

No. 754,239.

PATENTED MAR. 8, 1904.

A. A. RHEUTAN.  
ENVELOP FASTENER.  
APPLICATION FILED AUG. 3, 1903.

NO MODEL.

FIG. 1.

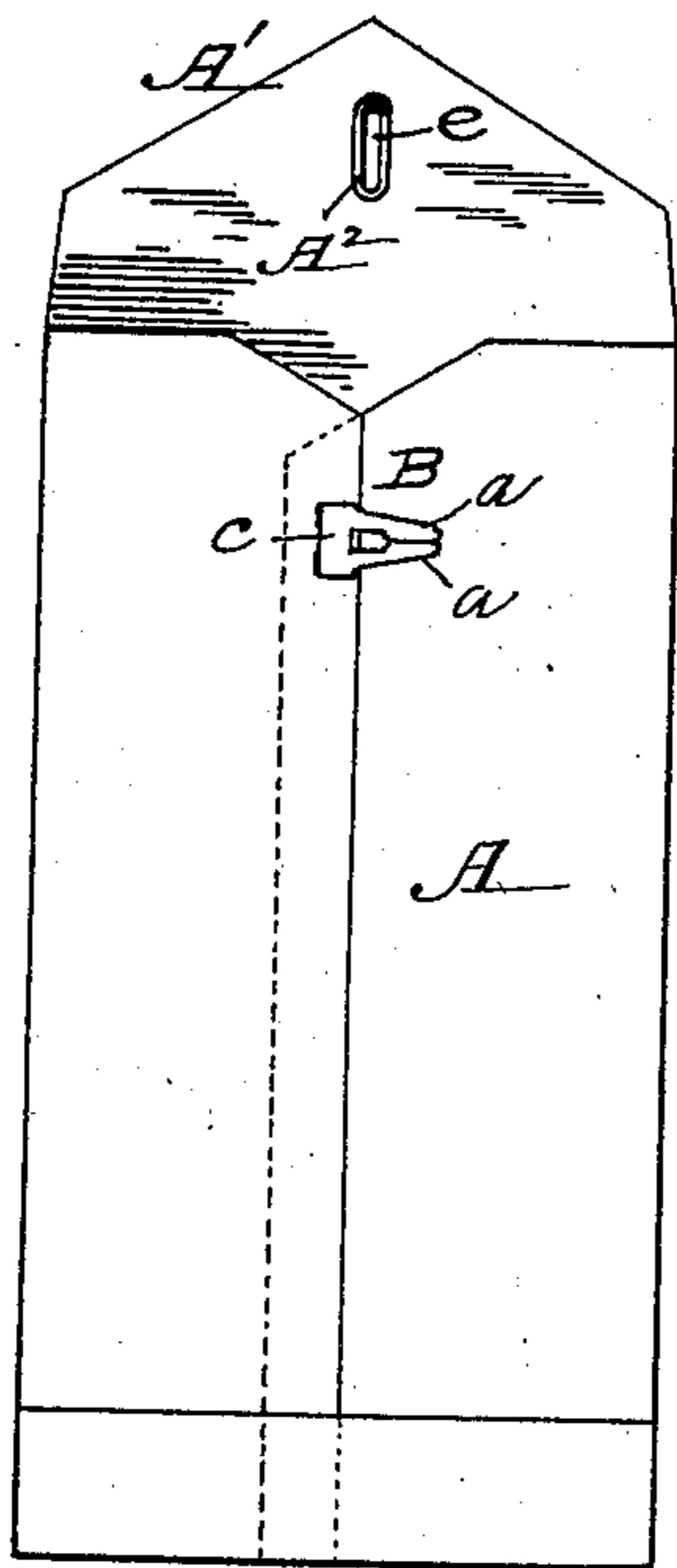


FIG. 2.

