

No. 646,423.

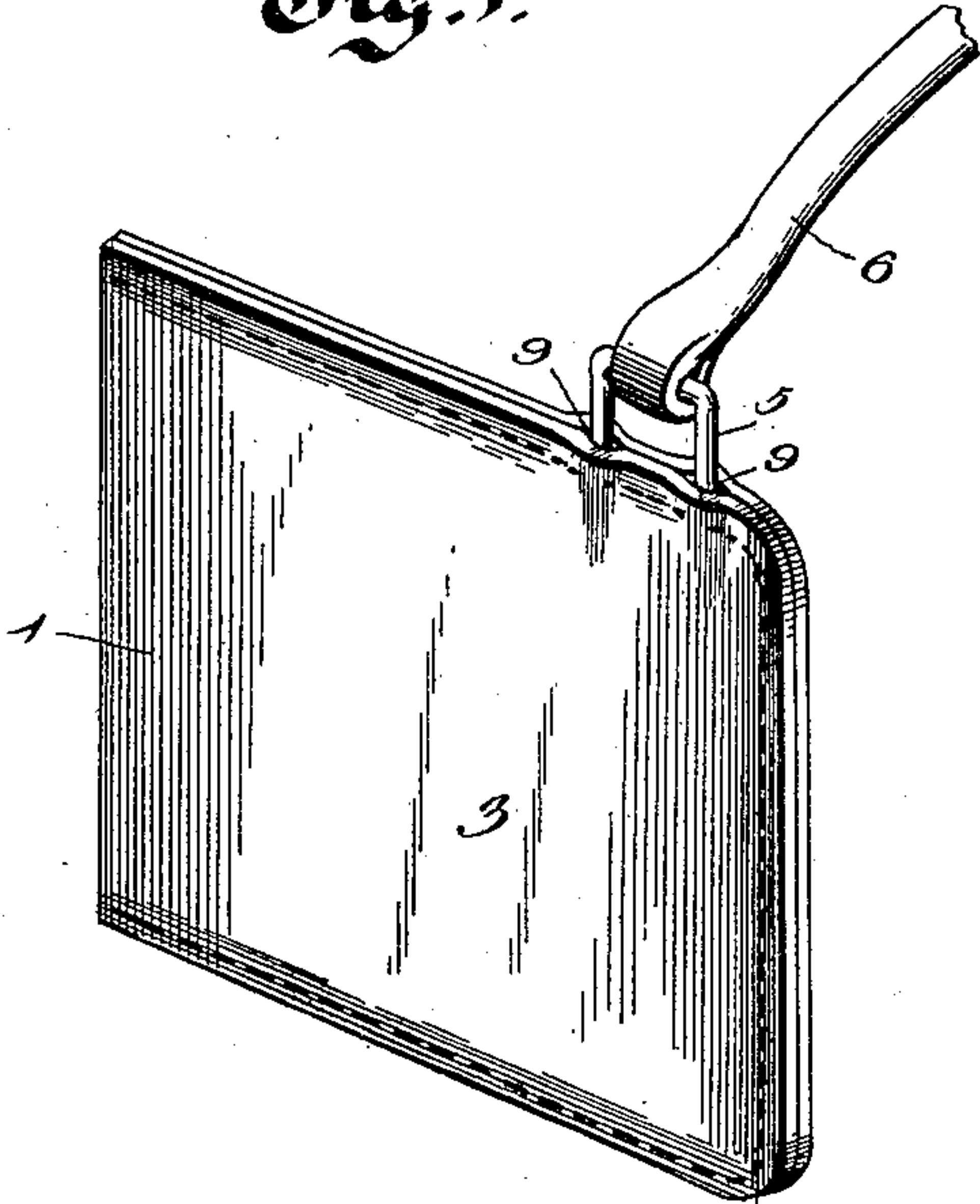
Patented Apr. 3, 1900.

