

No. 646,186.

T. W. T. MAXWELL.

Patented Mar. 27, 1900.

ENVELOP.

(Application filed Dec. 29, 1899.)

(No Model.)

Fig. 4

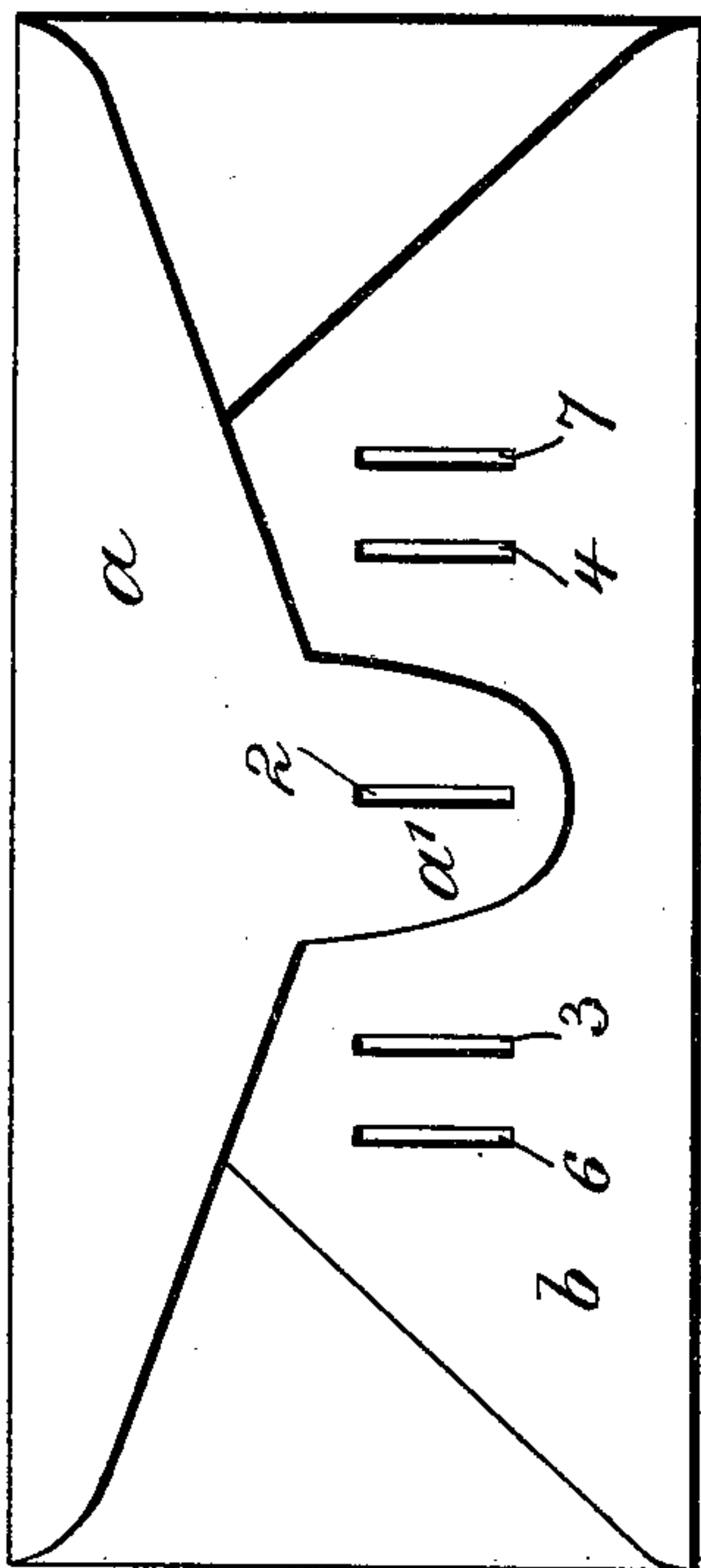


Fig. 5.

