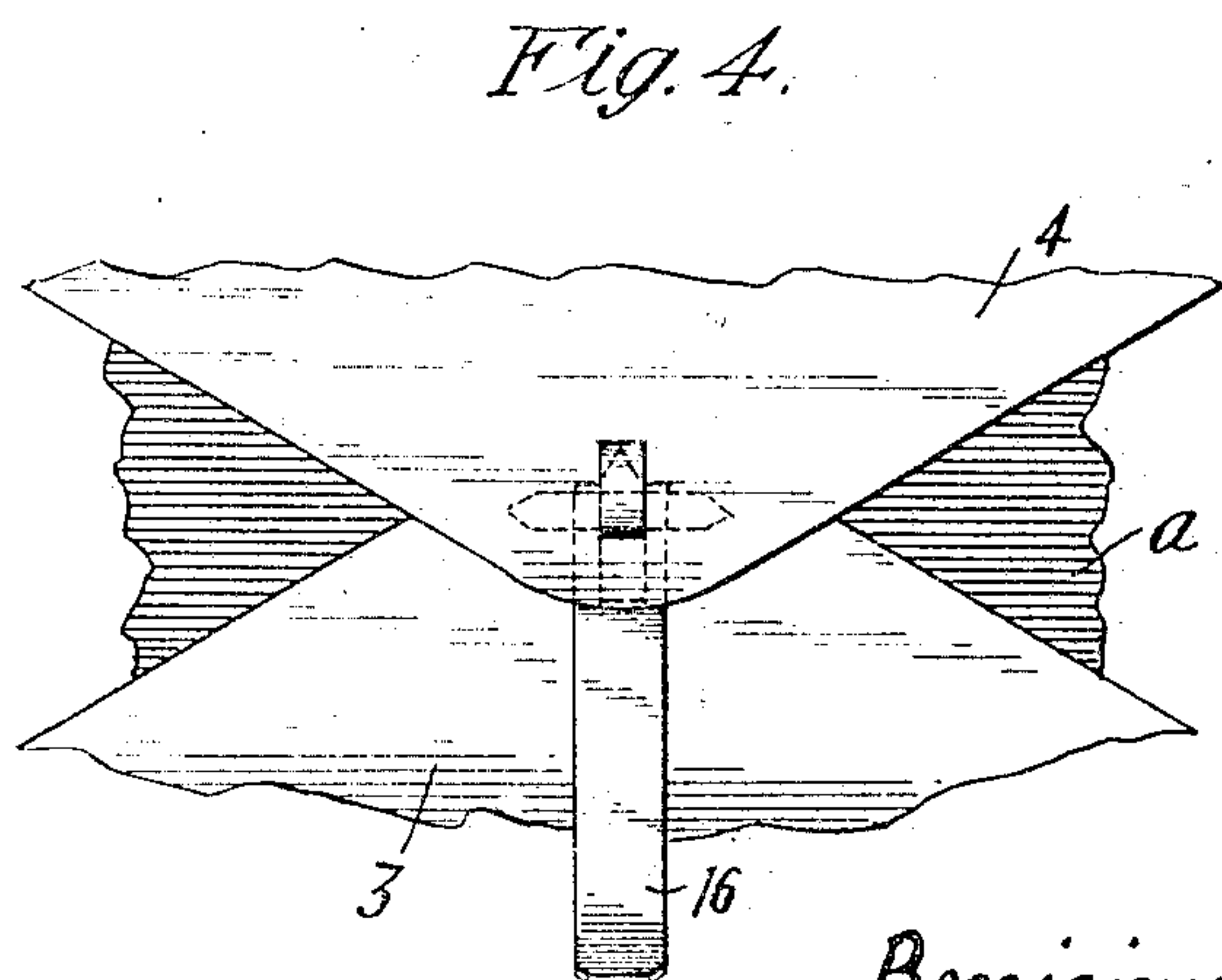
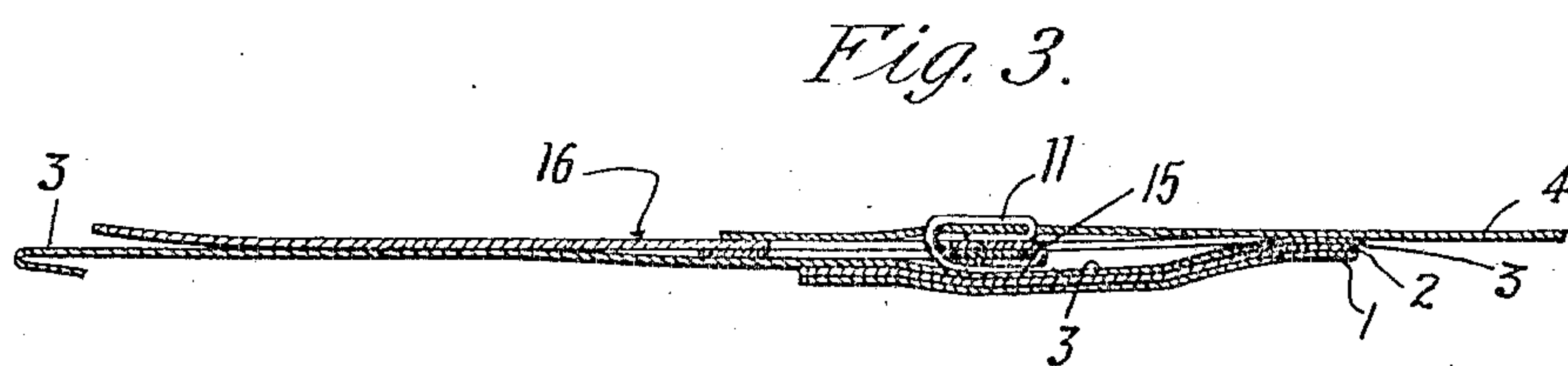
