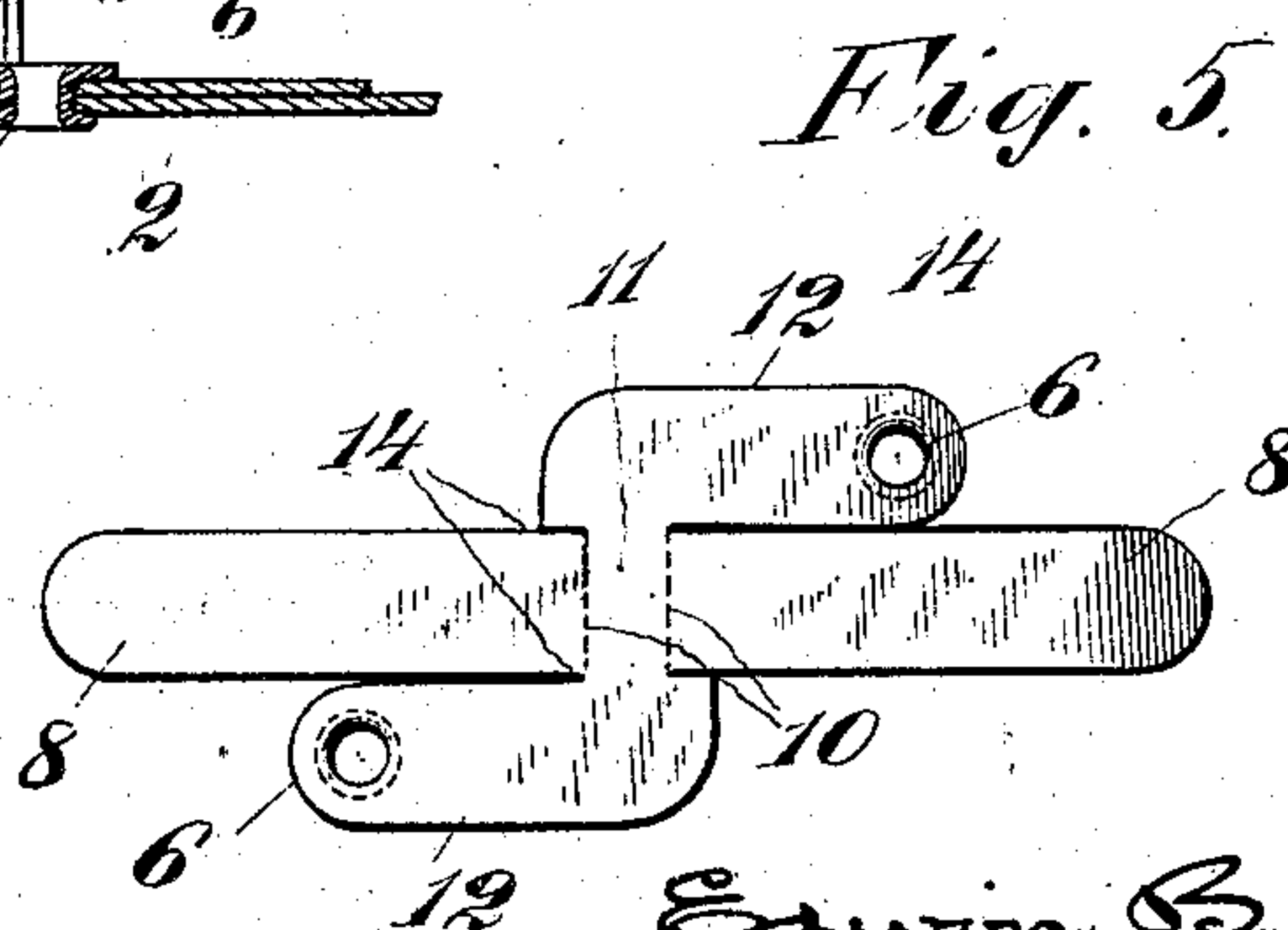