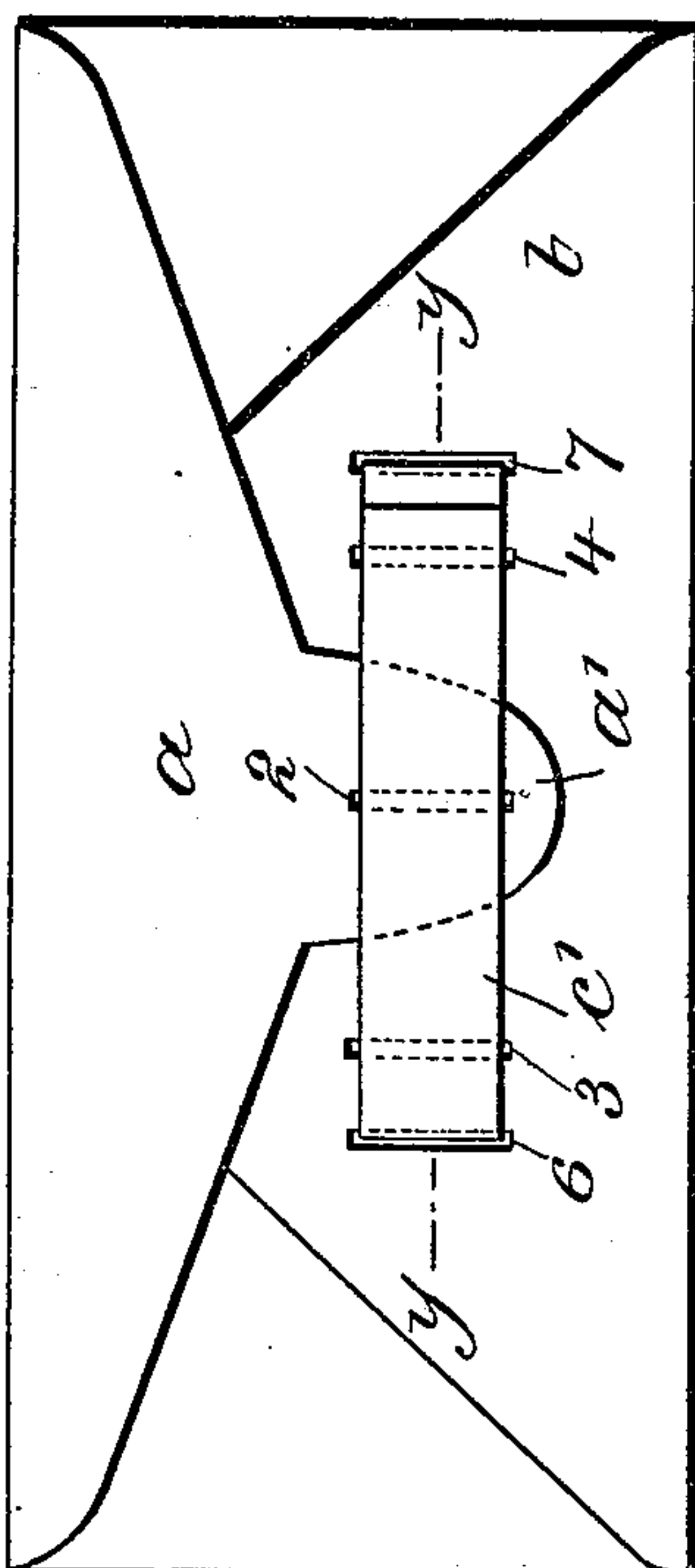


Fig. 6

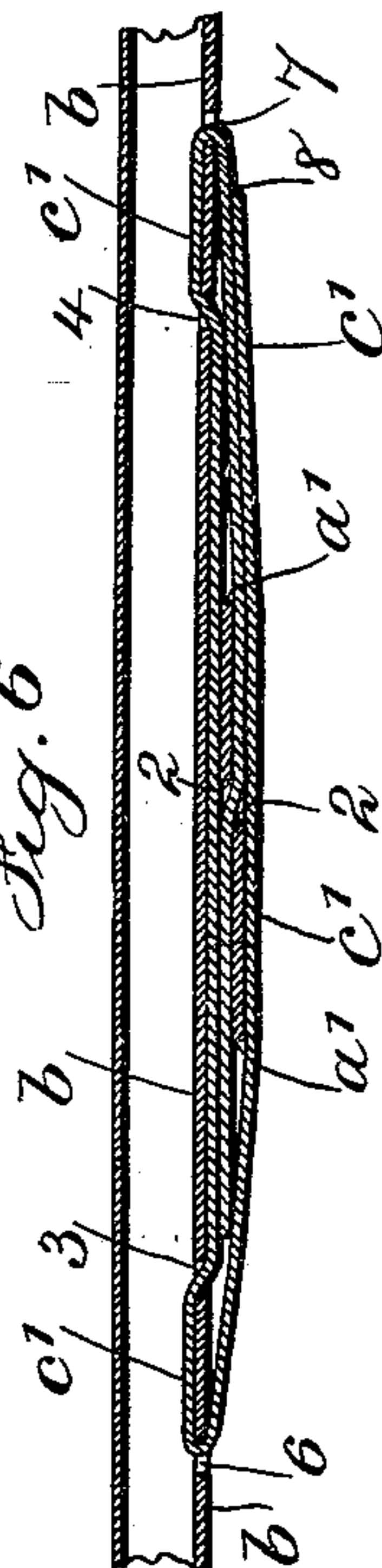