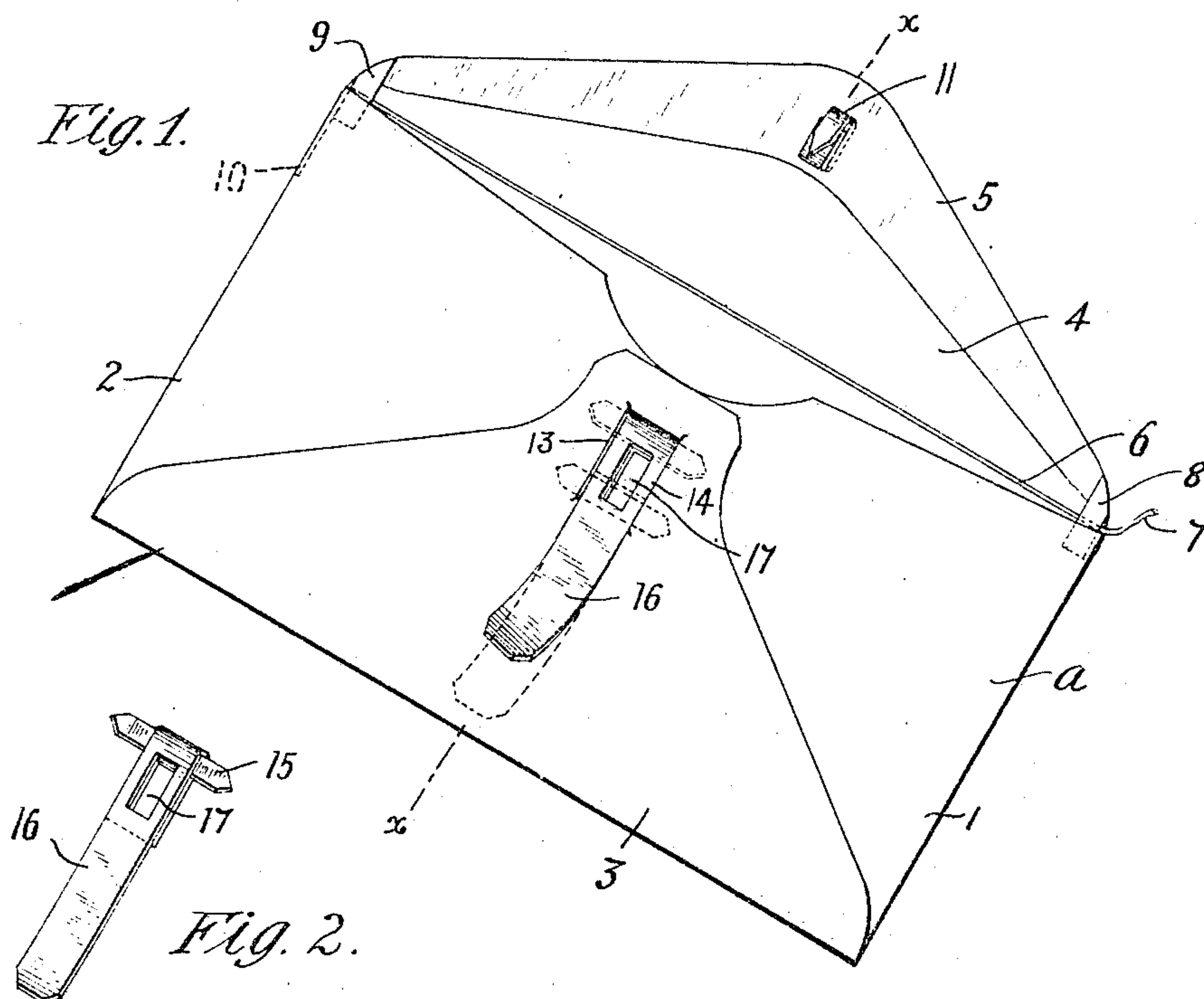


