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PATENTED NOV. 26, 1907.

R. H. JACKSON.  
MEAT TAG.

APPLICATION FILED JUNE 27, 1907.

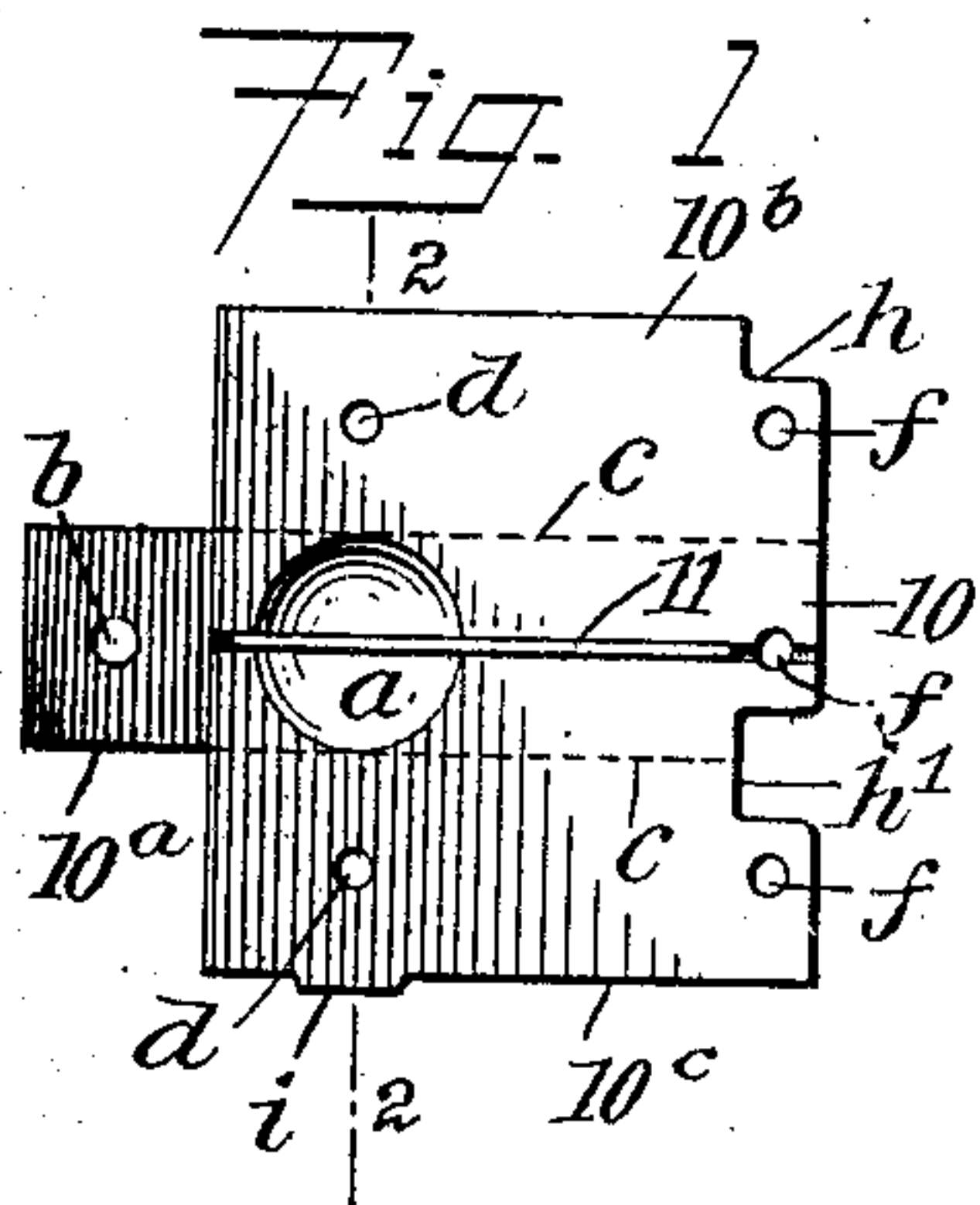


Fig. 2

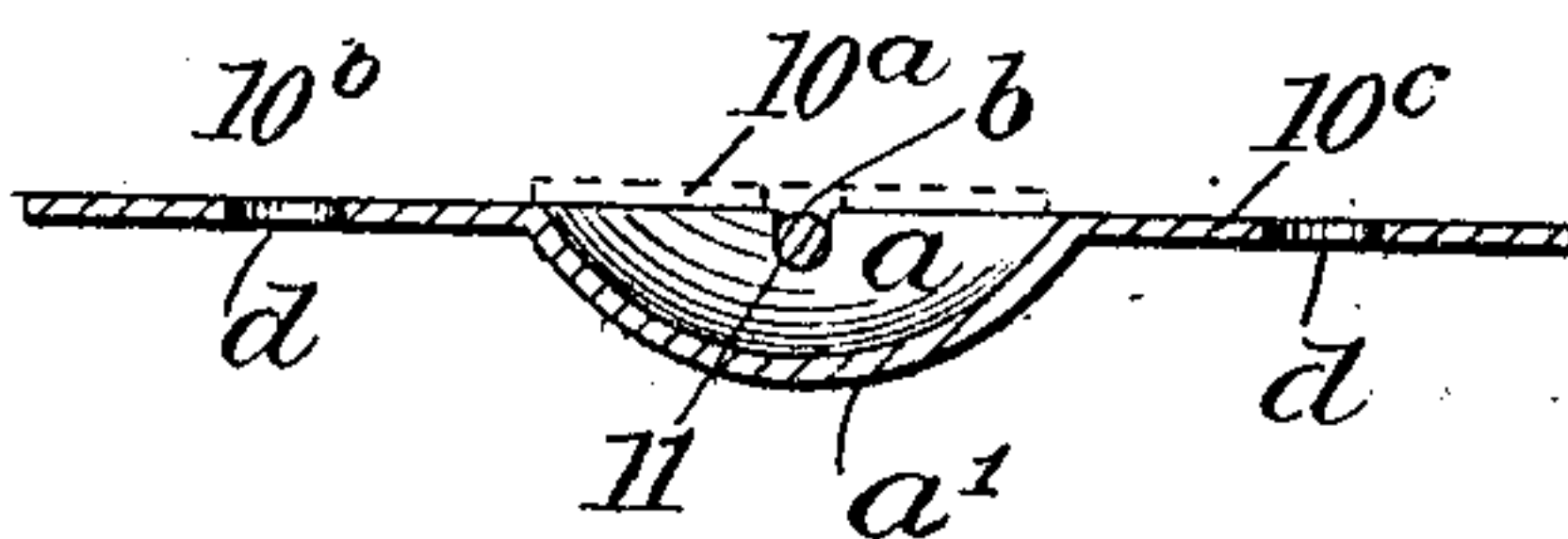


