

**No. 654,865.**

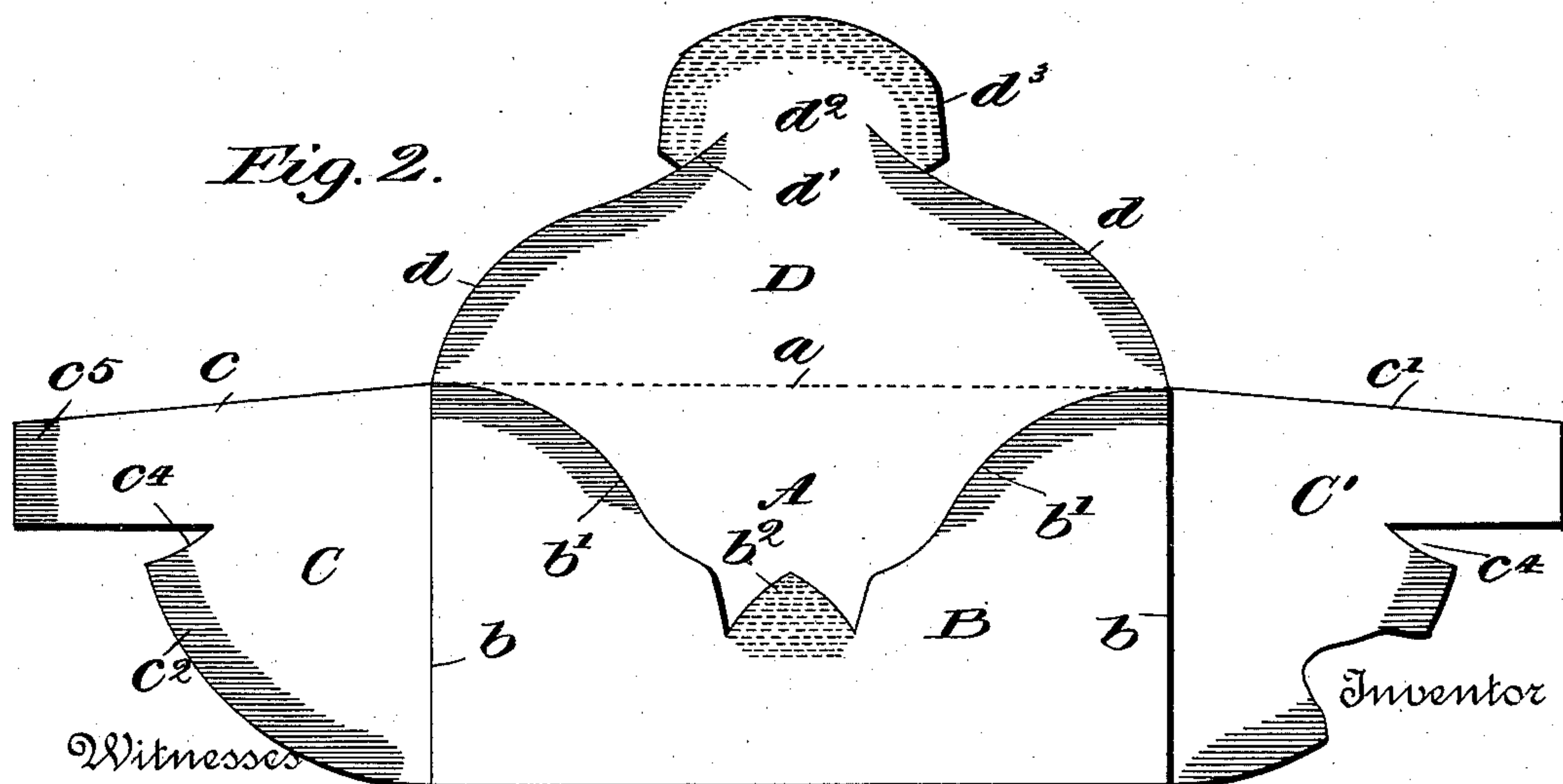
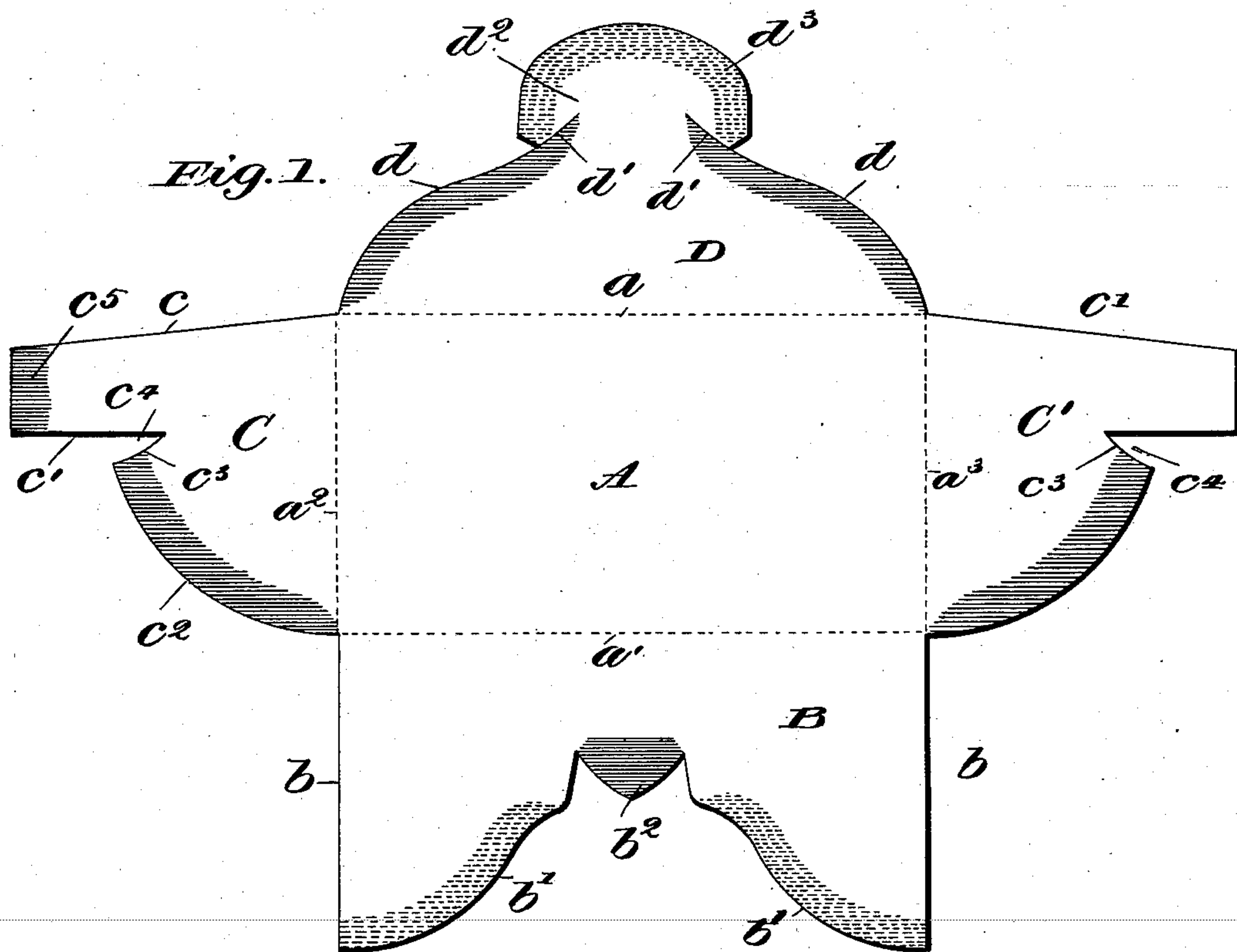
**Patented July 31, 1900.**

**W. T. YOUNGER.**

Application filed Nov. 24, 1899.)

