

No. 886,751.

PATENTED MAY 5, 1908.

P. L. WILKERSON.
PACKAGE TIE.
APPLICATION FILED MAR. 27, 1907.

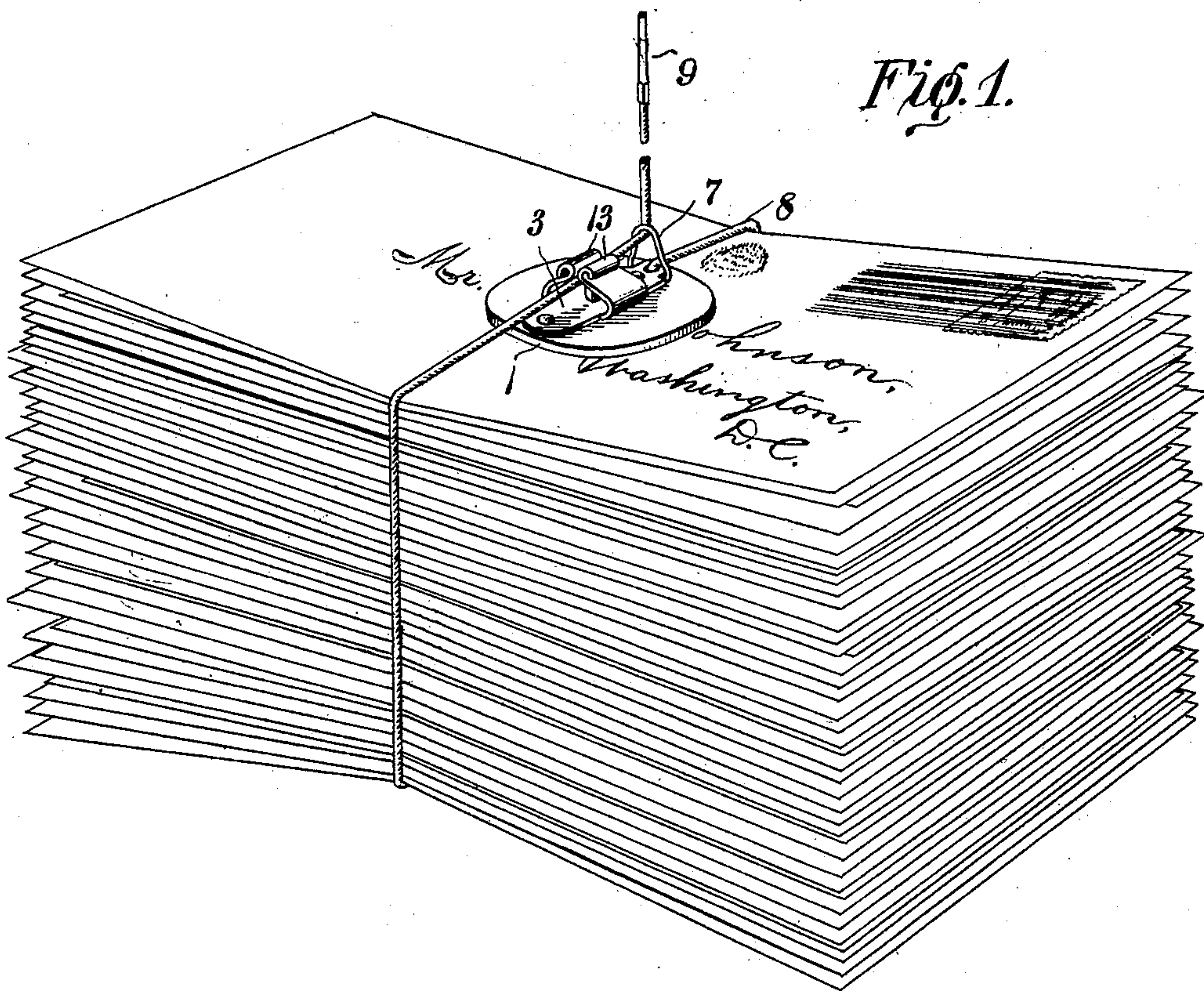


Fig. 1.

Fig. 2.

