

(No Model.)

A. A. DORRANCE.  
STAPLE FOR MAIL POUCHES.

No. 582,186.

Patented May 11, 1897.

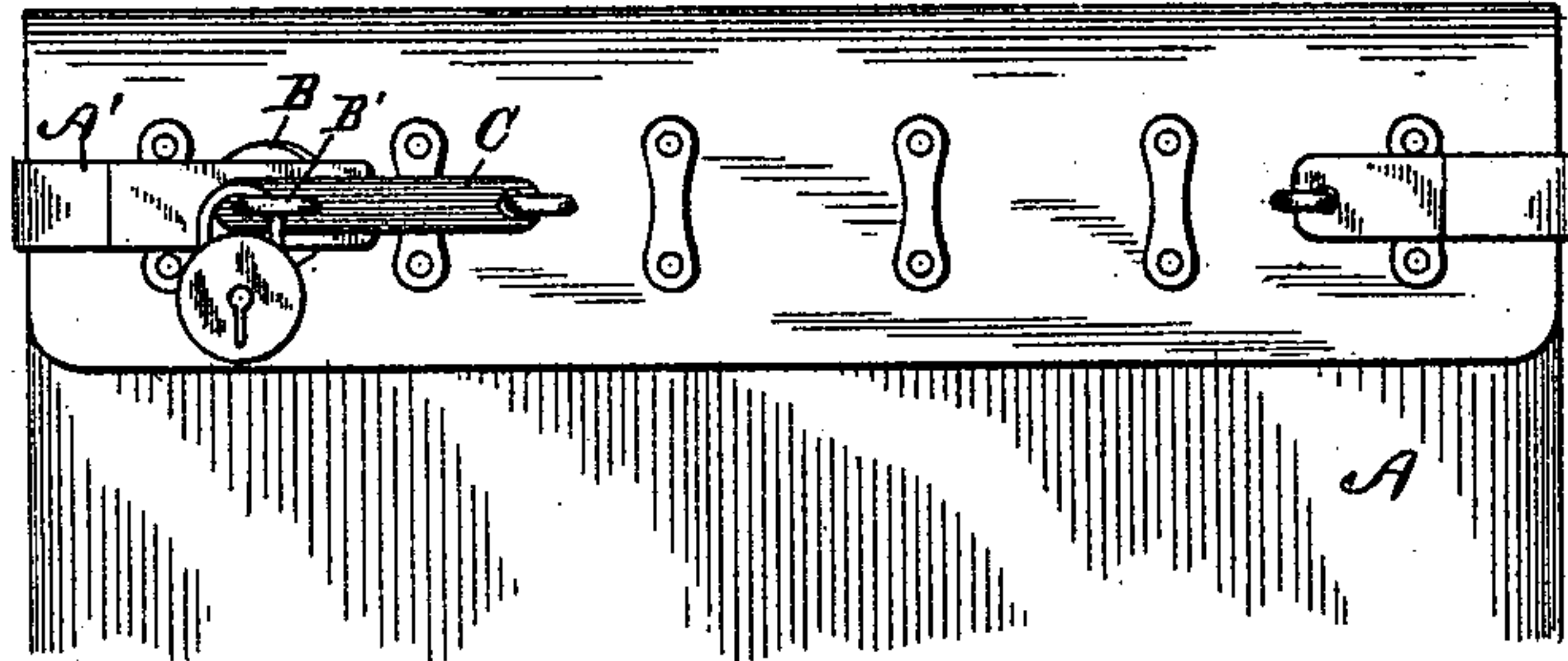


Fig. 1

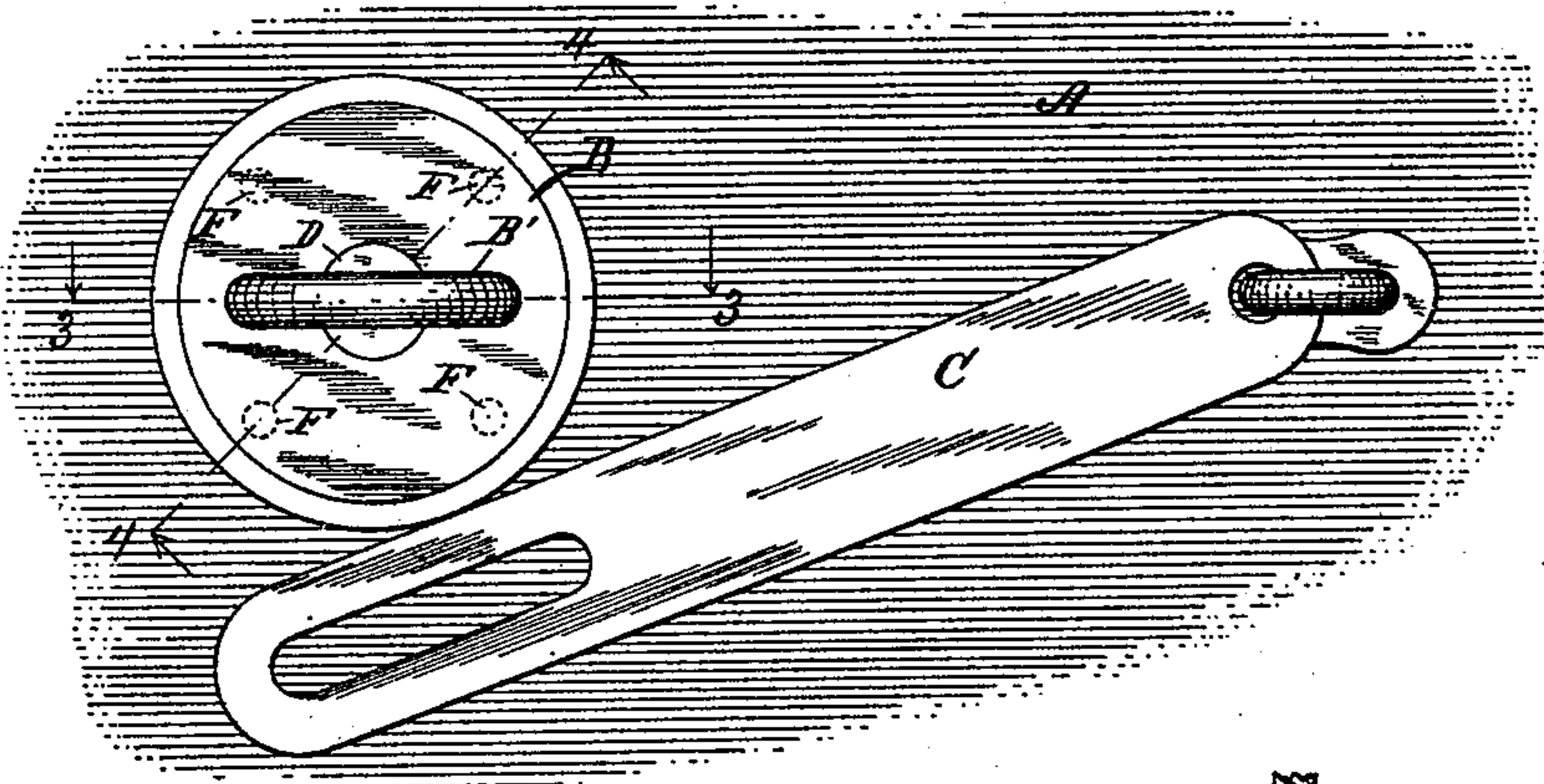


Fig. 2

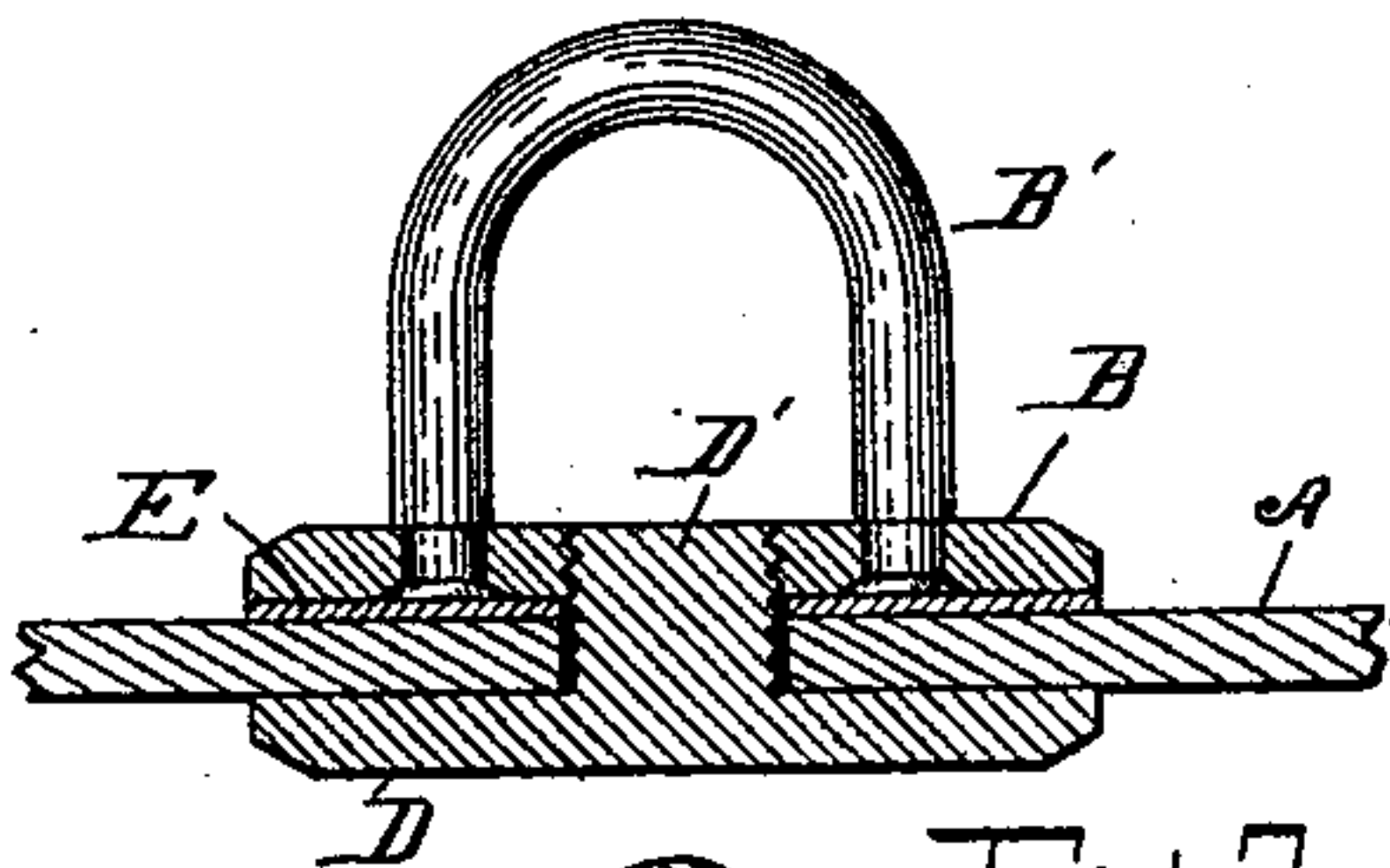


Fig. 3

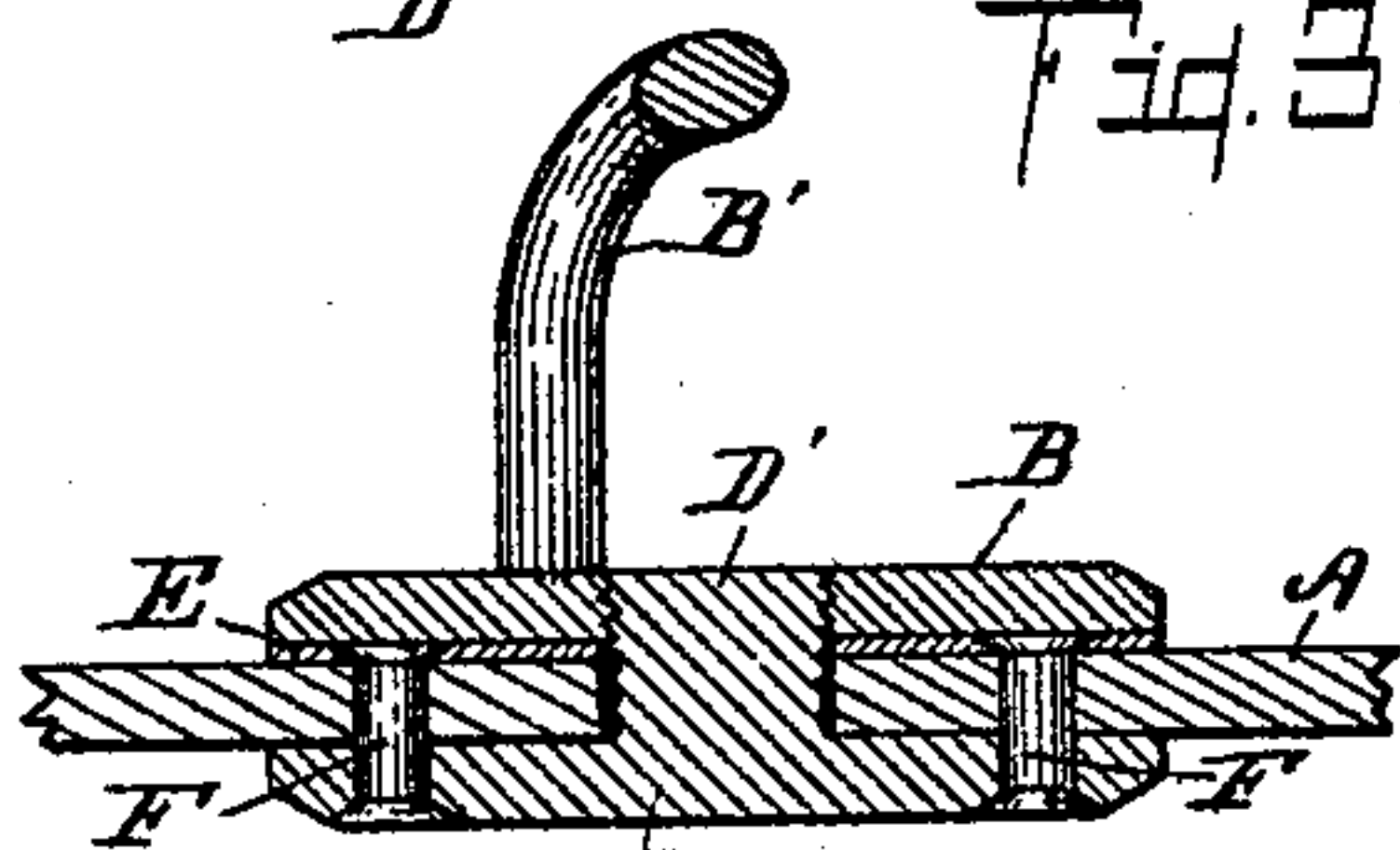


Fig. 4

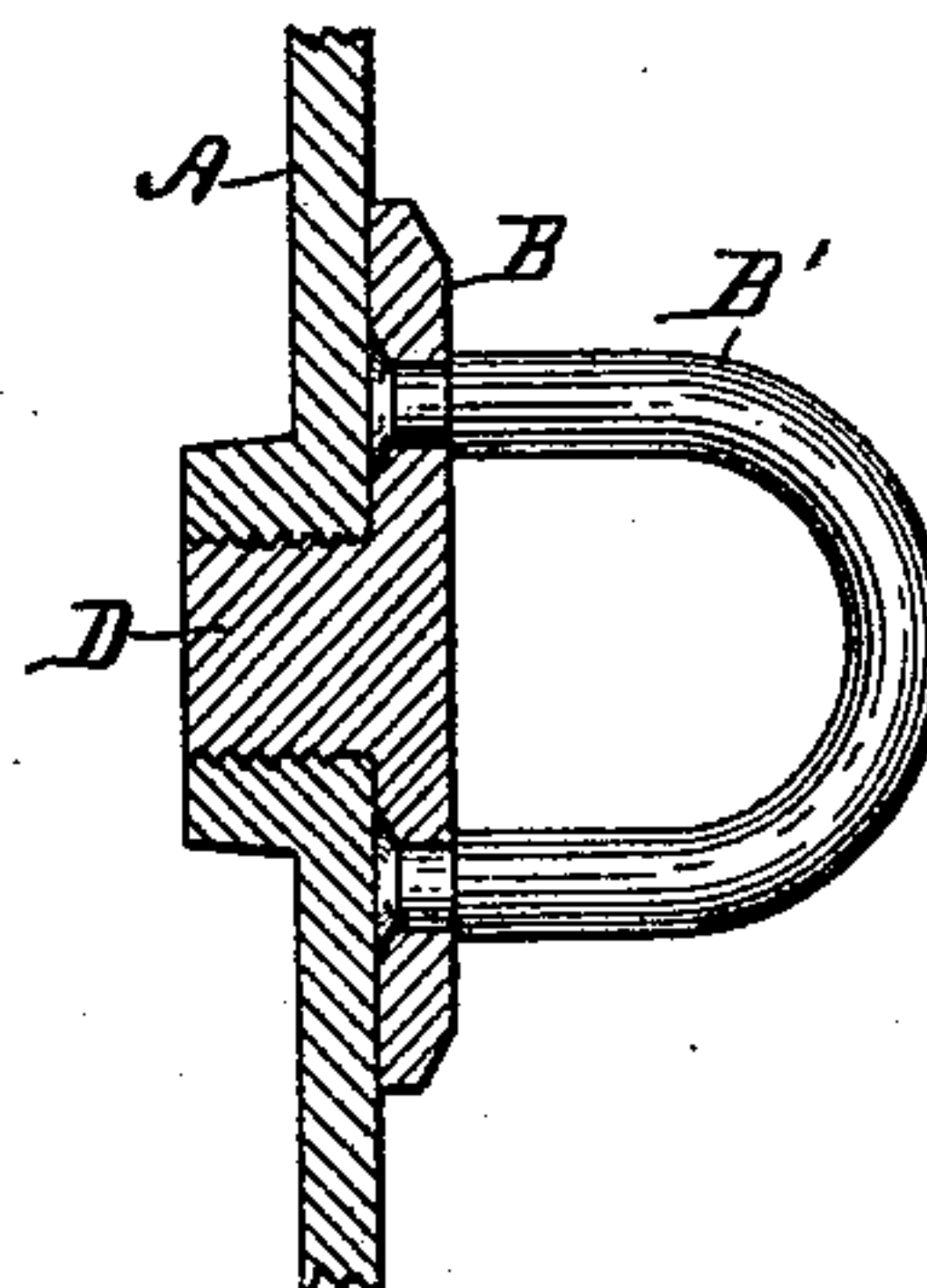


Fig. 5

Witnesses:

*Walter S. Wood*  
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*Albert A. Dorrance*  
By *Ed. L. Chappell*  
Att'y.



# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ALBERT A. DORRANCE, OF COLDWATER, MICHIGAN.

## STAPLE FOR MAIL-POUCHES.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 582,186, dated May 11, 1897.

Application filed December 16, 1895. Serial No. 572,276. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, ALBERT A. DORRANCE, a citizen of the United States, residing at the city of Coldwater, in the county of Branch and State of Michigan, have invented certain new and useful Staples for Mail-Pouches, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to staples for mailing-pouches and mailing-boxes and for similar purposes.

