

No. 628,546.

Patented July 11, 1899.

J. PATTERSON.
MEAT SECURING DEVICE.

(Application filed Feb. 20, 1899.)

(No Model.)

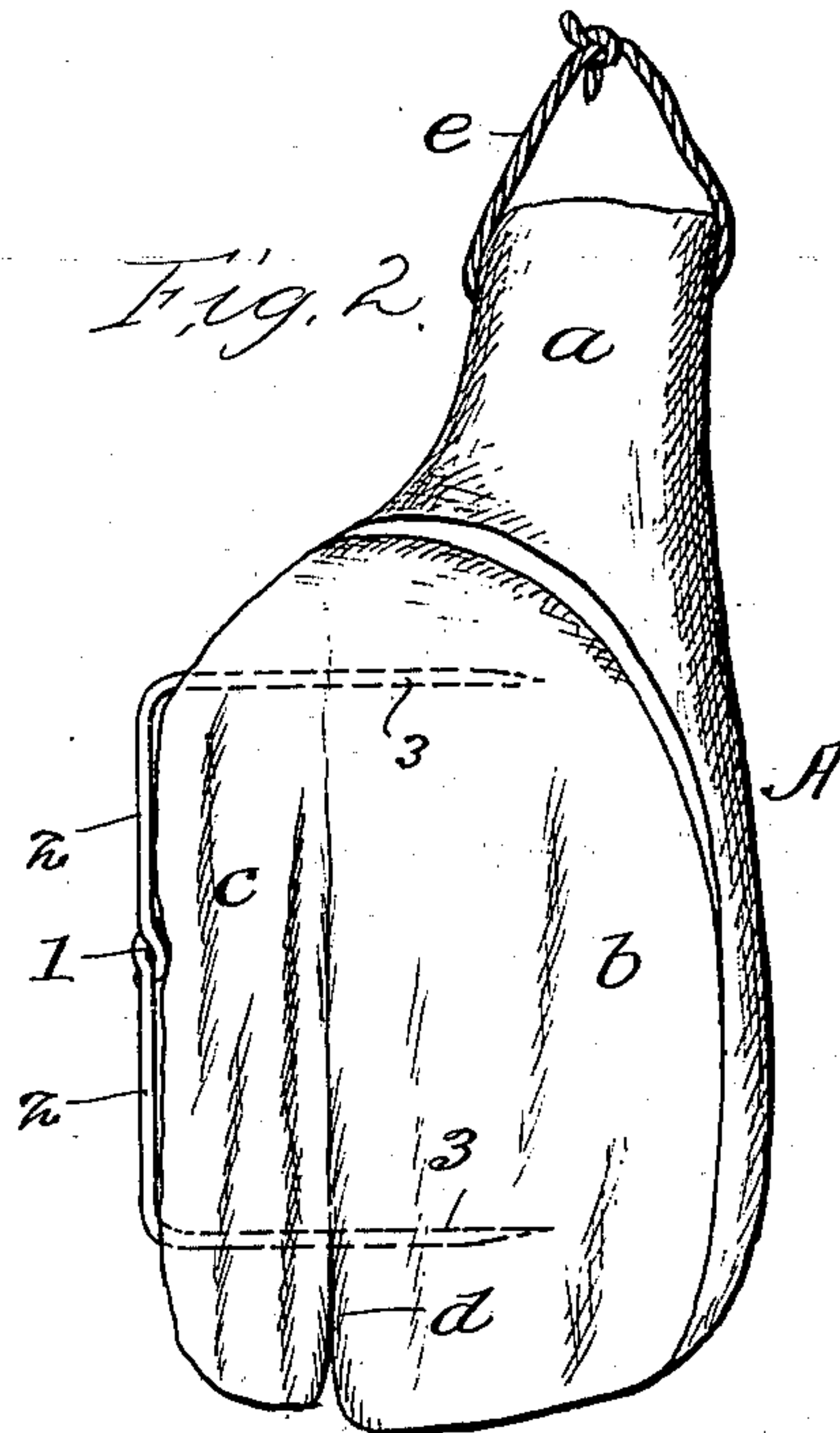
