

(No Model.)

G. H. RANDALL.  
FASTENER FOR ENVELOPES.

No. 452,651.

Patented May 19, 1891.

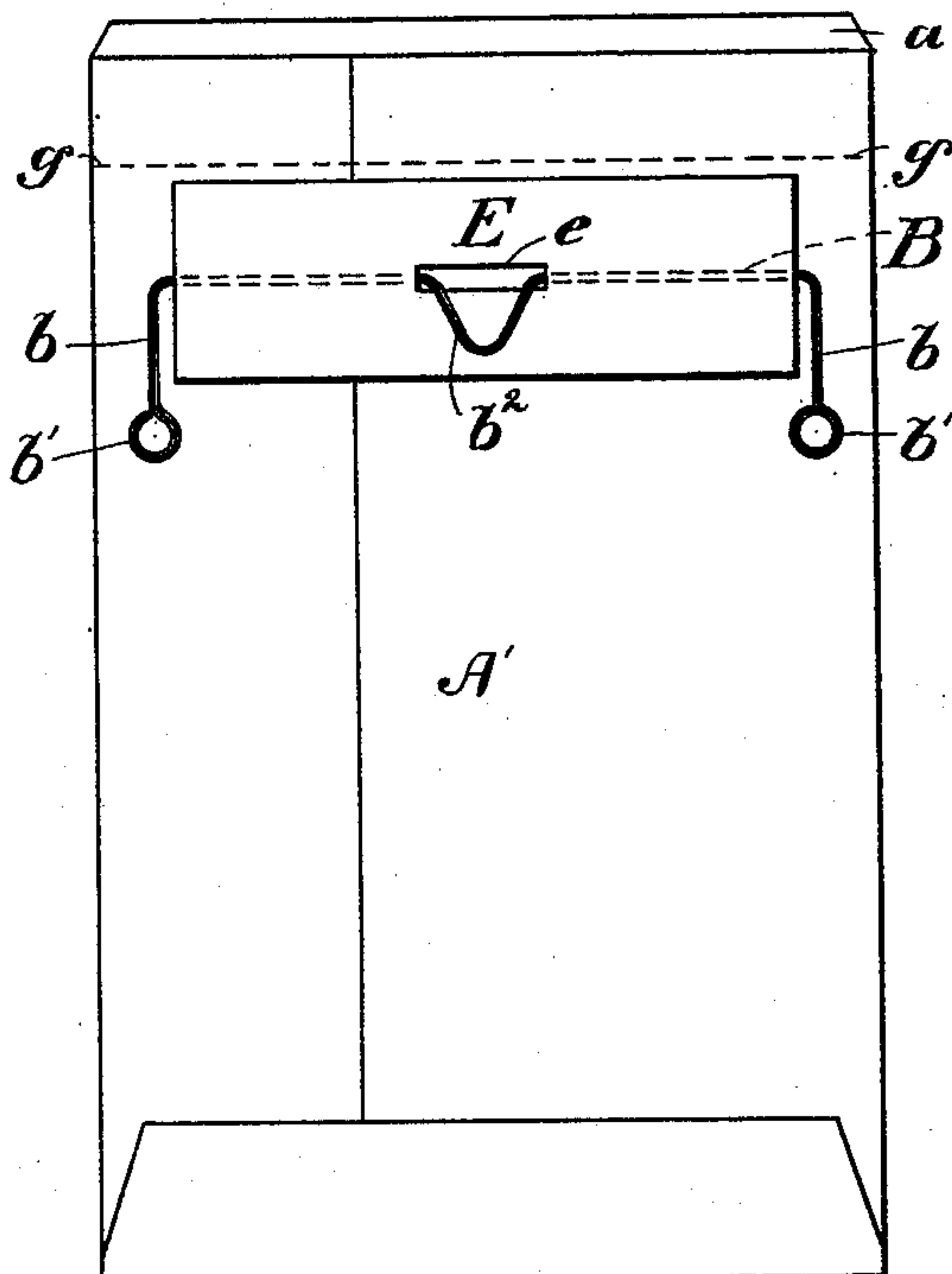


Fig. 1.

