

**No. 622,598.**

**Patented Apr. 4, 1899.**

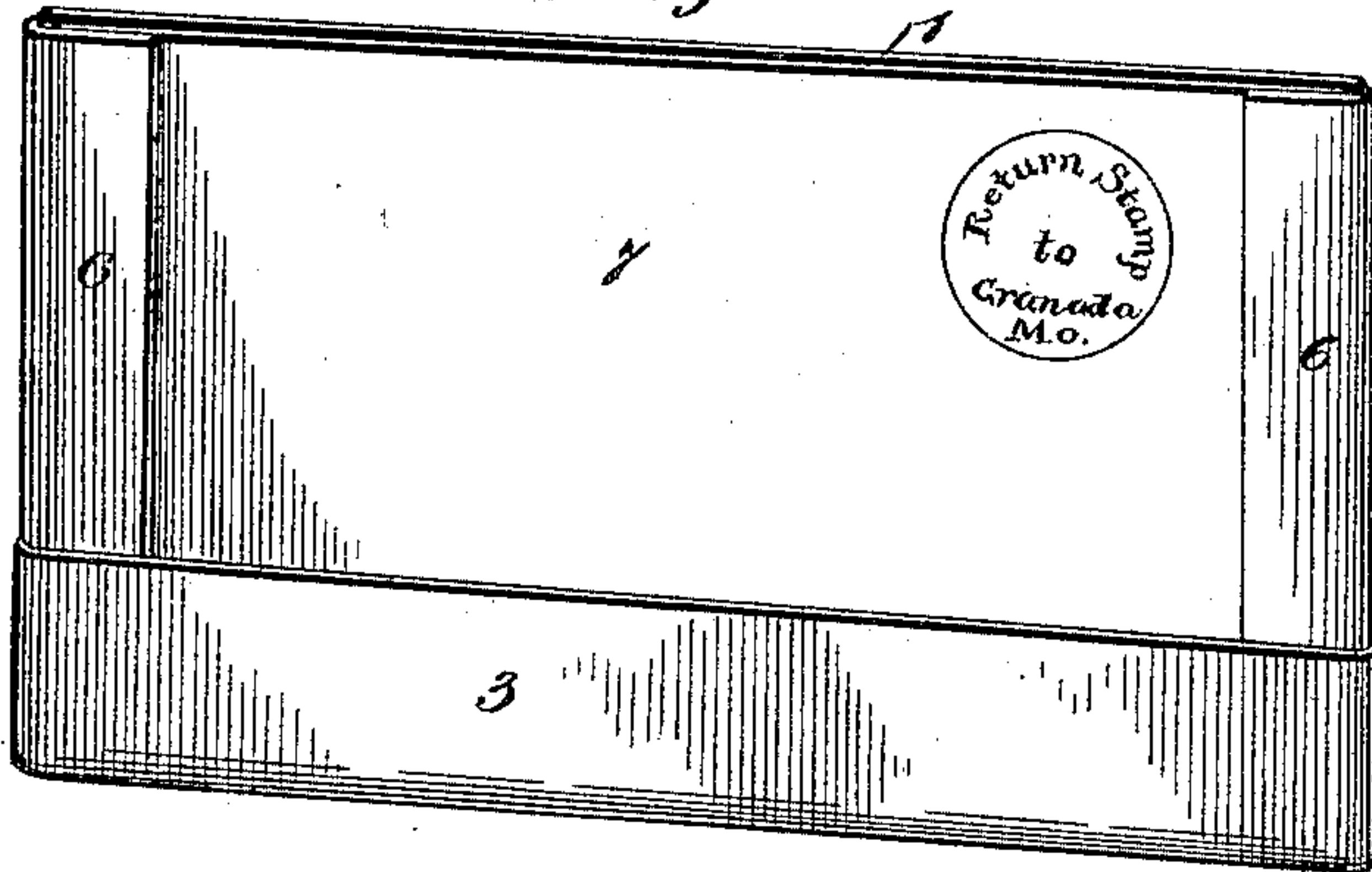
**S. A. BRAGG.**  
**ENVELOP.**

(Application filed Mar. 30, 1898.)

(No Model.)