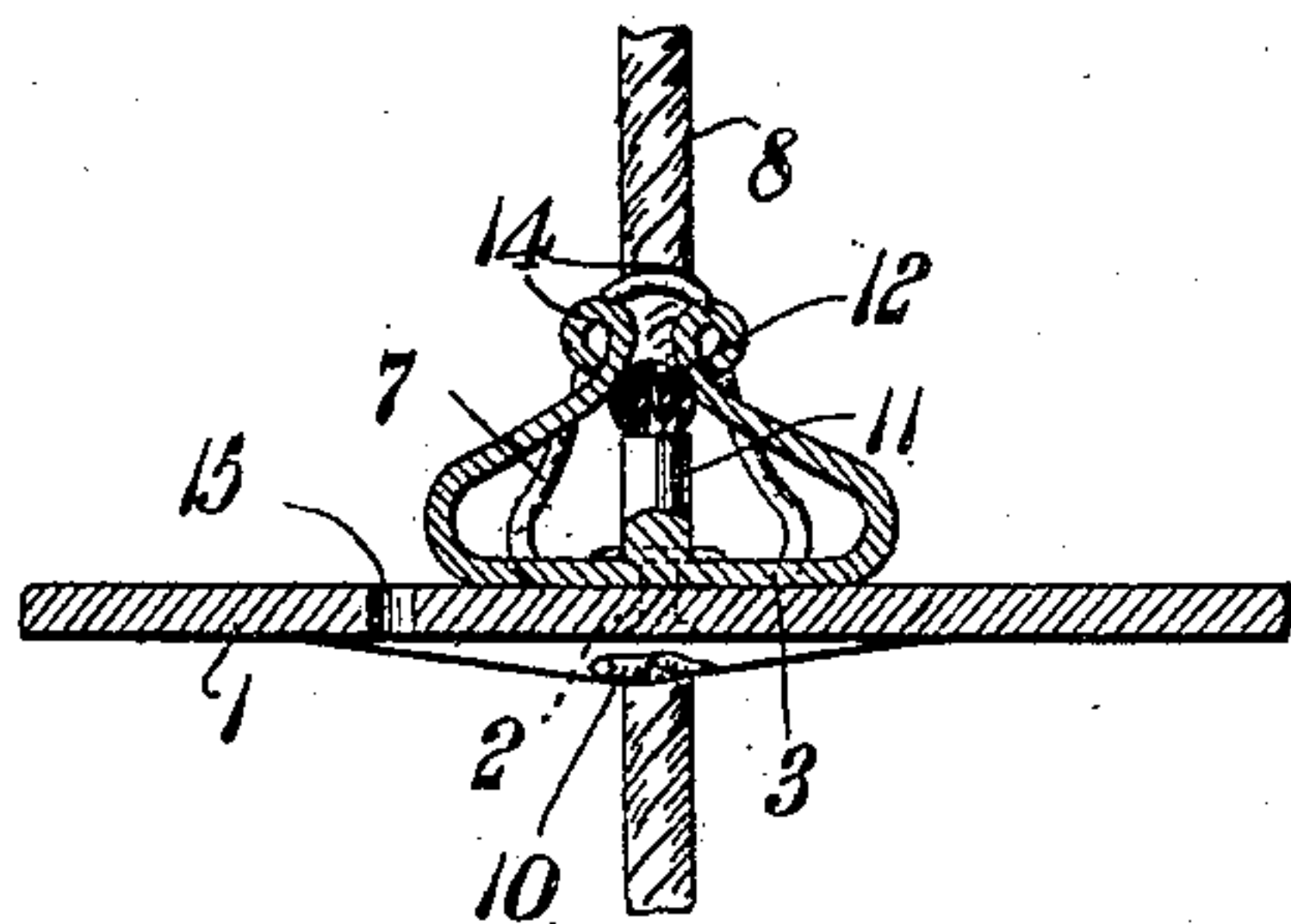
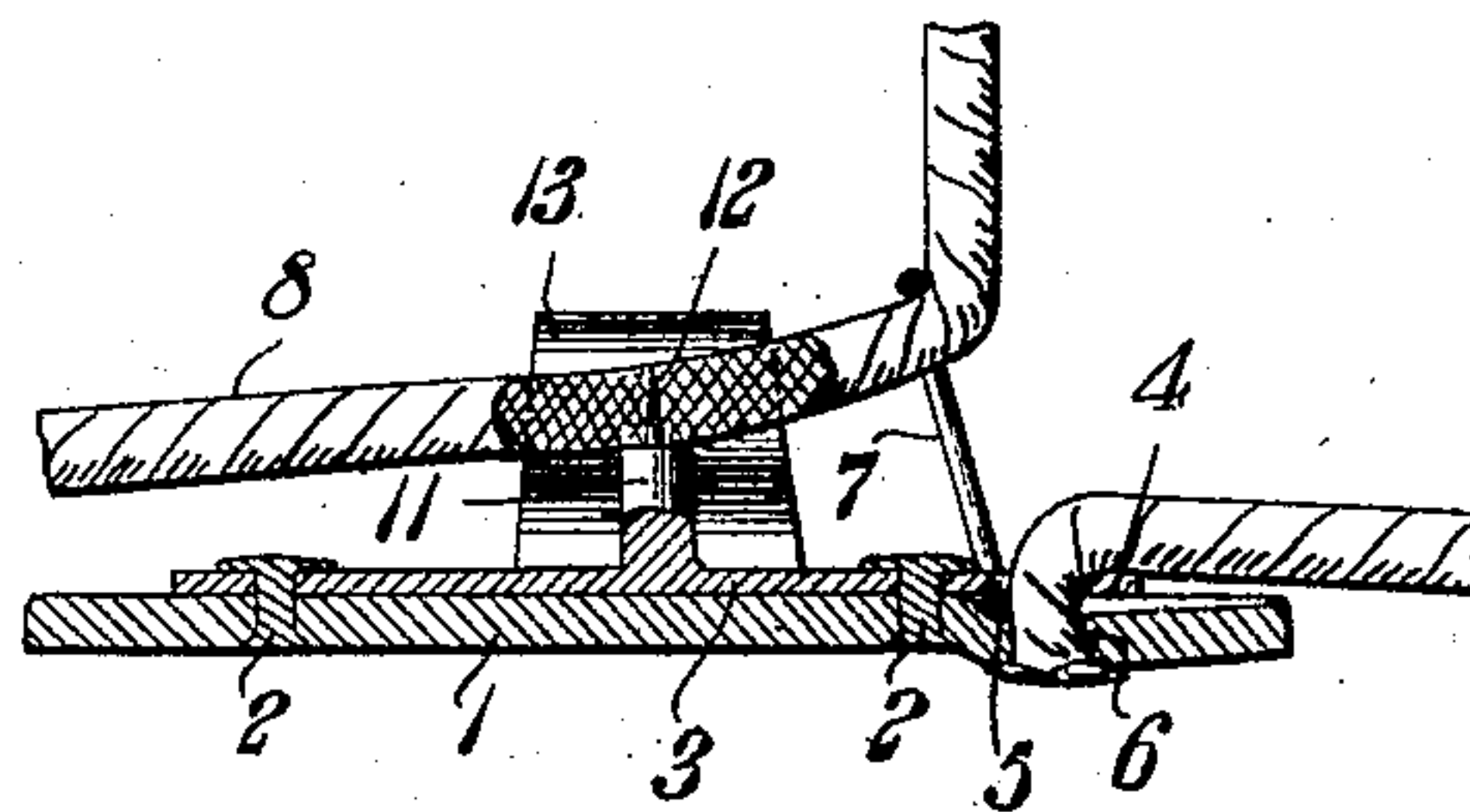