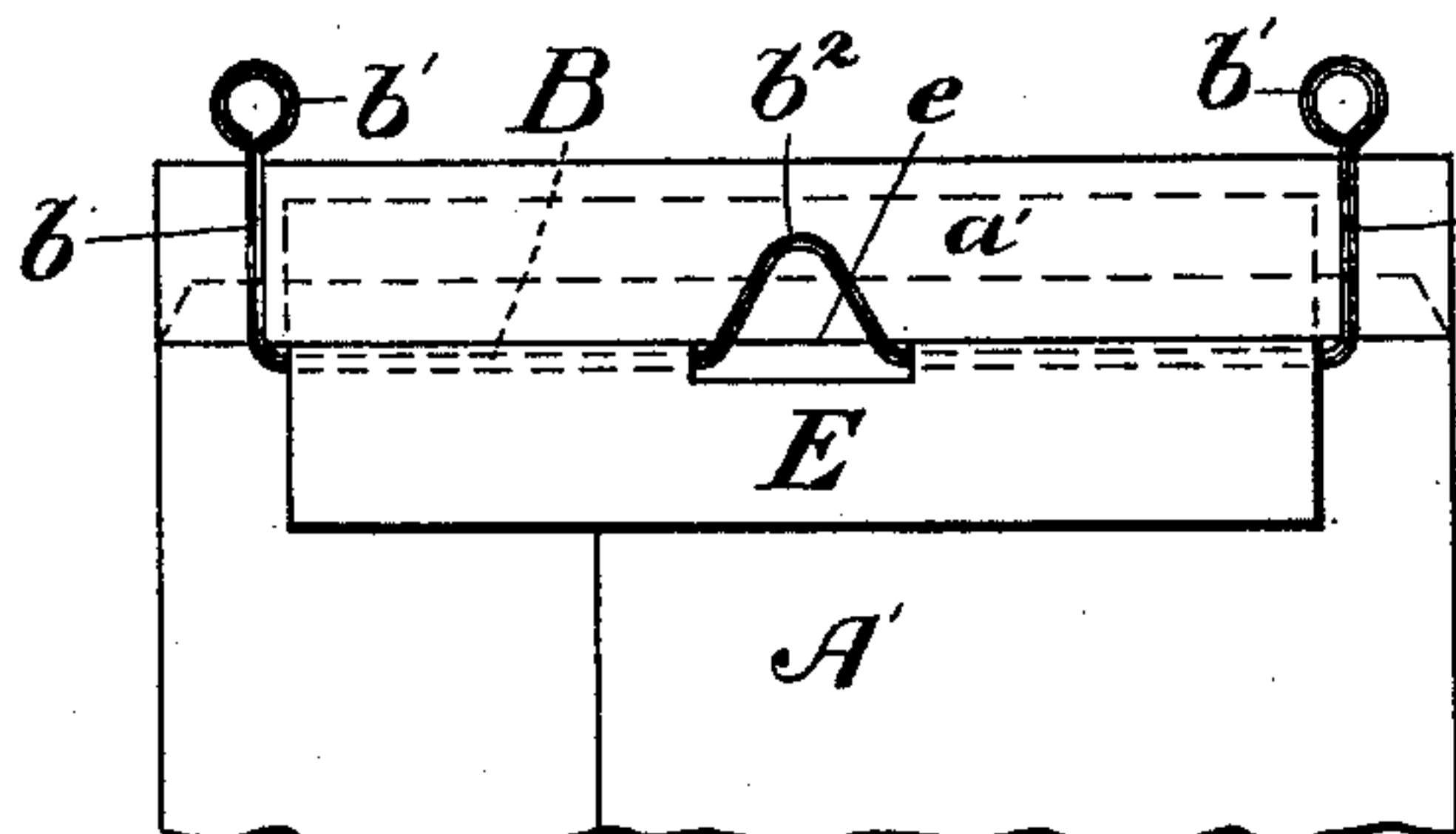


Fig. 2.