**E. R. GAMBELL.**  
**BLIND AND BRACE CONNECTOR.**

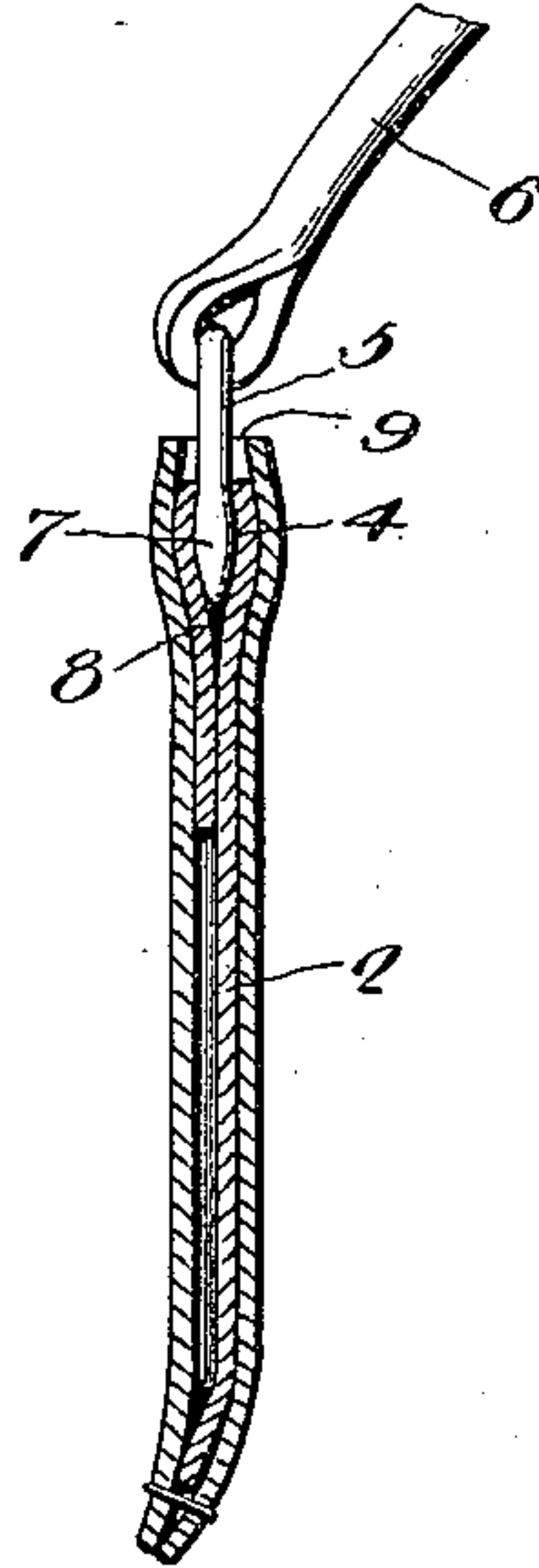
(Application filed Sept. 6, 1898.)

(No Model.)

