

W. H. HIGGINS.
PLAYING CARDS.

APPLICATION FILED DEC. 21, 1903.

2 SHEETS—SHEET 1.

Fig. 1

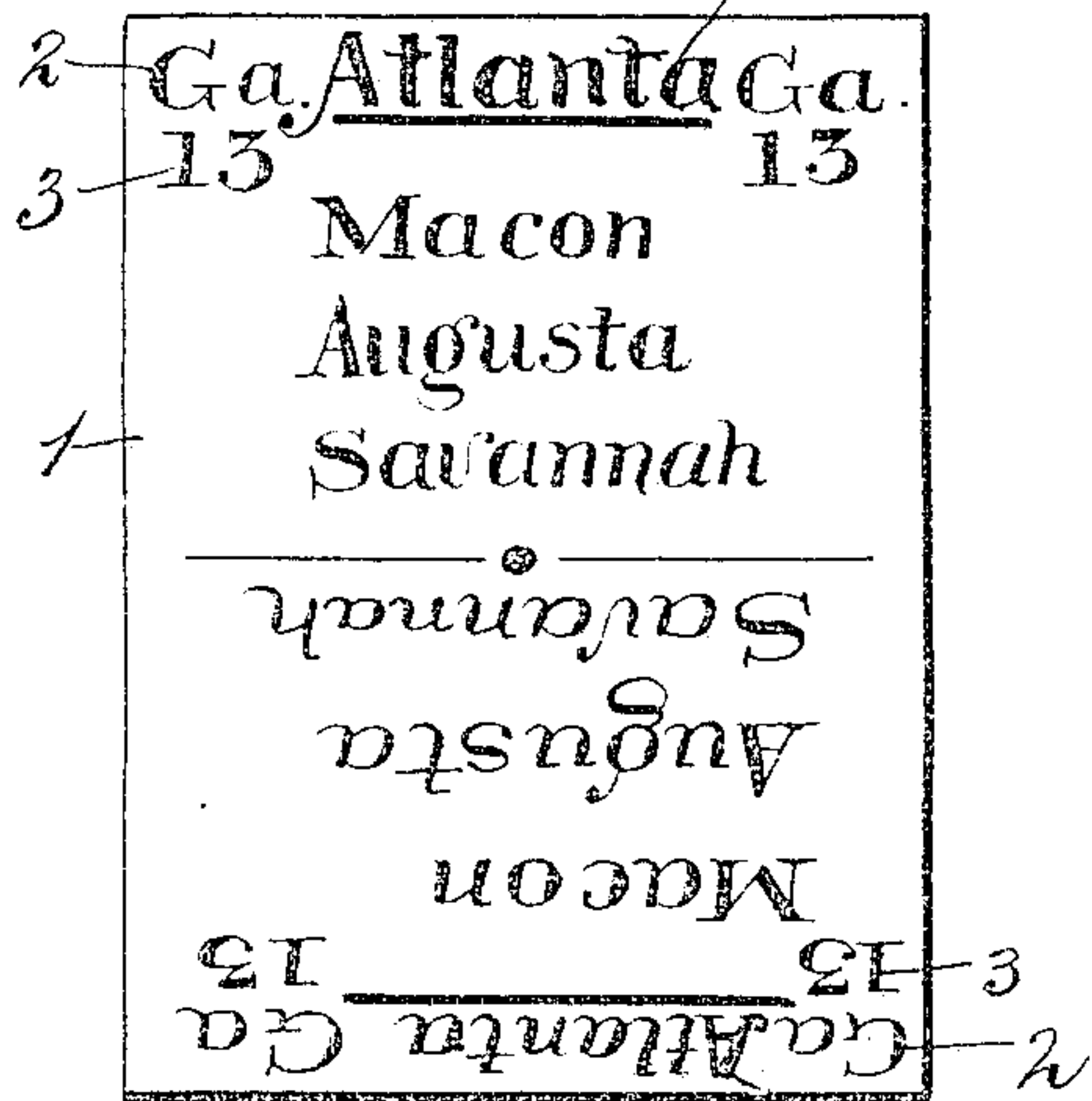


Fig. 2

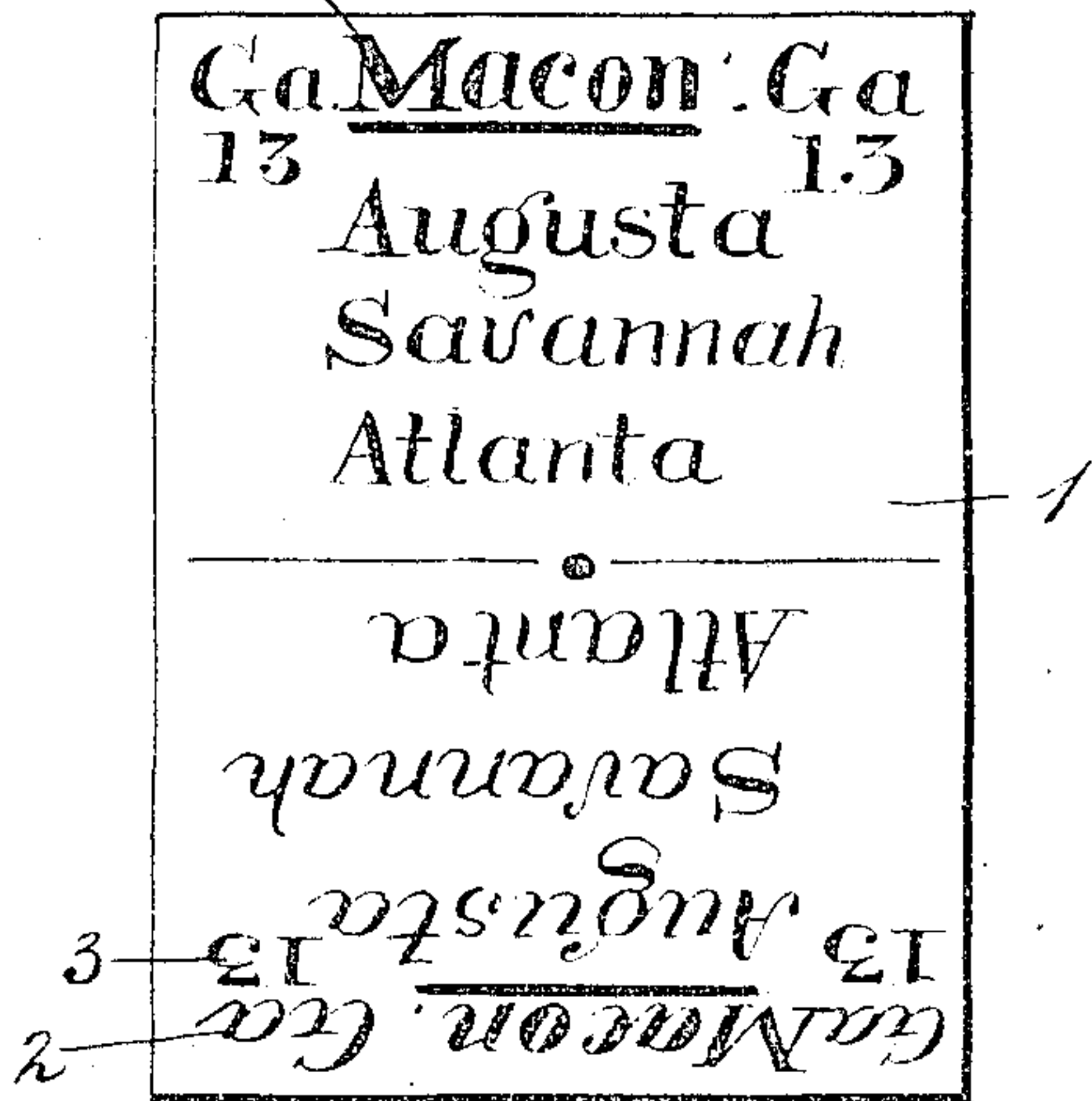


Fig. 3

