

No. 632,991.

Patented Sept. 12, 1899.

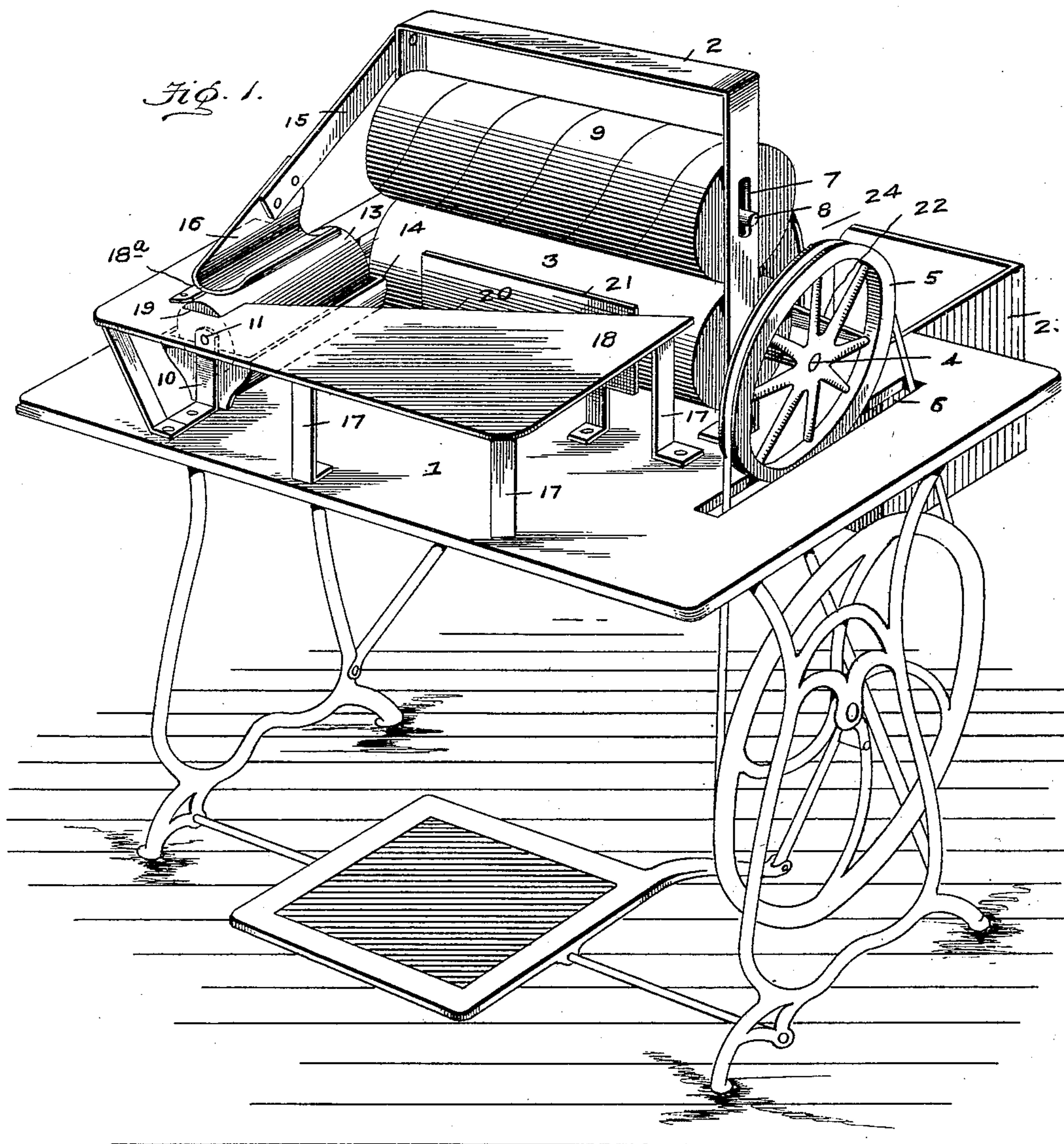
J. DUPAW.

MACHINE FOR MOISTENING, CLOSING, AND SEALING ENVELOPS.

(Application filed Nov. 23, 1898.)

(No Model.)

