

No. 729,318.

PATENTED MAY 26, 1903.

S. N. FLIEGER.  
ENVELOP.

APPLICATION FILED FEB. 27, 1903.

NO MODEL.

2 SHEETS—SHEET 1.

FIG. 2.

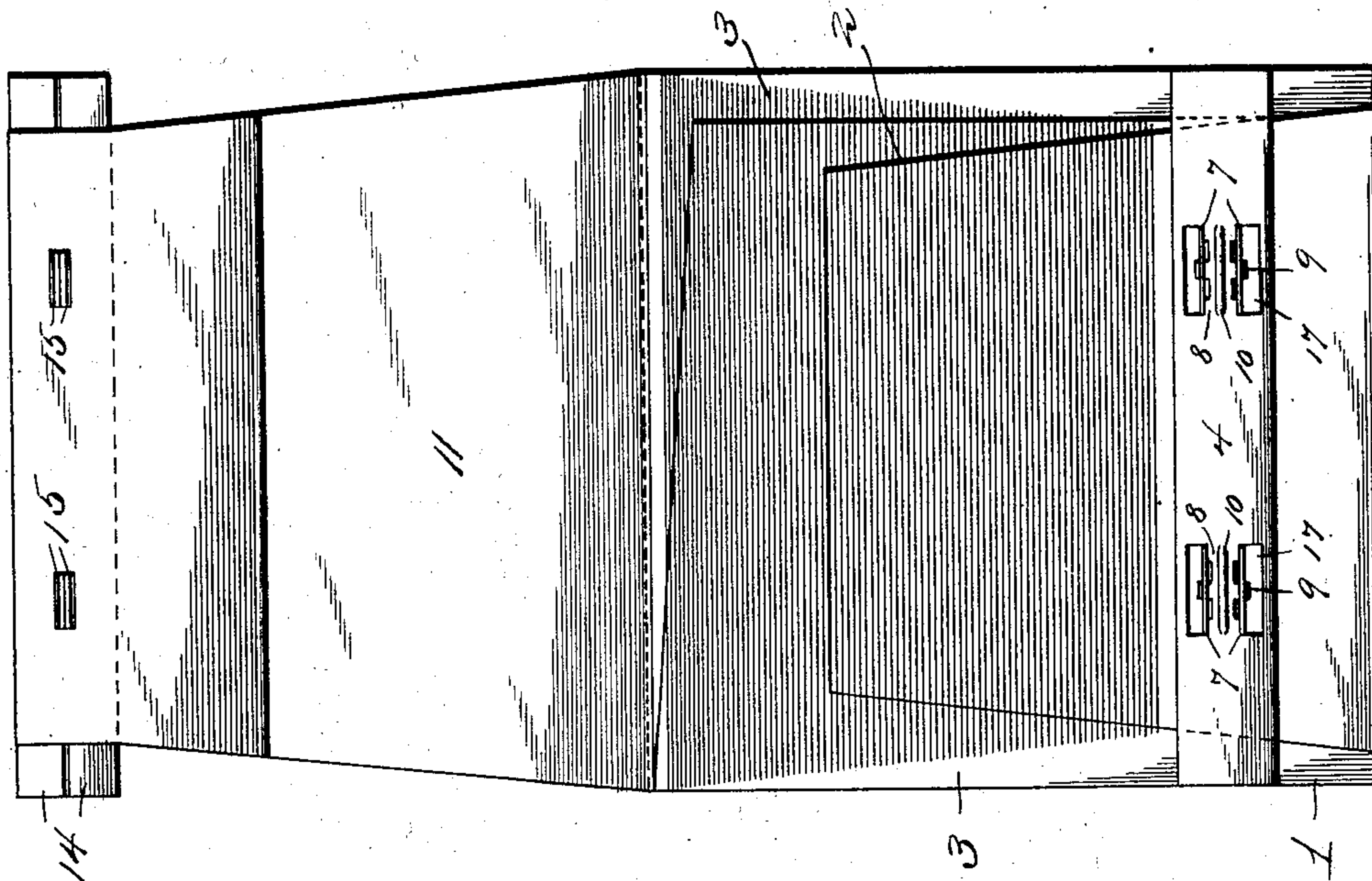
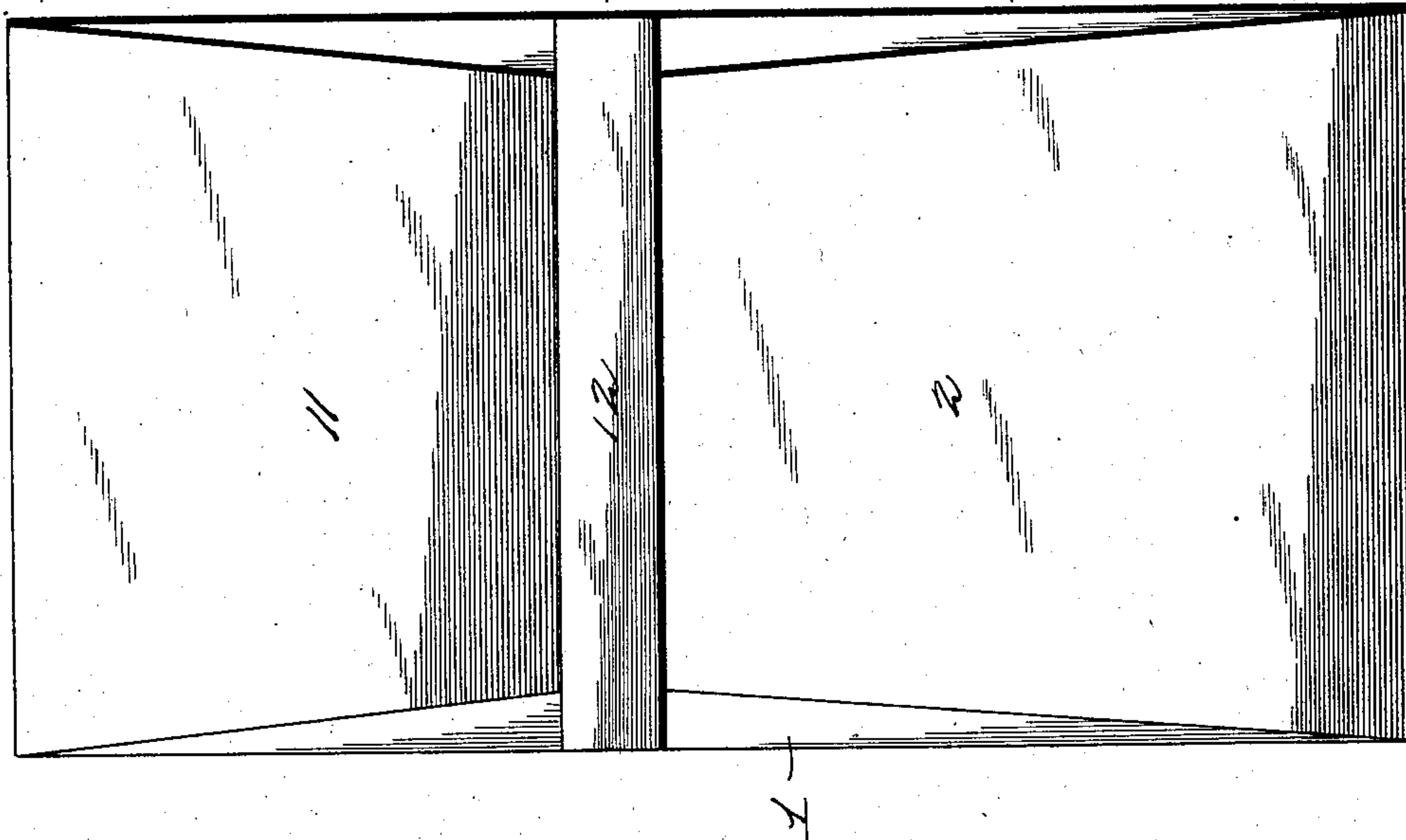