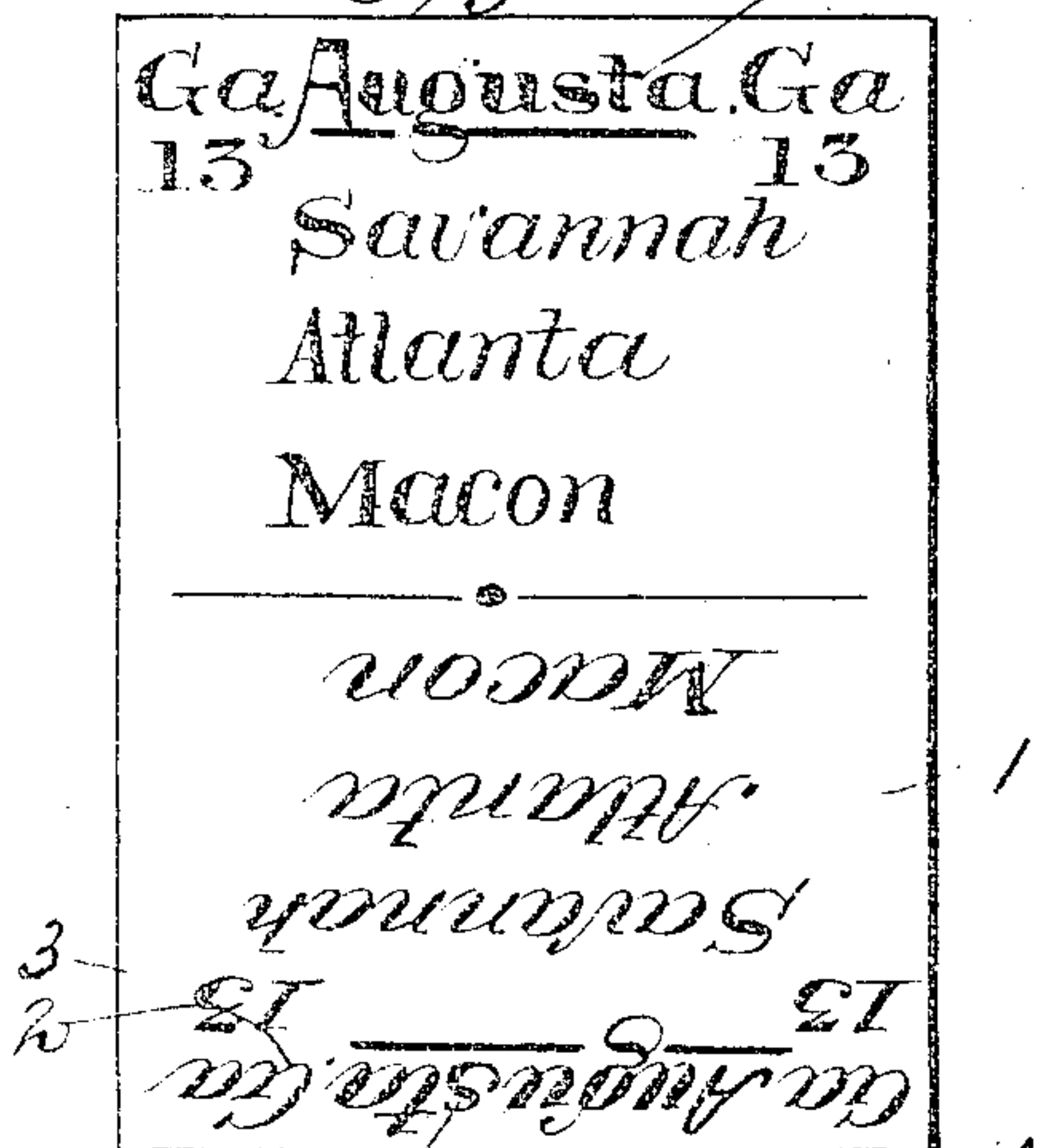


Fig. 4

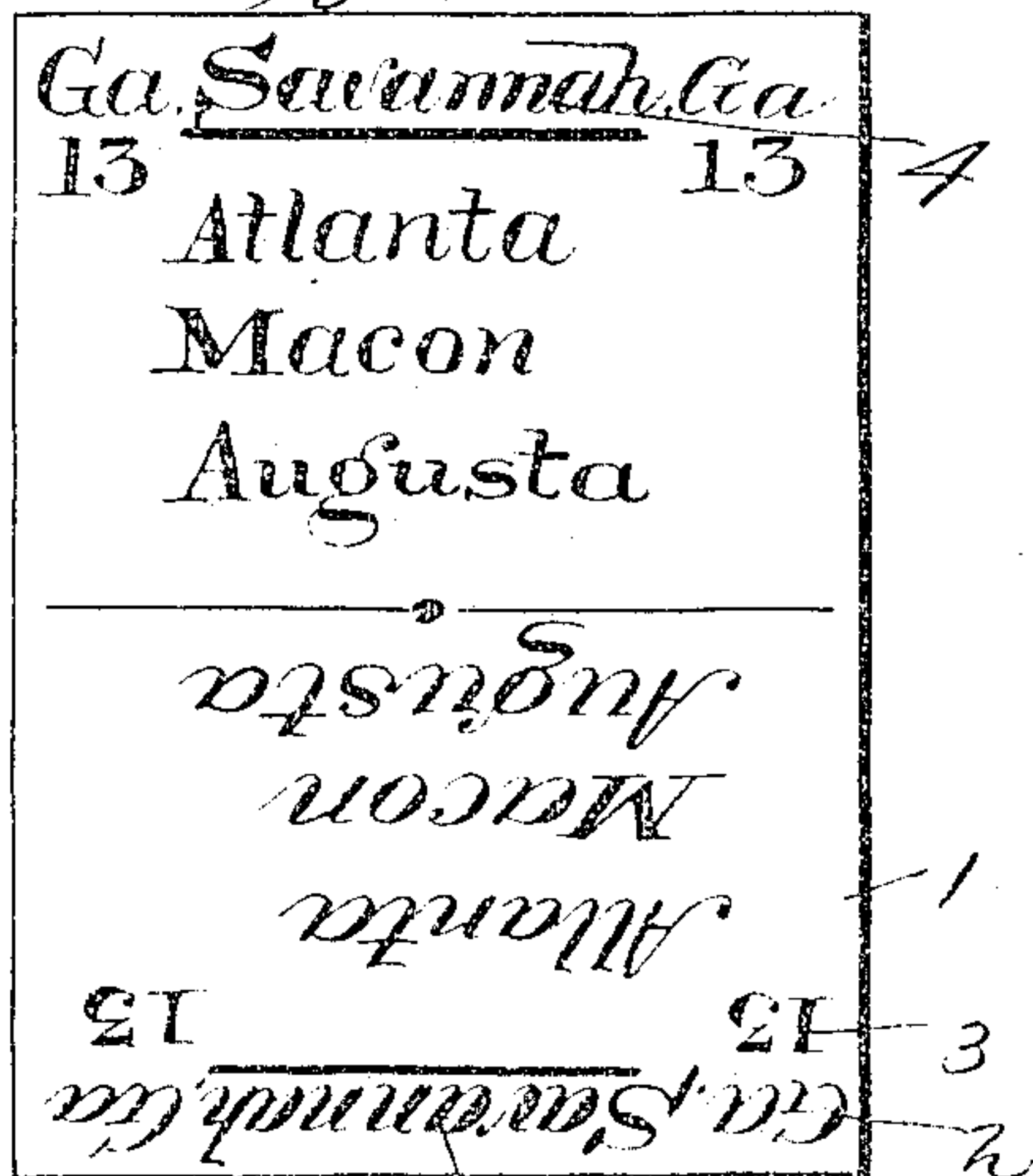
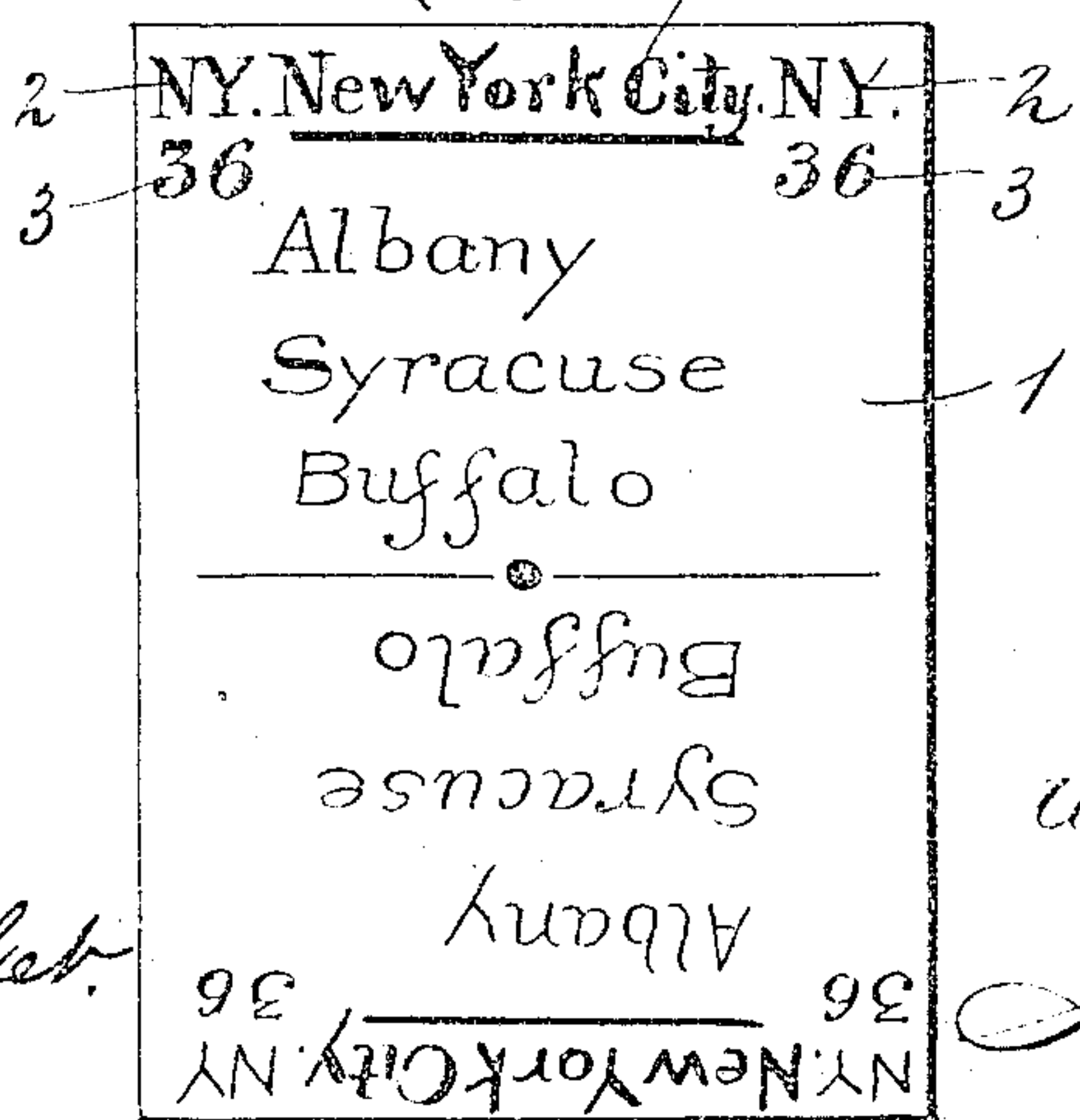


Fig. 5



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2 SHEETS—SHEET 2.