Fig. 1.

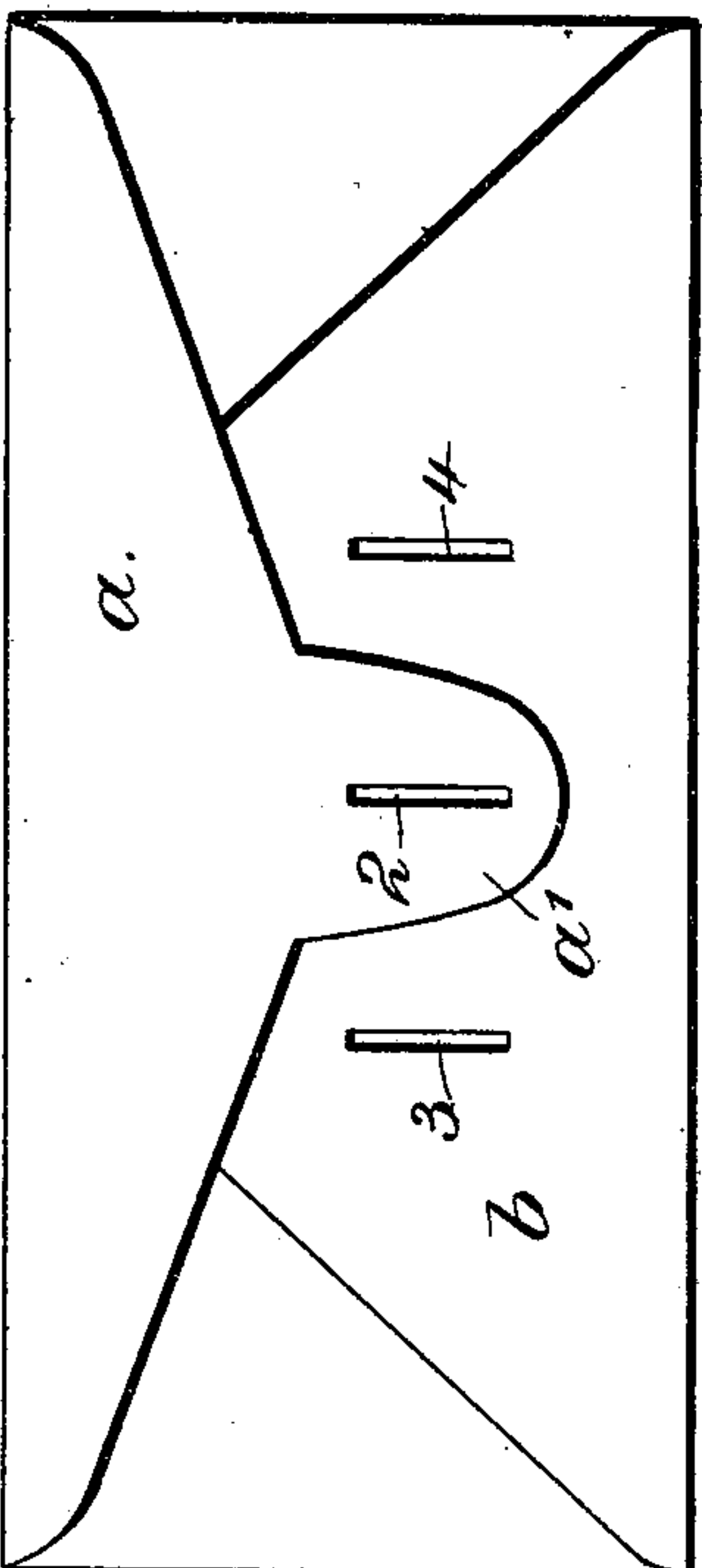


Fig. 2.

