

No. 659,634.

Patented Oct. 16, 1900.

C. W. ALLEN.
ENVELOP FASTENING.
(Application filed Feb. 8, 1900.)

(No Model.)

FIG. 1.

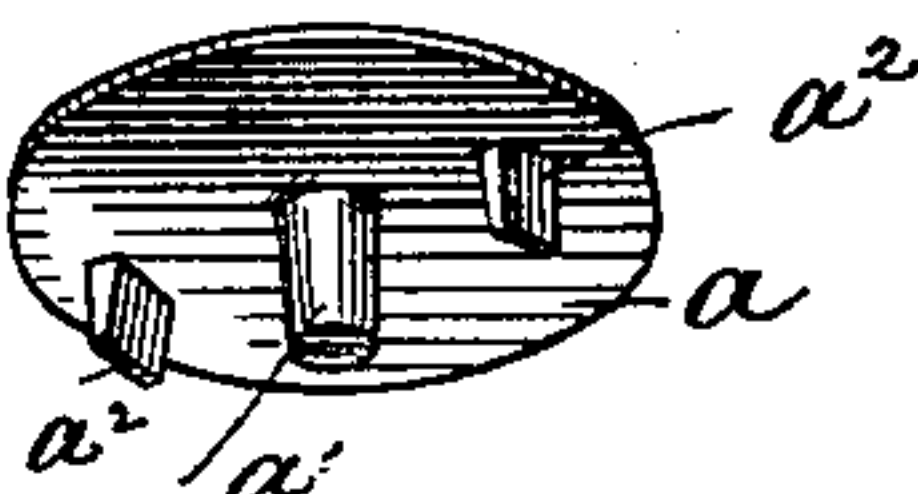


FIG. 2.

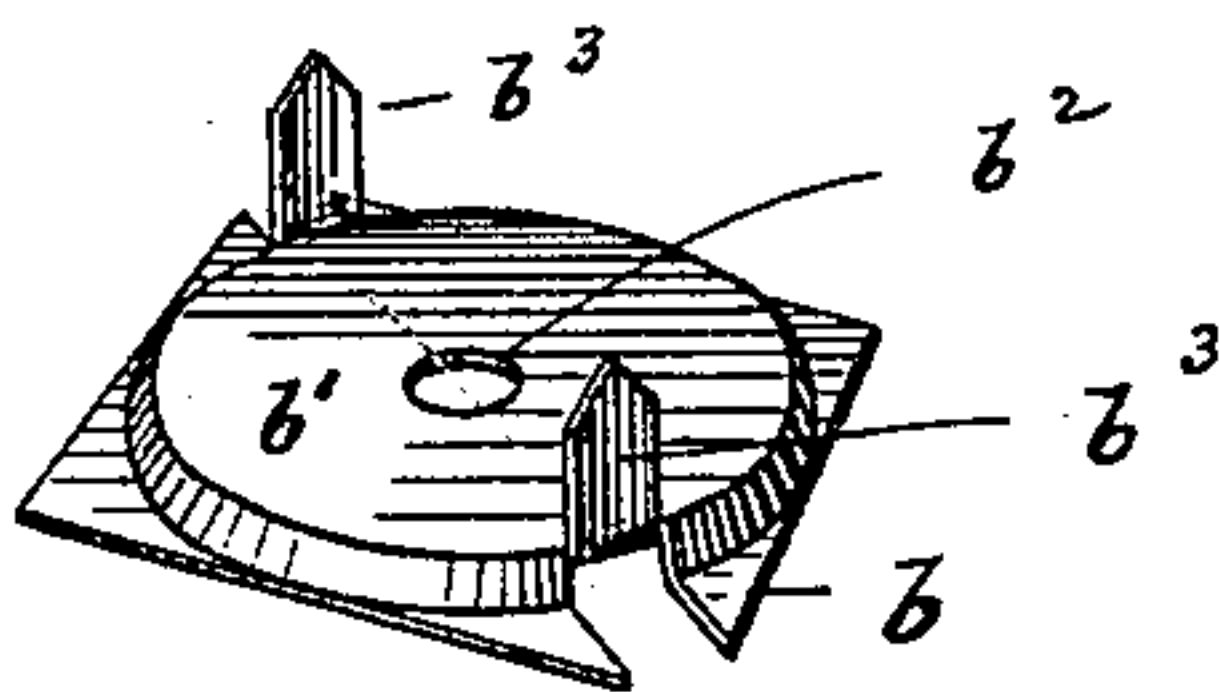


FIG. 3.



FIG. 4.

