

No. 822,577.

PATENTED JUNE 5, 1906.

E. J. BROOKS.
SEAL FOR BOXES.
APPLICATION FILED OCT. 18, 1905.

Fig. 1. Fig. 2.

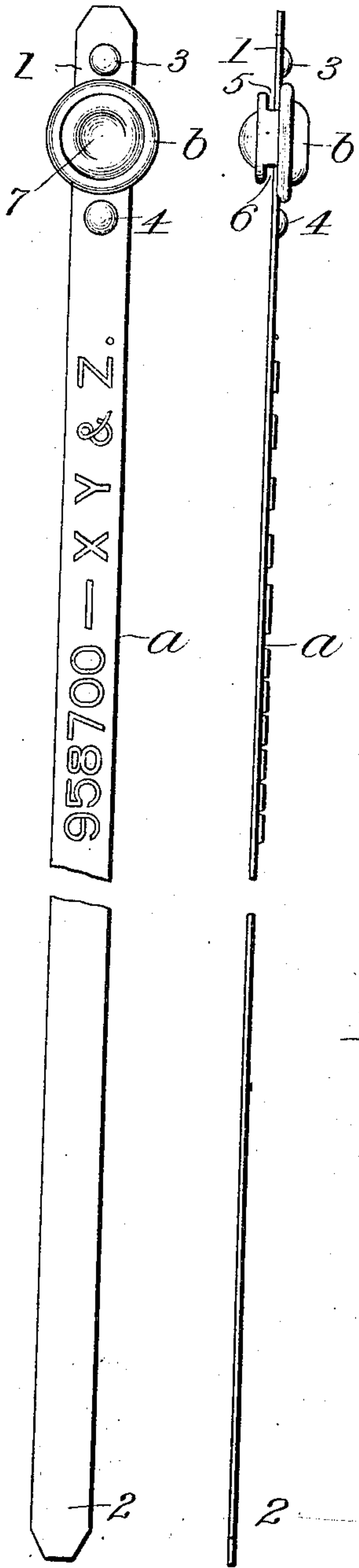


Fig. 3.

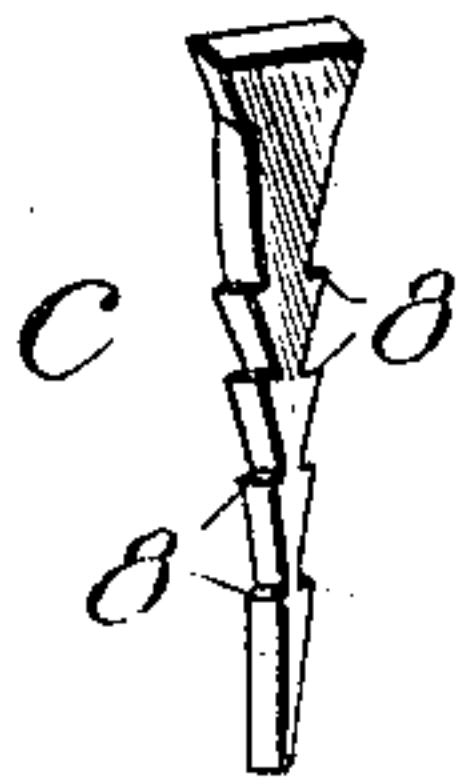


Fig. 4.

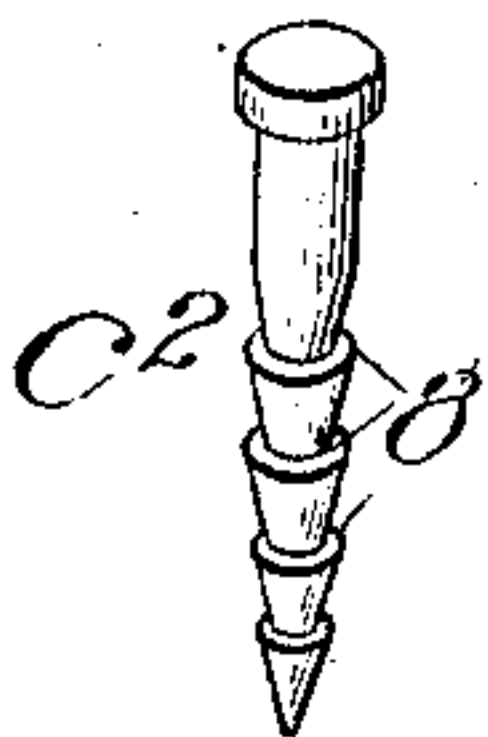


Fig. 5.