2 Sheets—Sheet 1.

*Fig. 7.*



*Fig 3.*

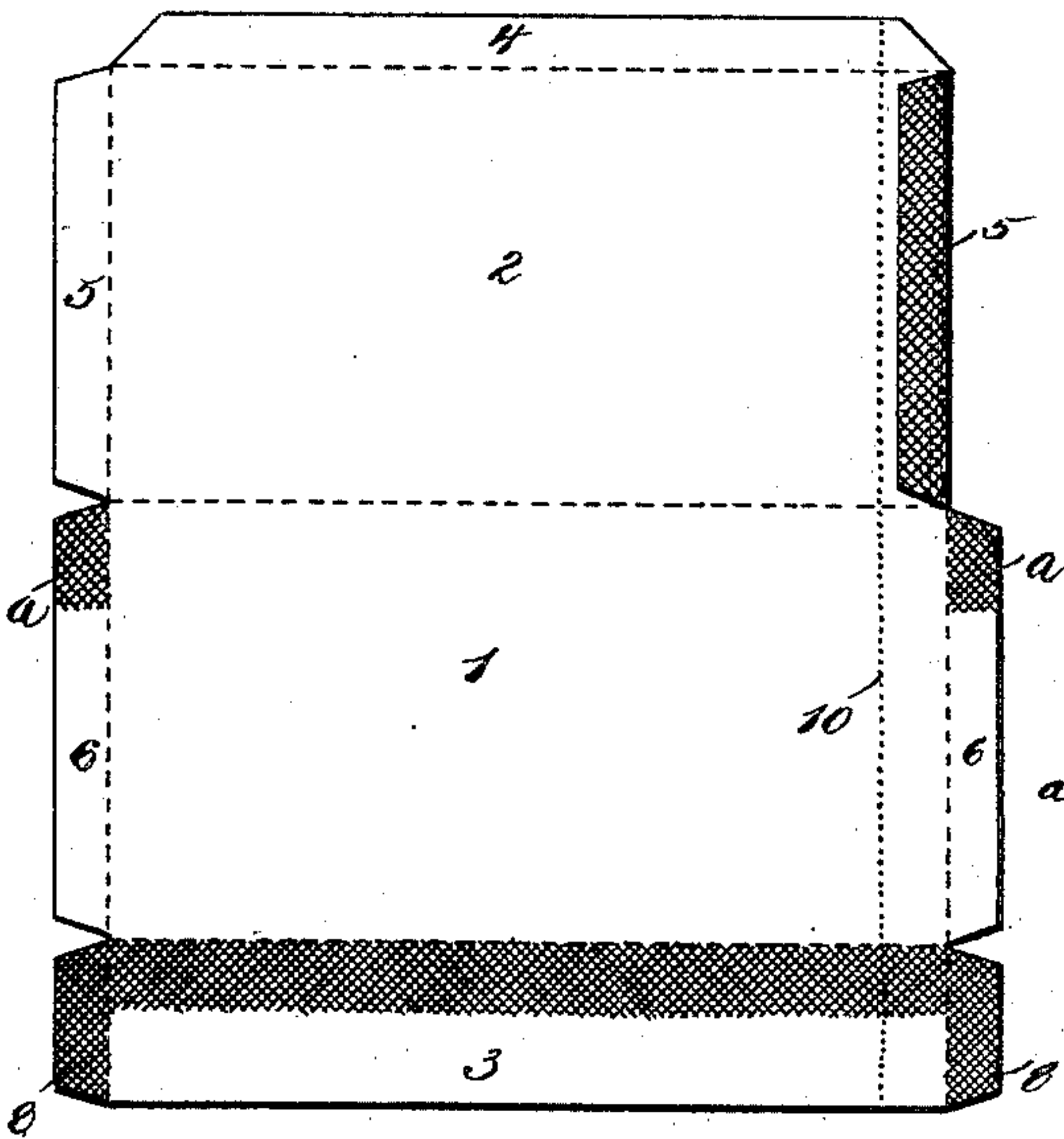