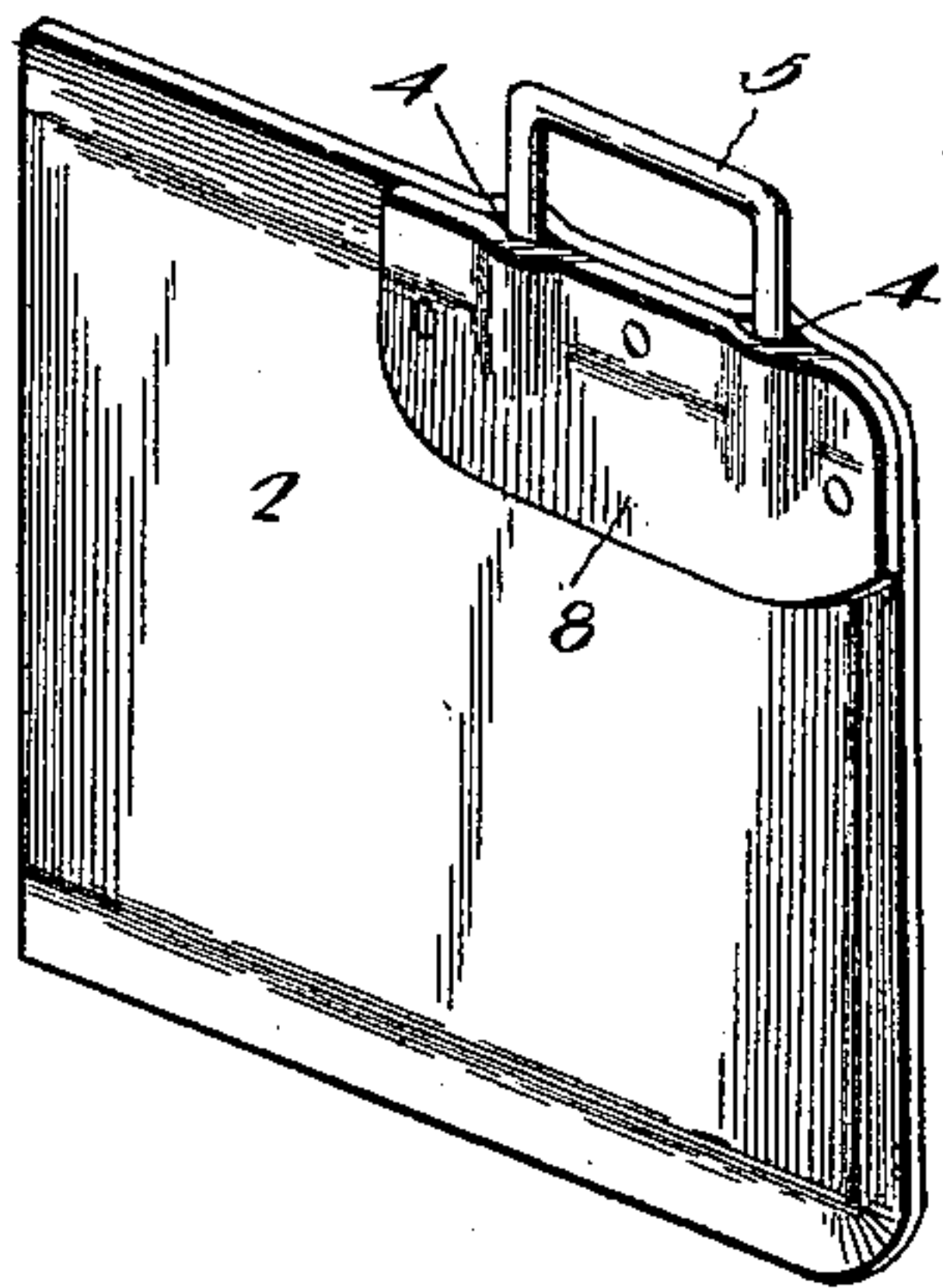
*Fig. 1.*



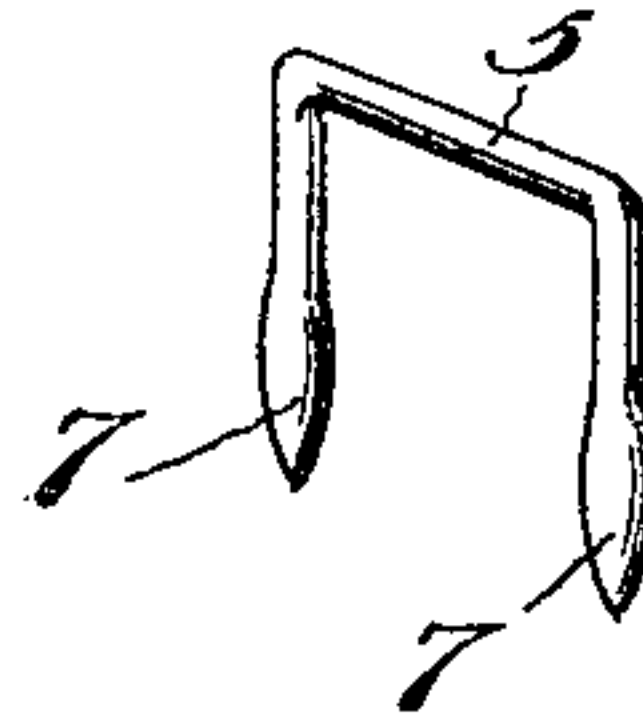
*Fig. 2.*



*Fig. 3.*



*Fig. 4.*



Witnesses.

*J. H. Kullverwell,*

*J. F. Riley*

**Edward R. Gambell, Inventor.**  
By *his* Attorneys,

*C. A. Snow & Co.*

# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

EDWARD R. GAMBELL, OF HEDRICK, IOWA.