2 Sheets—Sheet 1.



Witnesses

*Wm. E. Ashiee*  
*David P. Moore*

Inventor

*Josiah Dupaw*

*by J. M. Moore*  
Attorney

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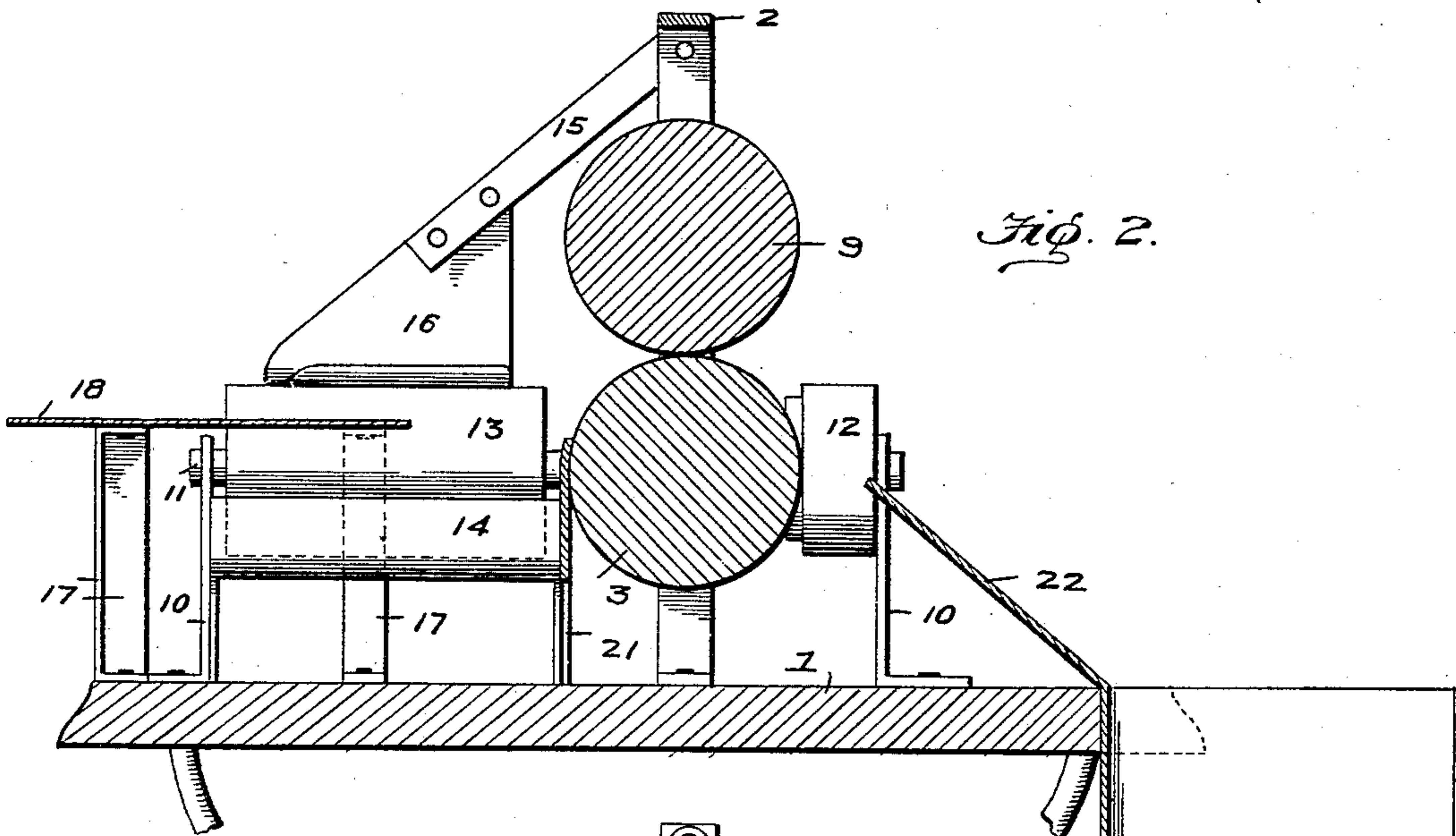


Fig. 2.