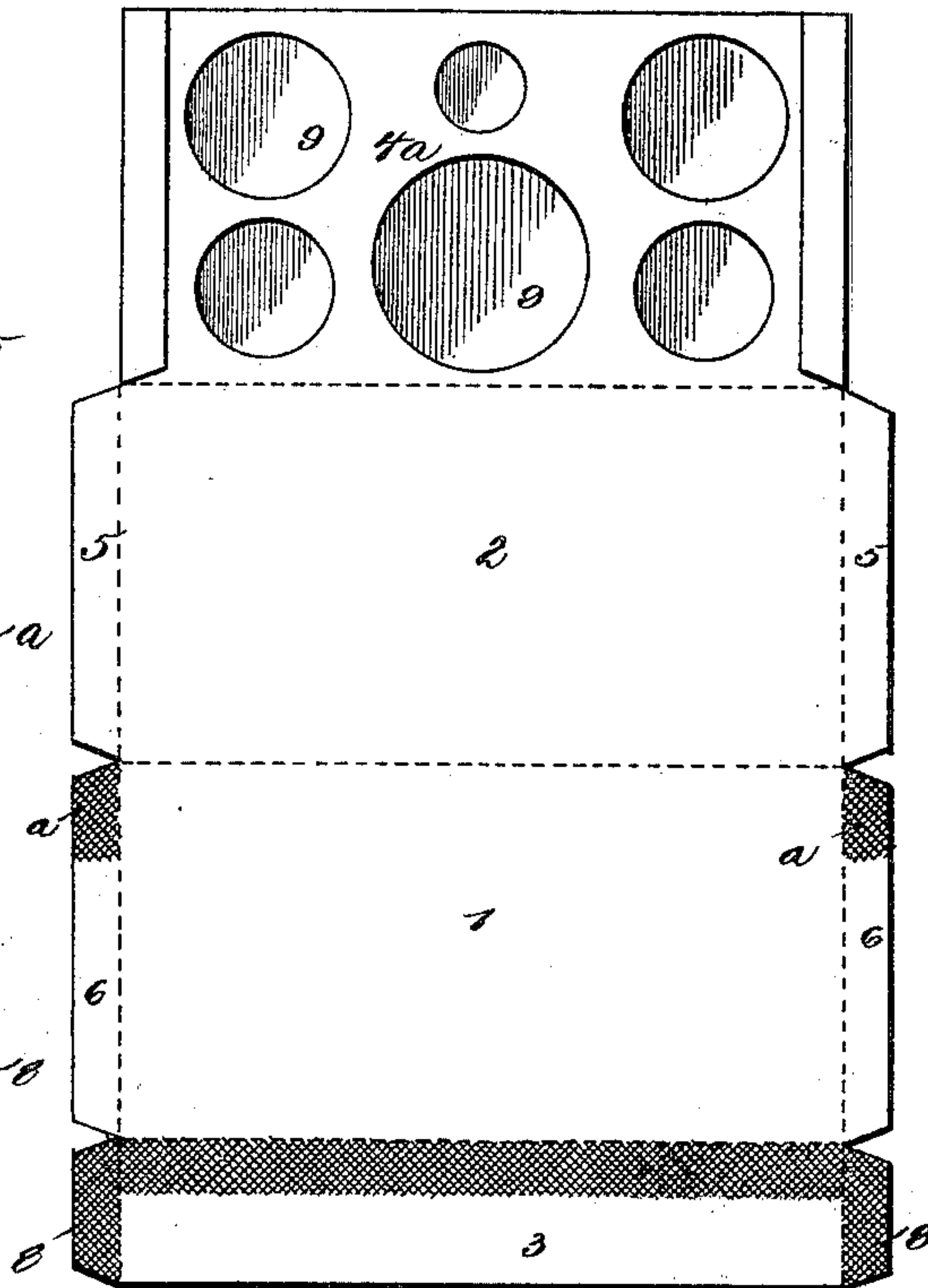


