

No. 616,045.

Patented Dec. 13, 1898.

W. E. WINTER.
MAILING PACKAGE.

(Application filed Mar. 13, 1897.)

(No Model.)

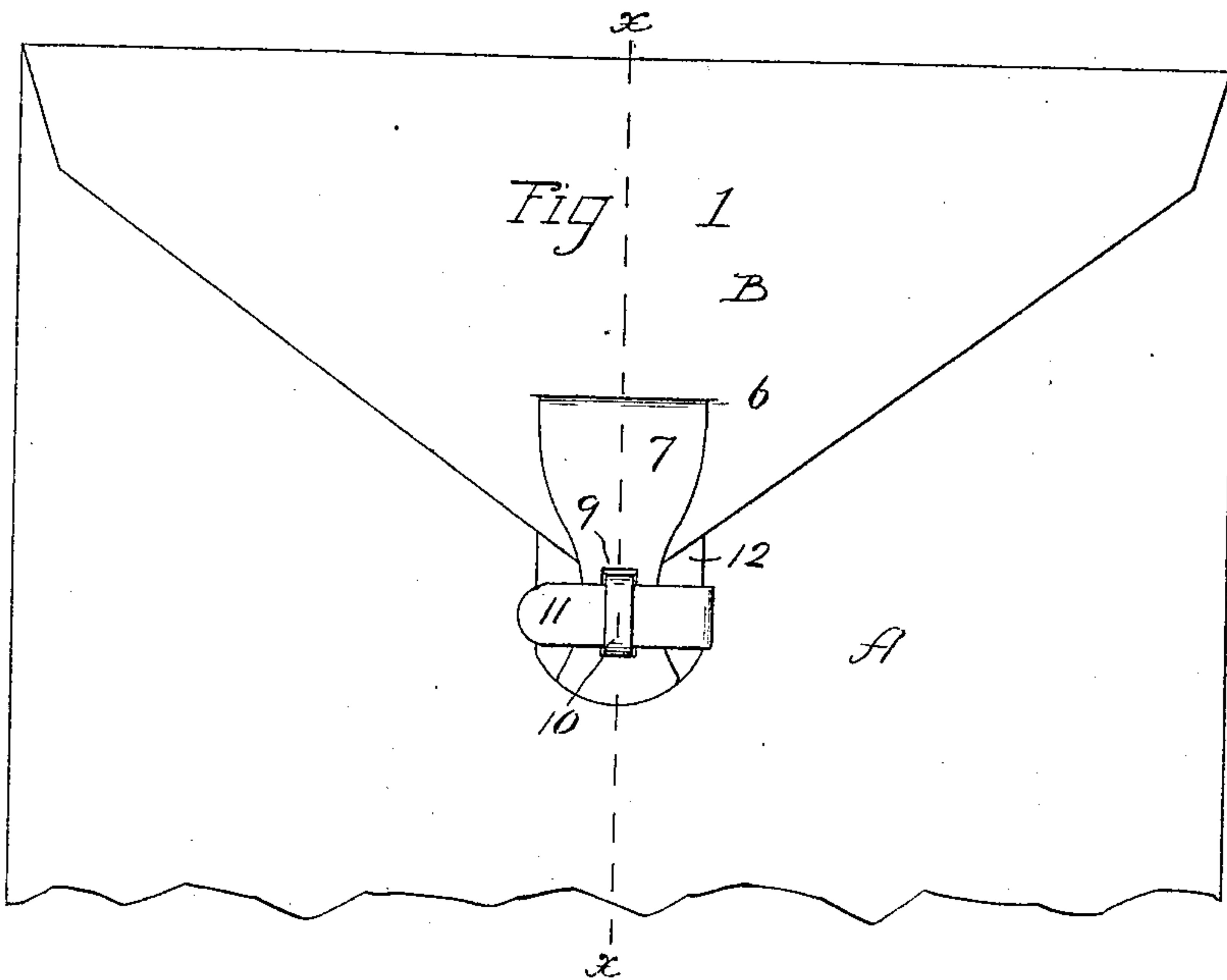


Fig. 2.