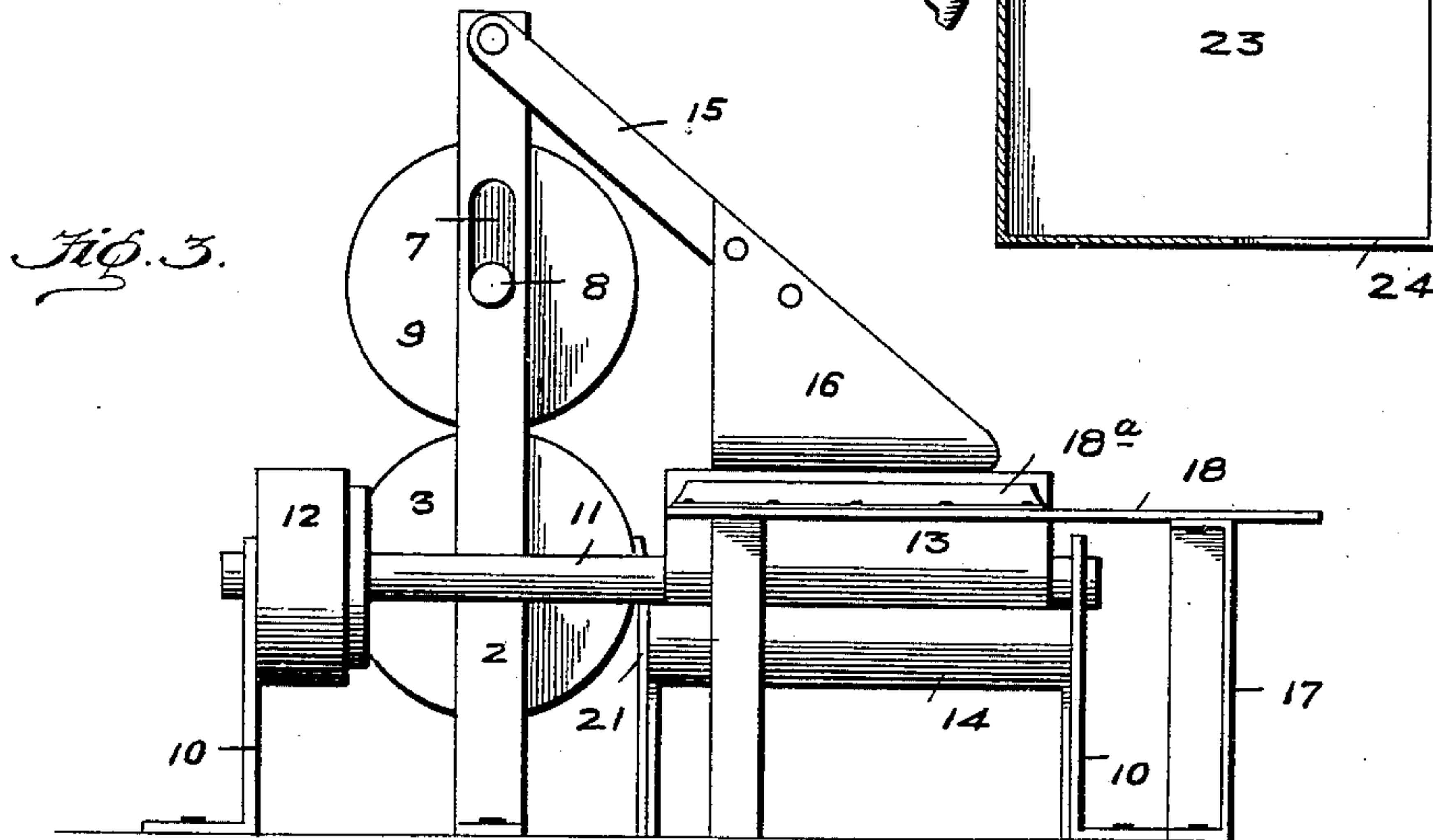


Fig. 3.