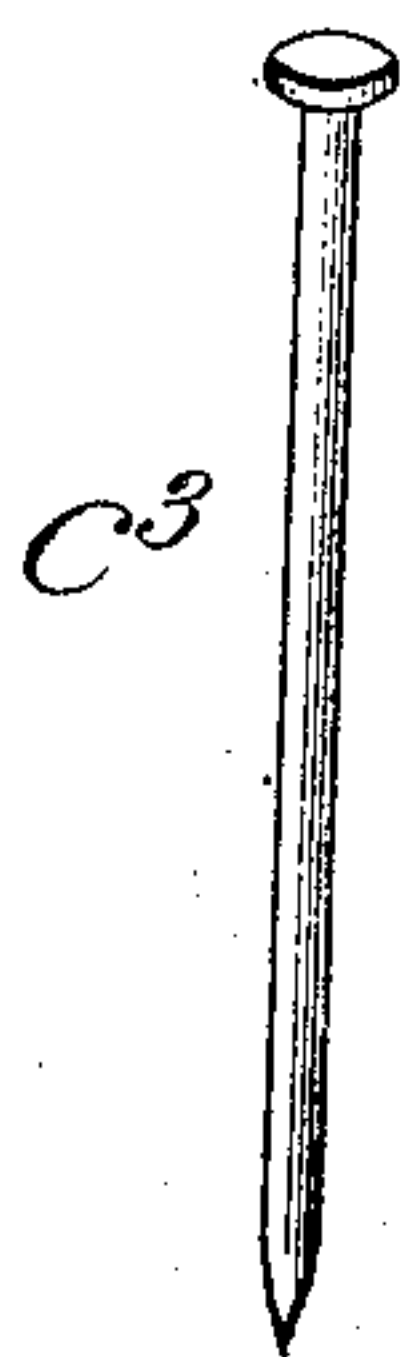


Fig. 6.

