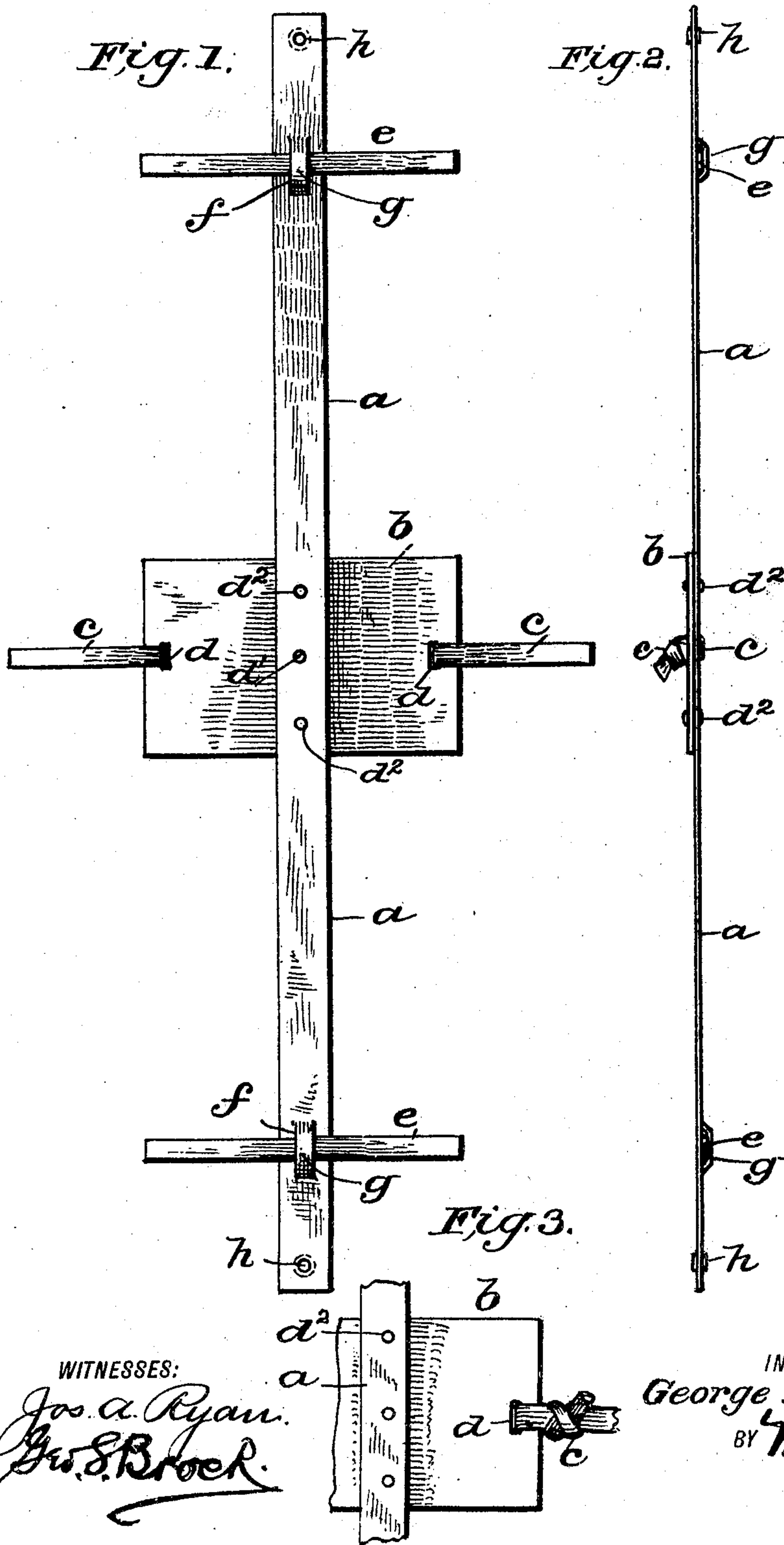


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G. A. CLARK.
MAIL POUCH HANGER AND SHIELD.
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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MAIL-POUCH HANGER AND SHIELD.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 794,139, dated July 4, 1905.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, GEORGE A. CLARK, a citizen of the United States, residing at Nashville, in the county of Davidson and State of Tennessee, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Mail-Pouch Hangers and Shields, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to an improvement in mail-pouch hangers, and has for its object to provide a device whereby one or more pouches may be supported between the arms of the mail-crane, and to the manner in which such mail-pouches may be protected from contact with the receivers of the mail-pouch catchers.

To these ends my invention consists of a support adapted to be detachably secured to a mail-pouch and attached at its upper and lower ends to the arms of a mail-crane.

It consists, further, in a support adapted to be detachably secured at its center to a mail-pouch in such a manner as to divide the contents of the mail-pouch.

It consists, further, in providing a support for a mail-pouch which also acts as a protector from impact of the receiver of a mail-catcher.

It consists, further, of a support for mail-pouches provided with means at its center and upper and lower ends for detachably securing it to a mail-pouch and of means at its upper and lower ends for engaging the arms of a mail-crane.

