

No. 713,428.

Patented Nov. 11, 1902.

H. A. GRAHAM.  
ENVELOP.

(Application filed Dec. 28, 1901.)

(No Model.)

Fig. 1.

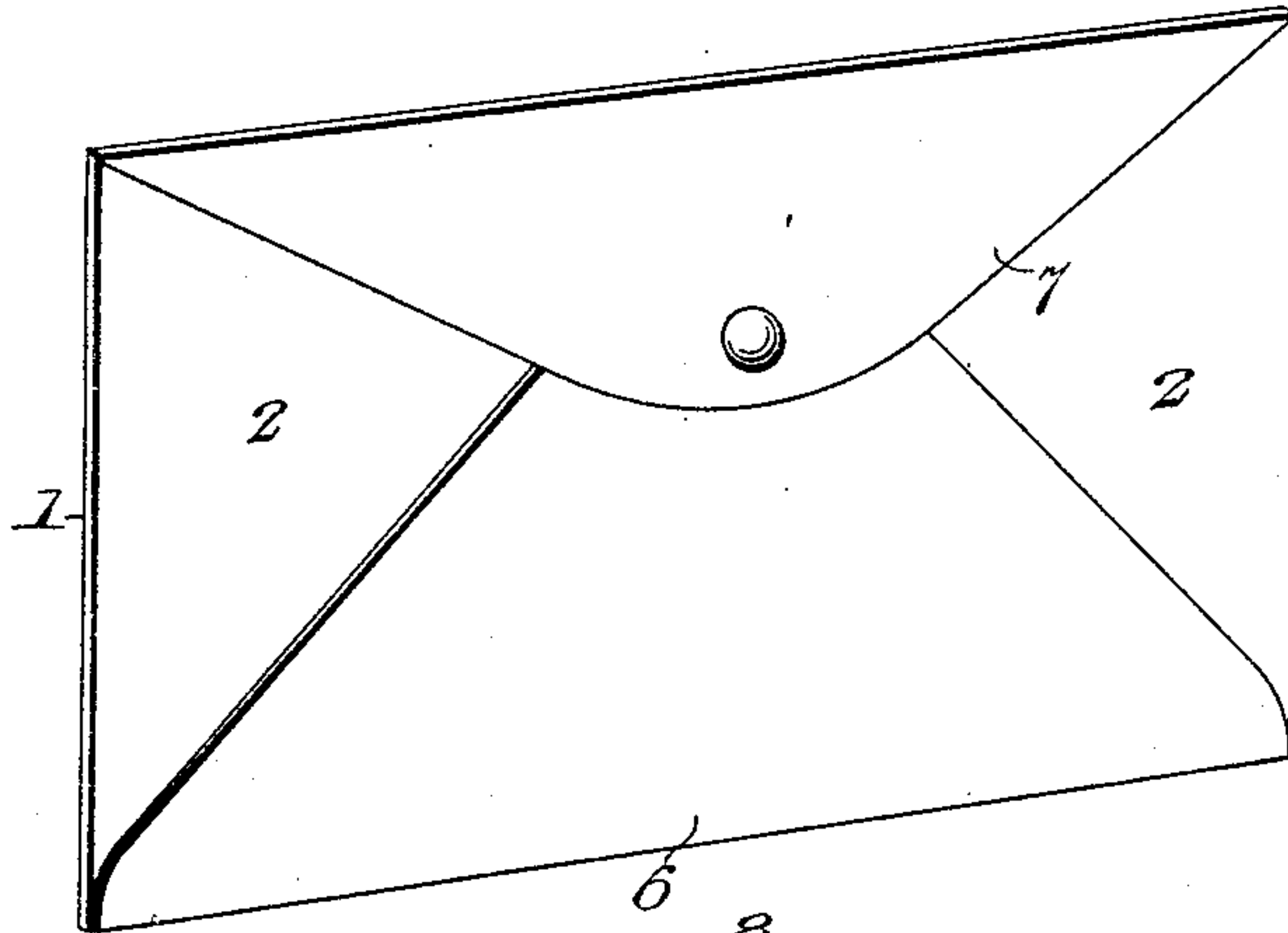


Fig. 2.