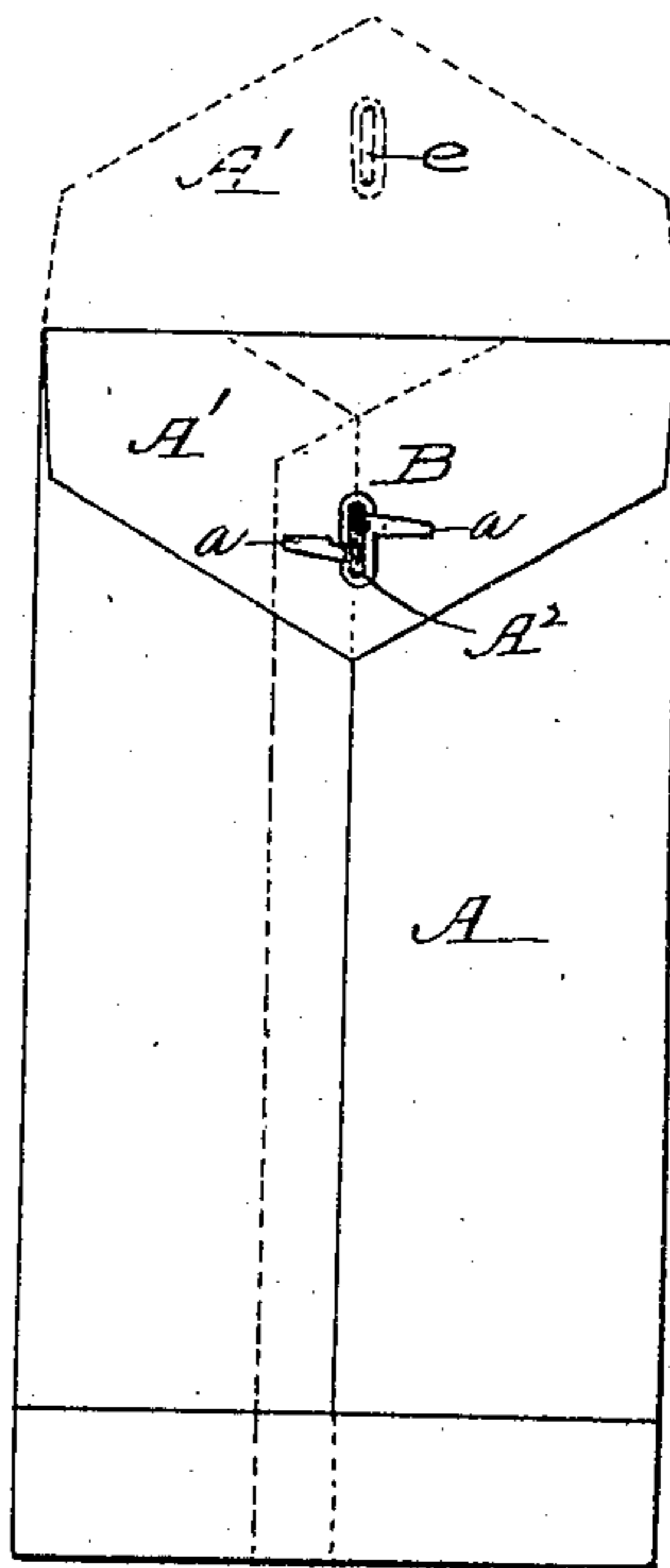


FIG. 3.