(No Model.)

**2 Sheets—Sheet 1.**



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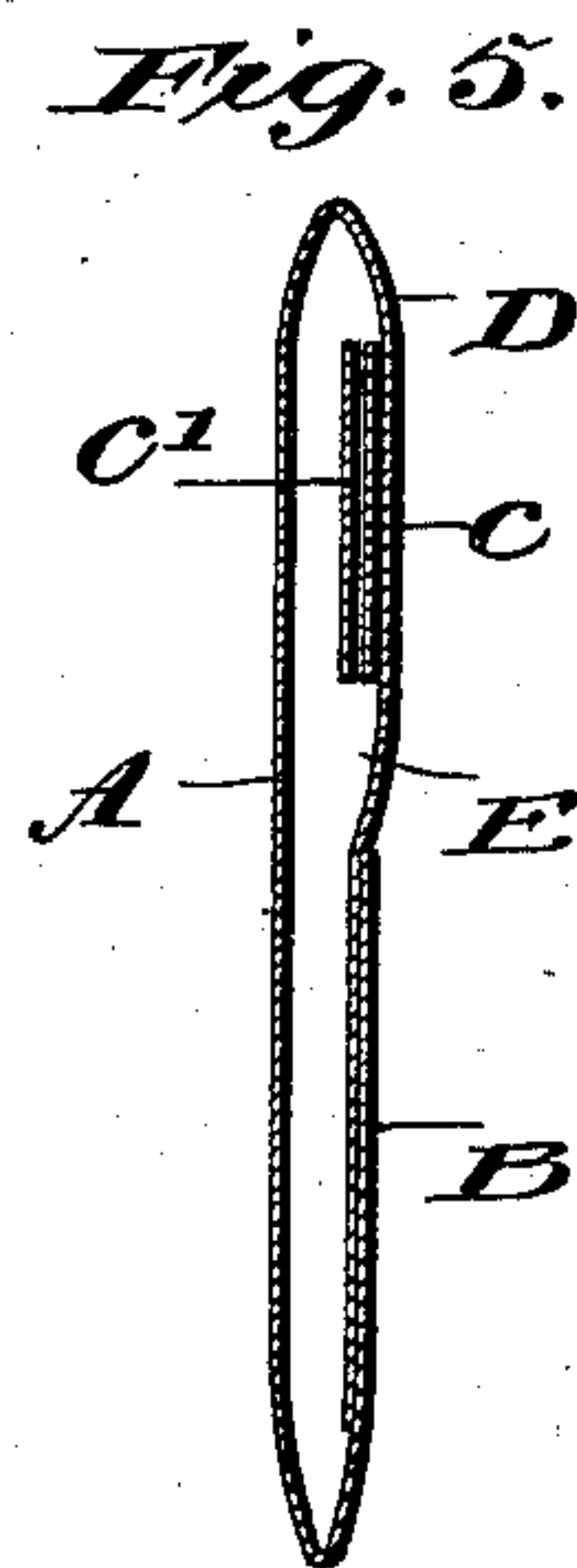
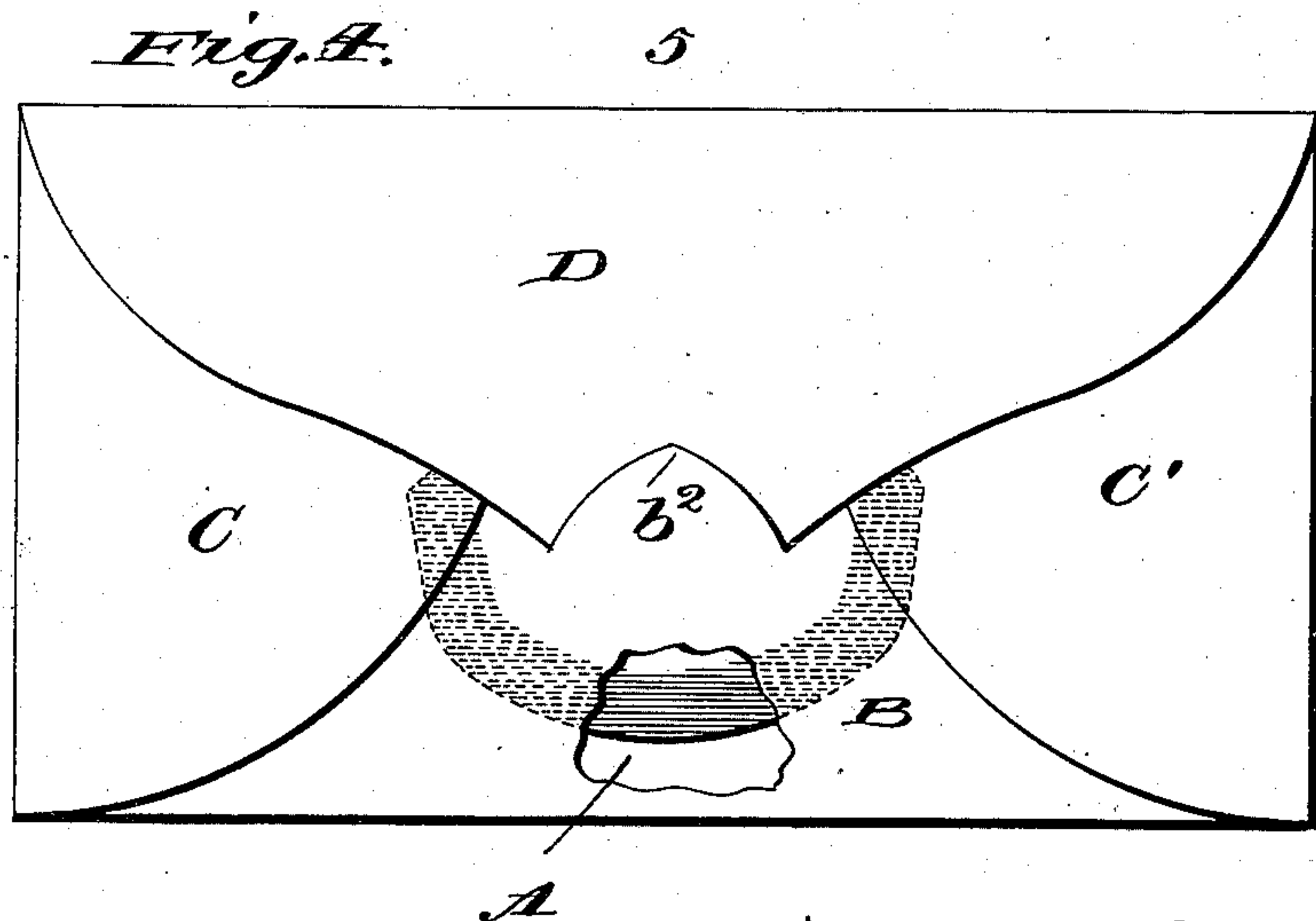
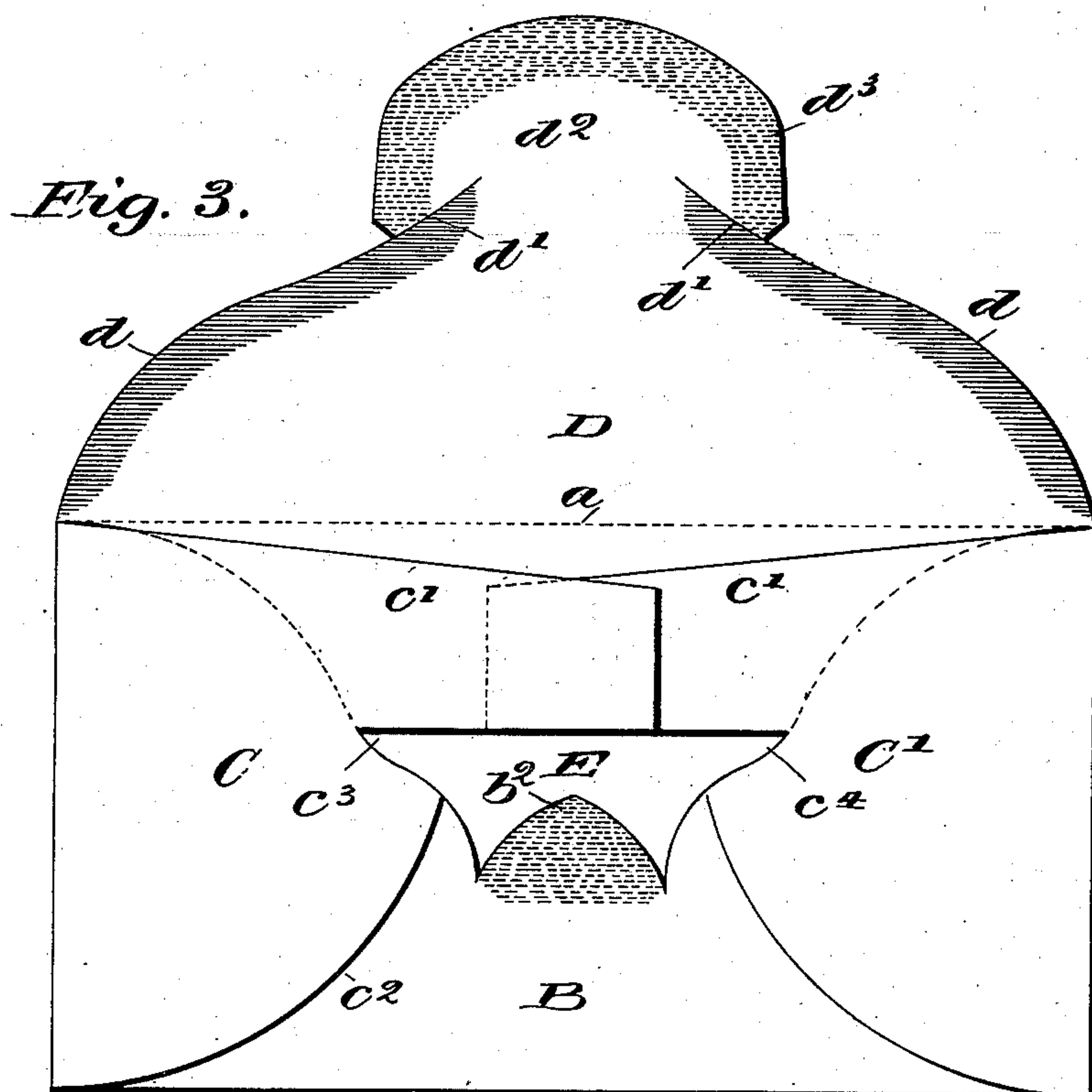
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W. T. YOUNGER.  
ENVELOP.

