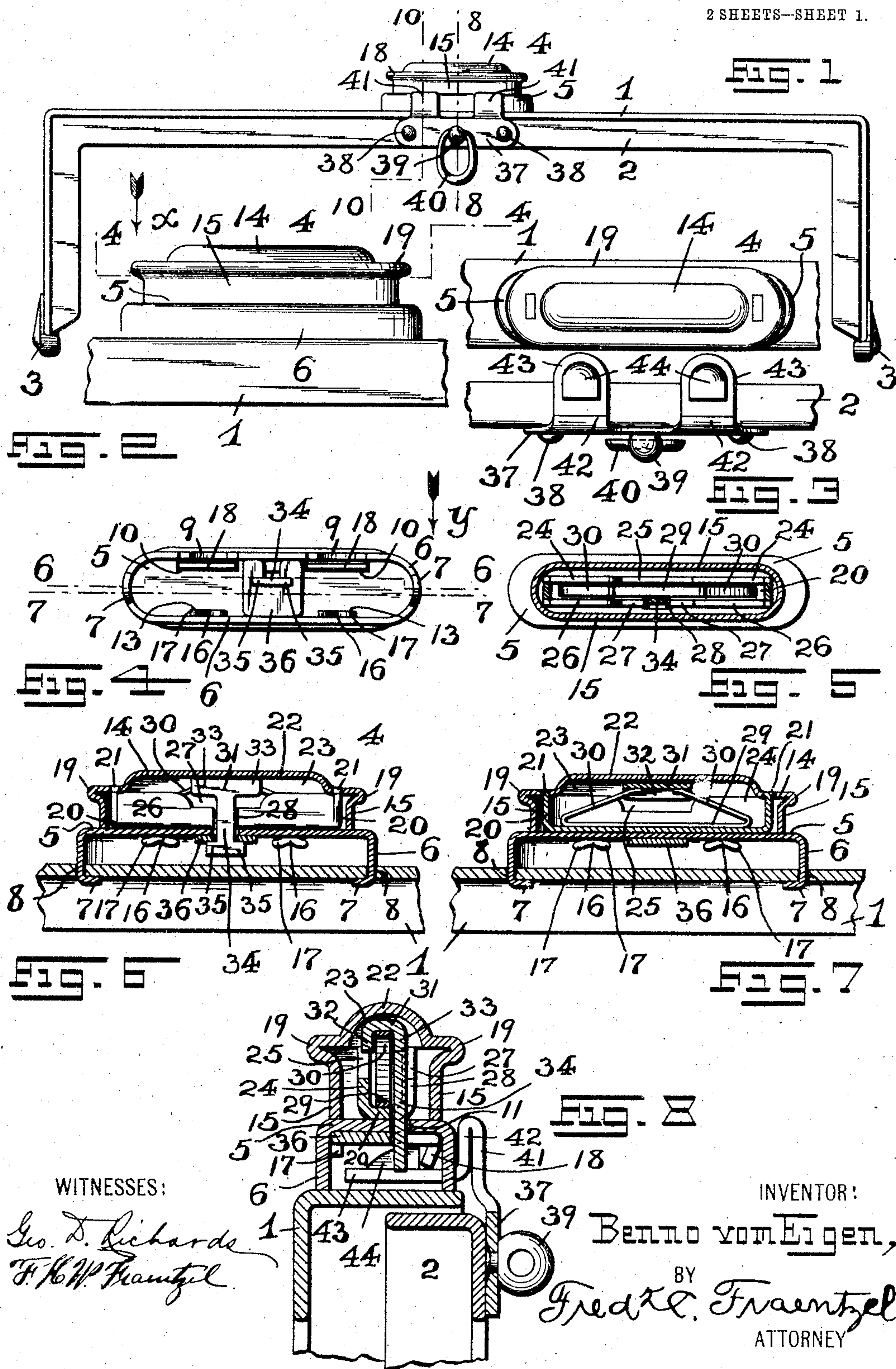


B. VOM EIGEN.
BAG FASTENER.

APPLICATION FILED JUNE 28, 1904.