Fig. 3

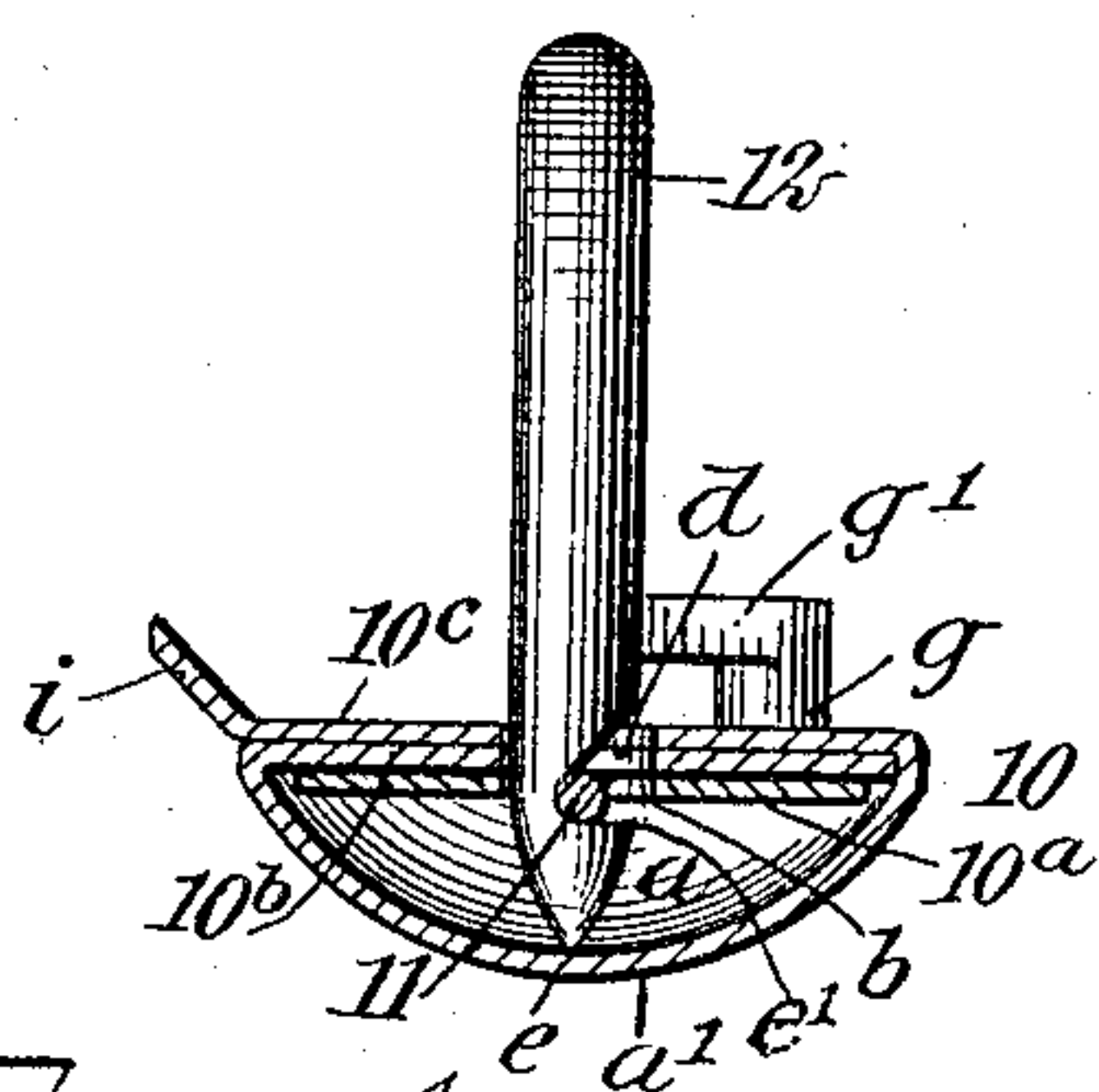
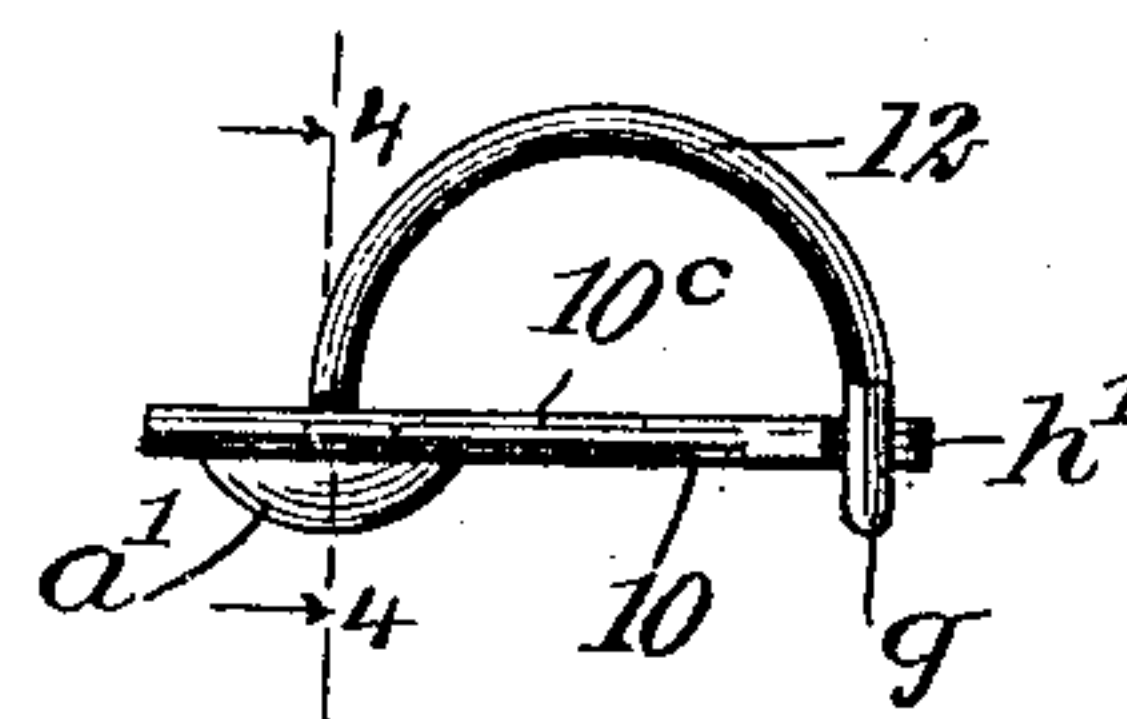