Fig. 6

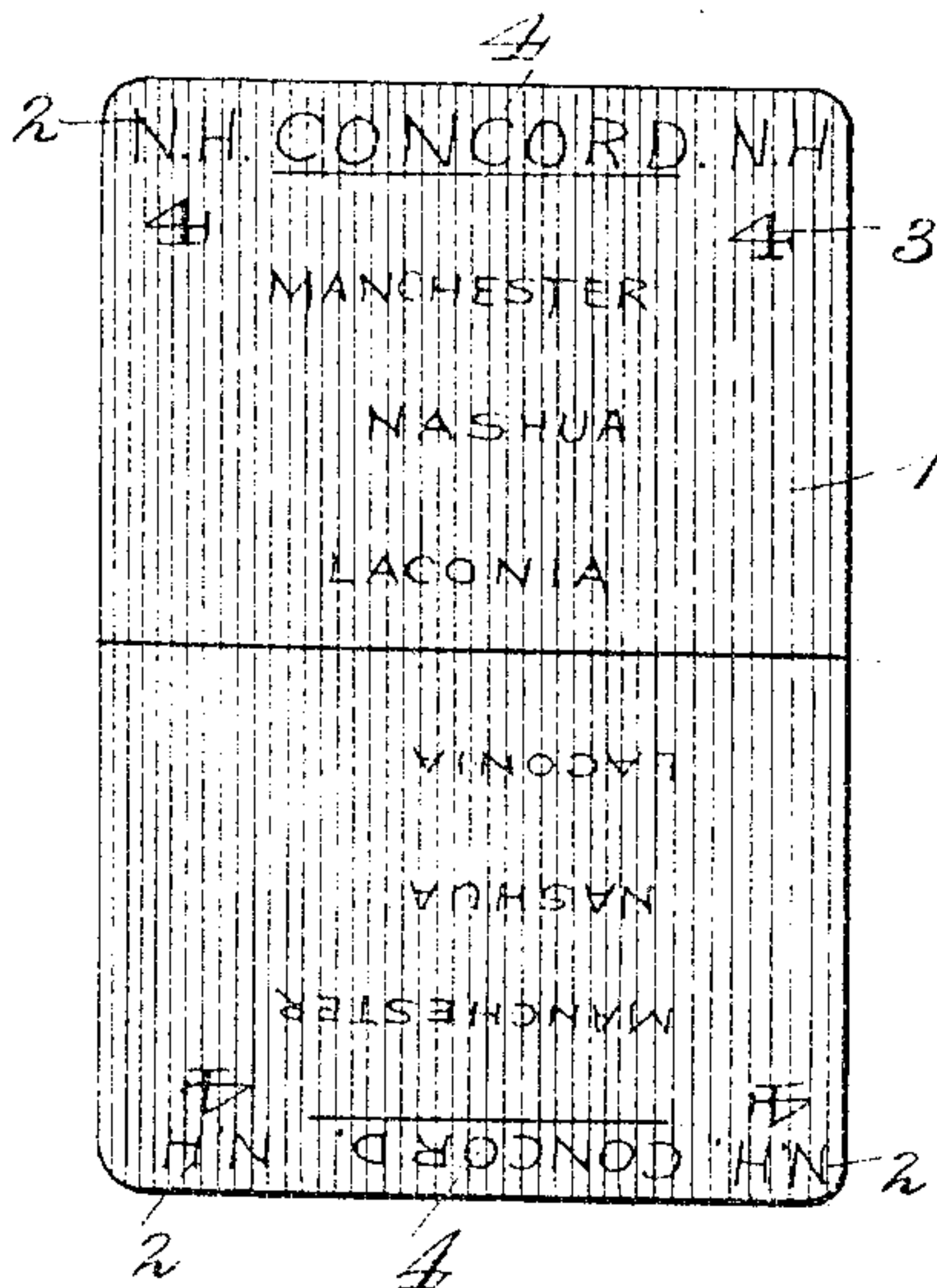


Fig. 7.