2 SHEETS—SHEET 1.



WITNESSES:

Geo. D. Richards
F. H. W. Fraentzel

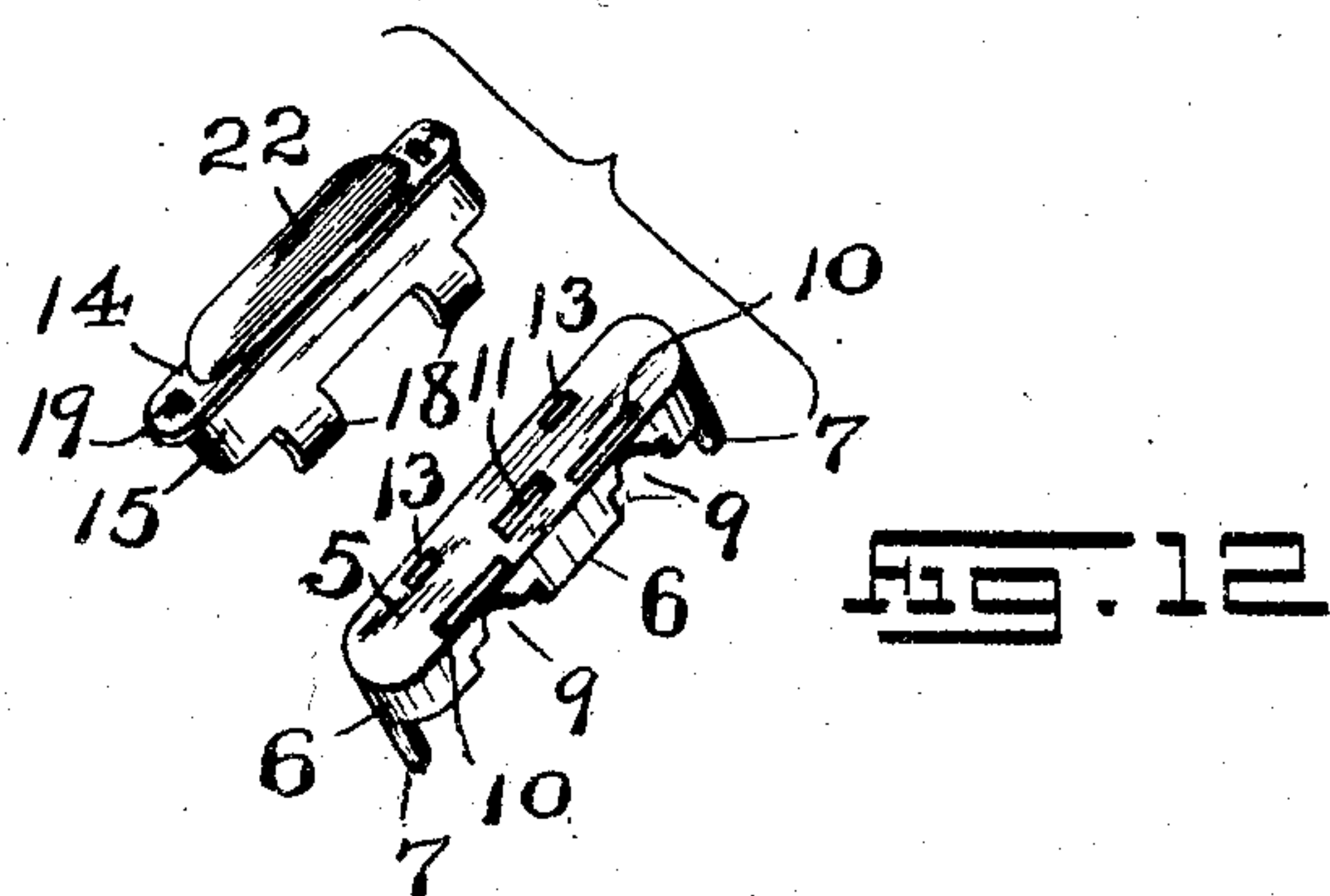
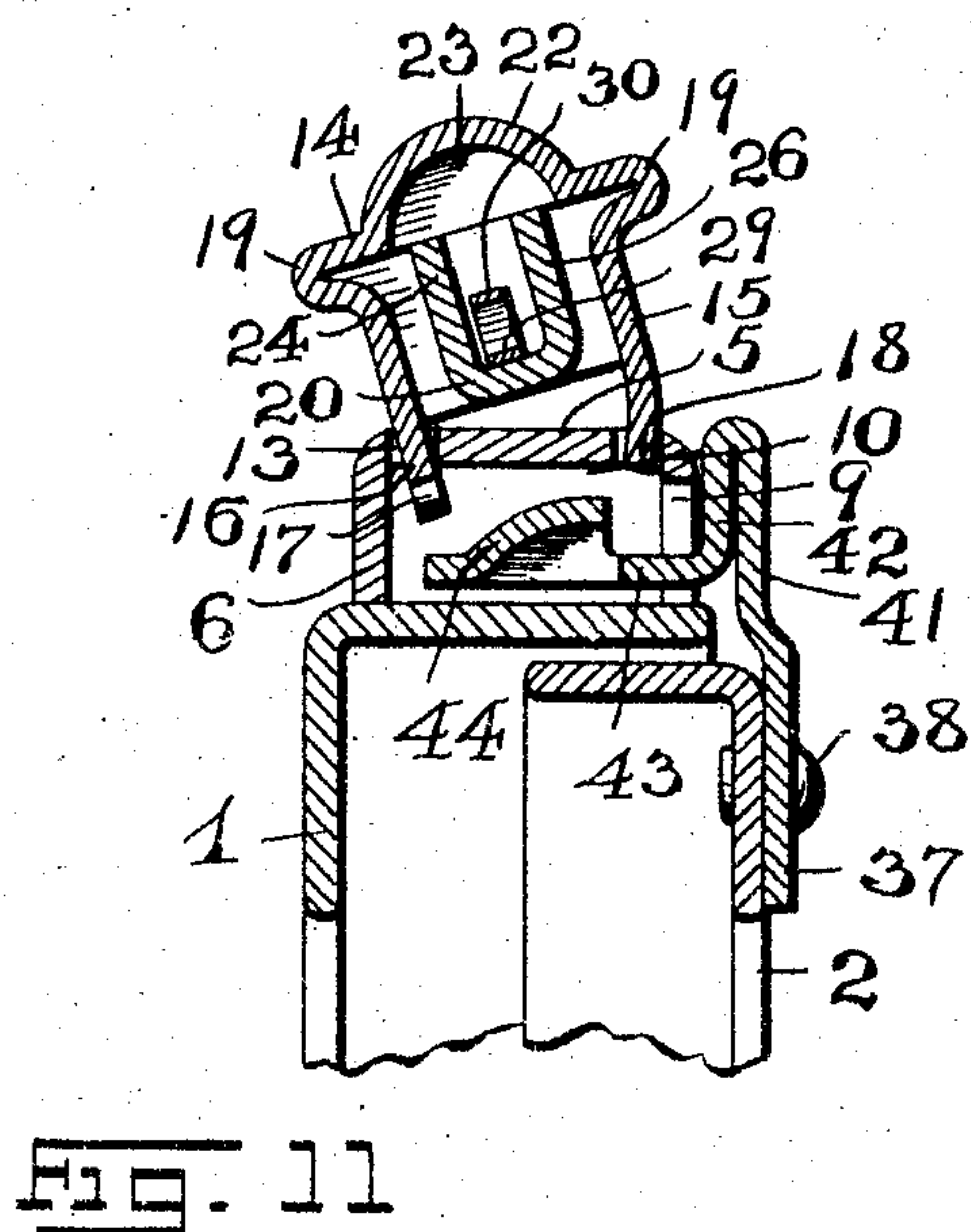