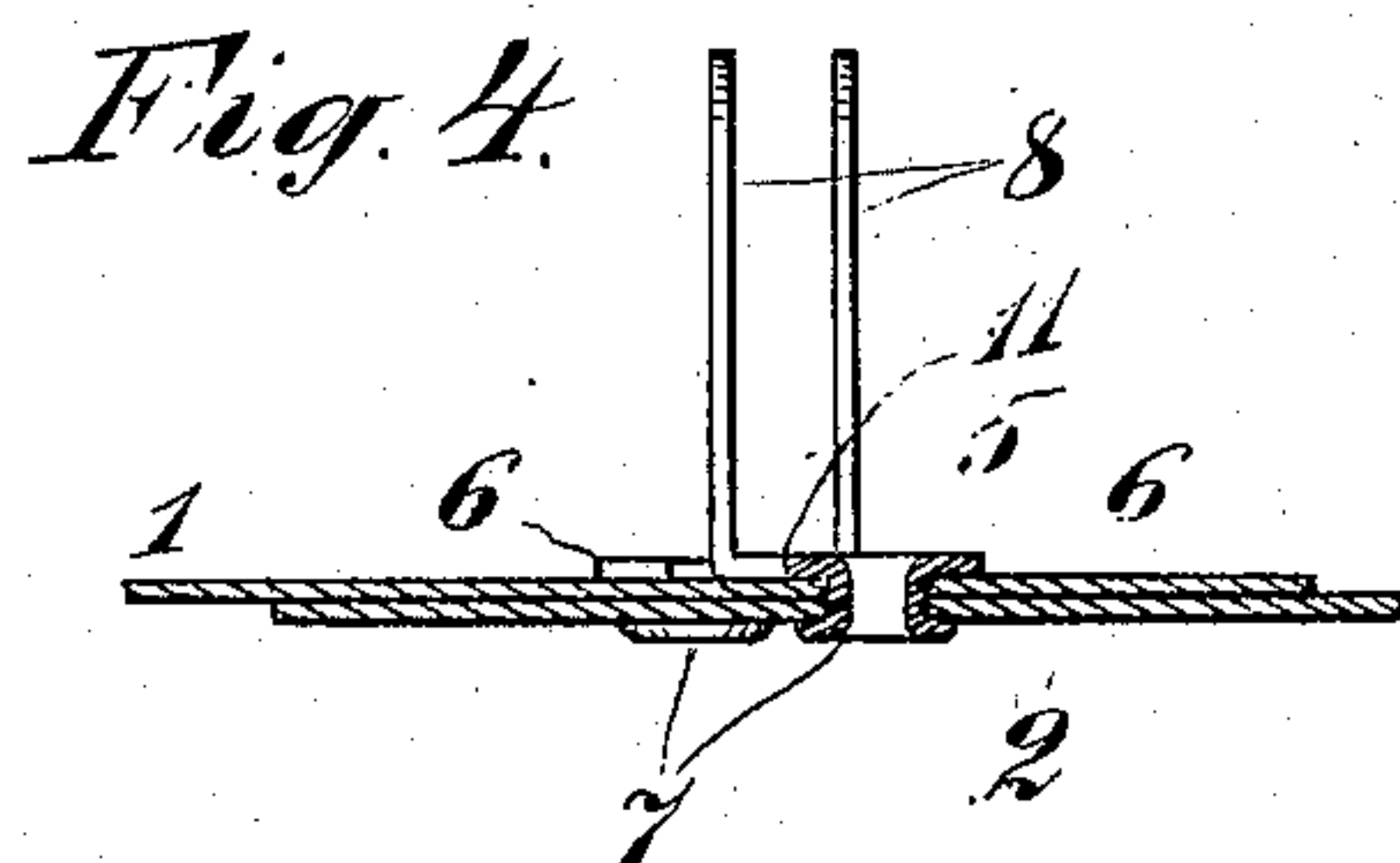
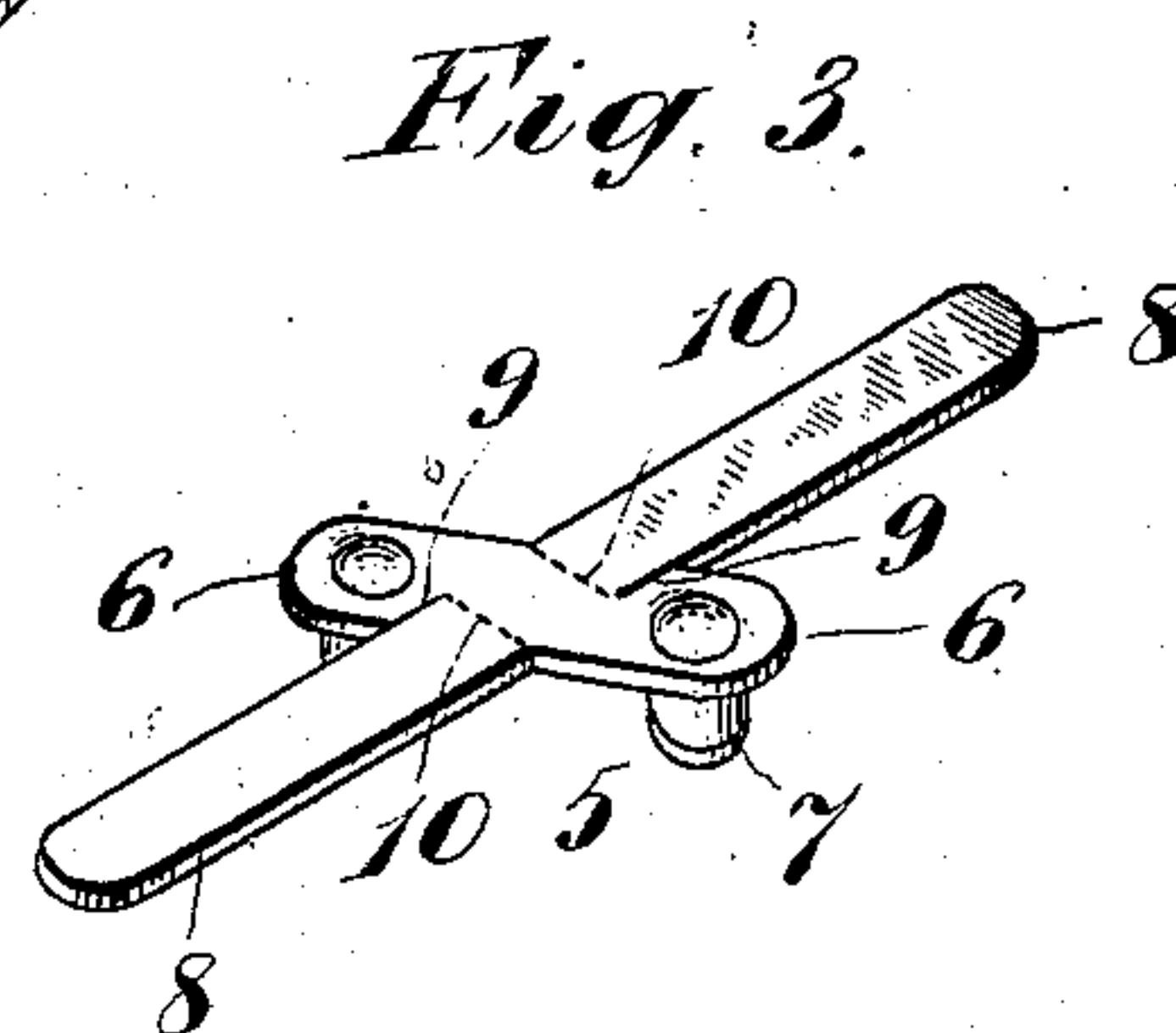