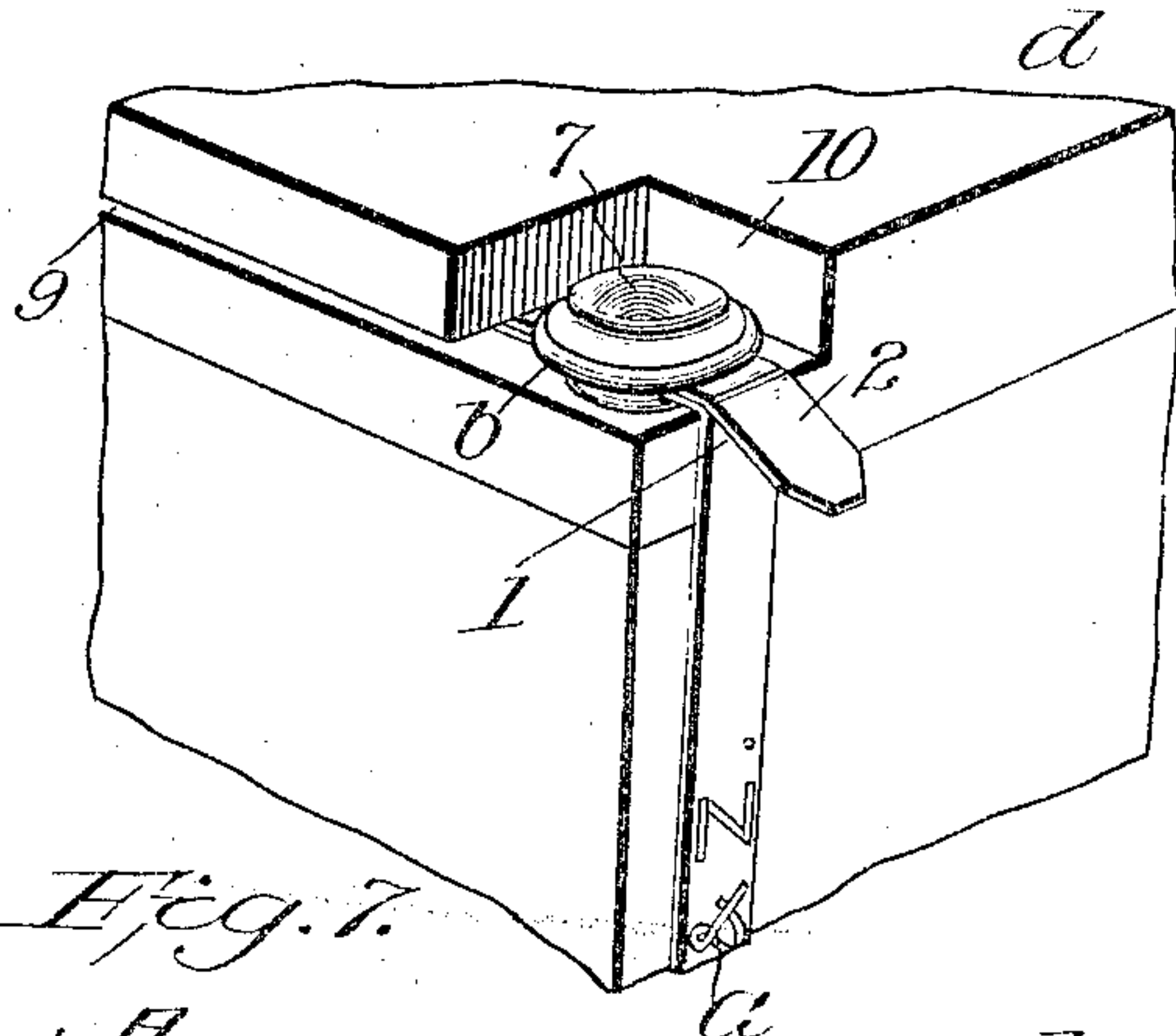


Fig. 7.