It consists, further, in certain novel features of construction, arrangement, and combination of parts, as will be hereinafter fully described, and pointed out in the claims, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a front face view of my device. Fig. 2 is an edge view of the same. Fig. 3 is a fragmentary view showing one means of attaching the center tie to the shield.

In carrying out my invention I provide a supporting-strap *a*, of leather or other material, which is adapted to be placed along the vertical central line of a pouch and extends from end to end thereof. Said strap *a* has a shield *b*, of leather or other material, somewhat larger than the strap *a* secured to it at

about its center and forms a part thereof. The shield *b* is to be wrapped around the center of a mail-pouch and secured thereto by suitable ties *c*, of leather or other material, passed through slits *d* near each vertical edge of the shield, thus preventing the possibility of the receivers cutting or tearing the mail-pouches, as very frequently occurs when the receiver comes in direct contact with a mail-pouch. The strap *a* has attached to it near each end the ties *e e*, which pass through the slits *f f*, forming retaining-loops *g g*. At each end of the strap *a* is an eyelet *h*, by means of which the said strap may be attached to the arms of a mail-crane, thus relieving the mail-pouch of all strain when it is hung up and when it is caught by the receiver preventing the pulling out of rings or the bottom of the pouch or other damage thereto, such as frequently occurs with the devices in common use. The tie *c* after passing through the slits in the shield may be secured at its center to the shield by a rivet *d'*, and the strap *a* is also secured to the shield by the rivets *d'*. The ties *e* are secured to the rings or staples usually found at the top and bottom of mail-pouches. The ties *c* may also be secured to the shield *b* by passing through the slits in the shield and knotting them on the reverse side, or said ties may be secured to the shield by running them through the holes and tying them to the shield. (See Fig. 3.) The ties form means of wrapping the shield around the center of the pouch.

In operation the ends of the strap *a* are attached to the arms of a mail-crane by means of the eyelets at each end or by means of friction or other devices, and where friction or other devices are used on the end of the mail-crane arms instead of the hook each end of the strap is engaged by such friction devices. The shield is secured around the center of the pouch, shielding the center of the pouch and at the same time dividing the contents of the pouch, by means of the ties, which are made of lace-leather or other material.

It will be readily seen that I provide means whereby the pouch is protected from direct contact with the mail-receiver, thus preventing wear and tear of the same, and, further,

the eyes or staples at each end of the pouch and the pouch itself relieved of all strain while suspended on the arms of the crane.

Having thus described my invention, what
5 I claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. A support for mail-pouches consisting of a vertical strap, means located at or near the center thereof for detachably securing the
10 same to a pouch, and means at each end of the strap for detachably securing the same to the arms of a mail-crane.

2. A support for mail-pouches consisting of a vertical strap, means located at or near the
15 center thereof for detachably securing the same to a pouch, means attached near each end of the strap for detachably securing the strap to the upper and lower ends of a pouch, and means at each end of the strap for engage-
20 ment with the arms of a mail-crane.

3. A supporter for mail-pouches consisting of a vertical strap, means located at the center thereof adapted to be secured around the center of a pouch and divide the contents there-
25 of, and means at each end of the strap for engaging the arms of a mail-crane.

4. A support for mail-pouches consisting of a vertical strap, adapted to be detachably se-
30 cured at its upper and lower ends to the arms of a mail-crane, an enlarged portion at the center of the strap, and means for securing such enlarged portion to the center of a mail-pouch, to serve as a shield therefor when struck by a catcher-fork.

35 5. A support for mail-pouches consisting of a vertical strap, a shield, secured to the center of said strap and means for detachably securing the upper and lower ends of the strap to the arms of a mail-crane.

40 6. A support for mail-pouches, consisting of a vertical strap provided with means near its upper and lower ends for attachment to the

top and bottom of a mail-pouch, a shield se-
cured to the center of the strap and means at
each end of the strap for detachably securing 45
the same to the arms of a mail-crane.

7. A support for mail-pouches consisting of a vertical strap having means near its upper and lower ends for attachment to the top and
bottom of a mail-pouch, means secured to the 50
shield for detachably securing the same to the center of a mail-pouch, and means at each end of the strap for detachably securing the same to the upper and lower arms of a mail-crane.

8. A support for mail-pouches consisting of 55
a strap provided with loops near its upper and lower ends, and ties or straps passing through said loops, whereby the support may be detachably secured to the top and bottom of a
mail-pouch. 60

9. A support for mail-pouches consisting of a vertical strap having loops near its upper and lower ends, a shield located at the center of said strap, and ties or straps secured to the
outer edges of said shield whereby the same 65
may be secured to the center of a mail-pouch, and form a protector against the impact of a mail-catcher fork.

10. A support for mail-pouches consisting of a vertical strap having slits near its upper 70
and lower ends forming loops, ties or straps passed through said loops and adapted to detachably secure the support to the top and bottom of a mail-pouch, a shield secured to the center of the support and having slits near 75
its outer ends, ties or straps detachably secured in said slits, and means at the upper and lower ends of the support for detachably engaging the upper and lower arms of a mail crane.

GEORGE A. CLARK.

Witnesses:

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