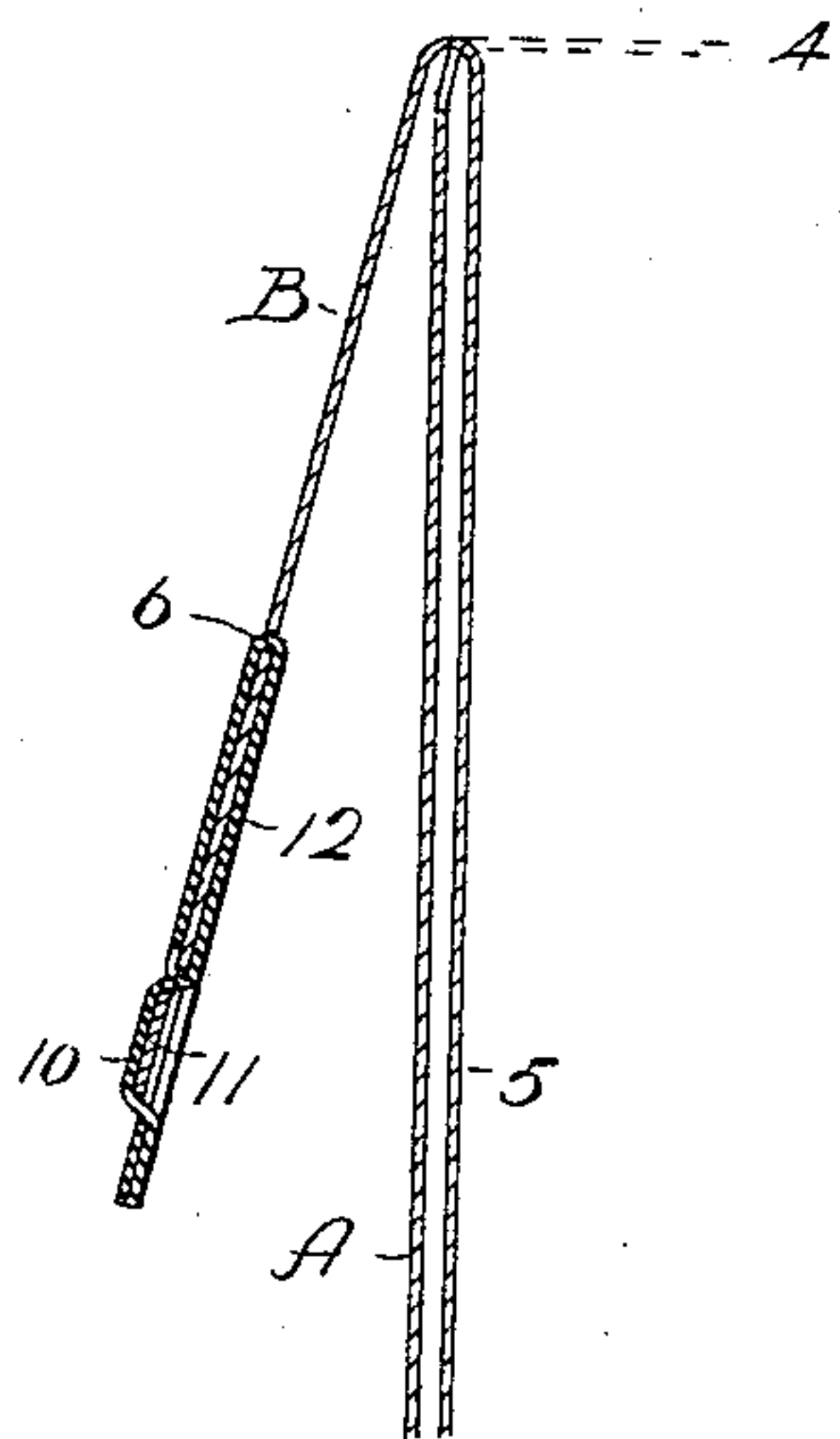