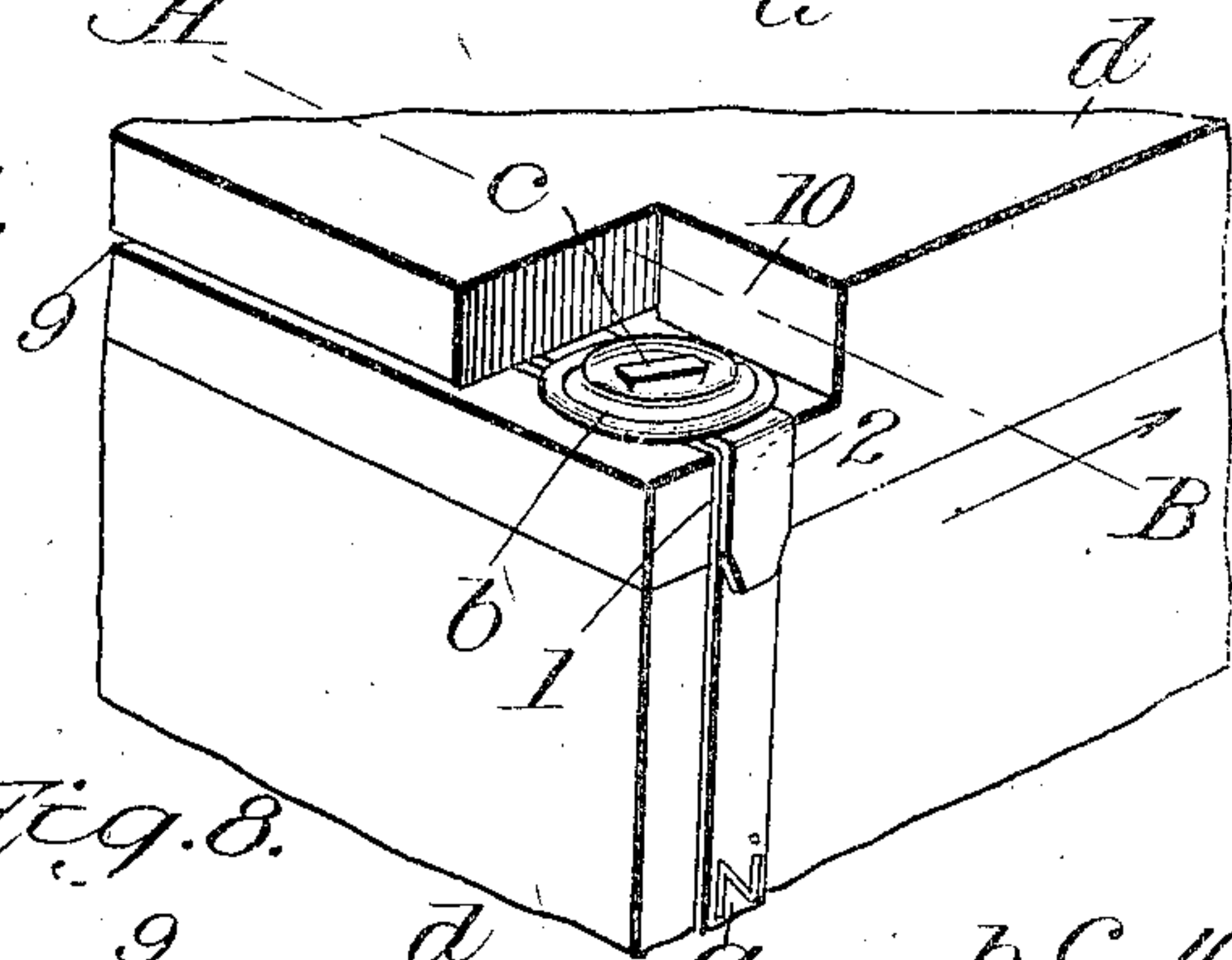
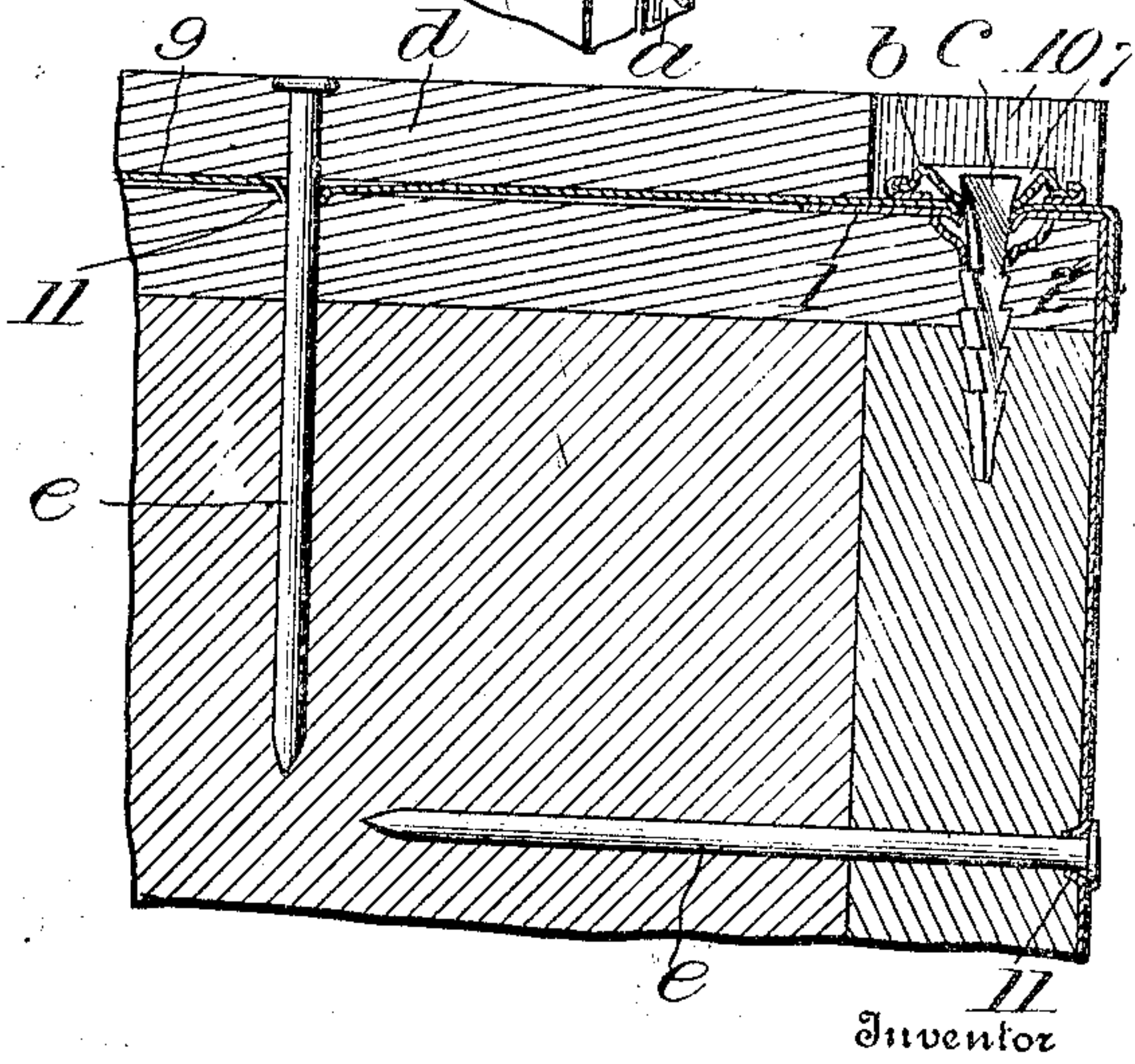