As mail-bags and mail-boxes have been heretofore constructed the staple for the locking-hasp has been permanently joined either to the mail-bag or to the mail-box, as the case may be. The instructions from the Post-Office Department at Washington to the post-office officials throughout the country are that when for any reason a lock becomes inoperative or the key becomes lost the staple be cut to open the pouch or box, as the case may be, and that when it has been so opened it be sent to the department at Washington for repairs.

The objects of my invention are to provide a staple for use in such places which, when the pouch or box is unlocked, can be easily removed or replaced, but which will be held securely in position when the pouch is locked, as though it were riveted there. This will save the necessity of returning the entire pouch or box to the department when it is necessary to cut a staple. The cut staple might be returned in case it is necessary to have something to return as a voucher. I accomplish these objects of my invention by the devices and means shown in the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a view of the upper end of a mail-pouch embodying all of the features of my invention. Fig. 2 is an enlarged detail view of the staple and hasp. Fig. 3 is a detail sectional view on line 3 3 of Fig. 2. Fig. 4 is a detail sectional view on line 4 4 of Fig. 2. Fig. 5 is a detail sectional view of a modification taken on a line corresponding to line 3 3 of Fig. 2.

In the drawings all of the sectional views are taken looking in the direction of the little arrows at the end of the section-lines, and similar letters of reference refer to similar parts throughout the several views.

Referring to the lettered parts of the drawings, A represents a mail-pouch or mail-box. A' represents the locking-strap.

C is the hasp.