Fig. 7.



Inventor  
*Solomon A. Bragg.*

Witnesses

C. Bradley.

By *his* Attorneys,

*[Handwritten signature]*

Chas. Snow & Co.

No. 622,598.

Patented Apr. 4, 1899.

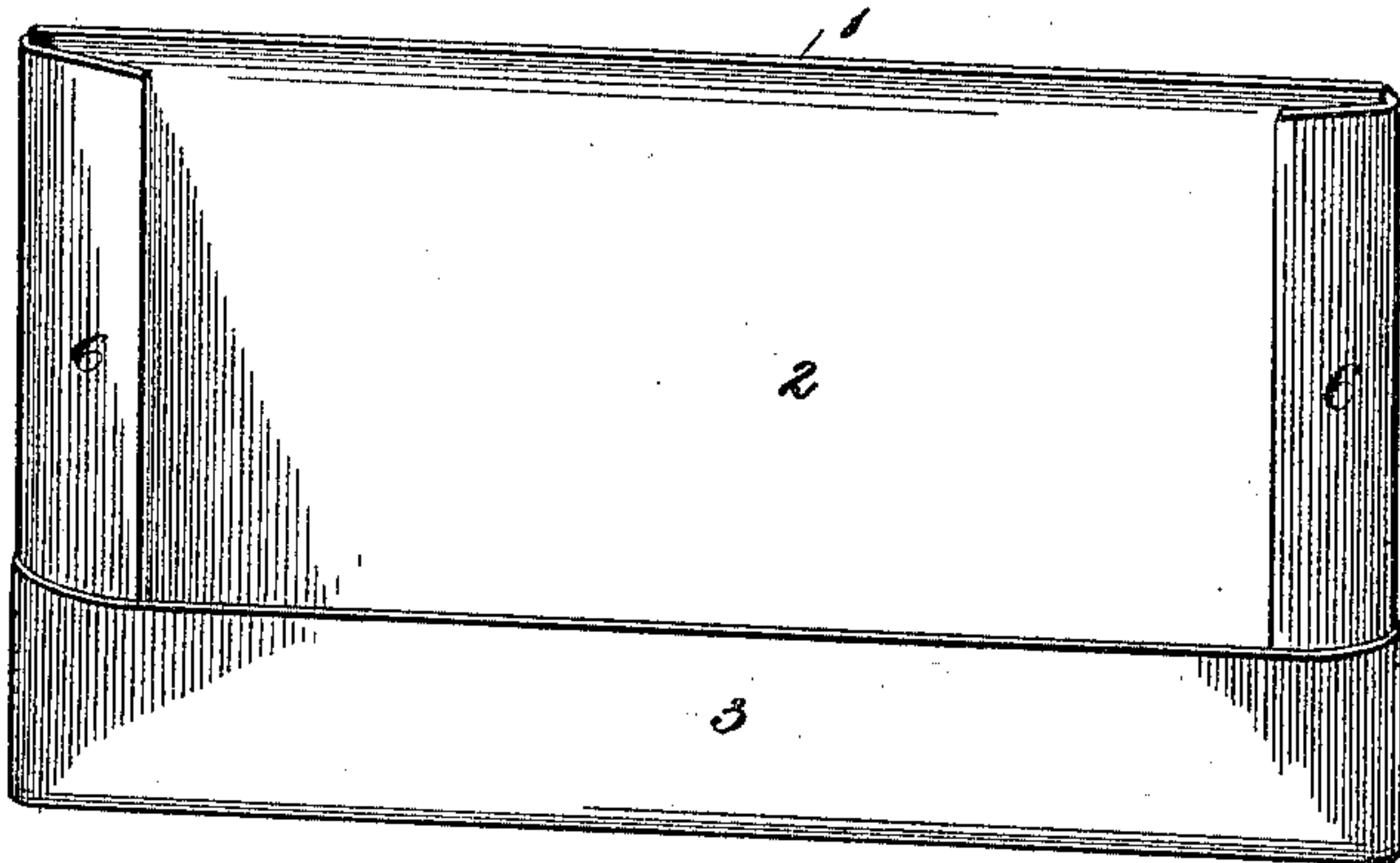
S. A. BRAGG.  
ENVELOP.

(Application filed Mar. 30, 1898.)