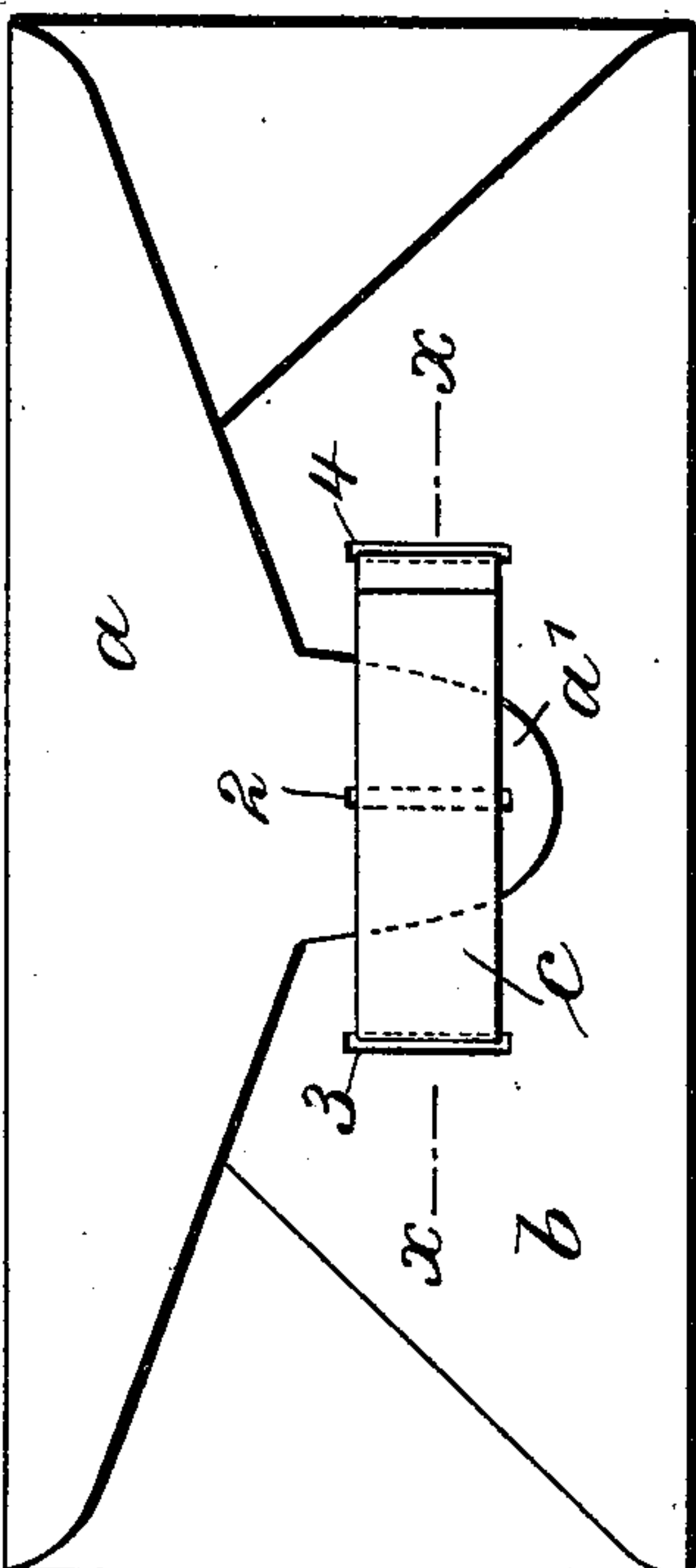
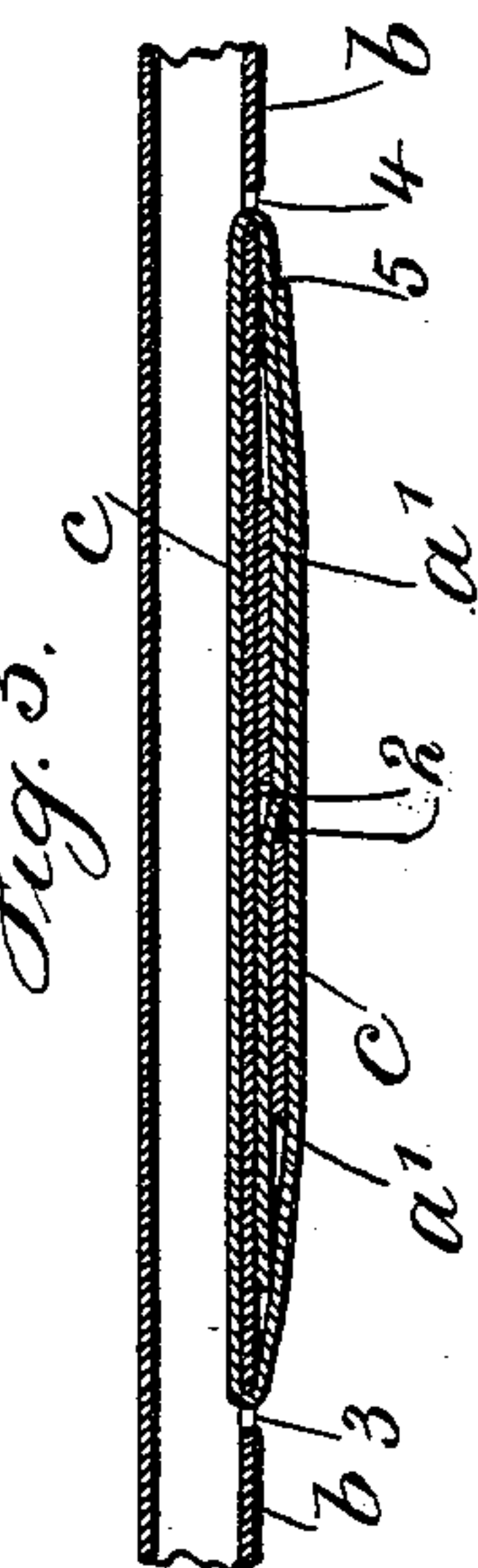