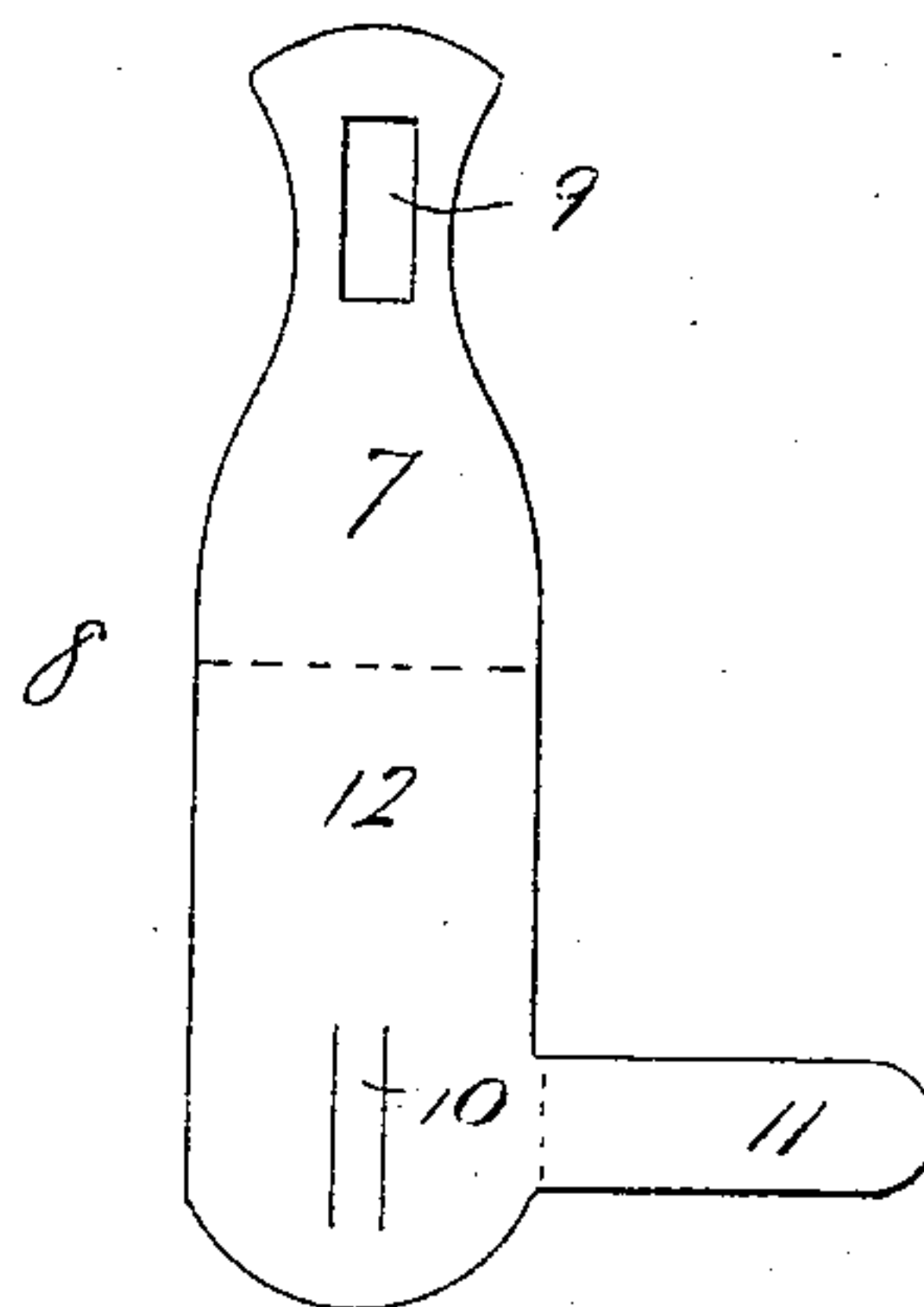