FIG. 1.



Inventor

*Sterling N. Flieger.*

Witnesses

*Harry L. Ames.*  
*Herbert D. Lawson.*

By

*Victor J. Evans*

Attorney.

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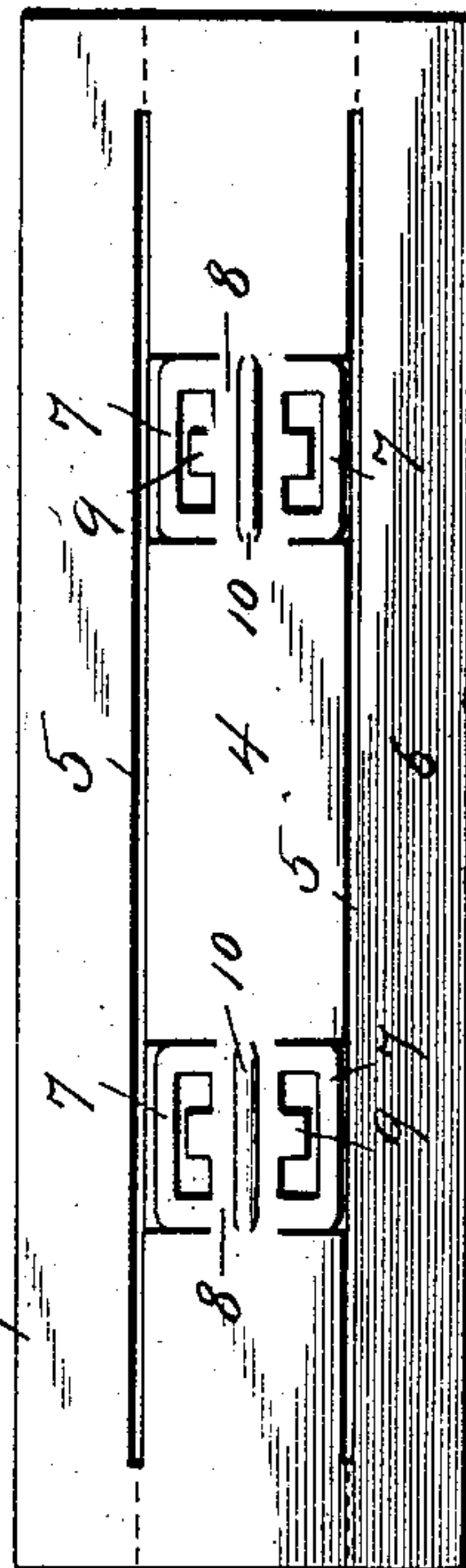
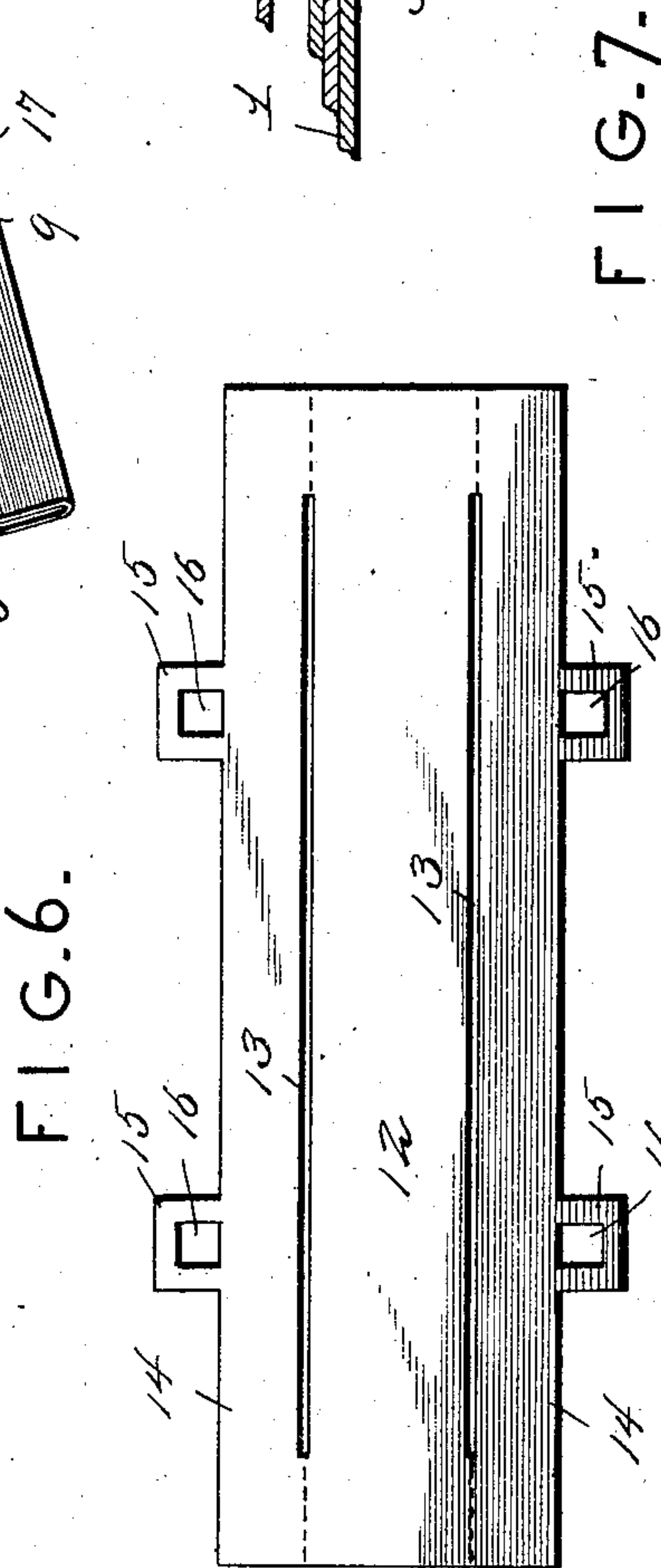