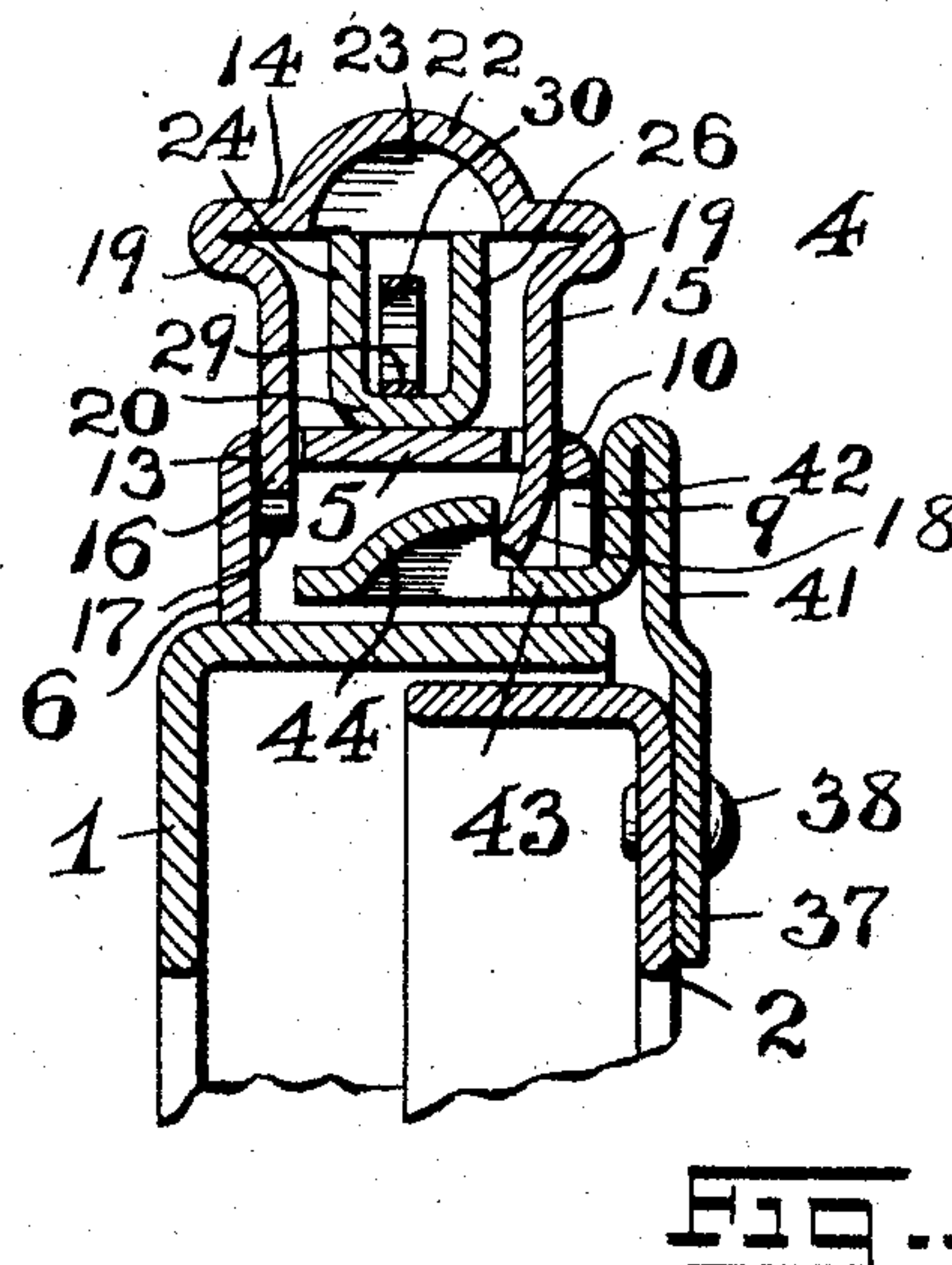
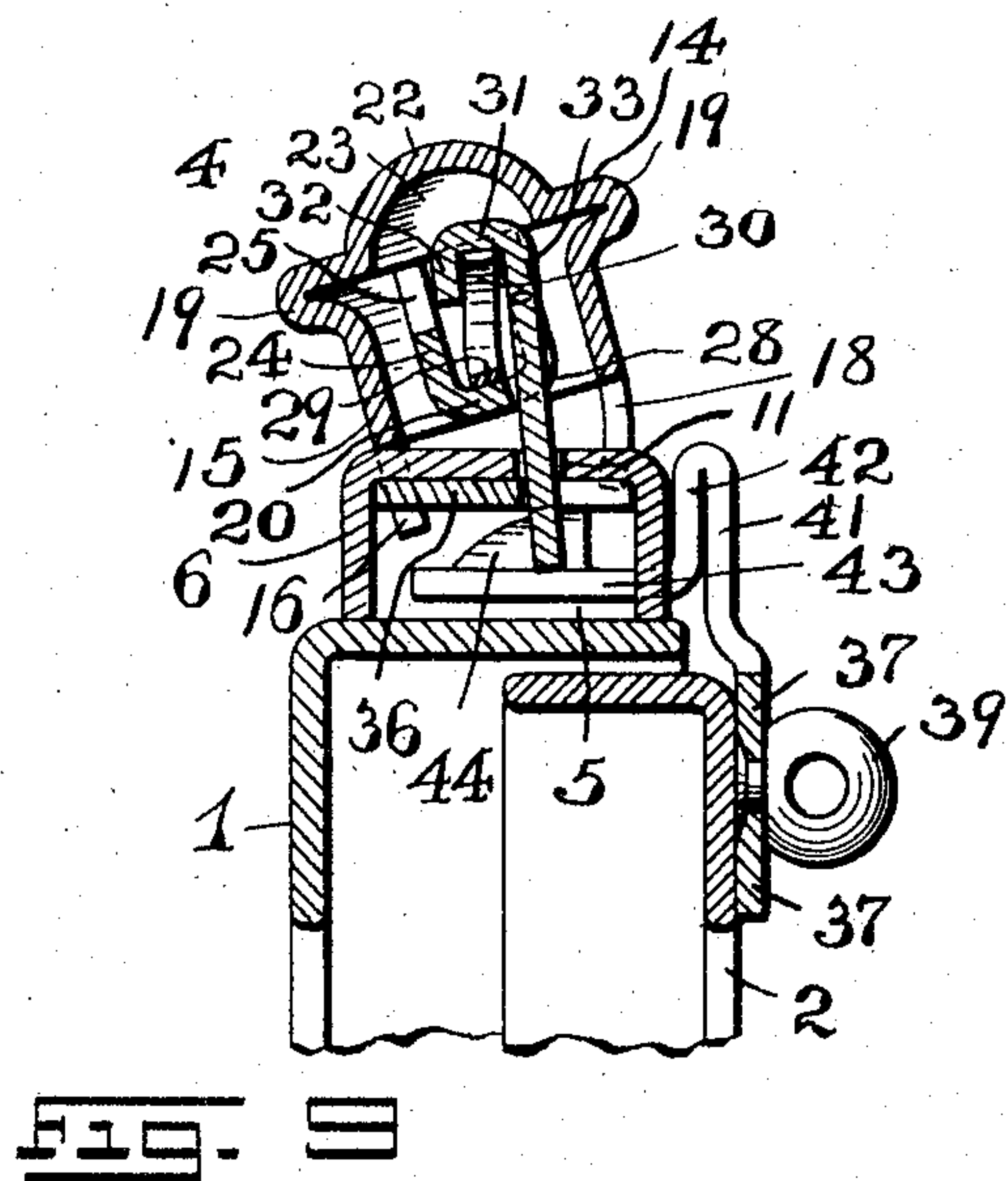
INVENTOR:

Benno vom Eigen,
BY
Fred C. Fraentzel
ATTORNEY

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2 SHEETS—SHEET 2.



WITNESSES:

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INVENTOR:

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

BENNO VOM EIGEN, OF NEWARK, NEW JERSEY, ASSIGNOR TO AUG. GOERTZ & CO., OF NEWARK, NEW JERSEY, A FIRM.

BAG-FASTENER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 778,230, dated December 27, 1904.

Application filed June 28, 1904. Serial No. 214,446.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, BENNO VOM EIGEN, a citizen of the United States, residing at Newark, in the county of Essex and State of New Jersey, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Bag-Fasteners; 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, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and to figures of reference marked thereon, which form a part of this specification.

My present invention has reference to improvements in bag-fasteners for use with the hinged or pivoted frame-sections of bags, satchels, and the like; and the invention has for its principal objects to provide a neatly and cheaply constructed bag-fastener which shall be of a strong and durable construction, the parts of which can be quickly assembled, and the complete fastener being easily secured in position upon one of the bag frame-sections, so as to be brought in holding engagement with a catch device upon the other bag frame-section to retain the said frame-sections in their closed but separable relation.

The invention consists, primarily, in the novel construction of bag-frame fastener hereinafter set forth; and, furthermore, this invention consists in such arrangements and combinations of parts, as well as in the details of the construction thereof, as will be more fully described in the following detailed description of the invention and then finally embodied in the clauses of the claim which are appended to and which form an essential part of this specification.

The invention is clearly illustrated in the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a side elevation of a bag-frame and a front view of a bag-fastener embodying the principles of this invention, showing the separable parts of the fastener in their locked or holding engagement. Fig. 2 is a rear view of the bag-fastener and a portion of the frame-section, said view being made on an enlarged scale; and Fig. 3 is a top view of the bag-fastener and holding-catch, the

parts being represented in their separated relation. Fig. 4 is a bottom view of the lock-casing detached from the bag frame-section. Fig. 5 is a horizontal section taken on line 5 5 in Fig. 2 of the drawings looking in the direction of the arrow *x*. Fig. 6 is a longitudinal vertical section taken on line 6 6 in Fig. 4 of the drawings looking in the direction of the arrow *y*, said view showing the inner lock mechanism in side elevation; and Fig. 7 is a central longitudinal vertical section of the bag-fastener, taken on line 7 7 in said Fig. 4. Fig. 8 is a transverse vertical section on still another increased scale, said section being taken on line 8 8 in said Fig. 1 and showing the two frame-sections and the parts of the bag-fastener in their locked or holding engagement; and Fig. 9 is a similar section showing the inner mechanism of the bag-fastener in its actuated position to permit the separable relation of the bag frame-sections. Fig. 10 is a transverse vertical section taken on line 10 10 in said Fig. 1, showing the locked or holding engagement of an upper pivotal box of the bag-fastener on the one frame-section, with a catch on the other frame-section, when the two frame-sections are in their closed relation; and Fig. 11 is a similar section taken on the same line in said Fig. 1, but illustrating the parts in their separated relation when the two bag frame-sections are about to be opened. Fig. 12 is a collective perspective view of the two boxes or casings of the bag-fastener, and Fig. 13 is a collective perspective view of the various parts of the lock mechanism.