No. 788,029.

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B. R. DYER.
SEALING MEANS FOR ENVELOPS, &c.

APPLICATION FILED JUNE 13, 1904.



Witnesses:
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

BENJAMIN R. DYER, OF HOBART, TASMANIA, AUSTRALIA.

SEALING MEANS FOR ENVELOPS, &c.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 788,029, dated April 25, 1905.

Application filed June 13, 1904. Serial No. 212,422.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, BENJAMIN R. DYER, a subject of the King of England, residing at Hobart, in the State of Tasmania, Australia, have invented new and useful Improvements in Sealing Means for Envelops, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to certain new and useful improvements in sealing means for envelopes or other receptacles of like character, and has for its object to provide an envelop that may be quickly, easily, and securely sealed and at the same time one which cannot be opened or tampered with without detection.

More particularly, my invention relates to that class of envelopes which are fastened in the usual manner and then sealed by means of a tab or other form of counter-seal, so that in the event of tampering with or opening the main seal the counter-seal will become mutilated or broken.

With these and other objects in view I have constructed the novel device illustrated in detail in the drawings forming a part of this specification, which I will now fully describe, referring to the said drawings, like characters of reference indicating like parts.

Figure 1 is a plan view of my improved envelop unsealed, showing the main sealing-flap, the means for opening the envelop secured thereto, and the tab or counter-seal. Fig. 2 is a view in detail of the tab and the means for fastening the same to the envelop. Fig. 3 is an enlarged vertical cross-sectional view through the line *x x* of Fig. 1, showing the various parts of the envelop as they will be disposed when the same is sealed. Fig. 4 is a plan view, partly broken away, showing the envelop sealed and the locking means in dotted lines.

