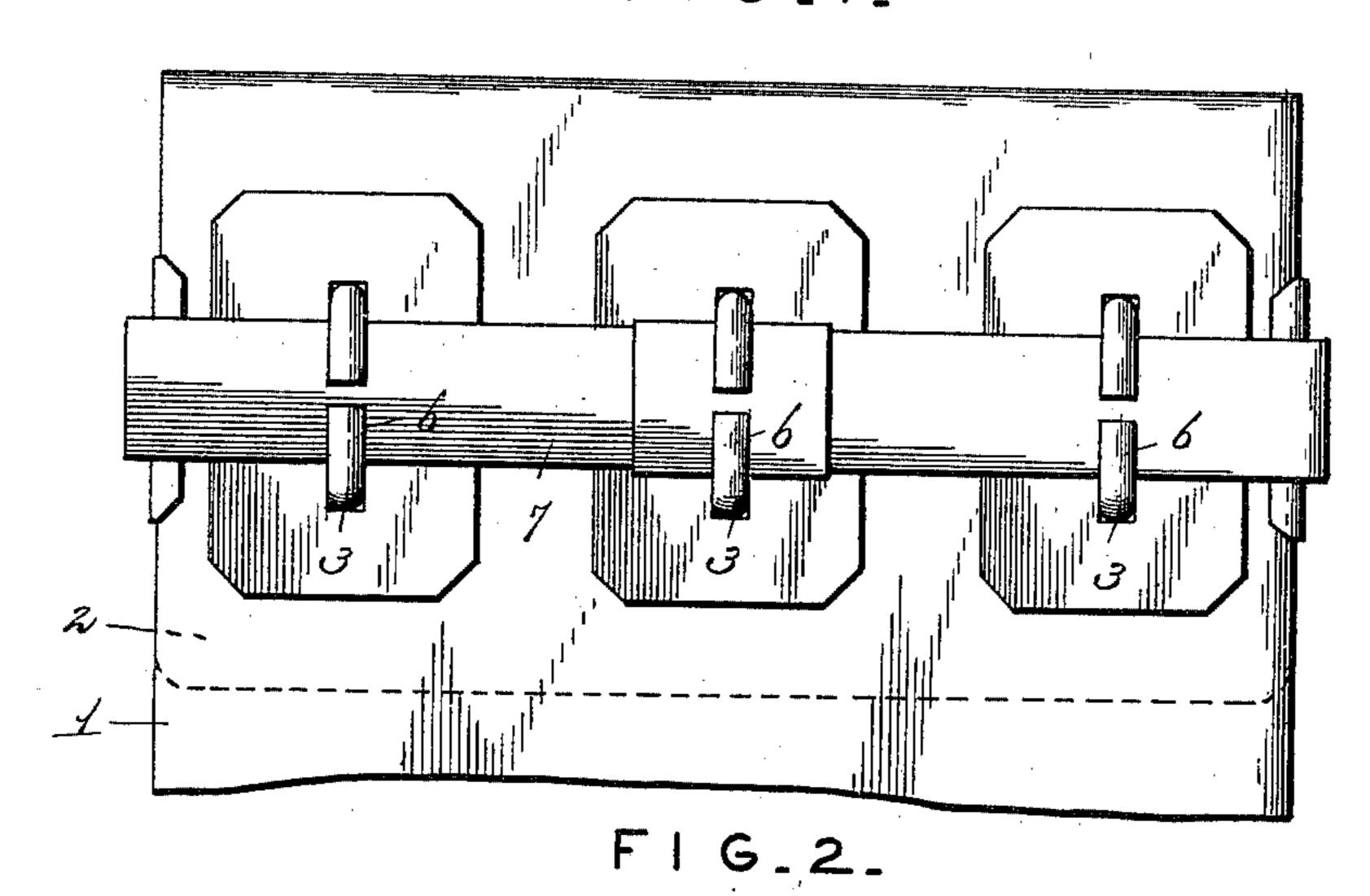