Fig. 8.



Witnesses

C. H. Walker.
E. Mrs. Loftus

Edward J. Brooks

By

[Signature]

Attorney

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

EDWARD J. BROOKS, OF EAST ORANGE, NEW JERSEY.

SEAL FOR BOXES.

No. 822,577.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented June 5, 1906.

Application filed October 18, 1905. Serial No. 283,275.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, EDWARD J. BROOKS, a citizen of the United States of America, and a resident of East Orange, in the State of New Jersey, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Seals for Boxes, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to devices for sealing wooden boxes used as packing-cases for shipping goods.

It consists in a novel combination of parts, hereinafter set forth and claimed, whereby a box may be strapped and sealed at one or more points between its ends, or preferably at each end, more readily and more securely than heretofore.

A sheet of drawings accompanies this specification as part thereof.

Figures 1 and 2 are respectively a face view and an edge view of the principal parts of the improved sealing device as united at the factory. Figs. 3, 4, and 5 are perspective views of different forms of nails that are or may be used to complete and fasten the seal. Fig. 6 is a perspective view of one corner of a wooden box, showing the strap and seal part of one of the improved seals applied in a preferred way and ready to be fastened. Fig. 7 is a perspective view of the same box-corner, showing the seal fastened; and Fig. 8 represents a section on the line A B, Fig. 7.

Like reference characters indicate like parts in all the figures.

The improved sealing device or seal is composed of a sheet-metal box-strap *a* of sufficient length, a sheet-metal seal part *b*, through which said box-strap is threaded, and a suitable nail *c* or *c*² or *c*³, adapted to be driven through the sheet metal of the seal part *b* and both strap ends 1 and 2, as in Figs. 7 and 8, to complete and fasten the seal.

The box-strap *a* may be of any suitable sheet metal and is provided with a pair of embossed stops 3 and 4, between which the seal part *b* is inseparably held in place on the strap, so that the seal part may be grasped in the hand as means for pulling the strap and tightening the same upon the box and so that the two parts *a* and *b* may be handled as one in shipping them from the factory and in carrying them for use. The strap *a* is conveniently provided at the same time with a serial number and any desired lettering, either or both, in embossed characters,

as represented by "958700-X Y & Z" in Fig. 1.

The seal part *b* is preferably and conveniently of the construction set forth in my specification, forming part of United States Letters Patent No. 734,807, dated July 28, 1903, or the construction set forth in my specification forming part of United States Letters Patent No. 750,020, dated January 19, 1904, and is characterized by a hollow sheet-metal body provided with a pair of diametrically opposite holes 5 and 6 in its edges, adapted to accommodate two thicknesses of the strap, and by a central indentation 7 in the face of the seal part.

The nail is preferably of the non-withdrawable "spear-nail" construction. (Represented by Fig. 3.) In this form the nail *c* is made of flat metal and is twisted so that in the act of driving it it turns about one-third of a circle, going into the wood as a screw would drive. The ratchet projections 8, which distinguish the spear-nails, are formed on the edges of the nail in this species and interlock with the wood in a very effective manner.