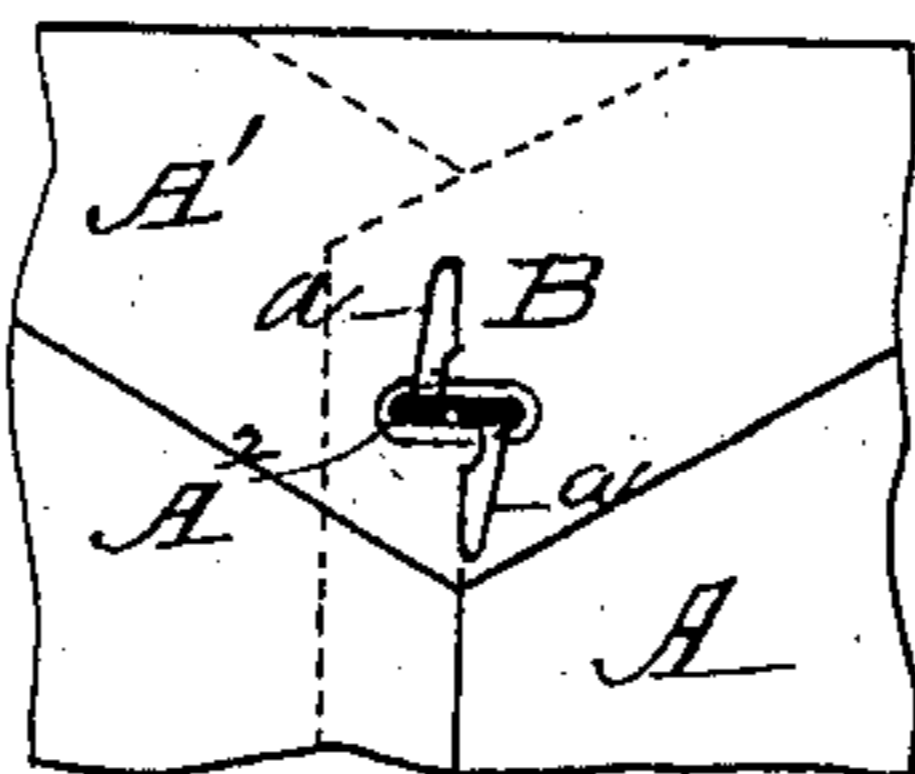


FIG. 4.

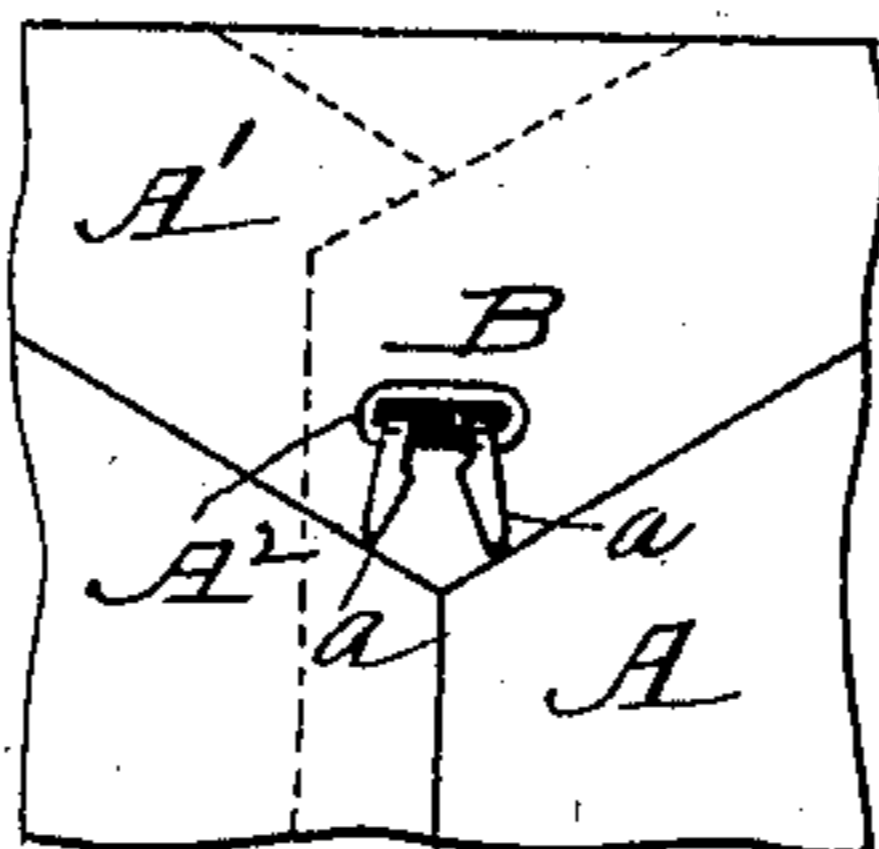


FIG. 5.