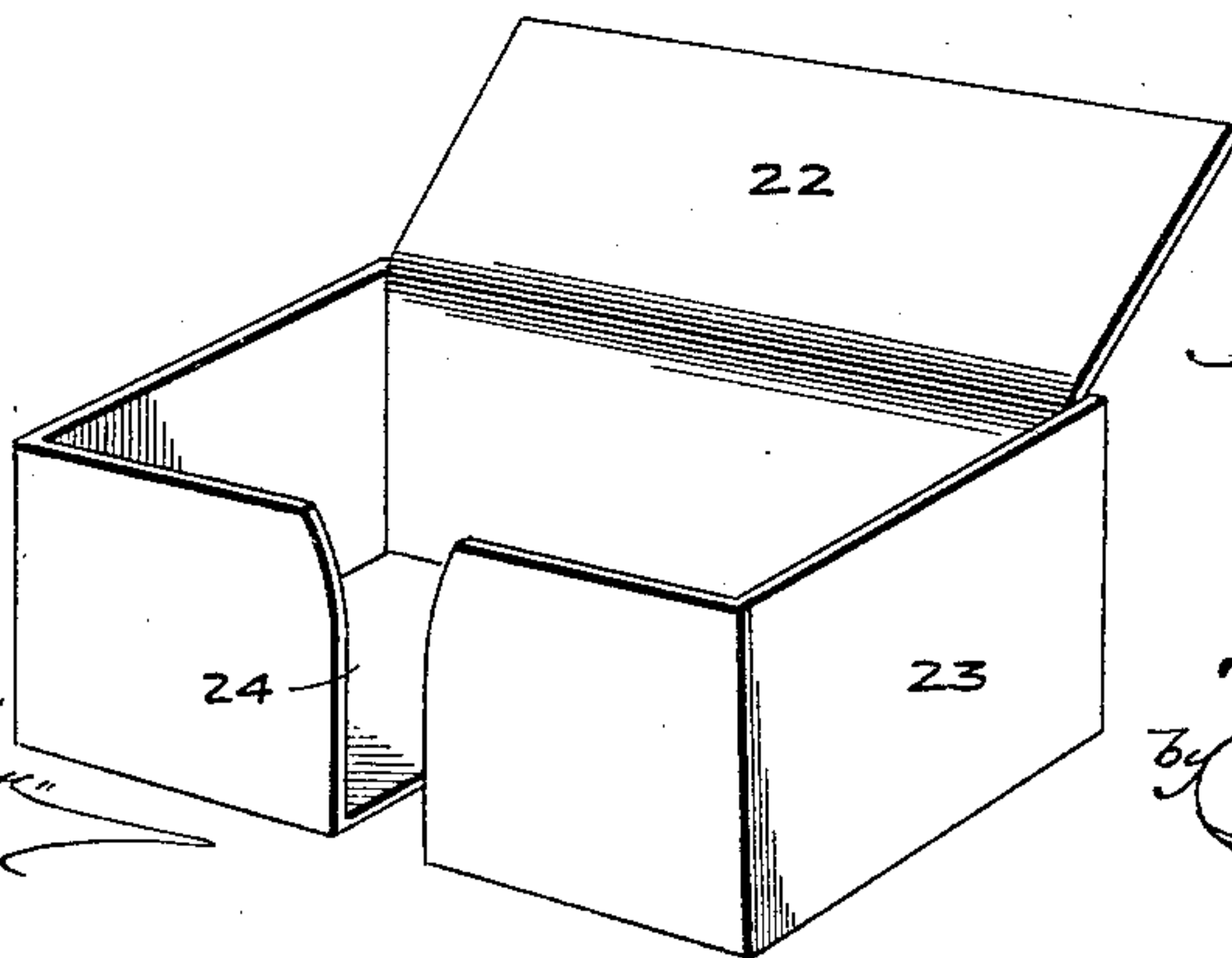


Fig. 4

Witnesses  
Wm. E. Cochrane  
David P. Moore.

Inventor  
Josiah Dupaw  
by *David P. Moore*  
Attorney



# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOSIAH DUPAW, OF WASHINGTON, DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.

MACHINE FOR MOISTENING, CLOSING, AND SEALING ENVELOPS.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 632,991, dated September 12, 1899.