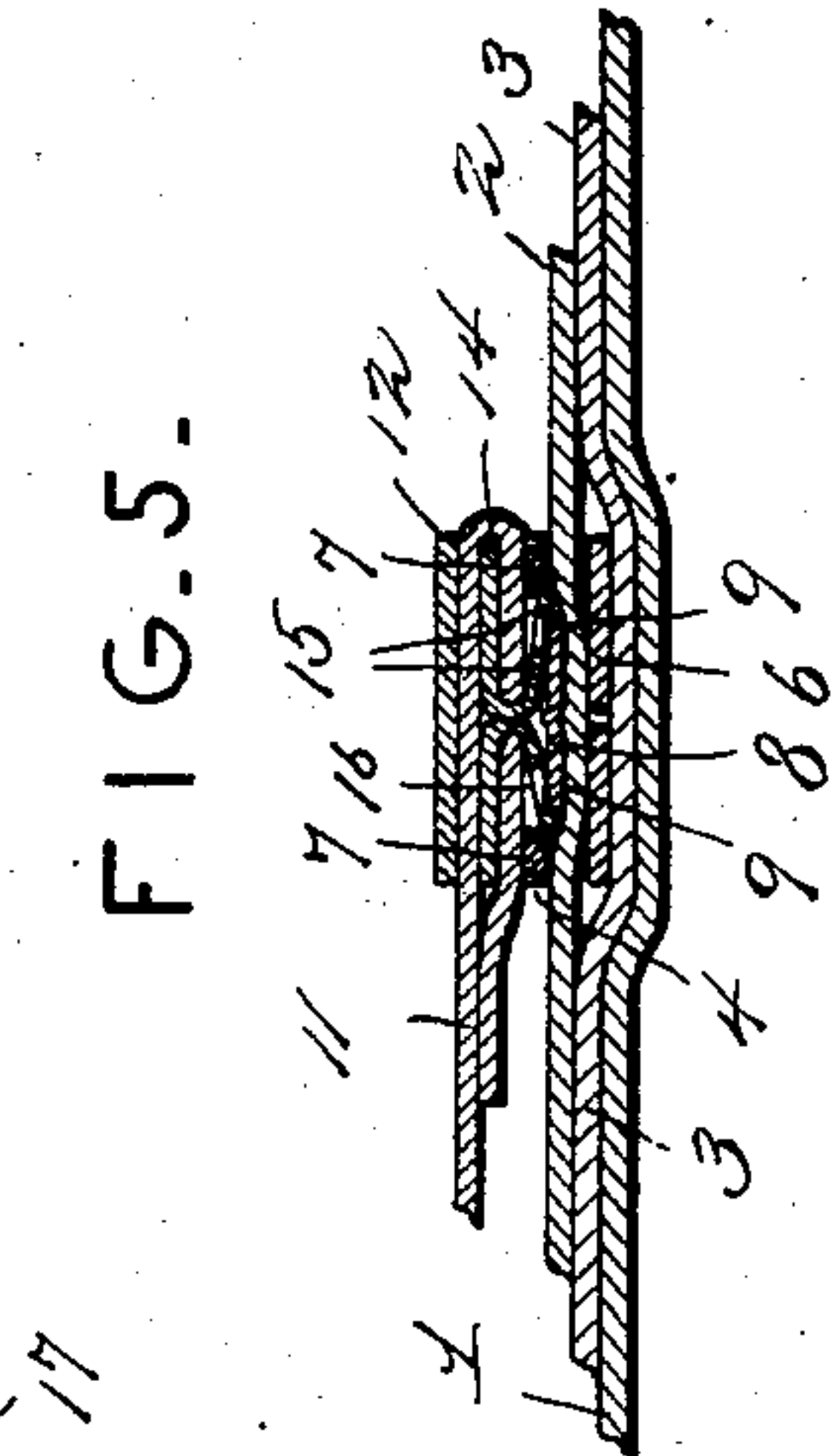
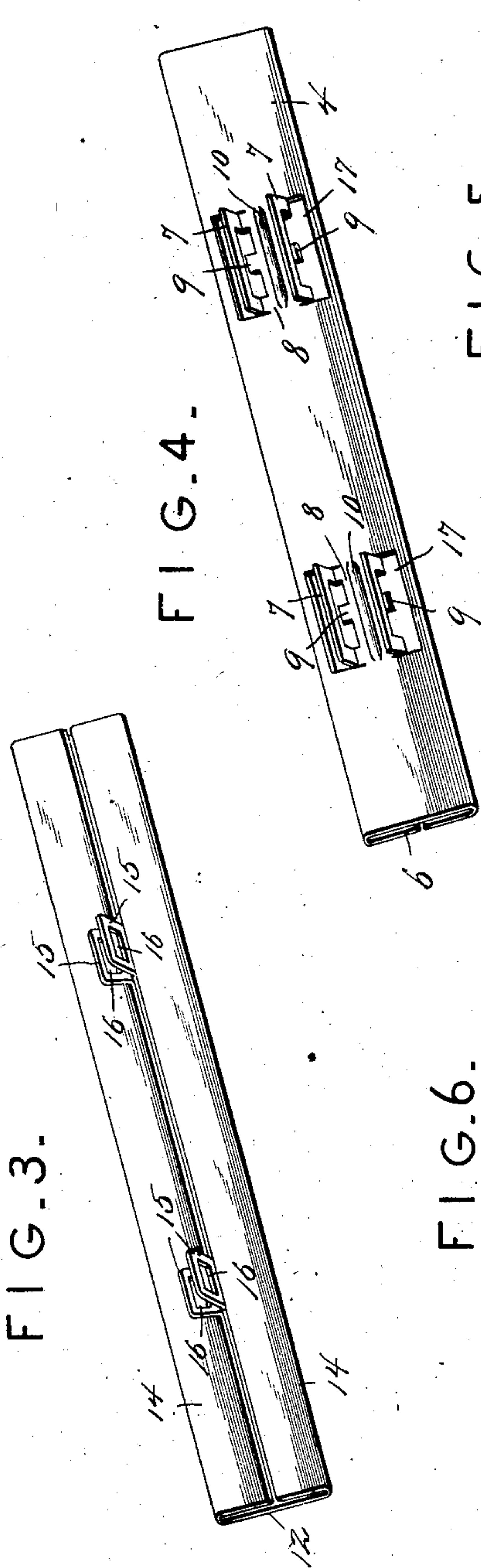
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2 SHEETS—SHEET 2.