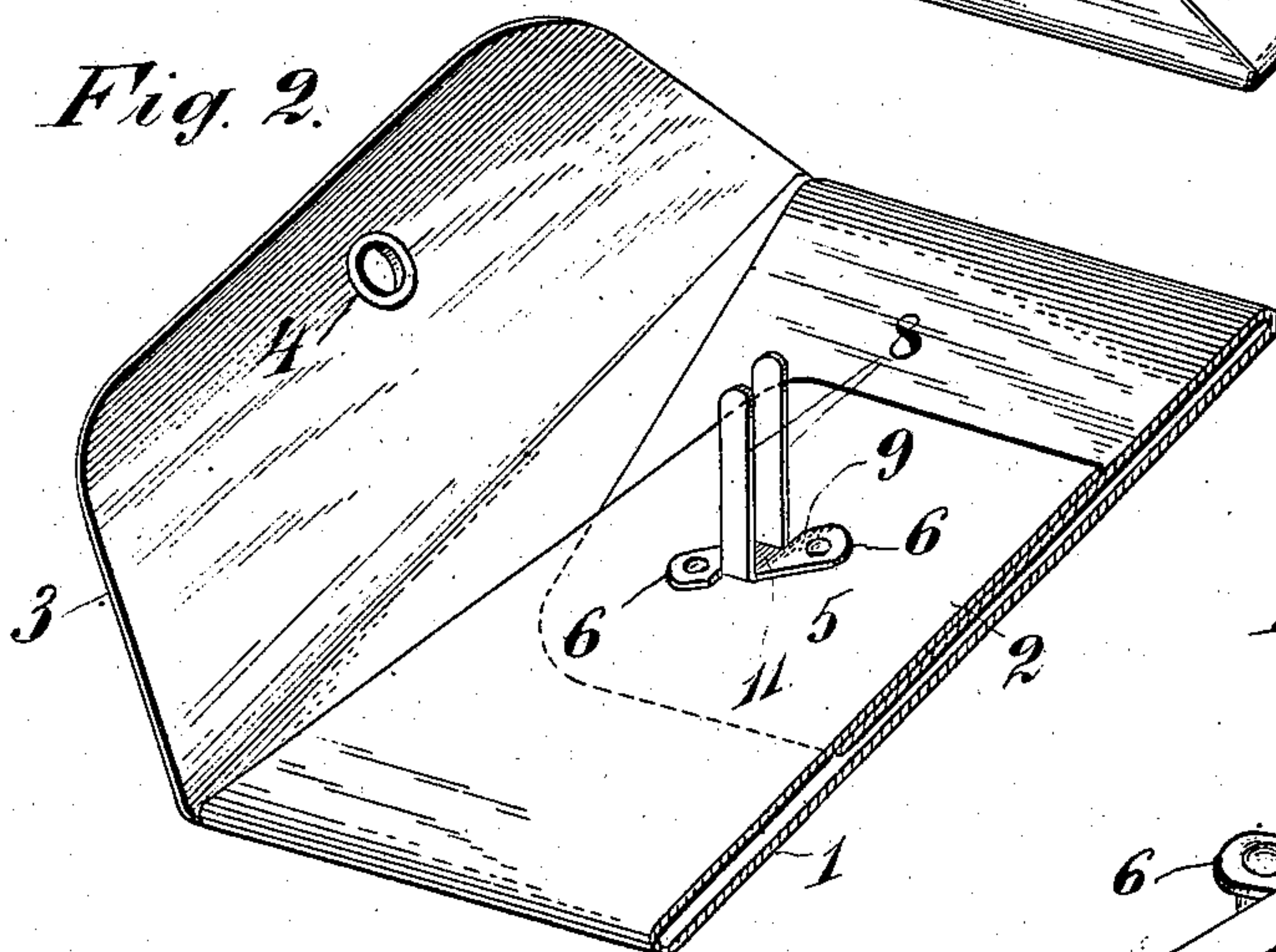