Application filed November 23, 1898. Serial No. 697,251. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, JOSIAH DUPAW, a citizen of the United States, residing at Washington, in the District of Columbia, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Machines for Moistening, Closing, and Sealing Envelops, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to improvements in machines for moistening, closing, and sealing envelops; and the main object of my invention is the provision of a machine of this character in which any-sized envelop whose flap may be upon either the side or end may be easily and quickly moistened, closed, and sealed without in any way changing the relation of the parts of the machine.

Another object of my invention is the provision of a machine of this character which may be operated by any power to moisten, close, and seal any-sized envelops and deliver the same into a receiver at the rear of the machine.

Another object of my invention is the provision of a machine of this character which is the embodiment of simplicity, durability, and inexpensiveness and which is very speedy in its operation, thus producing a very efficient and practical machine for this purpose.

To attain the desired objects, my invention consists of a machine for moistening, closing, and sealing envelops embodying novel features of construction and combination of parts substantially as disclosed herein.

Figure 1 is a perspective view of the entire machine. Fig. 2 is a transverse sectional view of the machine and the top of the table supporting the same. Fig. 3 is a detail end view of my machine, showing the envelop-moistening device and its operating connections; and Fig. 4 is a perspective view of the envelop receptacle or receiver.

In the drawings, the numeral 1 designates the table, which is an ordinary sewing-machine table or stand with its treadle, wheel, and band connection to drive the envelop moistening, closing, and sealing machine located upon the top of this table or stand. Mounted upon this table is the vertical inverted-U-shaped frame 2, which has journaled in its lower part the stationarily journaled roller 3, carrying at one end of its axle

4 the pulley or power-receiving wheel 5, which receives power from the band of the operating mechanism, the band being adapted to pass through an opening or slot 6 in the top of the table. Mounted in the upper vertical elongated slots or openings 7 in the upper part of the sides of the metal frame are the ends of the axle 8, carrying the gravity-roller 9, this roller and the lower roller constituting the sealing device of my machine. Journaled in the bearings 10, secured to the top of this table, is the axle or shaft 11, which is arranged at right angles to the end of the vertical metal frame, and upon this axle, near one end, is the small friction-roller 12, which is adapted to contact the outer end of the lower roller of the sealing device to be revolved by said lower roller when the same is set in motion to revolve the moistening-roller 13, secured upon the axle 11 near its other end. Mounted upon the table-top and adapted to supply water to the roller 13 is the tank or supplying-reservoir 14. Movably secured near the top of the frame to one of its sides, near the same side of which is located the moistening device, is the arm 15, carrying at its other free end the curved plate or shoe 16, which is adapted to hold the flap of an envelop upon the moistening-roller and adjust itself according to the thickness of the paper.

Mounted upon the legs or standards 17 is the envelop-feeding table or platform 18, which is provided with a cut-away portion 19 to allow the moistening-roller's upper surface to project above the surface of the platform in order that the flap of the envelop may pass over the roller easily, and to regulate the supply of water I employ the rubber strip 18<sup>a</sup>, secured on the platform and slightly contacting the roller. I also provide this platform with the angular cut-away portion or throat 20 to allow the moistened flap of the envelop to fall downward and guide the envelop to be closed by the guarding or closing strip 21, which is secured upon the top of the table in front of the sealing-rollers and which also prevents the flap from wrongly entering or passing between the sealing-rollers to be sealed. The envelop after it has passed between the rollers is delivered upon the chute or slanting platform 22 of the receiving box



or receptacle 23, which is secured to the rear of the top of the table and which is provided with the slot 24 in its outer side and bottom, extending the full length of the side and partly into the bottom of the receptacle, in order that the envelopes may be easily and readily taken from said receptacle.

From this description, taken in connection with the drawings, the operation of my machine and its many advantages will be fully appreciated; but its operation, briefly stated, is as follows: The flap of the envelop is extended, and the machine is set in motion. The flap is then placed upon the moistening-roller under the curved shoe, after which it is moistened and passed along on the platform, the flap dropping downward in the throat of said platform and being helped along by the hand of the operator until the flap contacts the guarding-strip, which causes the flap to move upward against the body of the envelop and allows the envelop to be passed between the rollers, which seal the flap tightly upon the body of the envelop and delivers it sealed into the receptacle located at the rear of the machine. It will thus be seen that any-sized envelop provided with a side or an end flap may be easily and quickly moistened, closed, and sealed in a perfect and thorough manner, as the machine needs no extra adjustment to receive the various kinds of envelopes, and thus makes my machine invaluable for sealing envelopes in a mixed or miscellaneous mail.