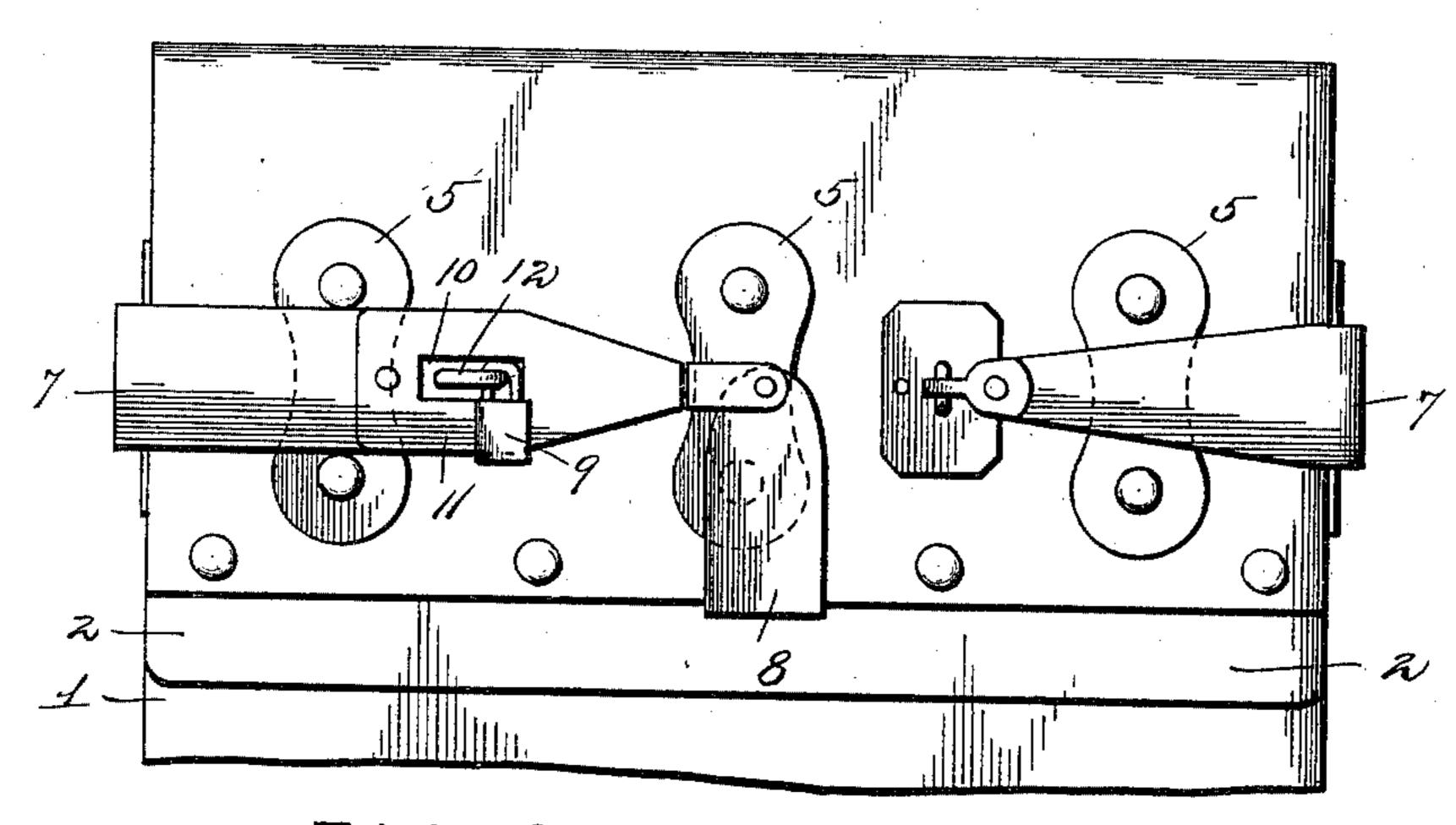
## A. BRALEY. MAIL SACK FASTENING.