Fig. 3.



WITNESSES:

E. J. Stewart
Hubert D. Lawson

Perry L. Wilkerson,
INVENTOR

By *CA Snow & Co.*
ATTORNEYS

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

PERRY L. WILKERSON, OF CUBA, ALABAMA, ASSIGNOR OF ONE-HALF TO LEANDER POOLE, JR., OF CUBA, ALABAMA.

PACKAGE-TIE.

No. 886,751.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented May 5, 1908.

Application filed March 27, 1907. Serial No. 364,934.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, PERRY L. WILKERSON, a citizen of the United States, residing at Cuba, in the county of Sumter and State of Alabama, have invented a new and useful Package-Tie, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to package ties and more particularly to means whereby a cord or similar flexible device can be securely fastened about a package or bundle without the necessity of tying or knotting the same.

The device is particularly designed for use by letter carriers, railway mail clerks and others for holding together letters, etc., although it can also be used for securing papers in bundles which it is desired to file away. In fact the device can be used efficiently wherever it is desired to hold papers, etc., in compact bundles. Heretofore it has been customary for letter carriers to use straps which are buckled around the bundles of letters and considerable time is wasted in securing the strap about the letters and in readjusting it after some of the mail has been removed from the bundle.

It is the object of the present invention to provide a device which constitutes an efficient substitute for such a strap, is much cheaper in construction, and can be more quickly and securely fastened.

Another object of the invention is to provide a novel form of fastener whereby the cord can be securely held in any position to which it may be adjusted.