(Application filed Nov. 24, 1899.)

(No Model.)

2 Sheets—Sheet 2.



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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLIAM TURNER YOUNGER, OF ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI.

## ENVELOP.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 654,865, dated July 31, 1900.

Application filed November 24, 1899. Serial No. 738,209. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, WILLIAM TURNER YOUNGER, a citizen of the United States, residing at St. Louis, in the State of Missouri, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Envelops; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same.

My invention is an improvement in envelops; and it consists in the novel features hereinafter described, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, which illustrate one form in which I have contemplated embodying my invention, and said invention is fully disclosed in the following description and claims.

Referring to the said drawings, Figure 1 represents the envelop-blank. Fig. 2 is a similar view of the same, showing the lower flap folded up. Fig. 3 is a view of the complete envelop drawn to a larger scale with the top flap in open position. Fig. 4 is a view of the envelop sealed, showing the rear side; and Fig. 5 is a vertical transverse sectional view of the sealed envelop on line 5 5 of Fig. 4.

The object of my invention is to provide an envelop which cannot be opened in any way, even after softening the gum or mucilage by means of which it is sealed, without tearing or defacing some part of the envelop, so as to indicate clearly that it has been tampered with.

My improved envelop consists of a single sheet of paper or other suitable material constructed as shown in Fig. 1, in which A represents the rectangular central portion provided with four outlying portions or flaps, the dotted lines  $a$ ,  $a'$ ,  $a^2$ , and  $a^3$  indicating the lines upon which the said flaps are folded upon the central portion A to form the envelop.

B represents the bottom flap, which is provided with straight lateral edges  $b$ , adapted to coincide with the dotted lines indicating the side folds—to wit,  $a^2$   $a^3$ . The outer edge of the flap B is given the form shown in the drawings, having inwardly-converging curved (or straight) edges  $b'$   $b'$ , terminating on each side of a narrow outwardly-projecting flap  $b^2$ , preferably substantially triangular in shape,

which for convenience of reference I designate the "locking-flap." The bottom flap B is gummed on the outside along the edges  $b'$   $b'$ , and the locking-flap  $b^2$  is gummed on the inside. In the various figures of the drawings I have indicated the portions of the envelop which are preferably coated with gum or mucilage by a series of parallel lines, and such gummed portions as are on the lower sides of the figures or the sides concealed from the observer and which therefore would not show in these figures I have indicated in parallel dotted lines. Thus in Fig. 1 the gummed portions of the flap B adjacent to the edges  $b'$  are underneath and hidden from view in this figure, and I have therefore indicated them in dotted lines, as above stated.

C C' represent the side flaps, which are adapted to fold over on the lines  $a^2$   $a^3$  upon the exterior of the bottom flap B. Each of these side flaps has an upper edge  $c$ , which inclines slightly downward from its junction with the central portion A of the envelop; a horizontal edge  $c'$ , extending from the outer end of the flap inwardly about half-way toward the line  $a^2$  or  $a^3$  of the folds; a curved or inclined edge  $c^2$ , which extends from the bottom of the central portion A up to within a short distance of the edge  $c'$ , and an edge  $c^3$ , which extends from the edge  $c^2$  inwardly, forming a notch  $c^4$ . The flaps C C' are gummed on their inner faces along the edges  $c^2$ , as indicated in the drawings, and the upper portions of said flaps above the edges  $c'$  are of sufficient length so that one overlaps the other when they are folded over upon the bottom flap B after the bottom flap is folded upward upon the central portion A, and the outer end of the outer or overlapping side flap—in this case the flap C—is gummed, as indicated at  $c^5$ .

D represents the top flap, which folds downwardly upon the dotted line  $a$  and is the last flap to be sealed. This flap has edges  $d$ , which approach each other and are given the general form of an envelop-sealing flap until near the upper end of the flap, where it is provided with an enlarged head portion, and slits  $d'$   $d'$  are formed in said head portion in line with the edges  $d$ , which slits extend inwardly a considerable distance beyond the lateral



edges of the head portion, thus forming what I term the "anchor-shaped sealing-tongue"  $d^2$ . The flap D is gummed on the inner side along the edges  $d$   $d$ , and the anchor-tongue is gummed around its edges on the outside of the flap or tongue, as indicated in dotted lines at  $d^3$ .