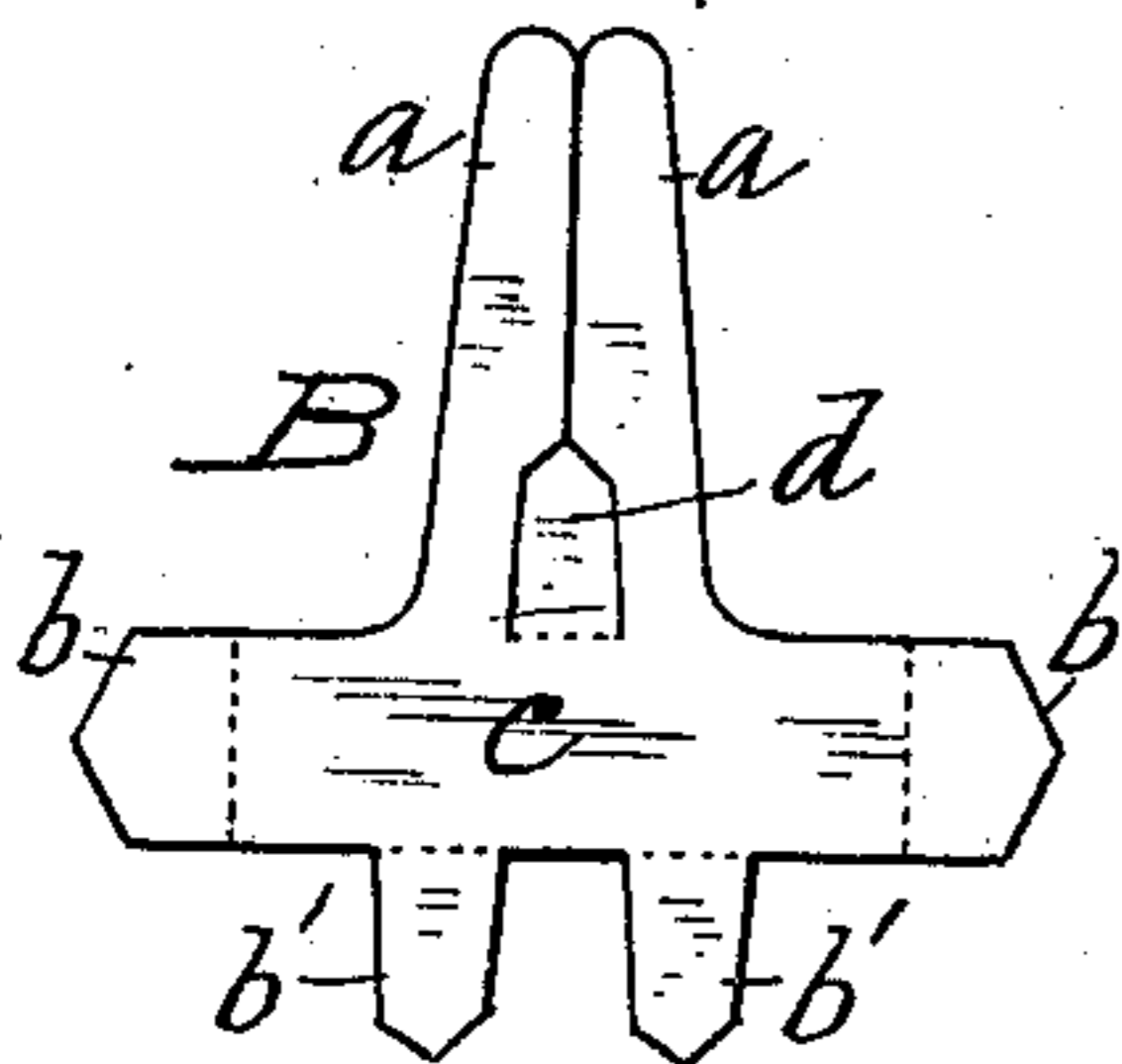


FIG. 7.