Witnesses

*Harry L. Amer.*  
*Herbert Lawson.*

By

*Victor J. Evans*

Inventor

*Sterling N. Flieger.*

Attorney.



# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

STERLING N. FLIEGER, OF DENVER, COLORADO.

## ENVELOP.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 729,318, dated May 26, 1903.

Application filed February 27, 1903. Serial No. 145,402. (No model.)

### *To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, STERLING N. FLIEGER, a citizen of the United States, residing at Denver, in the county of Arapahoe and State of Colorado, have invented new and useful Improvements in Envelops, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to new and useful improvements in safety-envelops, especially adapted for use in transmitting money and other valuables through the mail; and its object is to provide a simple and inexpensive fastening device which may readily be attached to an envelop and which is so constructed as to effectually seal the same and prevent the opening of the envelop without mutilating or otherwise marring the appearance thereof.

The invention consists in providing a strip of suitable metal, through which one of the flaps of the envelop is adapted to be inserted, and this strip has bails formed integral therewith and provided with tongues extending thereinto. Another strip is secured to the loose or closing flap of the envelop and is provided with ears having apertures therein. These ears are adapted to be inserted through the bails, and the two strips are then pressed together. This results in the ears being forced under the bails and into engagement with the tongues arranged therein, and it is therefore impossible to separate the two strips and the flaps connected thereto without mutilating the envelop.