In folding up the envelop the bottom flap B is first folded up on the dotted line  $a'$ , Fig. 1, upon the central portion A. The side flaps C C' are then folded over upon the bottom flap and sealed thereto along the edges  $c^2$   $c^2$  of said side flaps and the edges  $b'$   $b'$  of the bottom flap, as shown in Fig. 3, and the overlapping upper portions of the flaps C C' are sealed together. By reference to Figs. 2 and 3 it will be observed that the lower portions of the side flaps will be united to the bottom flap by means of the gummed surfaces along the edges  $c^2$   $c^2$  of the side flaps, while the upper portions of the side flaps will be united to the upper portions of the bottom flap by means of the gummed portions of the bottom flap on the outside of the same adjacent to the edges  $b'$   $b'$ . When the envelop is thus put together, as shown in Fig. 3, it is ready for use, and it will be observed that a locking-aperture E (see Fig. 3) is formed in the back of the envelop, having a straight horizontal upper edge formed by the edges  $c'$   $c'$  of the side flaps and downwardly inclining and converging curved edges terminating at each side of the locking-flap  $b^2$ . This aperture is of substantially the same width as the anchor-shaped tongue, so that the tongue can readily be inserted therein, and the width of the locking-flap  $b^2$  is substantially the same as the distance between the inner ends of the slits  $d'$   $d'$  of the locking-tongue.

In order to seal the envelop after its contents have been placed within the same, the top flap D is folded downward on the line  $a$ , and the anchor-shaped sealing-tongue is inserted in the aperture E, after having the gum on the inside of the flap D and the outside of the tongue  $d^2$  moistened. The top flap is then sealed, as shown in Figs. 4 and 5, the portions of the flap along the edges  $d$   $d$  being sealed on the outside of the envelop and the anchor-tongue being sealed against the inside of the back of the envelop, as will be readily understood from the drawings. The locking-flap  $b^2$  is then gummed and sealed down on the outside of the top flap D, thus completing the sealing of the envelop. In using an envelop of this construction it will be found impossible to open it in any way without the aid of instruments, and even if the gum or mucilage be softened by steaming or otherwise, without tearing or breaking some part of the envelop, so as to clearly indicate that it has been tampered with.

It is obvious that instead of coating the envelop with gum or mucilage at the portion indicated the mucilage or other sealing material could be applied at the proper points at the time of using or sealing the envelop;

but I prefer to construct the envelop as previously described.

What I claim, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. An envelop comprising among its members the main or central portion, the bottom flap having its outer edge cut away centrally, the side flaps having overlapping upper portions, lower portions adapted to overlap the bottom fold and angular notches between the upper and lower portions forming with the cut-away portion of the bottom flap, a tongue-receiving aperture, and the top flap provided with the anchor-shaped tongue of substantially the width of said aperture, said tongue being adapted to be passed through said aperture and being provided on its outer side with means for sealing it to the inner side of the bottom flap, substantially as described.

2. An envelop comprising among its members, the central portion, the bottom flap having its outer edge cut away to form inwardly-converging edges and a locking-flap between the inner ends of said converging edges, the side flaps having overlapping upper portions, lower portions adapted to overlap the bottom flap, and angular notches between said upper and lower portions forming with the cut-away portions of the bottom flap a tongue-receiving aperture, adjacent to said locking-flap, and the top flap having an anchor-shaped tongue adapted to be passed through said aperture beneath the locking-tongue whereby the outside of said tongue can be sealed to the inside of the bottom flap and the inside of said locking-flap can be sealed to said top flap adjacent to said tongue, substantially as described.

3. An envelop comprising among its members the central portion, the bottom flap having straight side edges of substantially the width of the central portion, and having its lower edge cut away to form inwardly-converging edges, and a locking-flap between the inner ends of said converging edges, the side flaps adapted to fold over the bottom flap, having overlapping upper portions sealed together, and to the upper portions of said bottom flap, lower portions sealed to said bottom flap, and angular notches between said upper and lower portions forming with the cut-away portion of the bottom flap a tongue-receiving aperture, said locking-tongue being gummed on its inner side, and the top flap provided with an anchor-tongue for engaging said aperture, said tongue being gummed on the outer side, whereby said tongue can be sealed to the inner side of the bottom flap and the locking-flap can be sealed to the outside of said top flap, substantially as described.

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

WILLIAM TURNER YOUNGER.

Witnesses:

M. JACOBY,  
ALBERT COHN.