B' is the staple. The staple B' is secured to a disk B. A disk D is placed on the opposite side of the wall of the pouch and is secured there by rivets F, which pass through a disk E on the outside of the pouch. Projecting outwardly from the disk D is a screw D', on which the disk B, bearing the staple, is screwed. When it is turned down tight to the bag and the strap and hasp C are placed over the same, the lock is inserted and the staple will be found to be securely held so long as the lock is in place, because the hasp acts upon it as a wrench upon a bolt and prevents its being unscrewed.

Where the staple is to be used upon a mail-box, the screw D' is formed on the disk B and screws into the wall of the box, which is the most practical for the purpose, although the construction could be made the same as before. The disk B, which bears the staple, could be secured to a mail-pouch or mail-box by a screw or screws from the inside of the pouch and answer the purpose very well.

I desire to state that the details of my improved staple are capable of considerable variation without departing from my invention, and this must be clearly apparent to a great extent from an examination of the foregoing specification.

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

1. The combination of the disk B, the staple B', thereon; a plate D, the screw D', projecting outwardly therefrom from the inside of a mail-sack; the plate E, secured to the outside with rivets F, F, extending through the same to secure the plate D, in position; and a hasp C, to fit said staple B', and prevent its being loosened by unscrewing to form a detachable staple for the purpose specified.

2. The combination of a staple B'; a disk B, bearing the same; a pouch or bag or box; with which said disk has a screw-threaded connection; and a hasp to engage said staple and prevent its rotation to unscrew the same, for the purpose specified.

In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and seal in the presence of two witnesses.

ALBERT A. DORRANCE. [L. S.]

Witnesses:

WILLARD S. HAWLEY,  
JUDSON L. BASSETT.