## BLIND AND BRACE CONNECTOR.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 646,423, dated April 3, 1900.

Application filed September 6, 1898. Serial No. 690,322. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, EDWARD R. GAMBELL, a citizen of the United States, residing at Hedrick, in the county of Keokuk and State of Iowa, have invented a new and useful Blind for Harness, of which the following is a specification.

The invention relates to improvements in blinds for harness.

10 The object of the present invention is to improve the construction of blinds for harness, more especially the manner of attaching the winker-strap to the blind and to enable the former to be readily reattached to the latter  
15 should the said blind come in contact with an object or receive a blow of sufficient force to disconnect or break an ordinary winker-strap from it and thereby obviate the necessity of supplying a new strap or skilled workman-  
20 ship to repair the break.

The invention consists in the construction and novel combination and arrangement of parts, as hereinafter fully described, illustrated in the accompanying drawings, and  
25 pointed out in the claim hereto appended.

In the drawings, Figure 1 is a perspective view of a blind and a portion of a winker-strap constructed in accordance with this invention. Fig. 2 is a sectional view of the  
30 same. Fig. 3 is a perspective view of the body-plate and the staple, showing the parts connected. Fig. 4 is a detail perspective view of the staple.

Like numerals of reference designate corresponding parts in all the figures of the drawings.

1 designates a blind comprising an ordinary metal body-plate 2 and a leather covering 3, and the former is provided with a pair of sockets 4, located at the top of the blind, near the  
40 outer edge thereof, and adapted for the reception of a staple 5, which forms an eye or loop, whereby a winker-strap 6 is attached to the blind. The strap 6 is doubled on itself  
45 to provide an eye through which the staple passes, and the sides of the staple are pointed and enlarged in rear of the points at 7, making substantially harpoon-shaped points, which frictionally engage the sockets and  
50 which are adapted to be reintroduced into the

same should the winker-strap become disconnected from the blind.

The sockets 4 are formed by grooving or depressing the metal body-plate 5 and a supplemental plate 8, which is riveted or otherwise  
55 secured to the body-plate at the top thereof. By this construction a pair of resilient or partially-yielding sockets is provided for the reception of the sides of the staple, and there is sufficient frictional contact between the  
60 staple and the said plates to retain the former in the sockets under ordinary conditions; but should the blind be subjected to a blow or come in contact with an object with sufficient  
65 force to break a winker-strap of the ordinary construction the staple will be simply withdrawn from the socket and may be readily replaced therein, thereby connecting the winker-strap to the blind without the aid of a  
70 harness-maker or skilled mechanic. The leather covering of the blind is provided at its top with openings 9, registering with the sockets 4 and enabling the sides of the staple to be readily introduced into the latter to re-  
75 connect the parts after they have been separated.

The invention has the following advantages: The connection between the winker-strap and the blind has sufficient strength to support the blind, and there is no liability of  
80 the staple becoming withdrawn from the socket under ordinary conditions; but should an animal rub its head against a fence and strike the blind against a rail or other object with sufficient force to break an ordinary  
85 winker-strap the staple will be simply withdrawn from the sockets and may be readily replaced therein. The pointed ends of the staple facilitate the introduction of the latter into the sockets, and the enlargements adja-  
90 cent to the points provide for the necessary frictional contact with the sockets, and as the plates which form the sockets are constructed of thin sheet metal they provide a certain amount of resiliency, which insures the nec-  
95 essary frictional contact.

Changes in the form, proportion, and minor details of construction may be resorted to without departing from the spirit or sacrificing any of the advantages of this invention. 100



What I claim is—

The combination with a blind, of a resilient socket member consisting of two plates having portions thereof swaged outwardly in opposite directions at opposite points and secured flatwise in contact with each other and fastened and concealed between the plies of the blind, and a strap-connecting device consisting of an open loop or staple having its central portion connected to the strap and its

end portions enlarged for insertion in and frictional engagement with the socket-plate, substantially as described.

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

EDWARD R. GAMBELL.

Witnesses:

W. N. DE ARMOND,  
J. C. HUNTER.