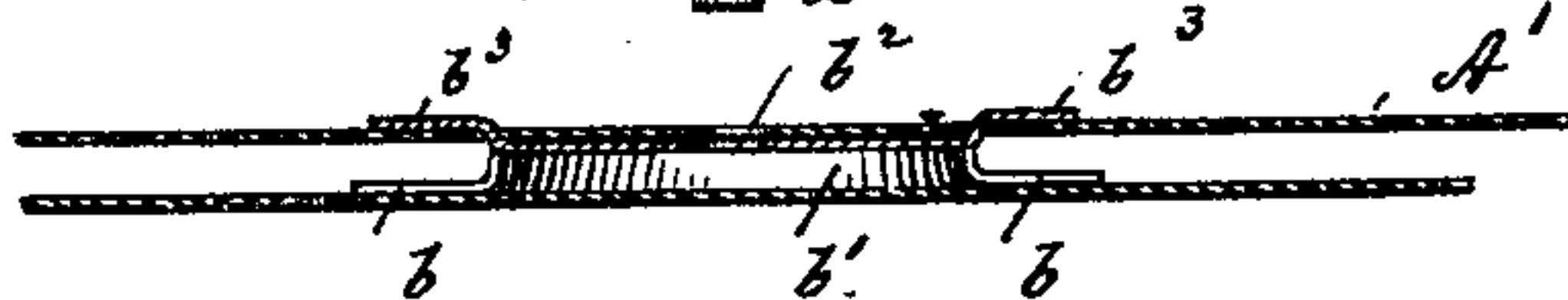


FIG. 5.

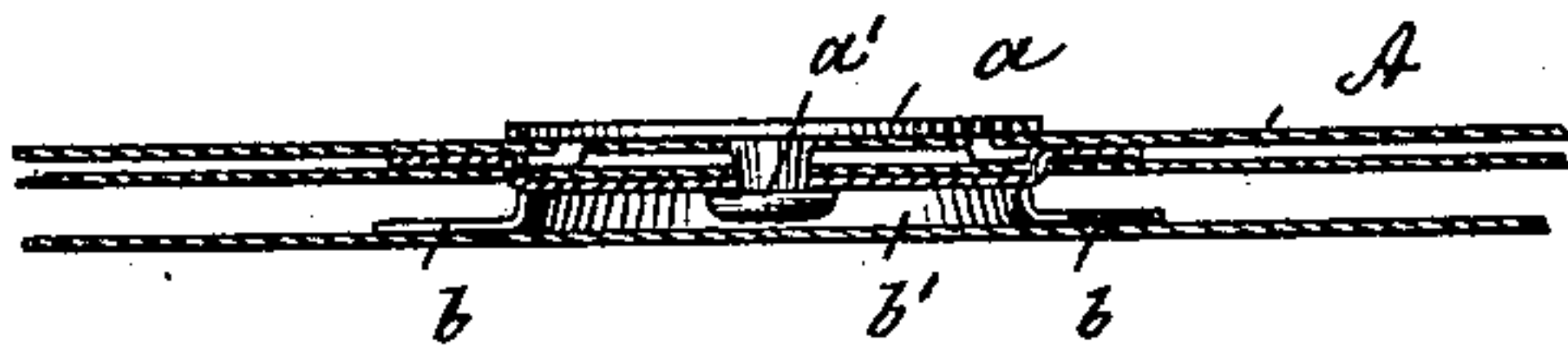
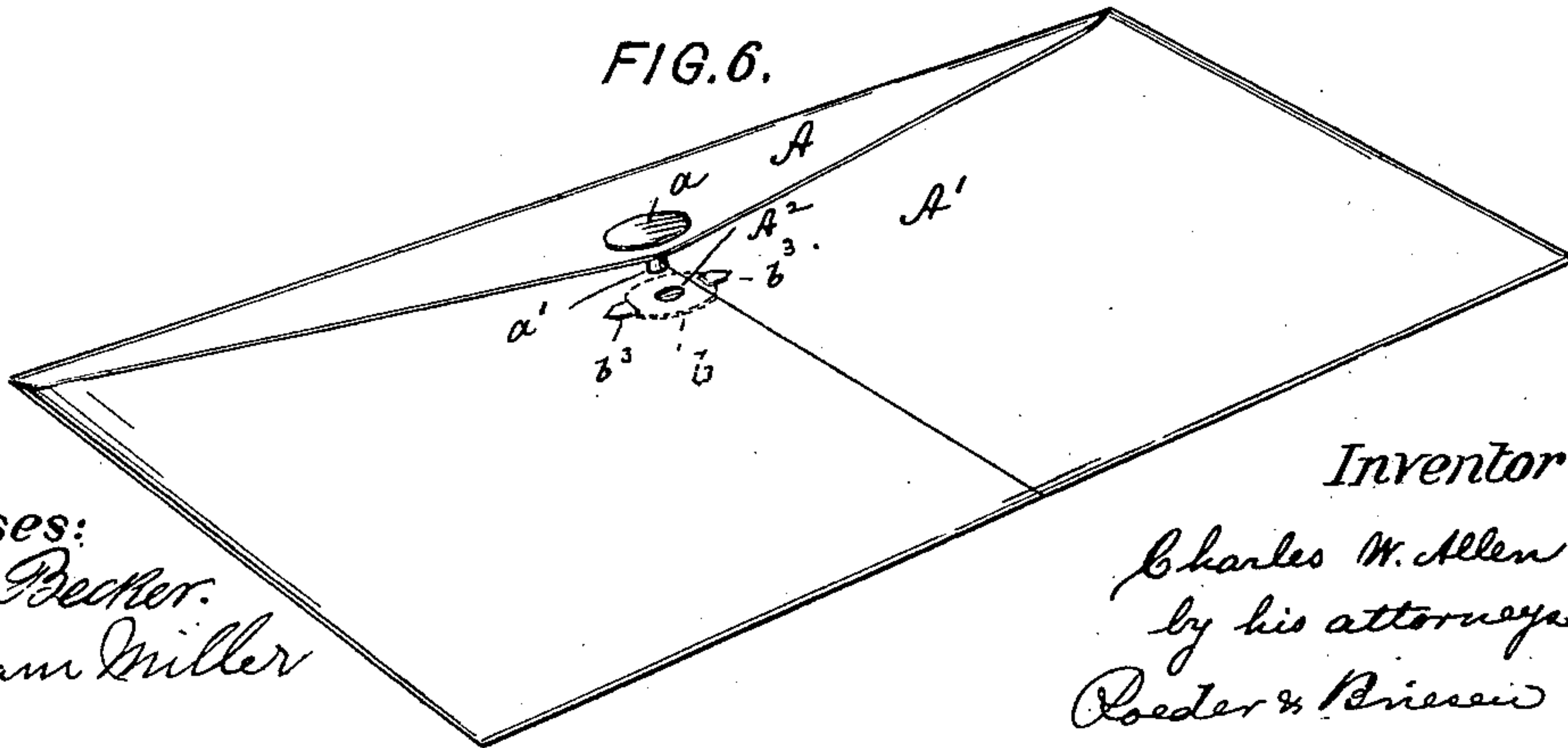