Similar characters of reference are employed in the above-described views to indicate corresponding parts.

In the said drawings the reference characters 1 and 2 indicate a pair of bag frame-sections of any usual configuration and construction, the same being pivotally connected at their lower end portions 3 in any well-known manner.

The bag-fastener is indicated by the reference character 4, and the same comprises a lower box or casing 5, having a marginal supporting edge 6 and lugs 7, which extend

through suitably disposed holes or openings 8 in the upper central portion of the frame-section 1 and are bent over against the under side of the frame-section, as illustrated in Figs. 6 and 7 of the drawings. The said lower box or casing is provided in its front edge with one or more catch-receiving openings 9, and in its upper face there are a pair of lug-receiving openings 10 near its front marginal edge and having also a post-receiving opening 11, as clearly illustrated in Fig. 12. At or near the rear marginal edge of the said box or casing 5 and in its upper face are a pair of holes or openings 13, in which are loosely arranged, so as to be capable of oscillation in said holes or openings 13, pivots or hinge-lugs 16 of an upper box or casing 14, said box or casing having the marginal edge portions 15, from which the said pivots or hinge-lugs 16 extend, substantially as illustrated, and have their free end portions 17 slightly bifurcated and bent over against the inner upper face of the box or casing 5, as shown in Figs. 4, 6, and 7, to prevent the displacement of the upper box or casing 14 from the lower box or casing 5, but still permitting of its lifting and oscillatory arrangement in the manner of a hinge upon said lower box or casing 5. The said upper box or casing 14 is also made with downwardly-extending holding lugs or ears 18, which preferably curve in an inward direction, as shown in Fig. 12, and extend down into and through the lug-receiving openings 10 in the said lower box or casing, and thus are movably located within the said lower box or casing 5 directly back of the said catch-receiving openings 9 of said box or casing. The upper box or casing 14 is also preferably made with an ornamental marginal bead or rib 19, which serves as a lift or finger-piece for raising the said box or casing 14 when desired to separate the two frame-sections 1 and 2.

Within the upper box or casing 14 I have arranged and secured, by means of suitably-constructed holding-prongs 21, which extend into perforations in the top of the upper box or casing and are riveted or clenched over, a suitably-constructed spring receiving and retaining or holding box or shell 20, the lower closed portion of which is preferably made to rest directly upon the upper face of the lower box or casing 5, substantially as illustrated. The upper and closed portion of the upper box or casing 14 is preferably raised, as at 22, and as illustrated, so as to provide a slightly-chambered part, as at 23, directly above the open portion of the said box or shell 20, as clearly illustrated in Figs. 6 to 11, inclusive.

Referring now more particularly to Fig. 13 of the drawings, it will be seen that the said spring receiving and holding box or shell 20 is provided in one of its sides, as 24, with an open or cut-away part 25, and in its opposite side, 26, there is an open or cut-away part 27, formed with a guide or post-receiving open-

ing 28. Resting within the receiving portion of the said box or casing 20 and between the said sides 24 and 26 against lateral displacement, as clearly represented in the several figures of the drawings, is a spring, which consists, essentially, of a main body 29 and a pair of upwardly and inwardly inclining spring-arms 30. These arms 30 extend above the marginal edges of the sides 24 and 26 of the box or shell 20 and into the chambered part 23 of the upper box or casing 14, a suitable saddle or yoke 31 being arranged over the free end portions of said spring-arms 30, as shown, and the said saddle or yoke 31, which is preferably Ω -shaped in cross-section, having its side portions 32 and 33 normally and respectively arranged in the cut-away or open parts 25 and 27 of the sides 24 and 26 of said box or shell 20. Suitably connected with the side portion 33 of the said saddle or yoke 31 is a downwardly-extending post or bar 34, which is arranged in the guide 28 of said box or shell 20 and extends into and through the post-receiving opening 11 in the lower box or casing 5. That the said parts will be retained in their operative positions, (indicated in the several figures of the drawings,) with the upper box or casing 14 normally resting directly upon the upper surface of the lower box or casing 5 to bring the holding-lugs 18 directly back of the said receiving-openings 9 in said box or casing 5, the said post or bar 34 is made at its lower end with oppositely-extending projections 35, between the upper edges of which and the inner and upper surface of the lower box or casing 5 I have slipped a slotted holding-plate 36, as illustrated in Figs. 4, 5, 8, and 9, whereby the said post or bar 34 is held in place against the opposing spring action of the said spring-arms 30, and when the upper box or casing 14 is raised the edge portions of the open part 27 in the side 26 of the box or shell 20 and the lower edge portions of said projections 35 are brought in contact with one another, as will be clearly evident, and the upward pivotal or tipping movement of the parts is limited and any distortion of the said parts to too severe pressure against the upper box or casing by the operator is clearly overcome.