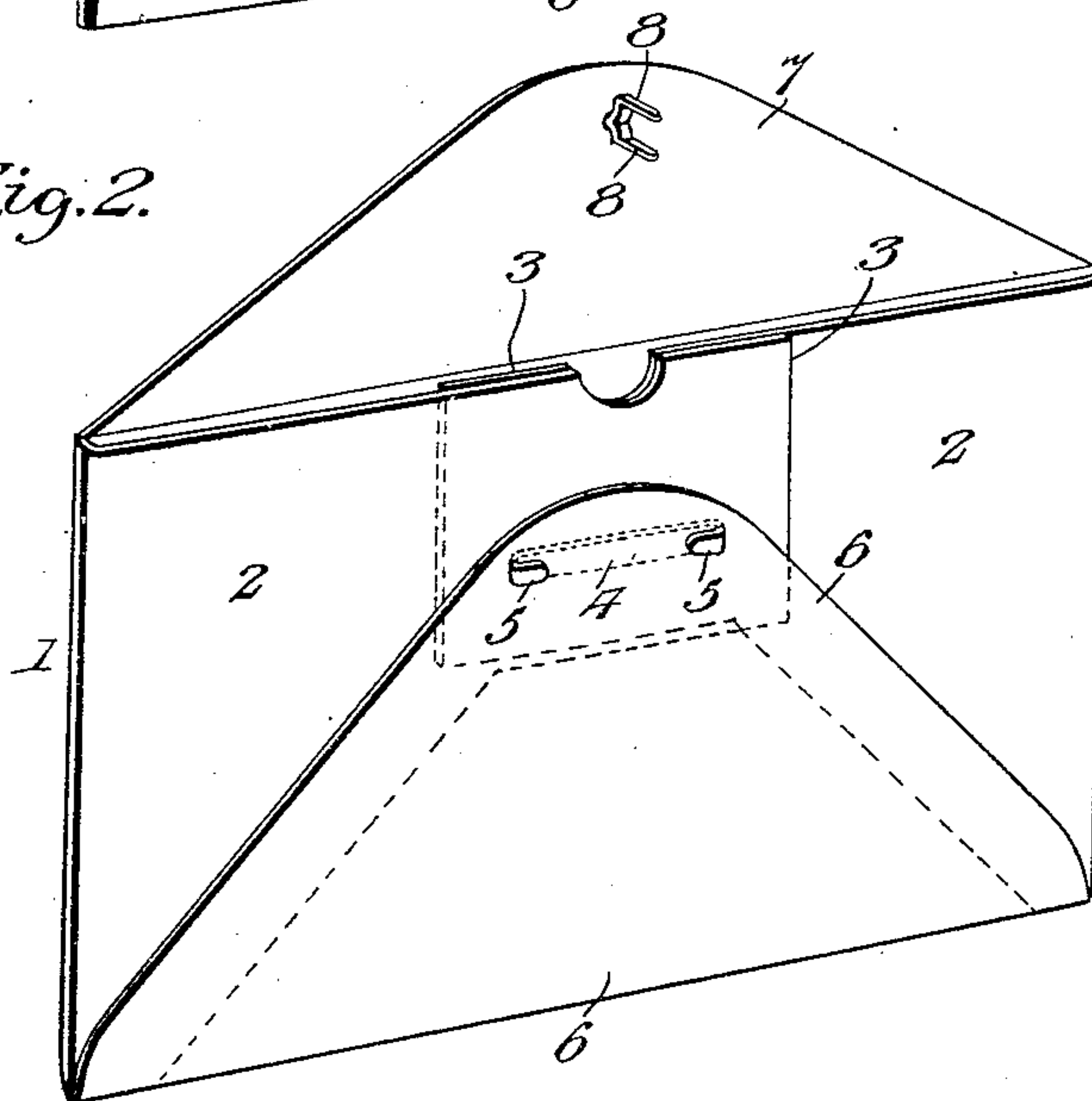


Fig. 3.