a designates the body of an envelop of the usual construction, comprising the side flaps 1 and 2, sealed one over the other, the rear sealing-flap 3, and the main sealing-flap 4, gummed along its outer edge, as indicated at 5. A cord 6 or other material of like character is secured to the main sealing-flap 4 by means of securing-strips 8 and 9, located at the respective ends of the said flap, through

one of which strips, in this instance strip 8, the end 7 thereof projects, so that when it is desired to open the envelop in the proper manner the latter may be seized and drawn upward thereby severing the main sealing-flap 4 from the body of the envelop and permitting ready access to the contents. The other end, 10, is gummed to the inner surface of the body A, as is shown in the dotted line of Fig. 1. Arranged upon the adhesive surface 5 and at a point central thereof is a pronged hook 11, which has its ends passed through respective slitted openings therefor and then bent over upon the inner face of the flap 4, so that the pronged end overlaps the blunt end of the said hook.

The rear sealing-flap 3 is provided with parallel longitudinal slits 13 and 14 of equal length throughout, within which slides a metallic cross-head 15, carrying the auxiliary sealing-tab 16, the latter having formed there- in a longitudinal slot 17. The tab 16 may be used either with or without a gummed inner face, although to secure the best results I prefer the latter method.

In Fig. 1 the full lines represent the envelop unsealed and the dotted lines represent the same sealed. In the dotted lines the cross-head 15, carrying tab 16, is represented as drawn downward to the limit of its movement between the overlapping ends of the hook 11, a locking engagement between the hook and the tab being thereby effected.

When it is desired to seal the envelop, the tab 16 is slid to the termination of its upward movement, the main sealing-flap 4 is folded down over the flaps 1, 2, and 3 and the tab 16, the hook carried by the said flap passing through the slotted opening 17 and engaging the cross-head 15, provided in the tab. The latter is then drawn downwardly to the termination of its movement and the flap 4 after this operation securely fastened by means of the adhesive coating 5. These slits 13 and 14 thus serve as guides for the cross-head 15 in its vertical movement. When the flap 4 is sealed, any movement of the tab 16 to unlock the same from the hook 17 will be impossible, as the latter is securely held by that portion

of the adhesive surface 5 that comes in contact therewith. In case any one pries into or in other wise tampers with the envelop the hook 11 will tear the cross-head 15 from its position on the tab 16 and from within the slits 13 and 14, thereby mutilating the flap 3 or, the hook 11, as the case may be, will be torn from the flap 4, thereby mutilating the latter, so that detection will be readily insured.

10 In addition to the advantages described above my improved device can be applied as the fastening means for packets, wills, legal documents, and the like, although I have shown it in the drawings as applied to an envelop, 15 considering that method one which may be most easily understood.

It will be readily apparent that many minor changes may be made without departing from the general spirit of my invention.

20 I am aware that it is not new to provide an envelop with a main and auxiliary sealing means for the purpose described, and I do not claim the same broadly; but

What I do claim, and desire to secure by 25 Letters Patent, is—

1. An envelop comprising a body portion, main, rear and side sealing-flaps carried thereby, the main sealing-flap carrying a hook and the rear sealing-flap carrying a movable slot-

ted paper tab and a cross-head arranged in one 30 end of the said tab.

2. An envelop comprising a body portion, main, rear, and side sealing-flaps carried thereby, the main flap being formed with an adhesive surface and carrying a hook at a point 35 central thereof, the rear sealing-flap being provided with longitudinal slits, a cross-head slidably secured within the said slits and a tab carried thereby, said tab being provided with a longitudinal slot, the said hook being 40 adapted to engage the cross-head, the former passing through the said slot.

3. An envelop comprising a body portion, main, rear and side sealing-flaps carried thereby, the main flap being formed with an adhesive surface and carrying a hook at a point 45 central thereof, and a longitudinally-movable frangible tab secured within the rear sealing-flap adapted to have one end thereof engaged by the said hook.

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

BENJN. R. DYER.

Witnesses:

H. W. HUMPHRIES,
H. L. DYER.