Fig. 4

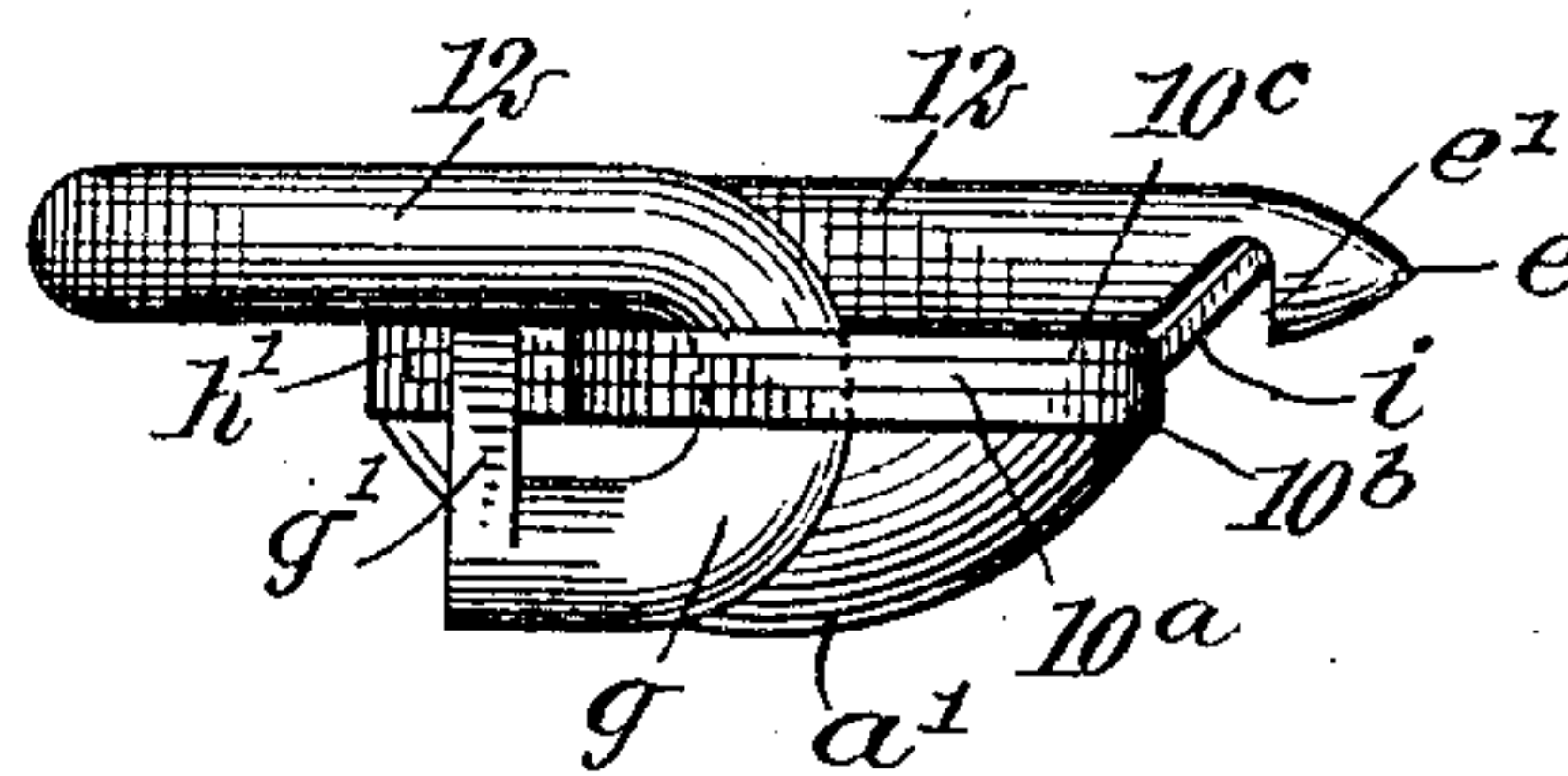