The invention also consists in the further novel construction, combination, and arrangement of the several parts, which will be more fully hereinafter described and claimed, and illustrated in the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a plan view of a sealed registry-envelop with my improved fastening device thereon. Fig. 2 is a similar view of the upper portion of said envelop, showing the flap open prior to the sealing operation. Fig. 3 is a detail view of the engaging member of the fastening device. Fig. 4 is a similar view of the securing member of said fastener. Fig. 5 is an enlarged section through the fastener when the parts thereof are in engagement with each other and also showing the adjoining portions of the envelop; and Figs. 6 and

7 are views of the blanks prior to being shaped into the engaging and securing members, respectively, of the fastener.

Referring to the figures by numerals of reference, 1 is an ordinary envelop having a flap 2, which is pasted upon the side flaps 3 and together therewith forms the body of the envelop, as ordinarily. Prior to the securing of the flap 2 in position upon the side flaps it is inserted into the securing member of the envelop-fastener. This member, as illustrated in the drawings, comprises a body portion 4, having longitudinally-extending slots 5 at the edges thereof and inwardly-turned flanges 6, which extend under the body and are for the purpose of clamping the flap 2, which has been inserted through the slot 5 against the inner surface of said body portion. Bails 7 are struck up from the body 4 of this strip, and the strip 8, which is formed intermediate the bails, has oppositely-extending tongues 9 thereon and a longitudinally-extending rib 10. The bails are normally arranged at right angles to the body 4, as illustrated in Fig. 4.

The engaging member of the fastener is secured to the free edge of the closing-flap 11 of the envelop. This member also comprises a body portion 12, having slots 13 at the edges thereof and inwardly-turned flanges 14, which are provided at their edges with ears 15, having apertures 16 therein. This member is fastened to the flap by inserting the free edge thereof through the slots 13 and bending said edge backward and over the ears 15 and then pasting the same upon flanges 14. The ears are so spaced apart that when the two fastening members are placed one upon the other said ears will be in position between the bails 7.

To seal the device, the engaging member is placed upon the securing member and pressed downward thereupon. The ribs 10 will force ears 15 laterally and under the bails 7, and at the same time said bails will be forced downward upon the ears and will press them into the apertures 17, formed by striking said bails from the body 4. The tongues 9 will serve as barbs to prevent the withdrawal of the ears 15 from said apertures after said ears have been forced thereinto, and it will therefore be obvious that it will be impossible to detach the two members of the fasteners from



each other without so mutilating the envelop as to render the same worthless. The two members of the fasteners are formed from blanks, such as illustrated in Figs. 6 and 7, and the fasteners can be sold in this form and the blanks readily bent into the required form when being attached to envelops ordinarily in use. While the fastener is particularly adapted for registry-envelops, I do not desire to restrict myself to such use, as they may be employed equally as well upon ordinary envelops.

In the foregoing description I have shown the preferred form of my invention; but I do not limit myself thereto, as I am aware that modifications may be made therein without departing from the spirit or sacrificing the advantages thereof, and I therefore reserve the right to make such changes as fairly fall within the scope of my invention.

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

1. The combination with an envelop having a sealed flap and a closing-flap; of a fastening member formed in a single piece of metal and having slots at the edges thereof for the reception of one edge of the closing-flap, inwardly-extending flanges to said member, ears extending therefrom and having apertures therein, said ears being adapted to project through the closing-flap, and a securing member upon the sealed flap adapted to be engaged by said ears.

2. The combination with an envelop having a sealed flap and a closing-flap; of an engaging member formed in a single piece of metal and having longitudinally-extending

slots in the sides thereof for the reception of the closing-flap, inwardly-extending flanges to said member, ears extending from the edges of the flanges and at angles thereto, said ears having apertures therein, a securing member formed in a single piece of metal and having a longitudinally-extending slot in the edge thereof for the reception of the sealed flap, inwardly-extending flanges to said member projecting under the sealed flap, bails struck up from said member, strips intermediate the bails, barbs thereon, and oppositely-extending tongues upon said strip.

3. In a fastener for envelops the combination with an engaging member formed in a single piece of metal and comprising a body portion, inwardly-extending flanges at the sides thereof and ears extending from the adjoining edges of said flanges and having apertures therein, the sides of said member being provided with longitudinal slots; of a securing member formed in a single piece of metal and comprising a body portion having longitudinally-extending slots at the sides thereof, inwardly-turned flanges, bails struck up from the body portion and forming apertures therein, a strip intermediate said bails, a longitudinally-extending rib upon the strip and oppositely-projecting tongues on said strip.

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

STERLING N. FLIEGER.

Witnesses:

CHAS. B. HASKELL,  
EDWARD S. MORSCH.