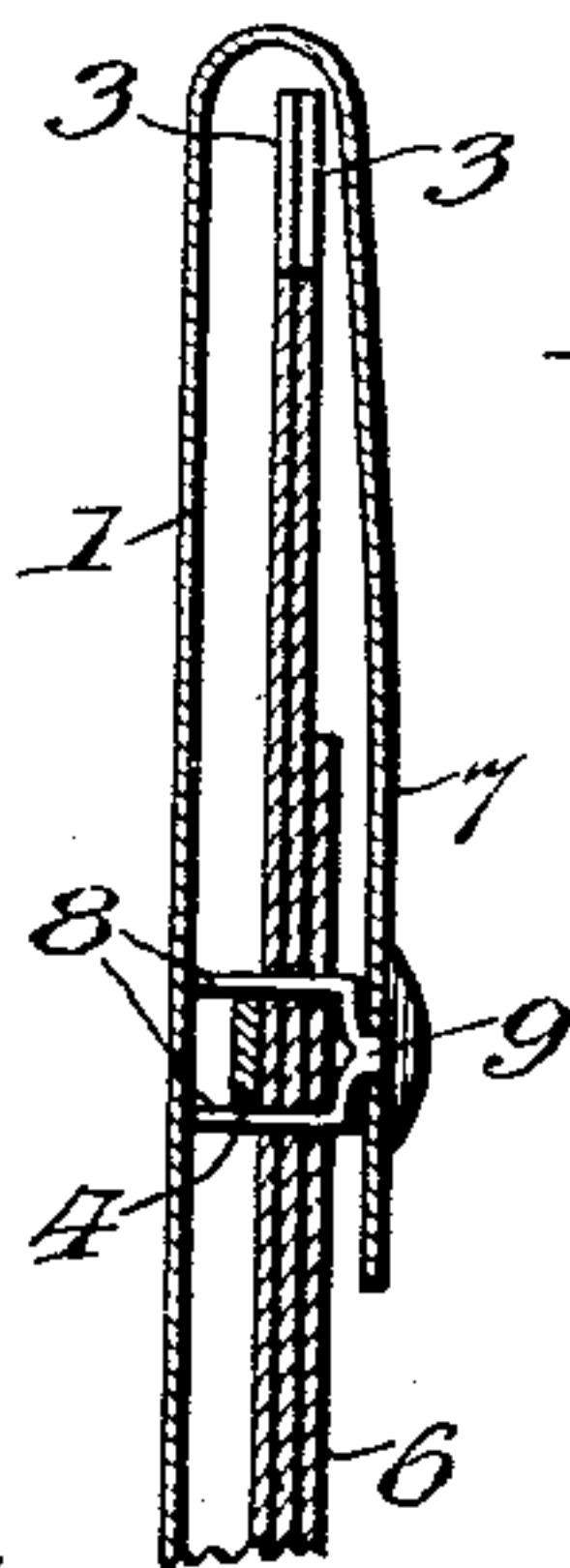


Fig. 4.

