap b^4 at a point below the free fly, and this slit may or may not pass also through the side laps. The slit may also have a curved hole b^5 in connection with it to permit the ready entrance of the die *a* without tearing the paper. Where the lower flap b^4 is long enough, the hole *b* passes through it also. Now the strip A is bent centrally transversely, as shown in Fig. 2. Then the lower or die portion or end is passed through the slit b^3, (the hole b^5 permitting its readier entrance,) extending upwardly inside of the envelope to a point where its die lies directly below the hole *b*, while the eyelet end or portion extends upwardly outside of the envelope to a point where its eyelet is directly above the hole *b*. The position of the outer portion is shown in Fig. 4, and it will be seen that it stretches across the point of the free fly *b'*. The position of the inner portion is shown in Fig. 5. Now the outer portion is pressed down so that its eyelet passes into hole *b*, its inner end passing through the free fly and through the side flaps. Sufficient pressure being applied in any suitable manner causes the inner end of the eyelet *a'* to bear down upon and about the die *a*, so that said die flanges the eyelet end, as shown in Fig. 5, upon the inner side of the envelope, thereby securing the free fly and the two side flaps, while the lower flap is secured by the bend of the fastener. Therefore the several parts of the envelope are perfectly fastened together and cannot be released without mutilation.

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

A fastener for envelopes, consisting of a strip of bendable metal, one end of which is passed into the envelope and the other lies without it and crosses the point of the free fly, said inner end having a die integral therewith and said outer end having an integral eyelet on the same side as the die, said eyelet passing through the fly and underlying flaps of the envelope and adapted to be flanged within the envelope by contact with the die, substantially as herein described.

In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand.

CHARLES H. VOLL.

Witnesses:
S. H. NOURSE,
H. C. LEE.