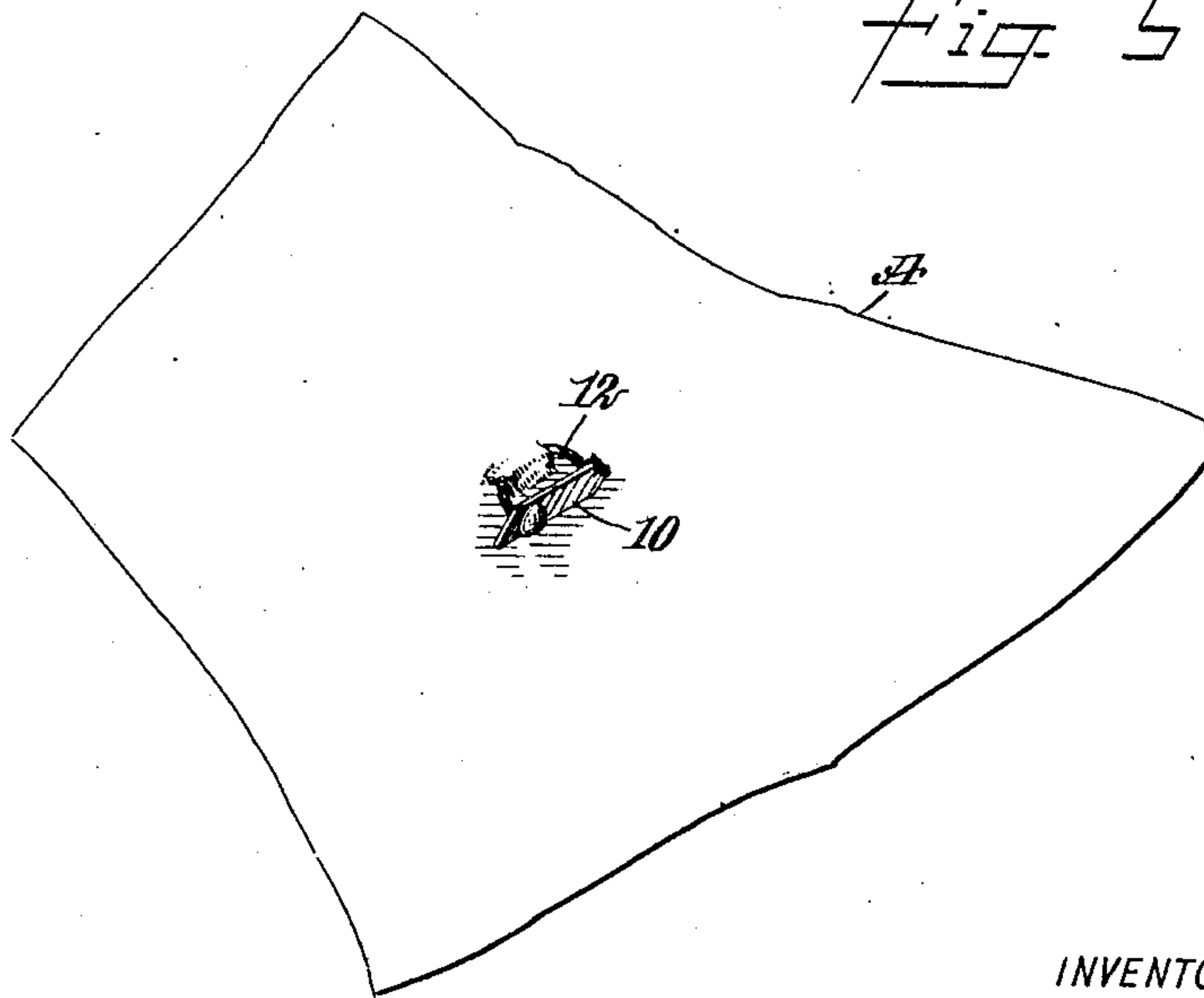