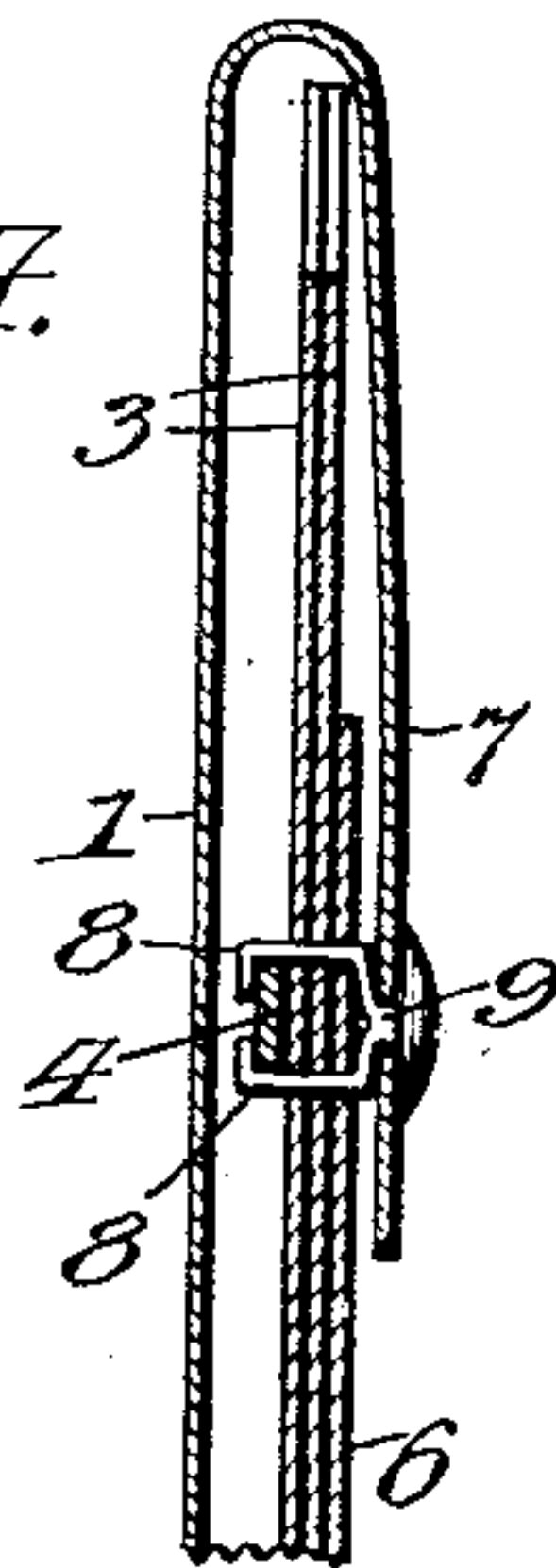


Fig. 5.

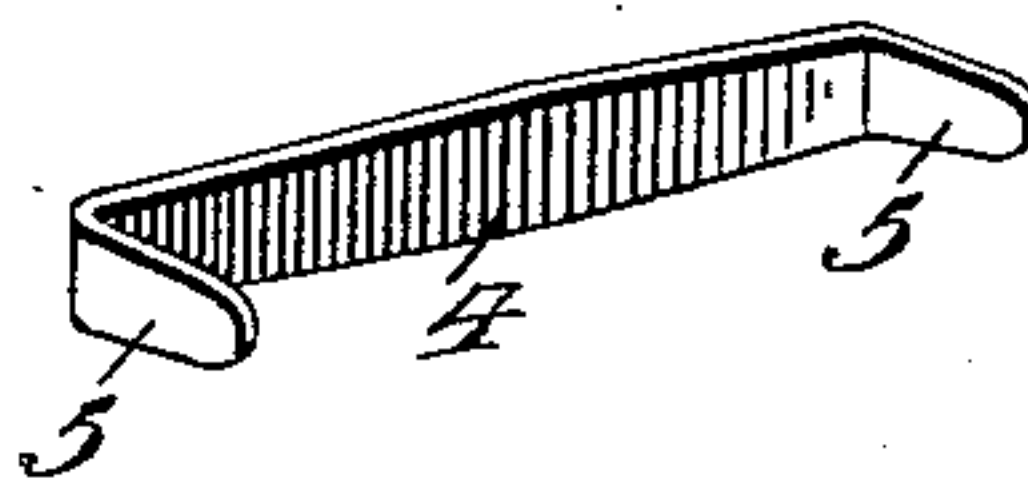


Fig. 6.



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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

HOMER A. GRAHAM, OF ONECO, FLORIDA.

## ENVELOP.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 713,428, dated November 11, 1902.

Application filed December 26, 1901. Serial No. 87,141. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, HOMER A. GRAHAM, a citizen of the United States, residing at Oneco, in the county of Manatee and State of Florida, have invented new and useful Improvements in Envelops, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to envelops; and the object of the same is to provide simple and effective means for securing the closing or sealing flap of an envelop in a reliable manner, so that it can be transmitted through the mails without danger of becoming unsealed, but which may be easily released by the addressee.