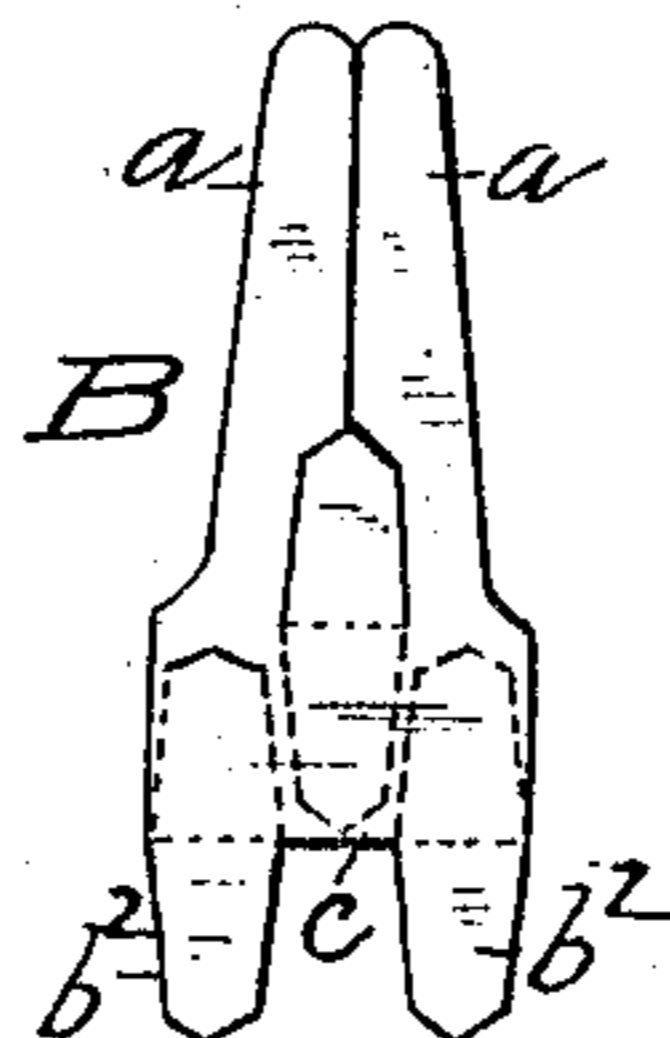
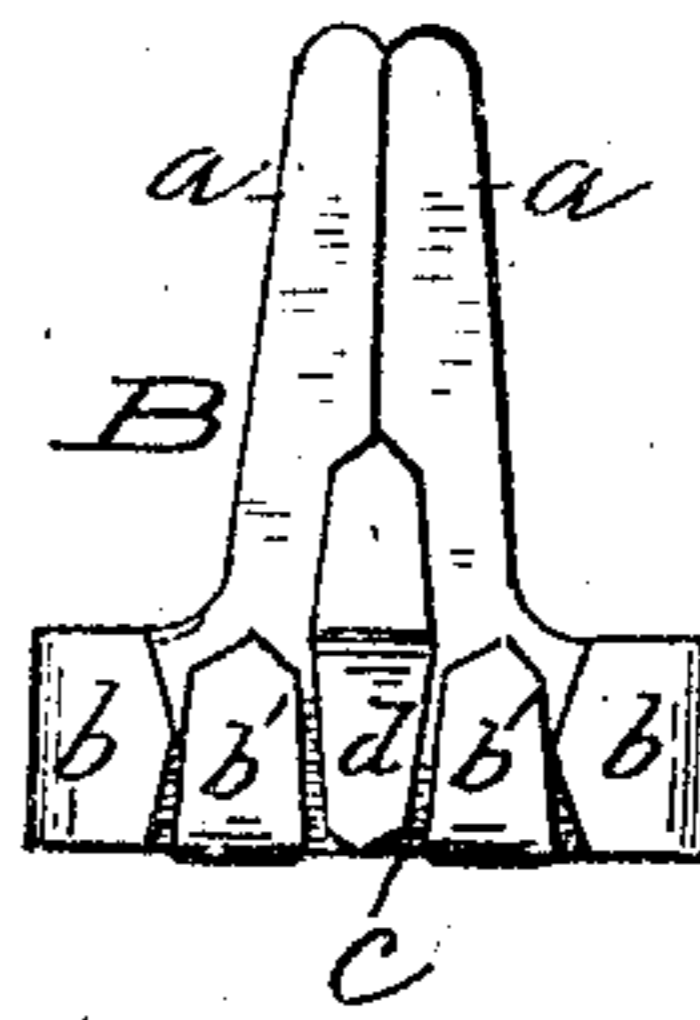


FIG. 6.



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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ABRAM A. RHEUTAN, OF WORCESTER, MASSACHUSETTS.