The spear-nail *c*² (represented by Fig. 4) is a round nail with circumferential ratchet projections 8'. The nail *c*³ (represented by Fig. 5) is an ordinary wire nail which may obviously be used in connection with the combined box-strap *a* and seal part *b*, so as to form a sufficiently secure fastening for some purposes.

The box represented in Figs. 6, 7, and 8 has its cover *d* provided with a saw-kerf 9, extending into the edge a sufficient distance to admit the box-strap *a* edgewise and is further provided with a corner-recess 10, perpendicular to the top of the cover and extending inward to the plane of the saw-kerf to accommodate the seal part *b*. Both ends of the cover *d* and both ends of the bottom of the box may obviously be kerfed in like manner.

In completing and fastening the seal the box-strap *a* is passed around the box, one end 1 being held by the seal part *b* fast thereon. The other end 2 is drawn into the saw-kerf 9 and threaded through the seal part *b*, and the strap *a* is then drawn taut with the seal part *b* within the recess 10 within the box-cover, as shown in Fig. 6. The nail *c* or *c*² or *c*³ and preferably the flat metal spear-nail *c*, Fig. 3, is then brought into use, its sharp point being centered by the central indentation 7 in the front of the seal part *b*, and

it is driven through the sheet metal of the seal part *b* and both shackle ends 1 and 2 and into the wood of the box, so as to be securely anchored, as in Figs. 7 and 8. Supplemental nails *c* may then or previously be driven through the strap *a* into the wood of the box, so as to more securely unite the parts. As these supplemental nails are driven through the strap burs 11 are formed on the strap and driven into the wood, as shown in Fig. 8, and it is consequently impossible to remove the strap from the sawkerfs 9 in the ends of the cover and bottom after the supplemental nails are withdrawn without so marring the box as to insure detection.

For still greater security spear-nails *c* or *c*² may be used instead of ordinary nails throughout or may be driven through the strap *a* and into the wood of the box between the ordinary nails *c* at a sufficient number of points to prevent the removal of any part of the box without such mutilation as will insure detection.

It will be obvious that the seal part may be made of any suitable sheet metal, so as to have the characteristics above set forth in any known or approved manner, and other like modifications will suggest themselves to those skilled in the art.

Having thus described said improvement, I claim as my invention and desire to patent under this specification—

1. A seal, for wooden boxes, composed of a sheet-metal box-strap provided with a pair of stops near one end, a hollow sheet-metal seal part having diametrically opposite holes in its edges through which said strap extends and held in place on said strap by said stops, the other end of said strap being adapted to be threaded through the same holes, and a nail adapted to be driven through the sheet metal of said seal part and both strap ends and into the wood of the box to complete and fasten the seal.

2. A seal, for wooden boxes, composed of a sheet-metal box-strap provided with a pair

of stops near one end, a hollow sheet-metal seal part having a central indentation in its face and diametrically opposite holes in its edges through which said strap extends and held in place on said strap by said stops, the other end of said strap being adapted to be threaded through the same holes, and a nail adapted to be centered by said indentation and to be driven through the sheet metal of said seal part and both strap ends and into the wood of the box to complete and fasten the seal.

3. A seal, for wooden boxes, composed of a sheet-metal box-strap provided with a pair of stops near one end, a hollow sheet-metal seal part having diametrically opposite holes in its edges through which said strap extends and held in place on said strap by said stops, the other end of said strap being adapted to be threaded through the same holes, and a spear-nail having ratchet projections to interlock with the wood of the box and adapted to be driven through the sheet metal of said seal part and both strap ends and into the wood of the box to complete and fasten the seal.

4. A seal, for wooden boxes, composed of a sheet-metal box-strap provided with a pair of stops near one end, a hollow sheet-metal seal part having diametrically opposite holes in its edges through which said strap extends and held in place on said strap by said stops, the other end of said strap being adapted to be threaded through the same holes, and a spear-nail having a flat twisted shank provided with ratchet projections at its edges to interlock with the wood of the box and adapted to be driven through the sheet metal of said seal part and both strap ends and into the wood of the box to complete and fasten the seal, substantially as hereinbefore specified.

EDWARD J. BROOKS.

Witnesses:

ELLEN J. BROOKS,
ELINOR BROOKS.