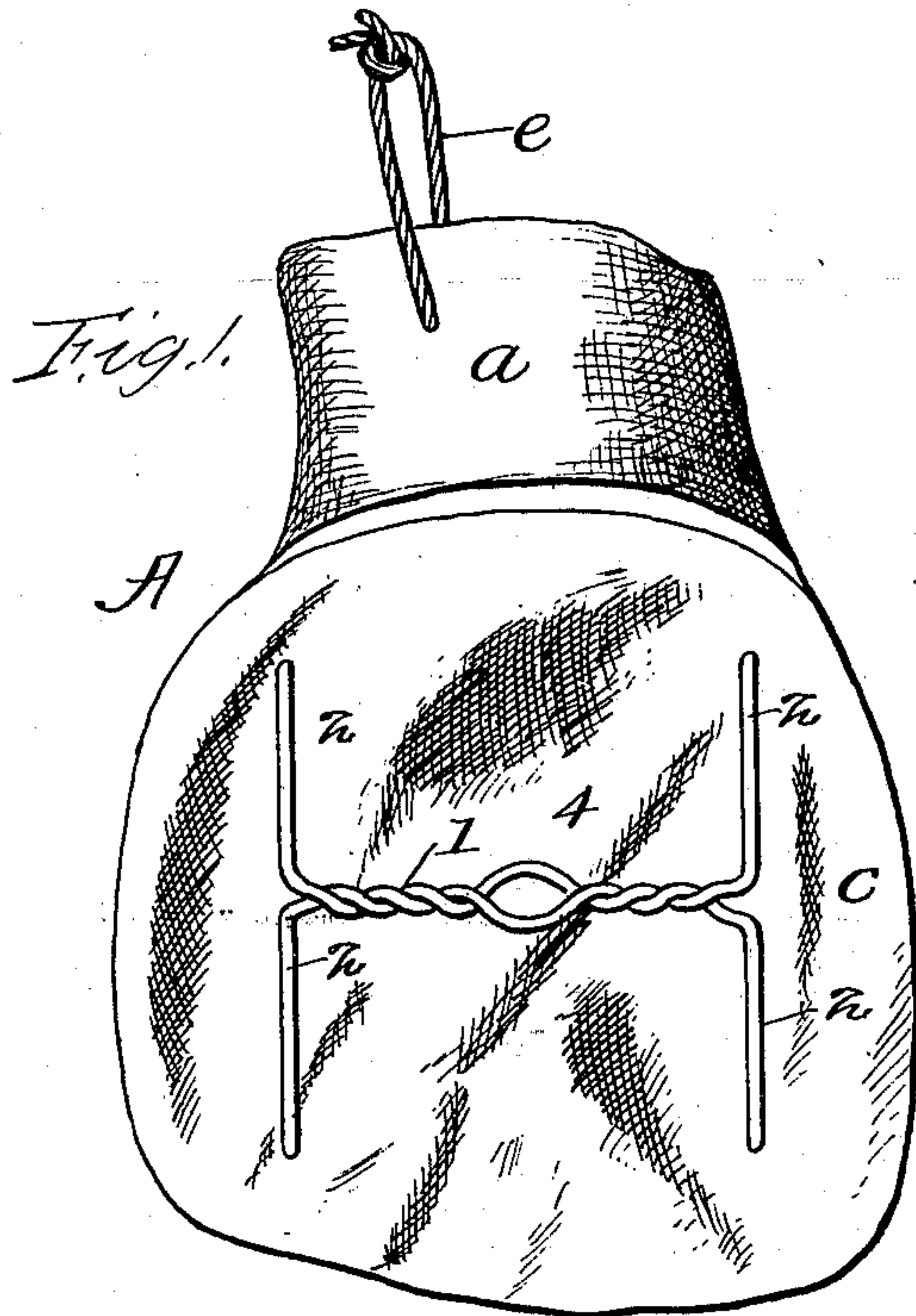
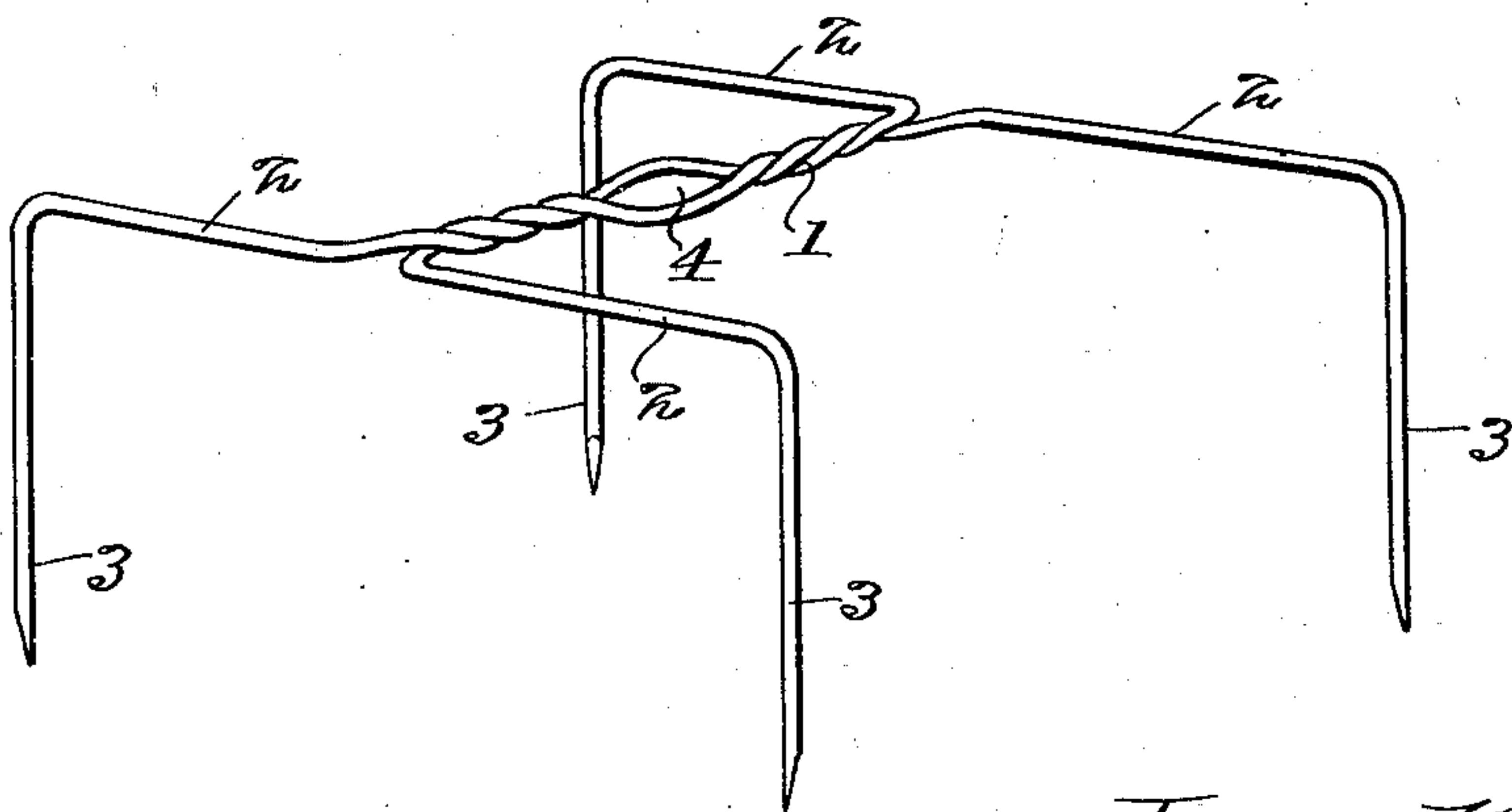