A holding or locking clasp 37 is secured upon the side of the other frame-section 2 by means of pins or rivets 38 or any other suitable fastening devices, the said plate being preferably provided with a knob 39, having a pivoted pull-piece 40. The said plate is also provided with upwardly-extending holding members 41, which are bent downwardly, as at 42, and then formed with inwardly-projecting fingers 43, provided with suitable holding portions or catches 44, substantially as illustrated.

When the two frame-sections 1 and 2 are in their closed relation, the said fingers 43 and

their catches 44 have been made to enter the chambered portion of the lower box or casing 5 through the openings 9, the said catches 44 having passed beneath the holding-lugs 18 of the upper casing or box 14 until the holding edges of said catches become located back of the said lugs 18, as clearly indicated in Figs. 8 and 10 of the drawings. To open or separate the two frame-sections, all that is necessary is to raise the upper box or casing 14 by the application of a slight pressure against its front face to the positions indicated in Figs. 9 and 11, whereby the holding-lugs 18 are raised above the catches 44, and the two frame-sections can then be readily separated, as will be clearly evident.

From the foregoing description it will be seen that I have devised a neat and simply-constructed bag-fastener of but few parts and of such construction that the parts can be readily assembled in their operative positions and when assembled will not get out of order.

I am aware that some changes may be made in the arrangements and combinations of the devices and parts, as well as in the details of the construction of the same, without departing from the scope of my present invention. Hence I do not limit my invention to the exact arrangements and combinations of the devices and parts as described in the foregoing specification and as illustrated in the accompanying drawings; nor do I confine myself to the exact details of the construction of any of the said parts.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim is—

1. A bag-fastener, comprising a lower box or casing adapted to be secured upon a bag frame-section, said box or casing being provided in its upper surface with a post-receiving opening and also with lug-receiving openings, and in one of its sides with a catch-receiving opening for the entrance into said box or casing of a holding-catch secured to another frame-section, an upper box or casing arranged upon said lower box or casing, a spring-retaining box or shell in said upper box or casing having an upper open portion, means for securing said spring-retaining box or shell in said upper box or casing, a spring in said spring-retaining box or shell having an upwardly-extending spring portion, a saddle placed over said spring portion, a post extending from said saddle through said post-receiving opening in the lower box or casing, means for securing said post in position, and holding-lugs on said upper box or casing extending through the lug-receiving openings in said lower box or casing for engagement with the holding-catch, substantially as and for the purposes set forth.

2. A bag-fastener, comprising a lower box or casing adapted to be secured upon a bag frame-section, said box or casing being provided in its upper surface with a post-receiving

ing opening and also with lug-receiving openings, and in one of its sides with a catch-receiving opening for the entrance into said box or casing of a holding-catch secured to another frame-section, an upper box or casing arranged upon said lower box or casing, a spring-retaining box or shell in said upper box or casing having an upper open portion, means for securing said spring-retaining box or shell in said upper box or casing, a spring in said spring-retaining box or shell having an upwardly-extending spring portion, a saddle placed over said spring portion, a post extending from said saddle through said post-receiving opening in the lower box or casing, oppositely-extending projections upon said post, a slotted holding-plate arranged over said projections for securing said post in position, and holding-lugs on said upper box or casing extending through the lug-receiving openings in said lower box or casing for engagement with the holding-catch, substantially as and for the purposes set forth.