It is evident that I provide a simple, durable, and cheap machine of this character which is very efficient and practical for the intended purpose.

I claim—

1. A machine of the character described, consisting of the table, mechanism journaled in said table for operating the machine, a frame mounted upon the table carrying a fixed roller and a movably-journaled roller for sealing the envelop, a roller mounted at right angles to the frame and operated by the first-mentioned roller to moisten the envelop, a platform provided with a throat to close the flap of the envelop secured upon said table in front of the sealing-rollers, and means to transmit the power to the first-mentioned roller to operate the machine.

2. A machine of the character described, consisting of two rollers mounted in a frame, mechanism for operating said rollers, a moistening device at right angles to the rollers operated by one of said rollers, and a feeding platform or table having a throat to allow the flap of the envelop to fall downward there-through and guide the envelop to the rollers to be sealed.

3. A machine of the character described, consisting of a moistening device, a closing device consisting of a platform provided with the angular cut-away portion or throat and the guarding-strips adjacent to said throat,

means for sealing the closed envelop, and mechanism for operating the sealing means.

4. A machine of the character described, consisting of a moistening device, means for closing the flap of the envelop consisting of a platform provided with an opening and a guarding-strip adjacent to said opening, sealing means at right angles to the moistening means and adapted to operate said moistening means, and mechanism for operating the sealing means.

5. A machine of the character described, consisting of a moistening device, a closing device consisting of a platform provided with an opening and the guarding-strip adjacent to said opening, means to seal the envelop and operate the moistening device, mechanism for operating the sealing means, and an envelop-receptacle to receive the sealed envelop.

6. A machine of the character described, consisting of a moistening device, a closing device consisting of a platform provided with an opening and a guard-strip adjacent to said opening, sealing means directly opposite to said guarding-strip, and adapted to operate said moistening device, and mechanism for operating the sealing means.

7. A machine of the character described, consisting of a sealing mechanism, a moistening device operated by said sealing mechanism, a platform provided with an opening to allow the flap of the envelop to fall, a guiding-strip located between the platform and the sealing-rollers to close the flap and guide the envelop to the sealing-rollers, and mechanism to operate the sealing-rollers and consequently the moistening device.

8. A machine of the character described, consisting of a shaft carrying a friction-roller and a moistening-roller and means to supply the moistening-roller and to regulate the supply of liquid to the flap of the envelop, a closing device consisting of a platform provided with an opening and a guarding-strip adjacent to said opening, means for sealing the envelop arranged at right angles to the moistening-roller and friction-roller and adapted to revolve the shaft, and mechanism to operate the sealing means.

9. In a machine for moistening, closing and sealing envelopes, the combination of a base or support, a moistening-roller mounted thereon, a shoe or flap holding device, a pair of sealing-rollers, a platform provided with an opening and a guarding-strip located adjacent to said opening between the sealing-rollers and the platform, said platform and strip being adapted to close the envelop-flap, and mechanism for operating the sealing-rollers and moistening-roller.

10. In a machine for moistening, closing and sealing envelopes, the combination of a support, a moistening-roller mounted thereon, sealing-rollers connected with the moistening-roller and operating the same, an en-



velop-receiver communicating with the sealing-rollers, and a closing device consisting of a platform provided with an opening and a guarding-strip adjacent to said opening between the platform and the sealing-rollers.

11. A machine for moistening, closing and sealing envelops, consisting of a support, a moistening-receptacle thereon, a moistening-roller arranged in said receptacle, a flap-closing means consisting of a platform provided with an opening and a guarding-strip adja-

cent to said opening, sealing-rollers arranged at an angle to the moistening-roller and connected with said moistening-roller, and mechanism for operating the sealing and moistening rollers.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature in presence of two witnesses.

JOSIAH DUPAW.

Witnesses:

WM. N. MOORE,  
DAVID P. MOORE.