The invention consists in the construction and arrangement of the several parts, which will be more fully hereinafter described and claimed.

In the drawings, Figure 1 is a perspective view of an envelop embodying the features of the invention and shown closed. Fig. 2 is a similar view of the envelop embodying the improved features and shown open, parts being illustrated in dotted lines to show the construction of portions of the body of the envelop. Fig. 3 is a transverse vertical section, on an enlarged scale, of the envelop, taken through the upper central portion thereof and showing the parts previous to full securing. Fig. 4 is a view similar to Fig. 3, showing the parts fully secured. Figs. 5 and 6 are detail perspective views of parts of the fastening means.

Similar numerals of reference are employed to indicate corresponding parts in the several views.

The numeral 1 designates an envelop of substantially ordinary form, with the exception that the inwardly-folded end flaps 2 are formed with rectangular or similarly-shaped terminal tongues 3, which are closely overlapped and secured by a metal connecting-bar 4, applied against the innermost tongue 3 and having the opposite ends 5 inserted through both tongues and the reduced extremity of the bottom flap 6 and upset, as clearly shown by Fig. 2, thereby securing the parts of the body portion of the envelop without the use of adhesive substance, as in ordinary envelop structures. The extended terminal tongues 3 provide an additional

thickness of material at the point where the devices, which will be hereinafter described, are applied to prevent said devices from tearing through and also to form a greater body-support for the application of the same, and thereby produce a stronger fastener for the envelop. The closing-flap 7 is of the usual construction and folds downwardly over the back of the body of the envelop in the sealing operation and is wide enough at its central portion to cover the exteriorly-exposed upset ends 5 of the connecting-bar 4. This bar 4 is disposed longitudinally and also serves as a reinforcing or upsetting resistance for the legs 8 of a headed fastening 9, which is inserted through the central portion of the closing-flap 7, the head of the fastening being located on the exterior of said flap when the latter is turned downward or folded in the sealing operation. In securing the flap 7 to the body of the envelop the legs 8 of the fastening 9 are pushed through the reduced extremity of the bottom flap 6 and the two tongues 3, the said legs being held in vertical alinement and then terminally bent inwardly toward each other against the bar 4, as clearly shown by Fig. 4. In some instances suitable slits will be formed in the reduced extremity of the bottom flap 6 and the two tongues 3 to receive the legs 8 of the fastening 9 and render the insertion of the legs through the said parts more readily accomplished. When the legs 8 are upset against the connecting-bar 4, as shown by Fig. 4, the flap 7 will be reliably held closed and will resist effort to open the same by unauthorized persons without such mutilation as will immediately lead to discovery.

The improved envelop will be found exceptionally convenient and safe, particularly for use in transmitting important inclosures, and from a comparative standpoint is far superior to the ordinary form of envelop having the parts connected by adhesive substances, as no portion or member of the envelop can be opened without disconnecting the bar 4 or the fastening 9, and hence the ordinary methods of steaming or moistening the ordinary gummed envelops to loosen the parts of the same will be of no avail in the improved structure.

It is proposed to construct the envelop in various sizes and the fastening devices will



be proportionately enlarged or decreased in dimensions.

Having thus described the invention, what is claimed as new is—

- 5 An envelop having inturned end flaps formed with extended overlapping terminal rectangular tongues, a bottom flap extended upwardly over a portion of the said overlapped tongue, a closing-flap adapted to fold down-  
10 wardly over the tongues and the upper portion of the bottom flap, an elongated metallic fastening-bar applied longitudinally against the innerside of the inner tongue and having bent terminals which are passed through both

tongues and the upper portion of the bottom 15 flap, and exteriorly upset against the latter, and a staple carried by the closing-flap and adapted to be passed through the upper extremity of the bottom flap and the tongue and to have its legs engage the upper and lower 20 edges of the fastening-bar and be upset against the inner side of the latter.

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

HOMER A. GRAHAM.

Witnesses:

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