Fig. 5

Fig. 6



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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

RALPH HARRINGTON JACKSON, OF ROCHESTER, NEW YORK.

## MEAT-TAG.

No. 872,238.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Nov. 26, 1907.

Application filed June 27, 1907. Serial No. 381,053.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, RALPH HARRINGTON JACKSON, a citizen of the United States, and a resident of Rochester, in the county of Monroe and State of New York, have invented a new and Improved Meat-Tag, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description.

The object of this invention is to provide novel details of construction for a meat tag, that is specially adapted for the use of meat inspectors, which is inserted in the meat and is not removable without cutting the same; and furthermore, that is not capable of re-use after it has been secured in meat that has been inspected.

The invention consists in the novel construction and combination of parts, as is hereinafter described and defined in the appended claims.

Reference is to be had to the accompanying drawings forming a part of this specification, in which similar characters of reference indicate corresponding parts in all the views.

Figure 1 is a plan view of a sheet metal blank, that when folded forms the body of the tag, and a spring locking device secured upon the blank; Fig. 2 is an enlarged transverse sectional view, substantially on the line 2—2 in Fig. 1, a wing on the blank being indicated in normal folded position by dotted lines; Fig. 3 is a side view in reduced form of the improvement in closed adjustment; Fig. 4 is a transverse partly sectional view, substantially on the line 4—4 in Fig. 3; Fig. 5 is a side view showing the device folded for packing and shipment in compact form, and Fig. 6 is a reduced perspective view of the tag applied upon a piece of inspected meat.

To render the tag light, strong and sanitary, it is preferably constructed of aluminum, and comprises the following details; which briefly described embody a base portion formed of sheet metal, lap-folded to give it proper dimensions, a shackle bow hinged at one end and pointed at the other end for a hooked engagement with meat that has passed inspection, and means for holding the free pointed end of the shackle bow fixed within the base piece, so that the tag cannot be re-used for a fraudulent purpose.

Referring to Figs. 1 and 2, it will be seen that the blank or flat plate of sheet metal 10 is mainly rectangular in contour, but has a rectangular wing plate 10<sup>a</sup> extended at one edge which will presently be more fully de-

scribed. Near the edge of the blank 10 from which the wing 10<sup>a</sup> extends, a concavity *a* is formed that projects at the opposite side as a convexed protuberance on the exterior surface of the blank, and as shown, this protuberance *a'* is at the transverse center of the blank 10. Upon the side of the plate 10 which has the concavity therein, a resilient locking rod 11 is secured by one end, that is embedded in a shallow groove and is thus held extended across the concavity *a* toward the wing plate 10<sup>a</sup>. Said wing plate is now folded over the locking rod 11, as indicated by dotted lines in Fig. 2, thus disposing a perforation *b* in the wing plate above the locking rod. There are two similar sections 10<sup>b</sup> and 10<sup>c</sup> formed on the tag body, by lap-folding each portion down upon the central portion and upon the wing plate 10<sup>a</sup>, the dotted lines *c, c*, in Fig. 1, showing the points where the sections are bent upon the body plate 10 that remains intermediate the folded sections, the latter and the wing plate 10<sup>a</sup> being shown in relative positions in Fig. 4.