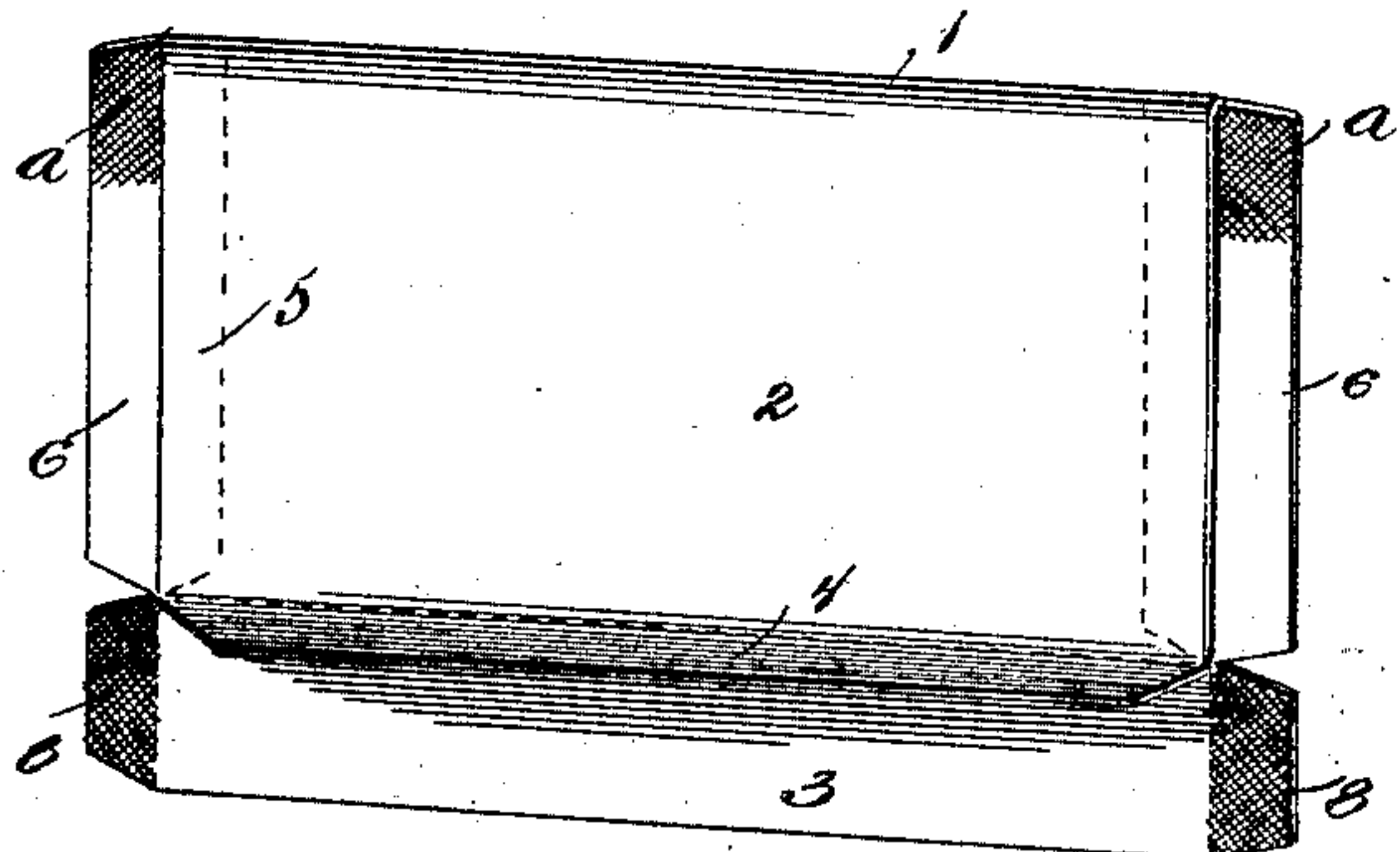
(No Model.)