Fig. 3.



WITNESSES

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLIAM E. WINTER, OF NEW BRITAIN, CONNECTICUT, ASSIGNOR OF ONE-HALF TO HEZEKIAH H. CORBIN AND WILLIS P. CORBIN, OF SAME PLACE; MARIA A. CORBIN EXECUTRIX OF SAID HEZEKIAH H. CORBIN, DECEASED:

MAILING-PACKAGE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 616,045, dated December 13, 1898.

Application filed March 13, 1897. Serial No. 627,387. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM E. WINTER, a citizen of the United States, residing at New Britain, in the county of Hartford and State of Connecticut, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Mailing-Cases, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to improvements in mailing-cases in the form of envelopes, boxes, or other cases having a closing-flap; and the objects of my improvement are to provide the closing-flap with a fastening device which may be unfastened without breaking the seal, if desired, while at the same time the flap may be gummed or cemented to the body of the package as conveniently as in the ordinary envelop.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is a front elevation of my fastening device as embodied in an envelop. Fig. 2 is a section thereof on the line *xx* of Fig. 1. Fig. 3 is a detached plan view of the fastener before it is folded and applied to the closing-flap.

A designates a portion of an envelop the back of which is provided with the folding and closing flap B, as in ordinary envelopes. In Fig. 2 I have represented the continuation of this flap by broken horizontal lines 4, which indicate that the flap extends from the top of a box or other case at right angles to the side upon which it is to be fastened. In such an example the top of the box becomes a substitute for the back 5 of an ordinary envelop.

Inasmuch as my invention relates to a case the flap of which is provided with the fastener or attachment detachably interlocked with the said flap it is evident that the same is applicable to any ordinary mailing-case having a closing and folding flap.

The preferred form of my fastener is shown by the blank or unfolded fastener, Fig. 3. The flap B of the case is slit, as at 6, the end 7 of the fastener passed endwise through said slit, and then folded on the line 8 of Fig. 3. This projecting end is provided with an opening or slit 9, and from its resemblance to a hasp I will call it the "hasp" end of my fastener.

In the lower end of the fastener two slits are made in the body of the material, as shown in Fig. 3, and the material between these slits is forced outward slightly to form a staple or tuck-loop 10. Upon one side of the fastener, in position to register with said tuck-loop, is the tuck-flap or tongue 11, which is folded upon the line of its junction with the body of the fastener. The hasp end 7 of the fastener is brought into position so as to bring the loop or staple 10 up through the eye 9 of said hasp end, and then the flap or tuck 11 is passed through said staple, as shown. In this condition it will be seen that the fastener is merely secured to the flap B and is entirely free from the confronting side of the envelop or case A.

In order to save the user the inconvenience of attaching the fastener to the flap and inserting the tongue or flap 11 through the staple, as shown, this will be done at the factory, so as to furnish a ready-tucked tuck-fastener, and in addition to this the back of the body 12 of the fastener will be coated with mucilage or other proper adhesive material, the same as the flaps of ordinary envelopes are coated or gummed. The user will moisten this material and stick the back of the fastener to the body of the case to secure the flap B thereto, and the package is then ready to mail.

The receiver may, if desired, withdraw the flap or tongue 11 to open the envelop, but ordinarily he would tear or cut it open in any convenient way, the advantage of the case being that it may be as readily gummed or sealed as an ordinary gummed envelop, while at the same time it furnishes an opportunity for the post-office authorities to inspect the package during transit, if desired, without breaking the seal.

I do not wish to confine myself to the precise details of construction, but reserve the right to make such changes as may fairly fall within the spirit and scope of my invention.

I claim as my invention—

A mailing-case having secured to its flap a fastener consisting of a gummed back for

sticking said fastener to the body of the case,
a tongue and a tuck-loop and connecting por-
tion by means of which tongue and loop the
said fastener is interlocked with and detach-
5 ably secured to the flap of said case, whereby,
when the fastener is gummed to the body of
the case, the flap of the case may be released

by untucking the tongue from its fastening-
loop, substantially as described.

WILLIAM E. WINTER.

Witnesses:

WILLIS P. CORBIN,
JAMES SHEPARD.