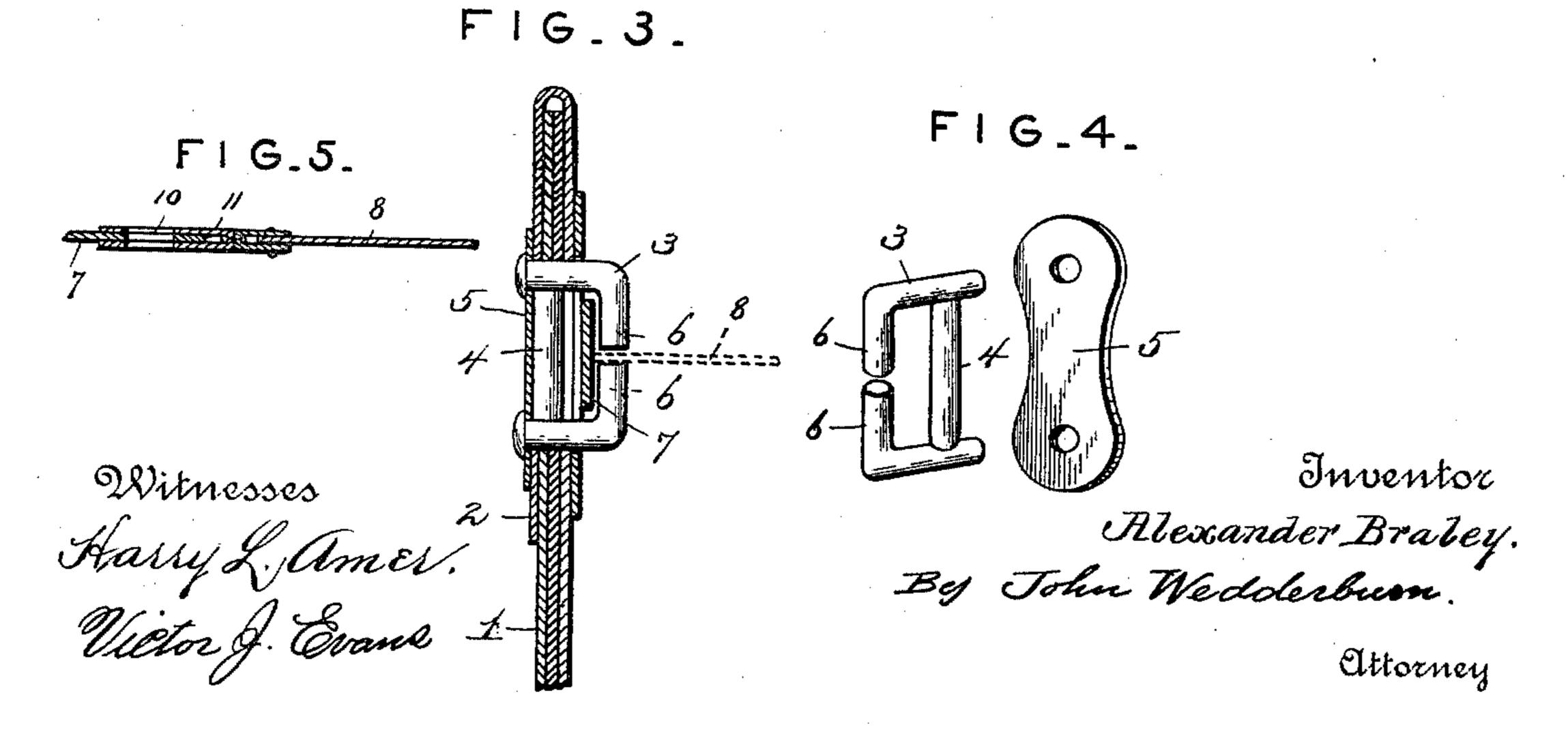
No. 600,399.