2 Sheets—Sheet 2.

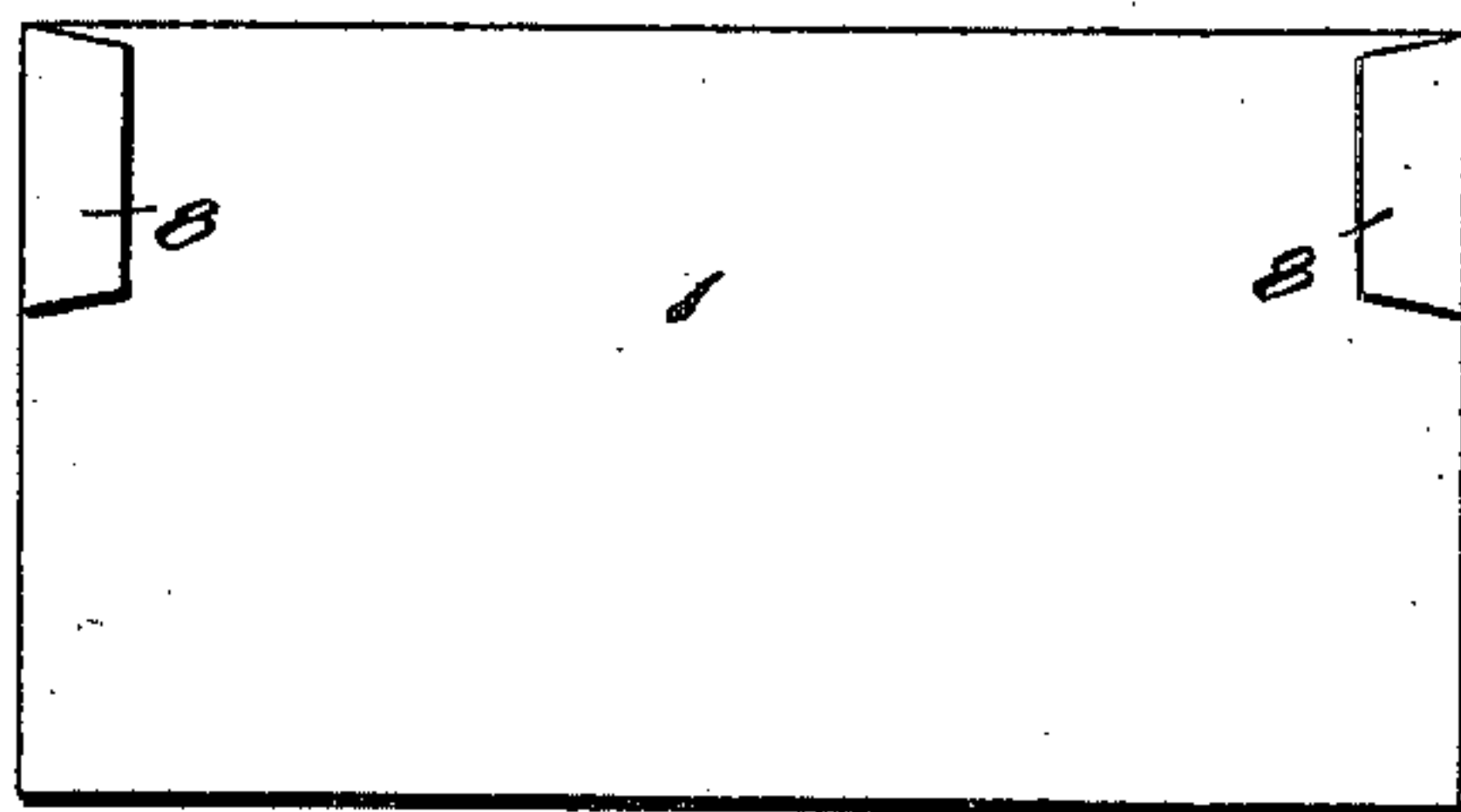
*Fig. 2.*



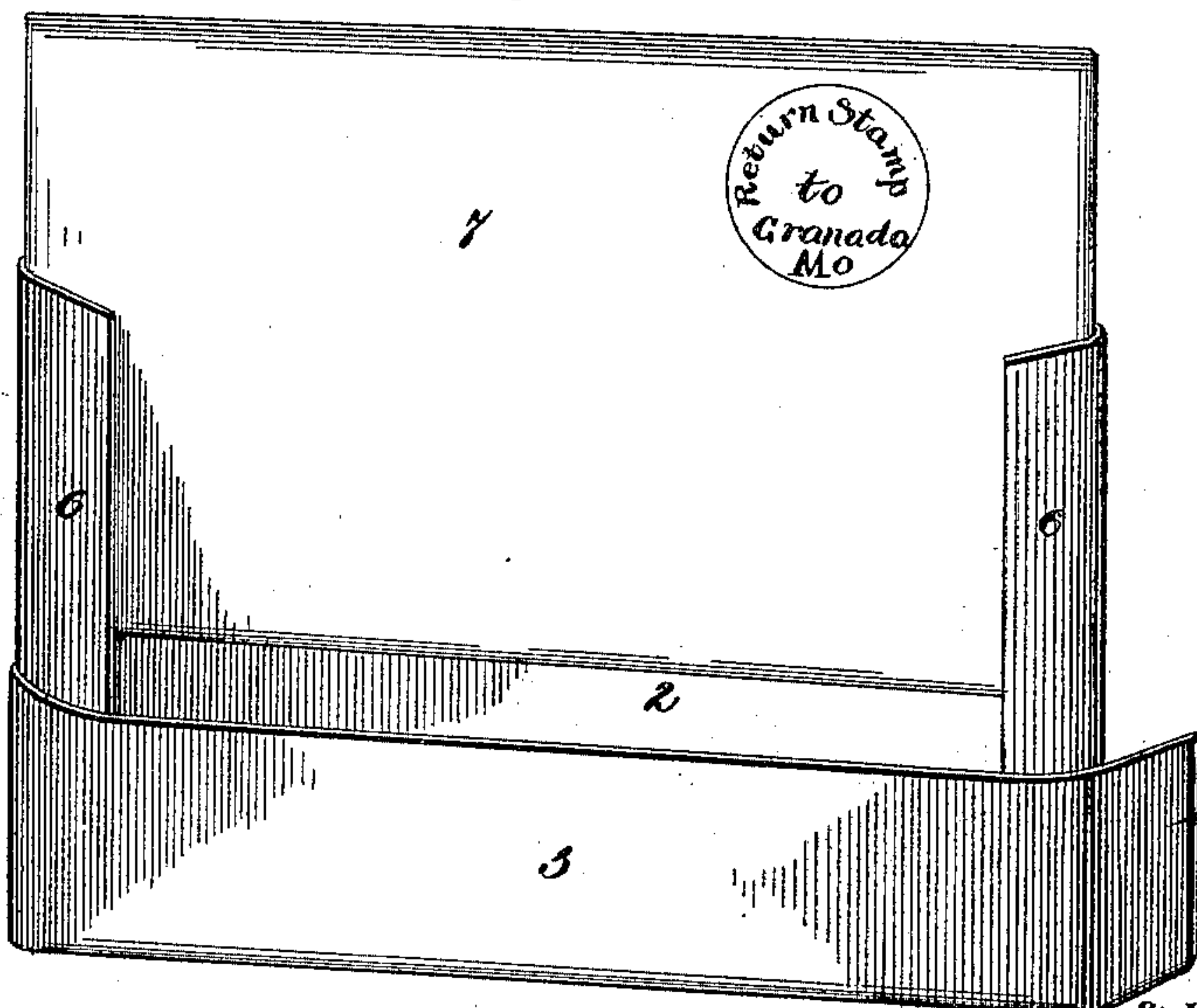
*Fig. 4.*



*Fig. 5.*



*Fig. 6.*



Inventor

Witnesses

*C. Bradway.*

By his Attorneys,

*Solomon A. Bragg.*

*[Signature]*

*Chas. H. Snow & Co.*



# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

SOLOMON A. BRAGG, OF GRANADA, MISSOURI, ASSIGNOR OF ONE-HALF TO  
HARRISON C. JONES, H. S. JOHNSON, AND MARCUS C. ARCHART, OF  
SPRINGFIELD, MISSOURI.

## ENVELOP.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 622,598, dated April 4, 1899.

Application filed March 30, 1898. Serial No. 675,756. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, SOLOMON A. BRAGG, a citizen of the United States, residing at Granada, in the county of Douglas and State of Missouri, have invented a new and useful Envelop, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to envelopes, and has for its object to provide an envelop of which the blank may be used as a letter-sheet and which when folded forms an exterior pocket or receptacle adapted for an additional or auxiliary return-envelop.

Further objects and advantages of this invention will appear in the following description, and the novel features thereof will be particularly pointed out in the appended claims.

In the drawings, Figure 1 is a view of combined main and auxiliary envelopes constructed in accordance with my invention. Fig. 2 is a view of the main envelop, showing the rear side as seen before the auxiliary envelop is introduced into the pocket or receptacle provided therefor. Fig. 3 is a view of the blank from which the main envelop is constructed, the dotted lines indicating the folding-lines and the same being shown perforated contiguous to one edge to adapt the blank for use as a letter-sheet which may be folded by the purchaser prior to depositing in the post-office for transmission, one of the securing-flaps of the back fold being shown folded inwardly to expose its gummed outer surface. Fig. 4 is a view of the main envelop with the back fold folded upon the front fold. Fig. 5 shows the auxiliary envelop arranged in contact with the back fold of the main envelop and the holding-flaps of the main fold arranged in their operative positions. Fig. 6 is a front view of the envelop after the covering-flap-securing ears have been folded around the ends of the receptacle and are secured to the outer surface of the front fold. Fig. 7 is a view of a blank with an auxiliary fold perforated for the reception of coins and formed as an extension of the back fold, the body portion of this form of envelop being identical with that shown in Figs. 1 to 6, inclusive.