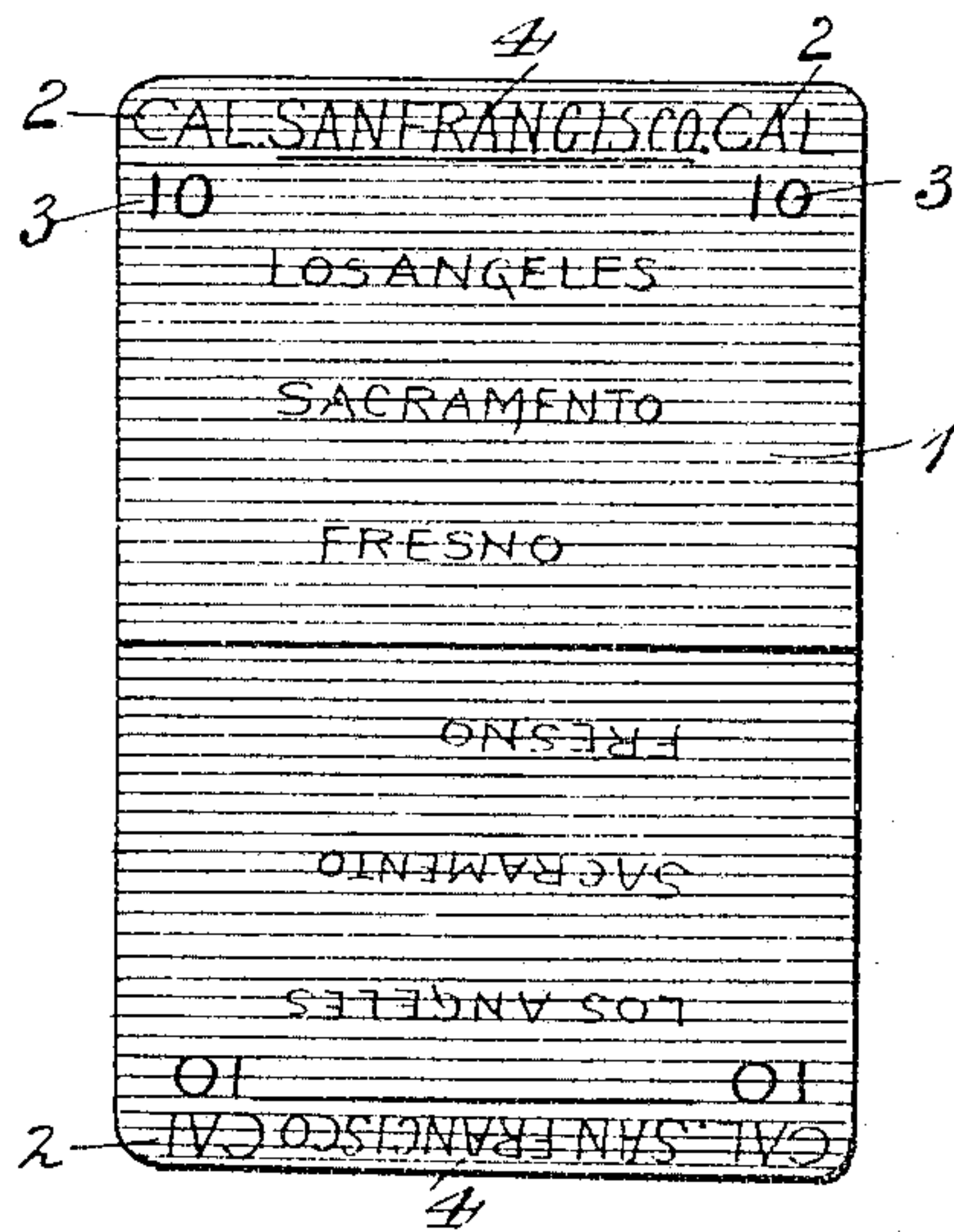


Fig. 8

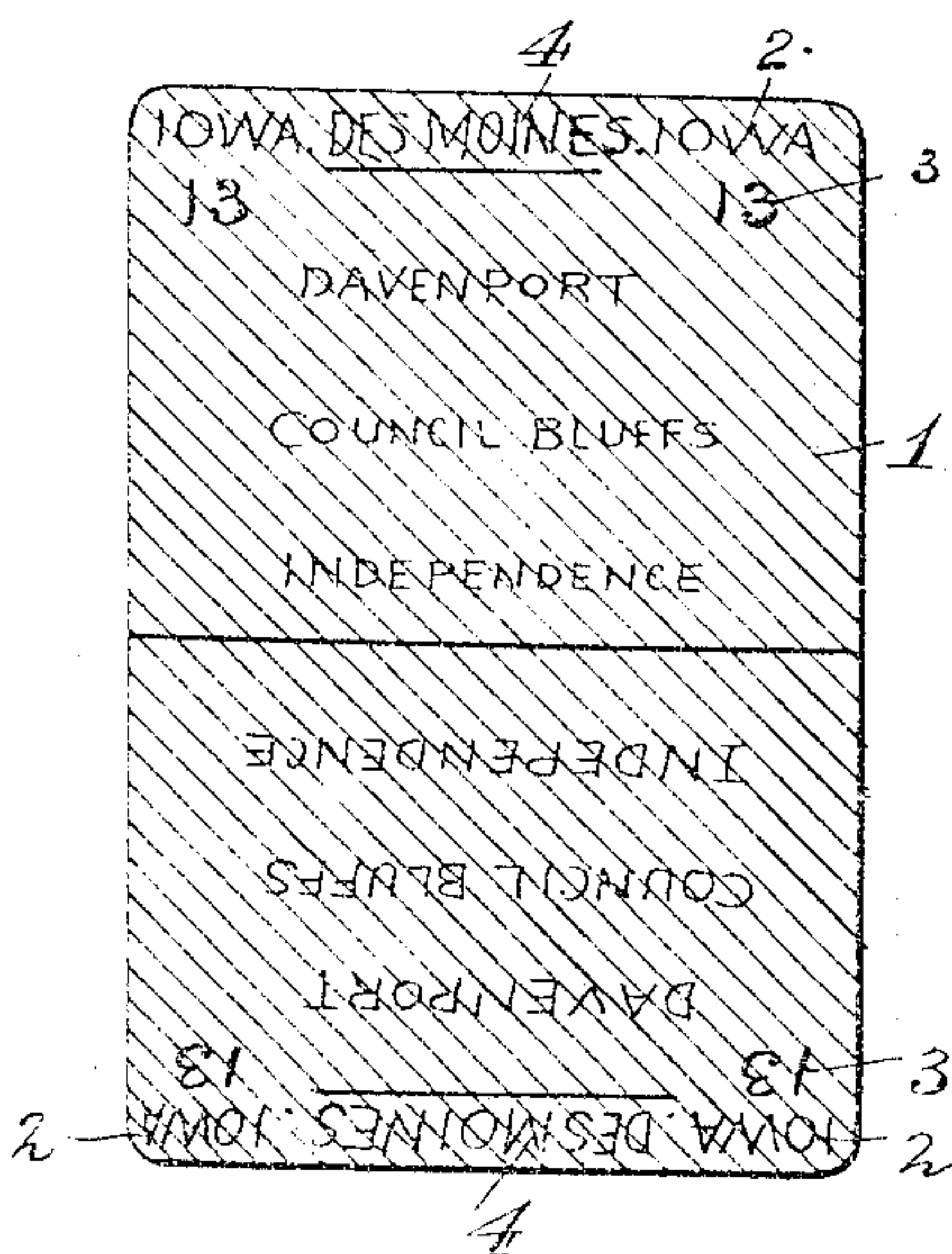
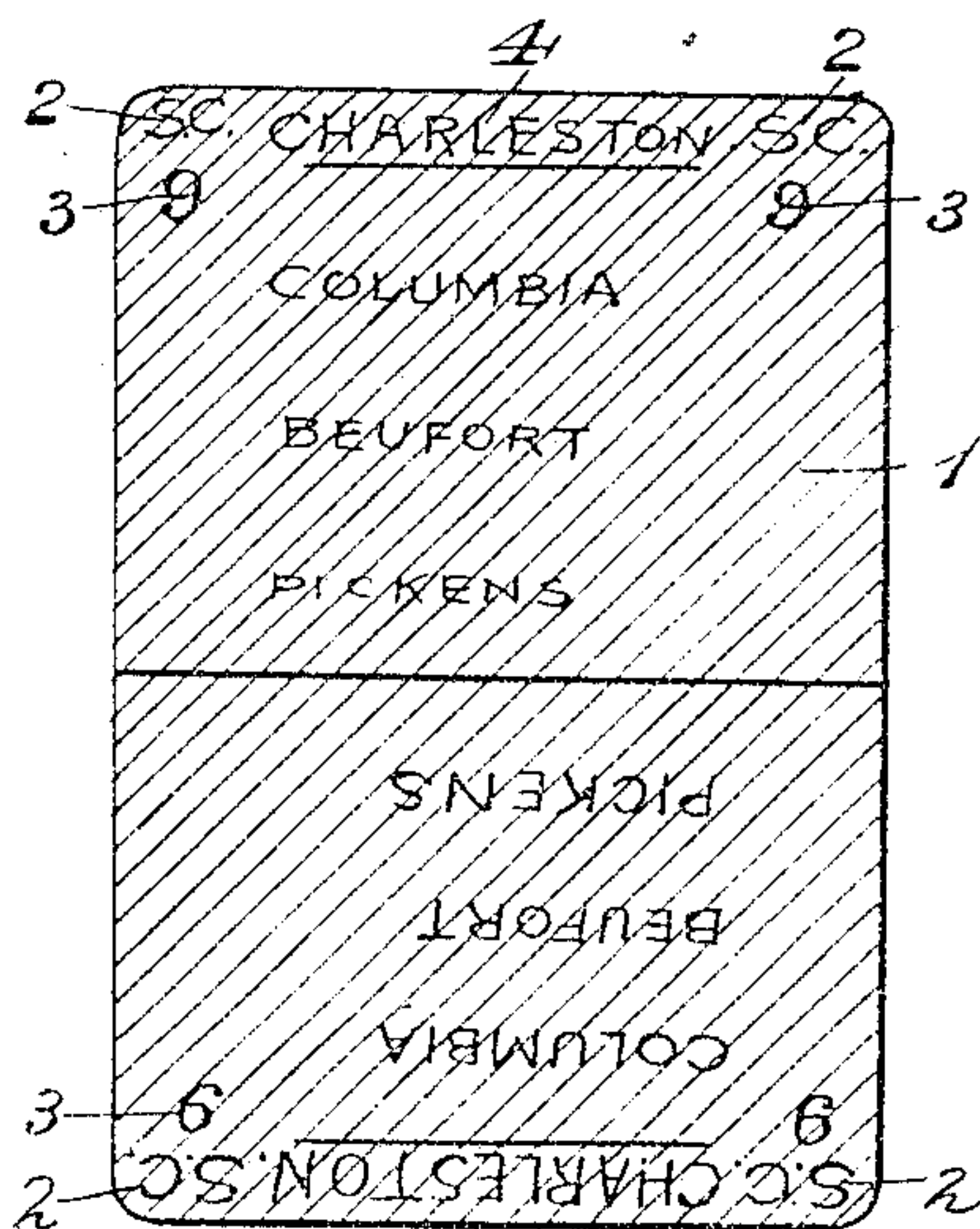


Fig. 9.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLIAM H. HIGGINS, OF ATLANTA, GEORGIA, ASSIGNOR, BY MESNE ASSIGNMENTS, TO CAMPAIGNO CARD COMPANY, OF ATLANTA, GEORGIA.

PLAYING-CARDS.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 787,295, dated April 11, 1905.

Application file. December 21, 1903. Serial No. 186,030.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM H. HIGGINS, a citizen of the United States, residing at Atlanta, in the county of Fulton and State of Georgia, have invented new and useful Improvements in Playing-Cards, of which the following is a specification.