Fig. 3.



Witnesses.
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOHN PATTERSON, OF EAST ST. LOUIS, ILLINOIS, ASSIGNOR OF ONE-HALF
TO THE SWIFT & COMPANY, OF SAME PLACE AND CHICAGO, ILLINOIS.

MEAT-SECURING DEVICE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 628,546, dated July 11, 1899.

Application filed February 20, 1899. Serial No. 706,178. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOHN PATTERSON, a citizen of the United States, residing at East St. Louis, in the county of St. Clair and State of Illinois, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Meat-Securing Devices, of which the following is a specification, reference being had to the accompanying drawings.

10 In pork shoulders there is at one side of the main piece or "butt" a piece that is separated from the main body portion by membranous tissues and streaks of fat, thus causing said piece to hang more or less loosely
15 from the said body portion, and in the process of smoking the shoulder such loose piece becomes still farther loosened and is very considerably distorted, thus frequently necessitating the trimming off of such piece before
20 the shoulder is placed on sale, as otherwise the shoulder as a whole will present an unattractive appearance. Such trimming operation necessarily involves a loss to the packer or butcher, as the part so removed is of much
25 less commercial value than if it remained as a part of the complete smoked shoulder. If the loose piece can be firmly held against the body portion of the butt during the process of smoking and so held until the shoulder
30 has cooled after such smoking, it will not be necessary to trim it off, as it will then remain in proper shape and position, and consequently can be sold as a component part of the shoulder.

35 The object of my invention is to produce a device for so holding the said loose piece, which object I accomplish by constructing a holder as shown in the drawings and as hereinafter described.

40 Referring to the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is a front view of a pork shoulder with my improved holder applied thereto. Fig. 2 is a side view of the same, and Fig. 3 is a perspective view of the holder.

45 In the drawings, A indicates a pork shoulder, of which *a* indicates the shank; *b*, the butt; *c*, the loose piece of the butt, and *d* the streak of fat and membranous tissue lying between the portions *b* and *c*.

50 The holder, as shown in the drawings, consists of two heavy pieces of wire twisted together at their central portion to form a head or handle piece 1, each end of each wire being then bent away from such twisted head 1

and lying in substantially the same horizontal plane as such head, thus forming rigid or integral arms 2 and again turned, this time downward, to form integral prongs 3, the ends of which are preferably sharpened, as shown, to more readily enter the shoulder. As shown, 60 in the head or handle portion 1 is formed an eye 4, into which a suitable tool may be inserted for readily withdrawing the device as a whole from the shoulder.

In use the prongs 3 of the holder are forced 65 through the loose piece *c* of the shoulder A and penetrate the main or body portion *b* of the butt sufficiently far to be retained firmly therein, and by reason of the distance between the several prongs pressure is extended over 70 a large surface of the piece *c*, causing it to be pressed closely at many points against the body portion *b* of the butt. When the holder is so adjusted, the shoulder is to be suspended, as usual, by the cord *e* in the smoke-house, 75 and after removal therefrom, if the holder be allowed to remain in place until the shoulder is cooled, it will be found after such holder has been withdrawn that the piece *c* will retain its shape and its location against the 80 body portion *b* of the butt, thus obviating the necessity of trimming off the piece *c*, which of course adds to the commercial value of the shoulder as a whole.

That which I claim as my invention, and 85 desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. The herein-described holder for securing meat in place, which consists in two wires twisted together to form a head, integral arms extending laterally in opposite directions 90 from the ends of said head and in the same horizontal plane therewith, said arms being bent at substantially right angles to form piercing-prongs, substantially as described.

2. The herein-described holder for securing 95 meat in place, which consists in two wires twisted together to form a head having intermediate its ends an eye, integral arms extending laterally in opposite directions from the ends of said head and in the same horizontal 100 plane therewith, said arms being bent at substantially right angles to form piercing-prongs, substantially as described.

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Witnesses:

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