With the above and other objects in view the invention consists of certain novel features of construction and combinations of parts which will be hereinafter more fully described and pointed out in the claims.

In the accompanying drawings is shown the preferred form of the invention.

In said drawings: Figure 1 is a perspective view of the device applied to a package of letters; Fig. 2 is a transverse section through the fastener; and Fig. 3 is a longitudinal section therethrough.

Referring to the figures by characters of reference, 1 is a disk formed of leather or other suitable material and constituting the base of the fastener. Secured upon this base by means of rivets 2 or in any other preferred manner is a metal strip 3 having a tongue 4 extending from one end thereof and provided with an opening 5 registering with a corre-

sponding opening 6 in the base 1. A retaining loop 7 embraces the tongue 4 and is held in position thereon by a cord 8 having a metal tip 9 at one end and a knot 10 at its other end. This cord extends through the two openings 5 and 6, the knot 10 serving to prevent its withdrawal from the openings, and that portion of the cord between the base 1 and tongue 4 constitutes a keeper to prevent displacement of loop 7.

Extending upward from the strip 3 is a stud 11 having a prong 12 extending from the end thereof and constituting a locking pin. Extending from opposite edges of the strip 3 are oppositely bowed spring jaws 13, the end portions of which lap the stud 11 and are spaced apart a slight distance to facilitate the insertion of a cord between the jaws. The ends of these jaws are out-turned as shown at 14 to form guides designed to direct a cord between the jaws when the same is drawn against said ends.

In using the device herein described the cord 8 is drawn around a package to be secured and is placed between the out-turned ends 14 and pulled downward. This will cause the jaws 13 to spring apart sufficiently to allow the cord to move onto the prong 12 and against the end of the stud 11. The end portions of the jaws will lap the cord and hold it down on the prong as shown particularly in Fig. 2 so that the cord is positively held against longitudinal movement. The end of the cord can if desired be threaded through the loop 7 so that the user can grasp the free end of the cord and carry the package thereby without danger of the cord pulling off of the prong 12. When it is desired to release the cord for the purpose of readjusting it to the package or for removing it therefrom it is merely necessary to pull upon the cord with sufficient force to withdraw it from the prong 12 and from between the end portions of the jaws 13. As the prong 12 seldom if ever projects into the cord more than once in the same spot it will be understood that said cord can be used a large number of times before it is rendered useless. When the cord becomes worn, however, it can be readily removed by pulling on the knotted end thereof. A new cord can then be inserted through the openings 5 and 6. It is to be understood that the fastener consisting of the disk 1 and the parts secured thereto is of such a construction as to be practi-

cally indestructible and the only part of the device subjected to wear and tear, to wit, the cord, can be easily renewed at an exceedingly small cost.

5 It will be seen that the device is very durable and compact and will be found advantageous not only by letter carriers but wherever it is desired to secure papers or packages and bundles. Importance is attached to the
10 fact that absolutely no adjustment is necessary to secure the cord in place. A single pull on the cord will direct it between the jaws and onto the prong and another pull will be sufficient to withdraw it from the
15 prong and from between the jaws.

In order that a number of these fasteners may be assembled for the purposes of transporting them from place to place an opening such as shown at 15 is formed within the disk
20 1 at one side of the strip 3 and this opening is designed to receive the stem of a file or a stiff wire so that a plurality of these fasteners can be assembled together and easily transported without becoming crushed or entangled.

25 What is claimed is:

1. A package tie comprising a base, a strip secured thereon, a loop loosely mounted between the base and strip, a flexible element extending through the base and strip and
30 constituting a retainer for the loop, and

means upon the strip for engaging and retaining said element.

2. A package tie comprising a strip formed in a single piece and having integral yieldable jaws extending therefrom, a stud upon
35 the strip and between the jaws, a prong extending from the stud, and a flexible element secured at one end to the strip and insertible between the jaws and onto the prong, said stud constituting a stop for the flexible
40 element and said jaws constituting means for binding said element upon the prong and against the stud.

3. A package tie comprising a flexible base, a strip secured thereon, integral oppositely
45 disposed yieldable jaws outstanding from the strip, a prong interposed between the jaws, a loop loosely mounted between the base and strip, and a flexible element extending through the base and strip and constitut-
50 ing a retainer for the loop, said element being insertible between the jaws and onto the prong.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing as my own, I have hereto affixed my signature
55 in the presence of two witnesses.

PERRY L. WILKERSON.

Witnesses:

A. J. McELROY,

H. H. ANDREWS.