This invention has relation to that class of playing-cards that are employed for the prime purpose of amusement and instruction and education in contradistinction to the common cards used in games of chance and requiring skill in successfully playing or handling of the same.

It is the object of the invention to provide a pack of cards that may be used with amusement and educational effect in fancifully electing a President of the United States. As the President is elected by the greatest number of votes of the electoral college given to a candidate voted therefor and as the number of members of the electoral college is controlled by the number of Senators and Representatives from each State in the Congress of the United States, the point in the playing of the game is to get control of the majority of the electors or a sufficient number to elect, and when this object is accomplished the game is concluded whether all of the cards "out" or in hand are played or not.

The invention consists in a pack or number of cards constructed as is hereinafter fully described and claimed, the drawings hereunto annexed forming a part of this specification, in which—

Figures 1 to 4, inclusive, form the four representations of cards relating to or making up the State of Georgia. Fig. 5 is a view representing one of the cards of the series relating to New York. Figs. 6, 7, 8, and 9 represent, respectively, the cards indicating New Hampshire, California, Iowa, and South Carolina, printed on cardboard of different colors, as hereinafter specified.

Similar reference-figures relate to different parts or features.

1 indicates a card complete. On each card is inscribed or printed the name of the State

2 which it represents, and 3 the number of electoral votes that the said State has in the electoral college. There being four cards to each State, each State will have the names of four cities or towns therein printed thereon; but as a matter of fact each card will represent but one city or town of the State, and such city or town will stand at the head of the list and be printed in more prominent type than the others, as indicated at 4. In other words, each State will comprise a suit of four cards, on which the name of the State as well as the city will indicate to what suit a card belongs, the names of the cities indicating the number of cards in a particular suit that is out or has been played and the number of cards in a suit or the particular cards of a suit yet to be played or that has been played. The rules of a game that may be played with the cards, it has been found, may be varied, so as to render the playing of the game quite intricate and scientific or very simple, as may be desired. In any event the game is educational, among other things. As a mere example, taking the State of Georgia, in Fig. 1, Atlanta may represent the first card. Hence the name of that city will head the list and be printed in prominent type, while the names of the other three cities will appear, but be less prominent. In Fig. 2 "Macon" will be the representative card, and hence that name will appear first or rank the others and be printed in more prominent type, while "Atlanta" will take its place among the cities printed in smaller or more obscure type, and so with the case of "Savannah" in Fig. 3 and "Augusta" in Fig. 4. The four cards will complete Georgia and give the player thirteen electoral votes. In the case of the State of New York four cards, including, for instance, the cities of "New York," "Albany," "Syracuse," and "Buffalo," will give the player that State with electoral votes. In other words, each of the forty-five States will be represented by four cards in the game, making a total of one hundred and eighty cards to each deck. The electoral vote will be printed on each card of the State to which

it belongs, as also a representative city, one of four.

The object of the game being to elect a President of the United States, each player
5 chooses a candidate and the cards being shuffled they are dealt and the first player calls from the next in succession a card by the name of the city in prominent type, with a view of getting possession of all of the cities of that
10 State that appear in prominent type and to thus secure the number of the electoral votes of the said State. As a player wins all the cards of a State he lays them aside and works to "carry" other States until he has won a
15 majority of the votes of the electoral college, when he will have won the game whether all of the cards dealt may have been played or not, or it may be agreed at the start that each player shall name a candidate for president
20 and then all of the cards shall be played, the one at the end of the game having the largest number of electoral votes being the winner.

The forty-five States are divided into four groups, the groups being designated "North,"
25 "South," "East," and "West," and each group is printed in a different color from the others, as indicated by Figs. 6, 7, 8, and 9, wherein Fig. 6 is shown as a red card, indicating the "East" group; Fig. 7 as blue, indicating the "West" group; Fig. 8 as green,
30 indicating the "North" group; and Fig. 9 as purple, indicating the "South" group.

The backs of the cards are of the design of ordinary playing-cards.

35 It will be understood, of course, that the names of the cities on the cards have no significance by way of indicating the "value" or "weight" of the card in the game. These names are designed to show or indicate the
40 hand of which the card is a suit. The number

of the electoral vote is the matter that indicates the value of the particular hand, and the total electoral vote of the sections "North," "South," "East," and "West" determines the strength or "count" of each colored section of the deck. For example, a complete
45 game may consist of the playing of a number of "hands" and "carrying the country" oftenest in a given number of "years" or of obtaining the greatest number of "electoral
50 votes" in a given number of years. Hence the color indicates what might in the rules of the game be called "grand hands" and the value or count of the same. The rules may be such as to render the number of games that
55 may be played by the deck as almost numberless, and the division into "sections" is one of the most important features of the deck with which the games are played.

I claim—

A deck of cards, representing by suits of four each State in the Federal Union, each card bearing the name of a city to indicate the suit to which it belongs, each card of each
60 suit bearing the number of electoral votes to which the State of the suit is entitled, to indicate the value of a card, and the entire deck being separated by color, into four divisions of "North," "South," "East" and "West,"
65 with the number of electoral votes to which each section is entitled indicating the value of said section.

In testimony whereof I have signed my name to this specification in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

WILLIAM H. HIGGINS.

Witnesses:

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