3. A bag-fastener, comprising a lower box or casing adapted to be secured upon a bag frame-section, said box being provided in its upper face with a post-receiving opening and also with lug-receiving openings, and in one of its sides with a catch-receiving opening for the entrance into said box or casing of a holding-catch secured to another frame-section, an upper box or casing hinged upon the upper face of said lower box or casing, a spring-retaining box or shell in said upper box or casing having an upper open portion, means for securing said spring-retaining box or shell in said upper box or casing, a spring in said spring-retaining box or shell, consisting, essentially of a body 29 and a pair of upwardly-projecting and inwardly-extending spring-arms 30 extending from the upper open portion of said spring-retaining box or shell, a Π -shaped saddle arranged over the end portions of said spring-arms, a post extending from said saddle through the post-receiving opening in the lower box or casing, means for securing said post in position, and holding-lugs on said upper box or casing extending through the lug-receiving openings in said lower box or casing for engagement with the holding-catch, substantially as and for the purposes set forth.

4. A bag-fastener, comprising a lower box or casing adapted to be secured upon a bag frame-section, said box being provided in its upper face with a post-receiving opening and also with lug-receiving openings, and in one of its sides with a catch-receiving opening for the entrance into said box or casing of a holding-catch secured to another frame-section, an upper box or casing hinged upon the upper face of said lower box or casing, a spring-retaining box or shell in said upper box or casing, comprising a pair of longitudinally-extending side portions 24 and 26 having cut-

away portions, and said spring-retaining box or shell being provided with a main upper open portion, and one of its sides having a guide 28, means for retaining said spring-retaining box or shell in said upper box or casing, a spring in said spring-retaining box or shell, consisting, essentially, of a body 29 and a pair of upwardly-projecting and inwardly-extending spring-arms 30 extending from the upper open portion of said spring-retaining box or shell, a \cap -shaped saddle arranged over the end portions of said spring-arms, said saddle having its side pieces extending into the cut-away parts of the sides 24 and 26 of the said spring-retaining box or shell, a post extending from said saddle, said post being arranged in said guide 28 and extending through the post-receiving opening in the lower box or casing, means for securing said post in position, and holding-lugs on said upper box or casing extending through the lug-receiving openings in said lower box or casing for engagement with the holding-catch, substantially as and for the purposes set forth.

5. In a bag-fastener, the combination, with a movable lock casing or box and a holding catch-receiving means, of a spring-retaining box or shell in said casing, comprising a pair of longitudinally-extending side portions, and said spring-retaining box or shell being provided with a main upper open portion, a spring arranged in said spring-retaining box or shell, said spring having arms extending from the upper open portion of said spring-retaining box or shell, and means connected with said spring-arms for returning the lock casing or box to its normal initial position after having been moved, substantially as and for the purposes set forth.

6. In a bag-fastener, the combination, with a movable lock casing or box and a holding catch-receiving means, of a spring-retaining box or shell in said casing, comprising a pair of longitudinally-extending side portions having cut-away parts and one of said side portions being provided with a guide, the said spring-retaining box or shell being provided with a main upper open portion, a spring arranged in said spring-retaining box or shell, said spring having arms extending from the

upper open portion of said spring-retaining box or shell, a saddle arranged over said spring-arms and having its side portions extending into the cut-away parts of the side portions of said spring-retaining box or shell, an arm connected with said saddle and arranged in said guide, and a securing means on said arm, all arranged to return the lock-casing to its normal initial position after it has been moved, substantially as and for the purposes set forth.

7. In a bag-fastener, the combination, with a lower box or casing, an upper box or casing pivotally connected with said lower box or casing, and a holding catch-receiving means in said lower box or casing, of a \cup -shaped shell in said upper box or casing, means for securing the same in position, a spring in said shell having spring-arms extending above said shell, a \cap -shaped saddle upon said spring-arms, and means connected with said saddle having a portion connected with the lower box or casing, and all arranged to return the upper box or casing to its normal initial position after having been moved, substantially as and for the purposes set forth.

8. In a bag-fastener, the combination, with a lower box or casing, an upper box or casing pivotally connected with said lower box or casing, and a holding catch-receiving means in said lower box or casing, of a \cup -shaped shell in said upper box or casing, means for securing the same in position, a spring in said shell having spring-arms extending above said shell, a \cap -shaped saddle upon said spring-arms, and means connected with said saddle consisting of a downwardly-extending post, oppositely-extending projections upon the lower end portion of said post, and a lock-plate for securing said post to a portion of the lower box or casing, all arranged to return the upper box or casing to its normal initial position after it has been moved, substantially as and for the purposes set forth.

In testimony that I claim the invention set forth above I have hereunto set my hand this 24th day of June, 1904.

BENNO VOM EIGEN.

Witnesses:

FREDK. C. FRAENTZEL,
GEO. D. RICHARDS.