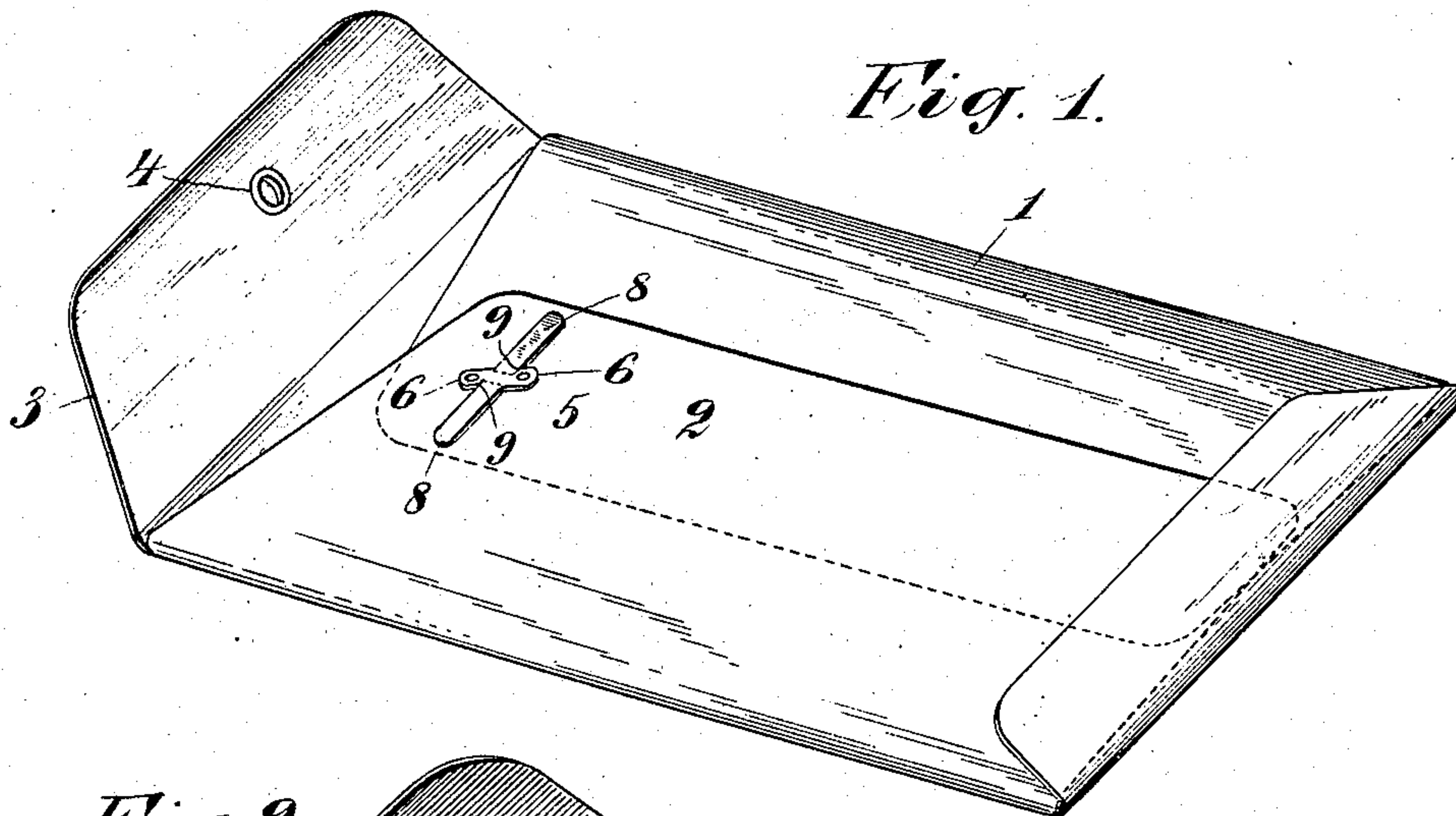