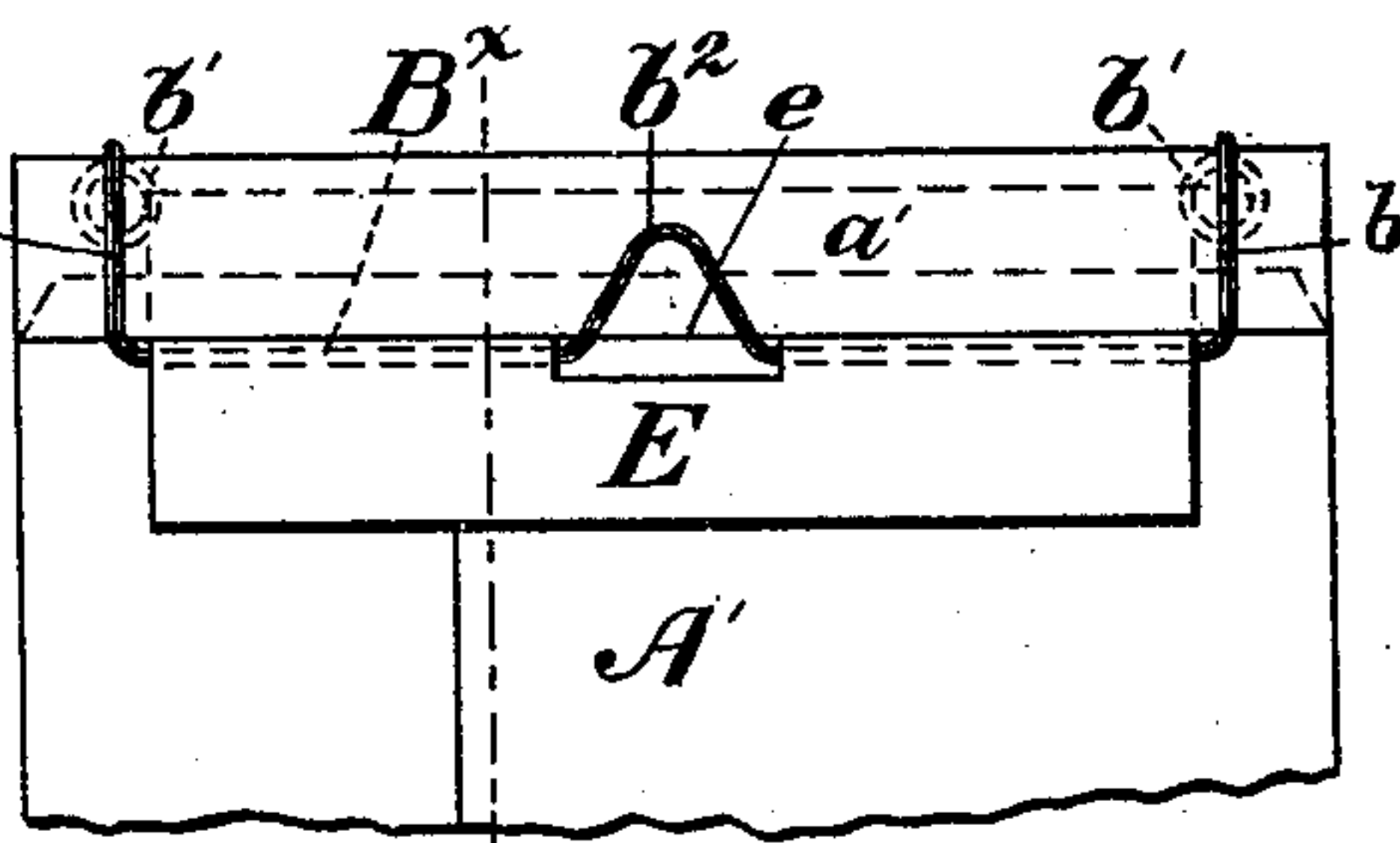


Fig. 3.