The body of the tag that has been described, is perforated at *d, d*, opposite the center of the concavity *a*, the perforations in the sections 10<sup>b</sup>, 10<sup>c</sup>, coming opposite when the latter are lapped upon each other and over the wing plate 10<sup>a</sup>, and the perforation *b* in said wing plate, will also register with the perforations named, which will permit the insertion of a pointed object down through the holes and into engagement with the locking spring rod 11.

The shackle bow 12 is bent from a wire rod into arched form, and at one end is pointed as shown at *e* in Figs. 4 and 5, a latch hook *e'* being formed laterally on said end portion of the shackle bow, by removal of material. At the opposite end of the shackle bow a hook *g*, is formed by bending the material upon itself, and when the bow is to be mounted upon the tag body, it is passed through a perforation at the transverse center of said body, which is formed in the blank at three points *f*, as appears in Fig. 1, these holes registering with each other when the sections 10<sup>b</sup>, 10<sup>c</sup> are folded upon the intermediate portion of said body. Upon the extremity of the hook *g*, a head *g'* is formed, which prevents a detachment of the shackle bow from the body portion of the tag.

It should here be explained that, as shown in Fig. 1, a notch *h* is formed in one corner of



the section 10<sup>b</sup>, and at a suitable point another opening *h'* is formed in the transverse edge of the blank, so that when the body sections 10<sup>b</sup>, 10<sup>c</sup>, are folded, the notches  
 5 *h*, *h'* will register and form one notch in the body of the tag. The notch just described will receive the head *g*, and confers such freedom for adjustment of the shackle bow 12, that the latter may be folded flat upon  
 10 the tag body when this is desired, and thus permit a close packing of a number of the tags for storing and transportation, a lip *i* on the tag body holding the bow in folded condition.

15 The tag is to be marked in a durable manner, with a symbol that will identify the tag as the official mark of an authorized meat inspector, and thus guarantee the quality of meat so marked.

20 In use, the shackle bow 12 is hooked through a piece of meat A that has passed inspection, and the pointed end of the shackle bow is pressed down through the alined perforations *b*, *d*, *d'*, so that the latch  
 25 hook *e'* may interlock with the resilient locking rod 11, which will affix the tag upon the meat and prevent its removal therefrom except by cutting it out of the latter. The tag is intended to remain in the meat until it is  
 30 sold to a retail dealer, and afterward, if the dealer is desirous of proving the quality of the meat he vends, and as the shackle bow cannot be detached from the rod 11, it will be seen that a re-use of the tag for fraudulent  
 35 purposes is prevented.

Having thus described my invention, I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent:

40 1. In a meat tag, a body formed of a sheet metal blank having three sections that fold upon each other, a resilient locking rod therein having a free end, the body having registering perforations in its sections that afford

access to the locking rod, and a shackle bow having a point at one end, a lateral hook on  
 45 said end, and hinged at the opposite end on the body, whereby the point may first be passed through meat and then inserted in the registered perforations, thus interlocking the locking rod with the lateral hook for se-  
 50 curing the shackle bow in the tag body.

2. In a tag of the character described, a tag body formed of sheet metal, having a concavity in its surface, a wing foldable over the concavity, and two body sections, one at  
 55 each side and folded upon each other and over the wing, said sections and wing having alined perforations therein above the concavity.

3. In a tag of the character described, a  
 60 tag body formed of sheet metal, having a concavity near one end, a spring wire rod secured by one end and extended across the concavity, a wing foldable over the rod and the concavity, and two plate-like body sec-  
 65 tions folded successively upon the wing and upon each other, said sections and wing having alined perforations therein above the spring rod.

4. In a tag of the character described, a  
 70 tag body having a spring locking rod therein, and also having a perforation opposite the spring locking rod, and a shackle bow pointed at one end and having a locking hook therein near the point, and a hinged connection at  
 75 the other end of the shackle bow on the tag body, said connection having a construction which permits the shackle bow to be adjusted for folding it flat upon the tag body.

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

RALPH HARRINGTON JACKSON.

Witnesses:

SLADE R. YOUNG,  
 EMIL LUDEKENS.