Similar numerals of reference indicate corresponding parts in all the figures of the drawings.

In order that it may be understood with regard to the direction of folding and the points of connection of the different members of the blanks, the gummed surfaces of the latter are shown shaded by crossed lines.

Referring to the construction illustrated in Figs. 1 to 6, inclusive, the main or front fold 1 is of the ordinary rectangular shape and may be made of any desired size to suit the use for which the envelop is intended; 2, the back fold; 3, the covering-flap formed at the outer edge of the main fold and adapted to perform the same function as the covering-flap of an ordinary envelop, and 4 an auxiliary fold formed at the outer edge of the back fold and adapted when the parts are folded to lie in contact with and be gummed to the inner surface of the covering-flap, said auxiliary fold being gummed upon its inner surface as also is the covering-flap.

Formed at the extremities of the back fold are securing-flaps 5, also having gummed surfaces which are adapted to be secured to the inner surface of the main fold 1 when the parts are arranged in the position illustrated in Fig. 4. With the parts in this position the terminal holding-flaps 6, which are formed on the main fold, are free to be folded in contact with the rear or outer surface of the back fold, and at the same time the covering-flap 3 is left free to be correspondingly folded in contact with the rear surface of the back fold. With the parts so arranged the space between the front and rear folds, and accessible between the auxiliary fold 4 and the covering-flap 3, constitutes a receptacle, similar to an ordinary envelop, for a letter or other object to be concealed for transmission through the mails, or by any other similar agency. It is also obvious that when the device is used as a letter-sheet the above-described folding of the rear member upon the front member may be accomplished, as in the ordinary practice, by the purchaser or sender of the message.