No. 885,884.

PATENTED APR. 28, 1908.

E. B. STIMPSON.  
ENVELOP FASTENER.  
APPLICATION FILED OCT. 2, 1906.



Witnesses:  
P. Margulies  
F. H. Wiman

Inventor  
Edwin B. Stimpson.  
By his Attorney  
*[Signature]*



# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

EDWIN BALL STIMPSON, OF NEW YORK, N. Y., ASSIGNOR TO UNITED STATES ENVELOPE CO.,  
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## ENVELOP-FASTENER.

No. 885,884.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented April 28, 1908.

Application filed October 2, 1906. Serial No. 337,042.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, EDWIN BALL STIMPSON, a citizen of the United States, residing in the borough of Brooklyn, county of Kings, city and State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Envelop-Fasteners, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to certain improvements in fasteners such as are adapted for employment for holding the sealing flaps of envelopes in closed position while permitting such flaps to be readily raised or opened for inspection of the contents, and the object of the invention is to provide a fastener of this general character of a simple and comparatively inexpensive nature which shall be capable of convenient manipulation, and wherein are provided improved means of attachment to the envelop body whereby the device is securely held in position thereon and the liability of the fastener being torn therefrom is lessened.

The invention consists in certain novel features of the construction, and combinations and arrangements of the several parts of the improved envelop fastener, whereby certain important advantages are attained and the device is rendered simpler, cheaper and otherwise better adapted and more convenient for use, all as will be hereinafter fully set forth.

The novel features of the invention will be carefully defined in the claims.

In order that my invention may be the better understood I have illustrated in the accompanying drawings two forms of envelop fastener embodying my improvements, in which drawings

Figure 1 is a perspective view of an envelop having a fastener constructed according to my invention applied thereto with its flap-engaging prongs in flattened position; Fig. 2 is a fragmentary perspective view of the envelop, the improved fastener being shown with its flap-engaging prongs upbent for engagement with the closing flap; Fig. 3 is a perspective view showing the fastener plate detached from the envelop and drawn to a larger scale; Fig. 4 is an enlarged fragmentary view showing the envelop in section and the flap-engaging prongs of the fastener plate thereon upbent and in edge elevation, and Fig. 5 is a plan view showing a modified for-

mation of the fastener plate embodying my improvements.

In these views 1 represents the body portion of the envelop whereon the improved fastener is applied for use, said envelop being herein shown as having a thickened or reinforced portion 2 produced centrally along its back surface by lapping one edge portion of the blank from which the envelop is formed upon the other so as to give such reinforced or thickened portion a double thickness suitable for the attachment of the fastener plate as will be hereinafter described.

3 represents the closing flap of the envelop, which is herein shown as arranged at the end of the body portion and is provided with an aperture 4 adapted for the passage of the flap engaging prongs of the fastener plate as will be hereinafter described.