## ENVELOP-FASTENER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 754,239, dated March 8, 1904.

Application filed August 3, 1903. Serial No. 167,979. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, ABRAM A. RHEUTAN, of the city and county of Worcester and State of Massachusetts, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Envelop-Fasteners; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description thereof, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, forming a part of this specification, and in which—

Figure 1 represents an ordinary "merchandise-envelop" with my improved fastener applied thereto and the top flap of the envelop open. Fig. 2 is a similar view to Fig. 1 with said top flap closed and fastened. Figs. 3 and 4 show modifications in the way of applying my said improved fasteners to envelops, which will be hereinafter described. Fig. 5 represents, upon an enlarged scale, a detached top view of the envelop-fastener blank, all the following figures also being shown upon the same enlarged scale. Fig. 6 is a bottom view of the fastener with the holding-clips folded against the body thereof, and Fig. 7 shows a modification in the construction which will be hereinafter described.

The object of my invention is to provide a fastener for what are commonly known as "merchandise-envelops," which may be fastened at the base of and between the prongs in addition to the other usual means of fastening.

Said invention consists of an envelop-fastener having a central body provided with suitable fastening-clips and two prongs, one of said fastening-clips being located at the base of and between said two prongs, as will be hereinafter more fully set forth.

In order that others may better understand the nature and purpose of my said invention, I will now proceed to describe it more in detail with reference to the accompanying drawings.

In said drawings, A represents an ordinary merchandise-envelop, and B my improved fastener for fastening the loose flap A' thereof when folded down onto the body of the envelop, as is shown in Fig. 2, said flap being

provided with an eyeleted opening A<sup>2</sup> for the prongs *a a* of the fastener to be passed through in fastening the flap.

My invention relates to envelop-fasteners made from sheet metal and is attached to the envelop in a similar manner to other fasteners of this class by means of suitable clips projecting from the body *c* of the fastener, which are adapted to be passed through the proper place on the envelop and bent against the inner side thereof.

My said improved fastener is made with a central body *c*, having a suitable number of fastening-clips and two long prongs *a a* projecting therefrom. One of said clips, *d*, is located between and at the base of said prongs, being formed by cutting away a portion of the inner edge of each prong. Two clips *b b* project one from each end of body *c*, and two clips *b' b'* project from the side of said body at the opposite side from prongs *a a* and substantially in alinement one with one prong and the other with the other prong, as is shown in the drawings. While I prefer to use both the end and side clips *b b b' b'*, since practically the same result may be obtained by leaving off the end clips *b b*, I reserve the right to do so in practice and make said device as is shown in Fig. 7.

The essential feature of my invention consists in forming the clip *d*, as shown and described, at the base of and between the prongs *a a*, in combination with the other parts of the fastener.

The advantage of forming the clip *d* at the base of the prongs *a* is twofold. In the first place the fastener is securely held against the lateral strain produced in bending over the prongs after they are passed through the opening in the top flap to fasten said flap down by means of the two clips *b' b'*, and said two prongs being partly cut away at their base ends are rendered more pliable and may be easily bent and twisted in the fingers to spring them apart, as is indicated in Fig. 4, thereby more securely holding them from withdrawing from the opening in the flap and in consequence securely holding the same in its closed posi-

tion in transportation through the mails. When thus bent apart, it is preferable to bend them over the flap in the same direction, as is shown in Fig. 4, instead of in opposite directions, as is shown in the other figures of the drawings.

By the construction described it is obvious that a very strong fastening is produced and which may be secured to the envelop in a very firm and rigid manner, not liable to be torn or displaced therefrom by any ordinary usage.

The eyeleted opening through which the prongs are passed in the top flap is made in the form of a narrow slot, and therefore prevents any play or looseness of the fastening when adjusted in place, and secured by bending down its prongs in the usual way. I do not make any claim, however, to this feature

of the construction; neither do I claim the use of the central clip *d* in a broad sense.

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

An envelop-fastener, comprising a central body part, having two long prongs projecting from the side thereof, a clip located between and at the base of said prongs, formed by cutting away a portion of the inner edge of each prong and attached to the central body about on a line with its side edge, and other suitable holding-clips also projecting from said central body, substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

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Witnesses:

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