Fig. 3.



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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

THEOBALD W. T. MAXWELL, OF NEW YORK, N. Y., ASSIGNOR TO HIMSELF,  
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## ENVELOP.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 646,186, dated March 27, 1900.

Application filed December 29, 1899. Serial No. 741,890. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, THEOBALD W. T. MAXWELL, a citizen of the United States, residing at New York, borough of Brooklyn, in the county of Kings and State of New York, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Envelops, of which the following is a specification.

Devices have heretofore been provided for repeatedly sealing the same envelop; but these have usually been wasteful of material, lacking in strength, and not economical of space, as the sealing device required the envelop to be much longer than the capacity provided for contents; and the object of my invention is to overcome these objections.

In carrying out my invention the flap of the envelop at its greatest width is made with a prolongation or tongue in which is made a slot running transversely of the flap, and the back of the envelop is made with two or more slots parallel with the slot in the flap, which several slots are in line with one another, and I provide a narrow strip of paper or similar suitable material and pass the same through the slots of the envelop and lap the ends and connect the same by adhesive material to seal the envelop. This narrow strip is readily broken to unseal the envelop, and a new strip is as readily applied in resealing the same. These envelops are especially suitable for railroads, banks, bankers, and lawyers for holding and securing valuable papers of various kinds.

In the drawings, Figure 1 is an elevation of the back of the envelop, illustrating the simpler form of my improvement. Fig. 2 is a similar elevation, but showing the sealing-strip in place; and Fig. 3 is a longitudinal section at  $x x$  of Fig. 2, in larger size, showing the sealed condition of the envelop. Fig. 4 is an elevation of the back of the envelop, showing a modification. Fig. 5 is a similar view to Fig. 4 with the sealing-strip in place; and Fig. 6 is a longitudinal section at  $y y$  of Fig. 5, showing, in larger size, the manner of sealing the envelop of modified form.

The envelop, Figs. 1, 2, and 3, is of usual form and of heavy material suitable for continuous use, and the flap  $a$  is made with a prolongation or tongue  $a'$  at its widest part, and the said tongue is made with a slot 2, running

lengthwise of the tongue and transversely of the flap of the envelop. In the back  $b$  of the envelop there are two slots 3 and 4. These are made through the material of the back only, and they are parallel with each other and in line lengthwise of the envelop with the slot 2 in the tongue  $a'$ .