Patented Mar. 8, 1898.

FIG\_I







## UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ALEXANDER BRALEY, OF LANGSVILLE, OHIO.

## MAIL-SACK FASTENING.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 600,399, dated March 8, 1898.

Application filed May 28, 1897. Serial No. 638,577. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ALEXANDER BRALEY, of Langsville, in the county of Meigs and State of Ohio, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Mail-Sack Fastenings; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same.

The invention relates to mail-sack fastenings, the purpose of which is to facilitate the securing of the mouth of the sack when closed; and to this end the invention consists in the construction of the slotted loops through which the locking-strap is passed for securing a sack and in certain details of construction and arrangements of parts operating in connection therewith, as hereinafter described and claimed.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is a front view of the sack. Fig. 2 is a rear view of the same. Fig. 3 is a vertical section showing one of the strap loops or holders in side elevation. Fig. 4 is a perspective view of one of the loops with its keeper-plate detached and enlarged. Fig. 5 represents a longitudinal section through one end of the locking-strap and the swiveling "pull-plate" connected therewith.

1 indicates the sack, made of flexible material and preferably provided with a flap 2 upon one side adapted to be turned over upon the other side and provided with strap-holding loops adapted to pass through both sides of the upper or open end of the sack for clos-

ing said end.

3 indicates one of the loops through which the locking-strap is passed for securing the mouth of the sack. These loops are made 40 substantially in H form, having a central cross-bar 4, with the arms extending beyond said cross-bar adapted to pass through a perforated keeper-plate 5 after having been passed through the material of the sack, said 45 lower ends being fastened in place by being securely riveted over the keeper 5 in a manner that will be readily understood. The arms project above the cross-bar 4, terminating in inturned lips 6, lying in a plane parallel with the cross-bar 4 and slightly sepa-

rated at their inner ends, forming a divided cross-bar which engages the locking-strap 7 for holding the latter securely in place. One end of this locking-strap 7 is secured to the sack 1 in the usual manner, the other or free 55 end being adapted to be passed through the eye in the loop formed by the cross-bar 3 and the divided bar 4. For passing the strap through this eye in the loops it is provided at its free end with what I call a "thumb" or 60 "pull" piece 8, pivoted to said free end and sufficiently thin to be passed through the slot between the ends of the divided outer bar of the loop in such manner that by taking hold of the piece 8 and turning the same upon end, 65 as indicated in dotted lines, Fig. 3, and passing it edgewise through the slot between the arms of the divided bar the locking-strap can be readily drawn through without stopping to insert and pass the end thereof into and 70 through each eye of the several loops separately, as is ordinarily required, an arrangement which greatly facilitates the passing of the strap through said loops.

To the back of the sack, preferably at the 75 point where the locking-strap is secured by one of its ends, the lock 9 is also secured by means of an eye 10 at its base of sufficient length to permit the hasp 11 to be readily passed over a staple at 12, with which the 80 locking-strap engages when in position for closing the mouth of the sack. By thus securing the lock permanently to the sack in this position it is always in position to engage the staple after the latter passes through the 85 locking-strap, thereby further facilitating the operation of closing the sack and obviating all liability of displacement of the lock.

Having thus described the invention, what is claimed as new is—

1. The combination with a mail-sack, of strap loops or staples having their outer transverse bars divided centrally of their length, and a locking-strap provided on its free end with a swiveling piece adapted to 95 pass between the adjacent ends of the divided bars, substantially as described.

2. In a mail-sack, the combination with the folding flap thereof, of the locking-strap loops or staples having the divided outer trans- 100

verse bars, the locking-straps engaging said loops, and a swiveling thumb piece or plate on the free end of said strap adapted to pass between the adjacent ends of the divided bar for drawing the strap under said bars, substantially as described.

In testimony whereof I have signed this

specification in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

ALEXANDER BRALEY.

Witnesses:

W. P. PIERCE, J. A. DAVIS.