7 represents a return or auxiliary envelop of the ordinary or any preferred construction.



tion, which is coextensive with the front fold of the main envelop and is adapted to be arranged in contact with the rear or outer surface of the back fold 2, as shown in Fig. 5, whereupon the inward folding of the holding-flaps 6 and of the covering-flap 3 will cause the engagement of the return or auxiliary envelop at its ends and one side edge. (See Fig. 5.) Portions of the surfaces of the folding-flaps 6 are gummed, as shown at *a*, to provide for causing adhesion of said flaps to the auxiliary envelop, and thereby securing the latter against accidental displacement during transmission. The covering-flap, which is folded inwardly over the contiguous side edge of the return-envelop, is preferably provided with terminal securing-ears 8, adapted to be folded around the ends of the front and back folds to cause their gummed surfaces to adhere to the exterior surface of the front fold. (See Fig. 6.)

Obviously the construction above described can be used without reference to the auxiliary or return envelop, under which circumstances the auxiliary fold 4, which is gummed to the inner surface of the covering-flap 3, forms a guard to prevent tampering with the contents of the receptacle. In this case the holding-flaps 6 are gummed to the rear surface of the back fold. The essential function of said holding-flap, however, is to combine with the covering-flap to form an exterior or auxiliary receptacle, as distinguished from the main receptacle formed by the space between the front and back folds, to receive an auxiliary or return envelop, upon which postage is adapted to be paid at the issuing-office, and which for convenience may be marked to indicate that such postage has been paid, such mark consisting of a stamped character or any equivalent thereof which may be deemed preferable.

The construction illustrated in Fig. 7 is identical with that above described, with the exception that the auxiliary fold (shown at 4<sup>a</sup>, which corresponds with the auxiliary fold 4, as hereinbefore described, in that it is formed as an extension of the back fold 2) is preferably constructed of stiff material, as cardboard, and is provided with one or more depressions or openings 9 for the reception of coins, said auxiliary fold being folded inwardly in contact with the inner surface of the back fold, as indicated by dotted lines in Fig. 7, before the back fold is folded to the position illustrated in Fig. 4, (in connection with the ordinary or commercial form of envelop.)

From the above description it will be seen that the envelop embodying my invention may be used as a letter-sheet, in which case it is preferable to provide it near one edge

with a line of perforations 10 to facilitate the removal of the end of the main envelop to expose its interior. Furthermore, it will be understood that the construction described provides the main envelop with an interior or closed receptacle and an exterior or auxiliary receptacle adapted for an auxiliary or return envelop, which may be temporarily secured in place by any suitable means, such as the gumming of the folding-flaps throughout a portion of their length, whereby the detachment thereof may be accomplished with facility.

Various changes in the form, proportion, and the minor details of construction may be resorted to without departing from the spirit or sacrificing any of the advantages of this invention.

Having described my invention, what I claim is—

1. An envelop having coextensive front and rear folds, a covering-flap 3 at the outer edge of the front fold, terminal securing-flaps 5 on the back fold, and terminal holding-flaps 6 on the front fold, said holding-flaps and covering-flap being overlapped and secured together in contact with the rear surface of the back fold, to form an open-sided receptacle for a separate return-envelop, substantially as specified.

2. An envelop having front and back folds, a covering-flap 3 at the outer edge of the front fold, securing-flaps 5 at the extremities of the back fold, holding-flaps 6 at the extremities of the front fold and folded with the covering-flap parallel with the rear surface of the back fold and secured to said covering-flap to form an open-sided receptacle for a separate return-envelop, and securing-ears 8 at the extremities of the covering-flap, folded around the ends of the envelop and secured to the exterior surface of the front fold, substantially as specified.

3. An envelop having front and back folds, of which the former is extended at its outer edge to form a covering-flap, and the latter is extended at its outer edge to form an auxiliary fold, and terminal securing and holding flaps at the extremities, respectively, of the back and front folds, said holding-flaps being arranged in common with the covering-flap, to overlap the rear surface of the back fold and form a receptacle for a separate return-envelop, substantially as specified.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing as my own I have hereto affixed my signature in the presence of two witnesses.

SOLOMON A. BRAGG.

Witnesses:

G. P. DAVIS,  
ED. KILFOY.