I employ a narrow strip  $c$  of paper or similar suitable material, and in sealing the envelop, Figs. 1 and 2, the said strip is passed through the slots 3 and 4 within the envelop, and the end projecting from the slot 4 is passed over part of the flap  $a'$ , through the slot 2, and under the other part of the flap  $a'$  toward the slot 3, and the free end projecting from the slot 3 is carried over the other end of the strip  $c$  and over the flap  $a'$  toward the slot 4, and the under surface of this end is fastened down upon the strip  $c$  by adhesive material from the edge 5 to the left of Fig. 3 for a sufficient distance to insure the proper connection of the parts of the strip in sealing the envelop.

In the modification shown in Figs. 4, 5, and 6 the flap  $a$  and the tongue  $a'$  and the slot 2 correspond with those in Figs. 1, 2, and 3; but in the back  $b$  of the envelop in addition to the slots 3 4 other slots 6 7 are made that are adjacent to the slots 3 4 and parallel therewith, so that the slots 3 6 and 4 7 form pairs upon opposite sides of the tongue  $a'$ , all of the said slots being parallel with each other and in line lengthwise of the envelop. In this modification the narrow sealing-strip of paper or similar material  $c'$  passes through the slots 3 4 and over the outer surface of the envelop between said slots and beneath the back  $b$  of the envelop between the slots 3 6 and 4 7 and out at the slots 6 7, and the free end of the strip projecting from the slot 7 is passed over the flap  $a'$  and through the slot 2 and beneath the left side of the flap  $a'$  toward the slot 3, and the free end of the strip extending out of the slot 6 is passed over the other end of the strip toward the slot 7 and is secured down upon the same by adhesive material at and back of the line 8, Fig. 6. In this way the envelop is effectually sealed and remains sealed so long as the strip is not tampered with. To unseal the envelop and remove the contents, this narrow strip of paper or similar



material is broken and the broken parts removed by pulling the parts away from the various slots, and when the envelop is to be again sealed to secure other contents new  
5 strips are inserted in place through the slots and the envelop sealed, as before described. In this form of seal the envelop does not require to be longer than necessary for the contents, and the same may be sealed repeatedly  
10 without destroying the envelop, and the sealing is effected readily after articles to be sealed have been placed in the envelop.

I claim as my invention—

1. An envelop having a flap provided with  
15 a prolongation or tongue at its widest part with a slot in said tongue and parallel slots in the back of the envelop in line therewith, in combination with a sealing-strip of narrow paper or other suitable material adapted to  
20 be passed through the said slots with the ends lapping and connected by adhesive material, substantially as set forth.

2. An envelop having a flap provided with a prolongation or tongue at its widest part  
25 with a slot in the said tongue transversely of the flap, and with slots in the back of the envelop parallel with the slot in the flap and in line with each other, in combination with a sealing-strip of narrow paper or other suitable  
30 material adapted to be passed through the said slots with the ends lapping and connected by adhesive material, substantially as specified.

3. An envelop having a flap provided with a prolongation or tongue at its widest part, 35 with a slot in the said tongue transversely of the flap and with slots in the back of the envelop parallel with the slot in the flap in line therewith and in pairs at either side of the slot in the flap, in combination with a sealing- 40 strip of narrow paper or other suitable material adapted to be passed through the pairs of slots and outside of the envelop and between the same with one end of the strip passed through the slot in the flap and with 45 the ends lapped and connected by adhesive material, substantially as specified.

4. An envelop having a flap provided with a prolongation or tongue at its widest part with a slot in the said tongue transversely of 50 the flap, and slots in the back of the envelop parallel with the slot in the flap and in line with each other and at each side of the slot in the flap, in combination with a sealing-strip of narrow paper or other suitable material 55 adapted to be passed through the said slots in the back and one end through the slot in the flap with the free ends lapping and connected by adhesive material, substantially as and for the purposes set forth. 60

Signed by me this 27th day of December, 1899.

THEOBALD W. T. MAXWELL.

Witnesses:

GEO. T. PINCKNEY,  
S. T. HAVILAND.