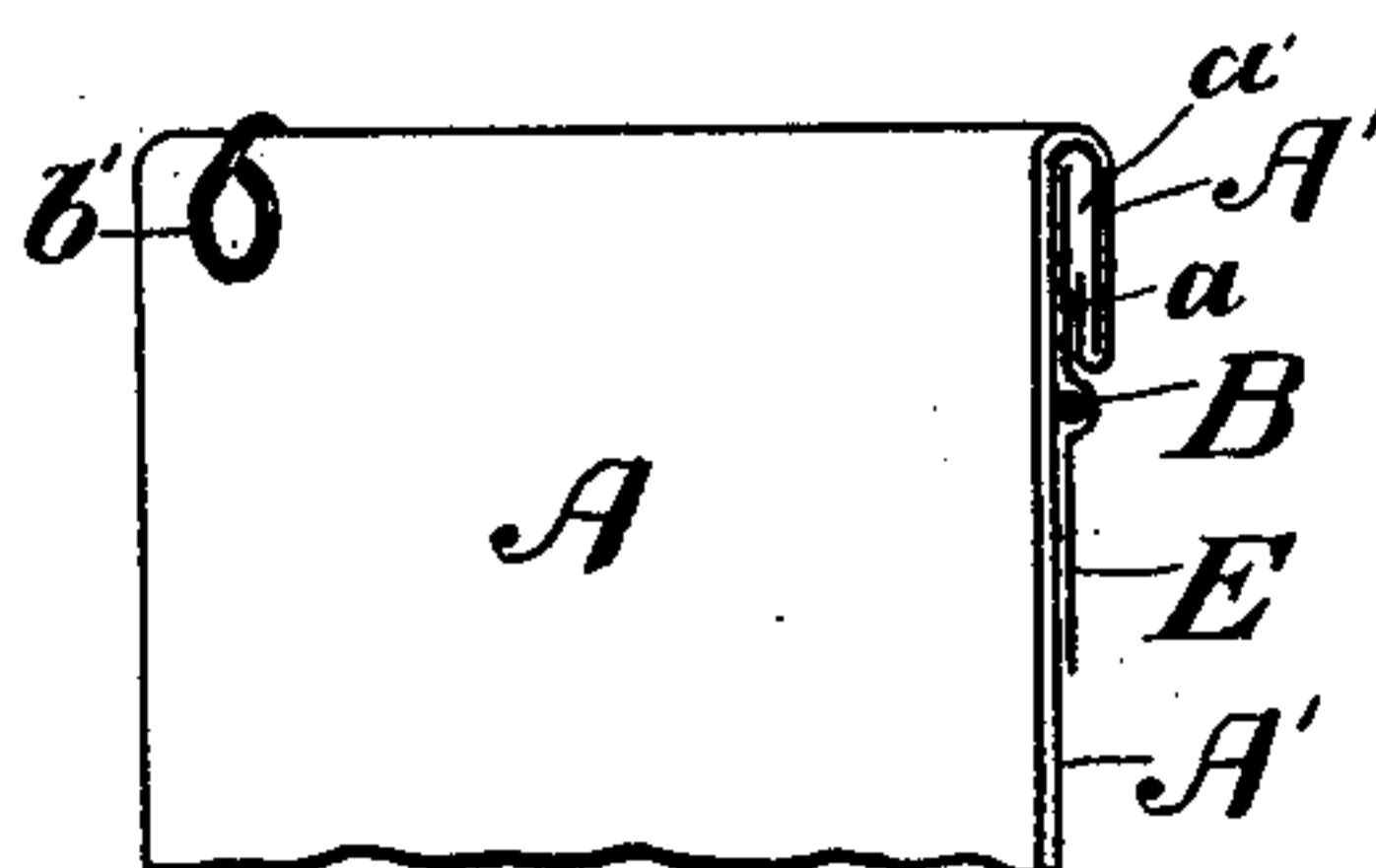


Fig. 4.