FIG. 6.



Witnesses:

John Becker.
William Miller

Inventor:

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by his attorneys
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

CHARLES W. ALLEN, OF PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA.

ENVELOP-FASTENING.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 659,634, dated October 16, 1900.

Application filed February 8, 1900. Serial No. 4,447. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, CHARLES W. ALLEN, a citizen of Great Britain, and a resident of Philadelphia, Philadelphia county, Pennsylvania, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Envelop-Fastenings, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to a sealing device for envelopes and similar articles, which closes the same in such a positive manner that the envelop must be destroyed or torn before access to its contents can be obtained. Thus any tampering with the envelop will be at once detected and pilfering will be effectively prevented.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is a perspective view of the male part of the fastening; Fig. 2, a similar view of the female part; Fig. 3, a side view of the male part, showing it attached to the closing-flap of an envelop; Fig. 4, a similar view of the female part, showing it attached to the front of the envelop; Fig. 5, a side view of the fastening, showing it closed; and Fig. 6, a perspective view of an envelop provided with the fastening.

The fastening is composed, essentially, of a male and a female part which are adapted to be interlocked. The male part consists of an upper plate or disk a , from which projects a solid stud a' , formed of soft metal or equivalent plastic material. In order to attach the plate a to the envelop, &c., it is provided with a pair of prongs a^2 or similar fasteners, that are shown to project from the same face of the plate which carries the stud a' . The stud is inserted through a perforation formed in the closing-flap A of an envelop, bag, or similar article, and the prongs are at the same time thrust through said flap and are then upset to securely attach the plate to the flap.

The female part of the fastener is composed of a lower base-plate b , struck up to form a chamber b' , which is perforated, as at b^2 , and should be somewhat lower than the stud a' . The upper side of the chamber b' should be of substantially the same diameter as the upper plate a , so that an even bearing is furnished for the latter when the stud is upset

or expanded. In order to secure the base-plate b to the envelop, it is provided with fastening-prongs b^3 , formed by slitting the base-plate and turning up the metal thus partly detached. The female part is secured to the inner side of the front A' of an envelop, &c., which is perforated, as at A^2 , above the perforation b^2 , so as to permit the free introduction of the stud a' into the chamber b' .

In use the flap of the filled envelop is closed and the stud introduced into the chamber. The envelop is then placed upon a slab or other supporting-surface, and by the blow of a hammer upon the plate a the lower end of stud a' will be upset or expanded within the chamber b' , so as to securely interlock the parts. The upsetting device may, if desired, consist of a suitable die or seal, so that while the stud is expanded the plate a is simultaneously embossed.

What I claim is—

1. A fastening device for envelopes and similar articles composed of an upper plate having a solid soft-metal stud, combined with a lower plate having a perforated chamber adapted to receive said stud and permit its expansion within the chamber, substantially as specified.

2. A fastening device for envelopes and similar articles composed of an upper plate having a solid soft-metal stud, combined with a lower plate slitted to form fastening-prongs, and having a chamber adapted to receive said stud and permit its expansion within the chamber, substantially as specified.

3. A fastening device for envelopes and similar articles composed of an upper plate having a solid soft-metal stud and fastening-prongs, combined with a lower plate slitted to form fastening-prongs, and having a chamber adapted to receive said stud and permit its expansion within the chamber, substantially as specified.

Signed by me at Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, this 2d day of February, 1900.

CHARLES W. ALLEN.

Witnesses:

CONSTANCE S. FATES,
C. M. BARLOW.