5 represents the fastener plate as a whole. This plate is preferably formed from thin sheet metal of elongated shape, as to its body portion, and said body portion is adapted to be rested, when the fastener is applied to the envelop, flush upon the outer surface of the reinforced portion 2 of the envelop body, and has rounded end portions 6, 6, upon which are integrally produced downwardly extended tubular rivets or eyelets 7, 7, which are adapted to be passed through the reinforced or thickened portion 2 of the envelop body, and expanded or upset inside the same, as clearly shown in Fig. 4, in such a manner as to afford a secure and effective attachment of the fastener plate upon the envelop.

8, 8, represent the flap-engaging prongs which are integrally produced upon the fastened plate, and are extended in opposite directions from opposite sides of the central portion of the elongated body portion thereof, and are alined with each other in a direction inclined with respect to the length of said body portion, and the opposite sides of the respective prongs 8, 8, are prolonged by means of cuts 9, 9, extended part way across the body portion of the fastener plate in such a way as to permit the said prongs to be upbent, parallel with each other along lines indicated at 10, 10, in Fig. 3, whereby when the said prongs are upbent as shown in Figs. 2 and 4, the portion of the fastener plate between them, and indicated at 11 in said figures, is narrower than the remaining part of the body portion of said plate, so that the



said prongs are permitted to closely approach one another in position for convenient passage through the opening 4 of the closing flap when the envelop is to be closed.

5 After the flap-engaging prongs 8, 8, have been passed through the opening 4 of the closing flap, they are spread apart in a well known way for securely holding said flap closed, but are capable of being afterwards  
10 alined or bent parallel with each other so as to facilitate lifting of the closing flap for inspection of the contents, and the construction of the improved fastener plate is such as to permit it to be readily and conveniently  
15 manipulated for closing and opening the end flap of the envelop while the peculiar arrangement of the attaching means is such as to afford assurance against tearing of the plate from the body of the envelop when the flap-  
20 engaging prongs are being manipulated and also prevents turning of the fastener plate upon the envelop body such as would tend to throw the flap-engaging prongs out of position to engage the aperture 4 of the closing  
25 flap of the envelop. Furthermore, the zig-zag formation given to the body portion of the fastener plate by the construction above described, permits the tubular rivets or eyelets at opposite ends of said body portion to  
30 be spaced at some distance apart, and permits said body portion to be extended in a general direction at an inclination to the alined flap-engaging prongs 8, 8, so that when said prongs are flattened out as seen  
35 in Figs. 1 and 3, the strain imposed at the attaching means upon the envelop when the prongs are upbent will be minimized and a uniform support will be afforded to the body portion over a considerable extent of the  
40 surface of the reinforced part 2 of the envelop to prevent the fastener plate from being torn loose therefrom.

From the above description of my improvements, it will be evident that the envelop fastener constructed according to my  
45 invention is of an extremely simple and comparatively inexpensive nature and is particularly well adapted for use, especially upon mailing or other envelops which are required  
50 to be opened for inspection of their contents

after being once closed, and it will also be obvious from the above description that the device is susceptible of considerable modification without material departure from the principles and spirit of the invention and 55 for this reason I do not desire to be understood as limiting myself to the precise formation and arrangement of the several parts of the device as herein set forth in carrying out my invention in practice. For example, in 60 some cases, the construction shown in Fig. 5 may be adopted with good results. This form of the device is similar to that above described, excepting that the end portions 12, 12, of the zig-zag shaped body portion of 65 the fastener plate are extended parallel with each other, but are thrown out of alinement, the connecting portion 11 being extended at right angles between them, and being made of reduced width by reason of the cuts or 70 slits 14, 14, which permit the flap-engaging prongs 8, 8, to be prolonged part way across said connecting portion in order that they may be bent upwards along the dotted lines closely adjacent to each other without reduc- 75 tion of the width of the end portions of the fastened plate at which the tubular rivets or eyelets are arranged.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim and desire to secure by Letters Pat- 80 ent is—

An envelop fastener comprising a body portion of zig-zag formation, the ends of which have integral eyelets produced upon and projecting from them for attachment to 85 the envelop and the central portion of which is adapted to bear upon the surface of the envelop and is provided with a flap-engaging prong extended at an angle thereto and adapted to be bent to project from the en- 90 velop in position for engagement with the closing flap thereof.

In witness whereof I have hereunto signed my name this 1st day of October, 1906, in the presence of two subscribing witnesses. 95

EDWIN BALL STIMPSON.

Witnesses:

H. G. HOSE,  
WILLIAM J. FIRTH.