Witnesses

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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

GEORGE H. RANDALL, OF MEDFORD, MASSACHUSETTS.

## FASTENER FOR ENVELOPES.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 452,651, dated May 19, 1891.

Application filed December 28, 1889. Serial No. 335,197. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, GEORGE H. RANDALL, a citizen of the United States, residing at Medford, in the county of Middlesex and Commonwealth of Massachusetts, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Fasteners for Envelopes, Bags, and Similar Articles, of which the following is a full specification.

10 My invention consists of an improved envelope or bag fastener secured to the bag or envelope near the mouth or open end thereof and adapted to close a fold at the mouth, as hereinafter described.

15 In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 shows in elevation an envelope provided with my improved fastener, the envelope being shown with its mouth open. Fig. 2 is a similar view of the envelope with its mouth closed over by one or more folds. Fig. 3 is a similar view showing the fold at the mouth securely held by the fastener; and Fig. 4 is a perspective section on  $x x$ , Fig. 3, looked at from the front.

25 A is the front, and A' the back, of an envelope, which preferably opens at the end. Near the mouth of the envelope is pivotally secured to the back thereof the fastener B, which is preferably made of metallic wire, 30 having at each end the arm  $b$ , bent substantially at right angles to the main pivoted portion thereof. The fastener B is, moreover, preferably provided near its center with the struck-up V-shaped supporting portion  $b^2$ , the function of which will presently be shown.

35 The fastener B is held to the envelope-back in any desired manner, so that it may turn around the straight portion as a pivotal axis. I have shown it held by means of the retaining-piece E, made of any suitable material—such as cloth or paper—glued or pasted to the envelope-back. This piece E has, moreover, the opening or slit  $e$ , through which the central supporting portion  $b^2$  operates.

45 As herein shown, the front A of the envelope has the flap  $a$  projecting at the mouth beyond the back A'. When the new envel-

opes are shipped, before they have been used, they are packed with their mouths open and with the pivoted fastener B in the position 50 shown in Fig. 1—i. e., with the arms  $b$  pointing down—in which position the envelopes may be very compactly packed. When it is to be closed, having received the material which it is to contain, the flap  $a$  is first bent down over 55 the back A' of the envelope and both back and front are folded along the line  $g g$ , Fig. 1, forming the fold  $a'$ , and the fastener B is turned into the position shown in Fig. 2 with the arms  $b$  pointing up. The final fastening 60 is simply accomplished by bending down the projecting ends  $b'$  of the arms  $b$ , which are preferably in the form of eyes, over the front of the envelope and around the fold  $a'$ , as indicated in Figs. 3 and 4. While the arms  $b$  65 securely hold the closing-fold  $a'$  of the envelope at either side in a closed position when their ends  $b'$  are bent down, as shown, the supporting portion  $b^2$  presses firmly against the middle of the fold, keeping it flatly pressed 70 down, and thus obviates any possibility of seed or other fine material which the envelope may contain sifting out in the middle of the fold.

If desired, two or more folds may be made 75 at the mouth of the envelope before the ends  $b'$  of the arms  $b$  are bent down, and the same envelope may be used many times over, if required.

I claim—

80 An envelope or bag provided near its mouth with a fastener B, pivotally secured thereto to turn about an axis parallel to the mouth, the said fastener being provided with separate pliable fold-securing arms  $b$  at each end 85 and a central V-shaped fold-supporting portion  $b^2$ , arranged and operating substantially as and for the purposes described.

In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand.

GEORGE H. RANDALL.

Witnesses:

M. H. THOMPSON,  
ALBERT E. LEACH.