

No. 889,269.

PATENTED JUNE 2, 1908.

E. B. STIMPSON.
ENVELOP FASTENER.
APPLICATION FILED JULY 18, 1907.

Fig. 1

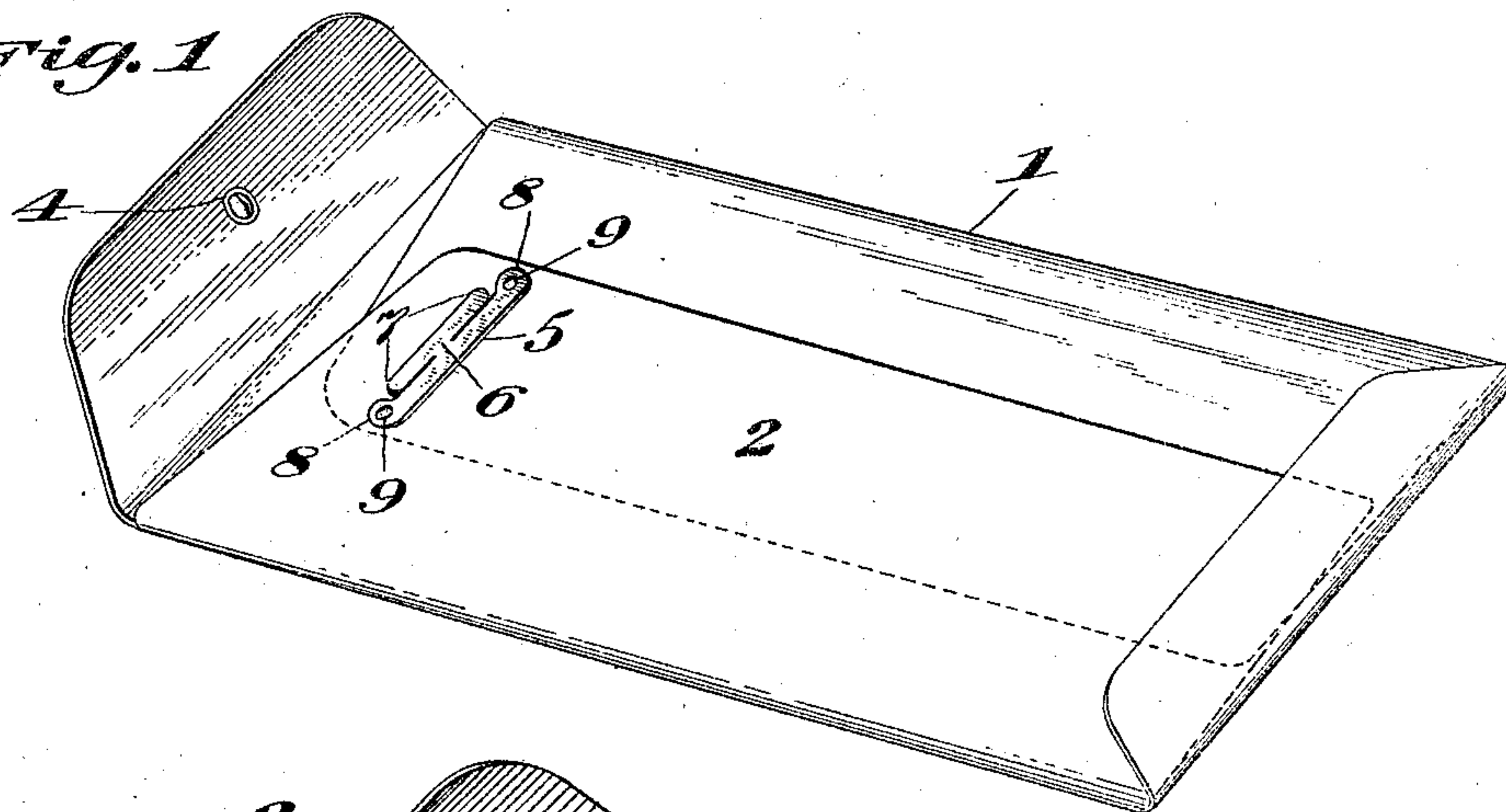


Fig. 2

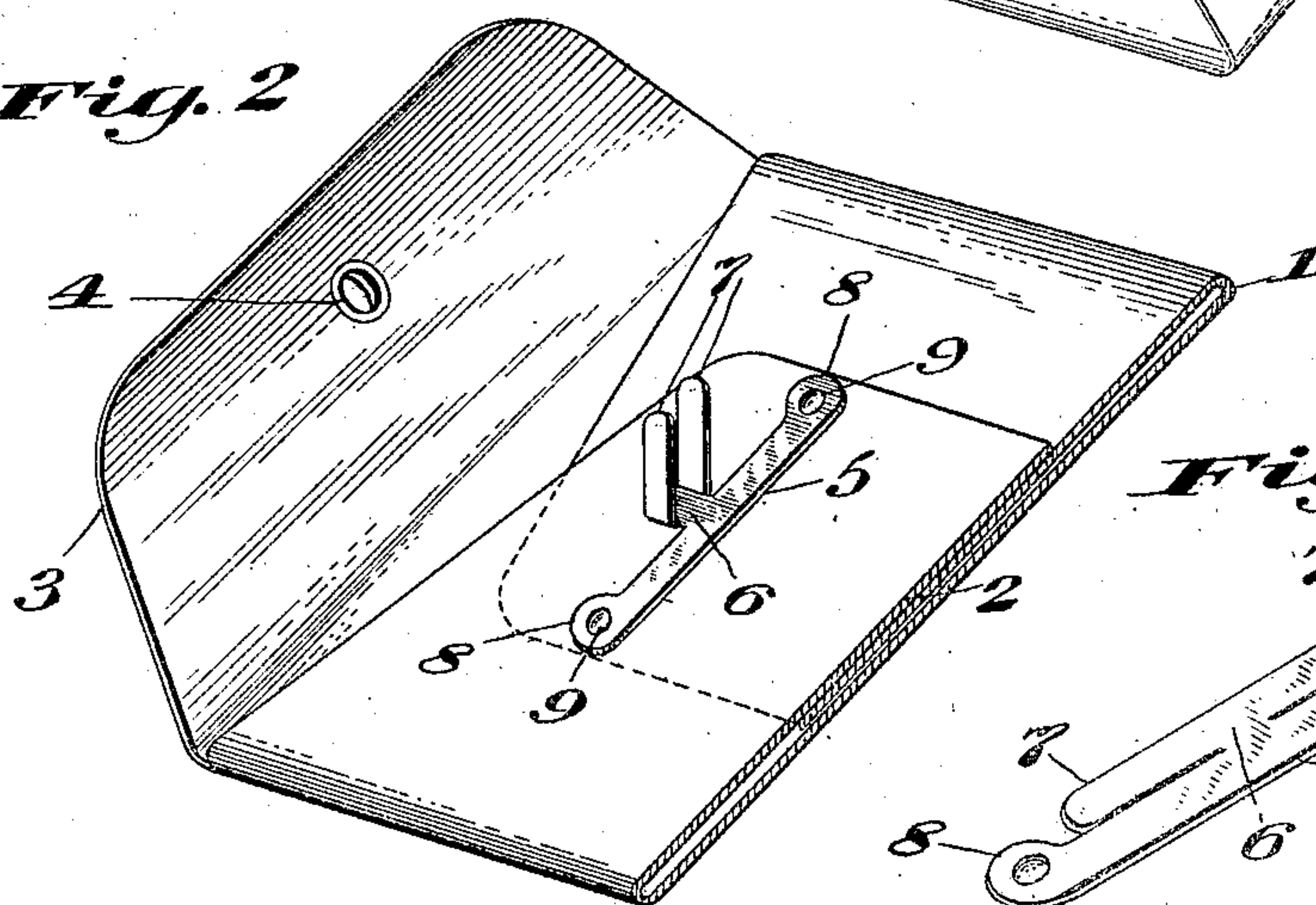


Fig. 3

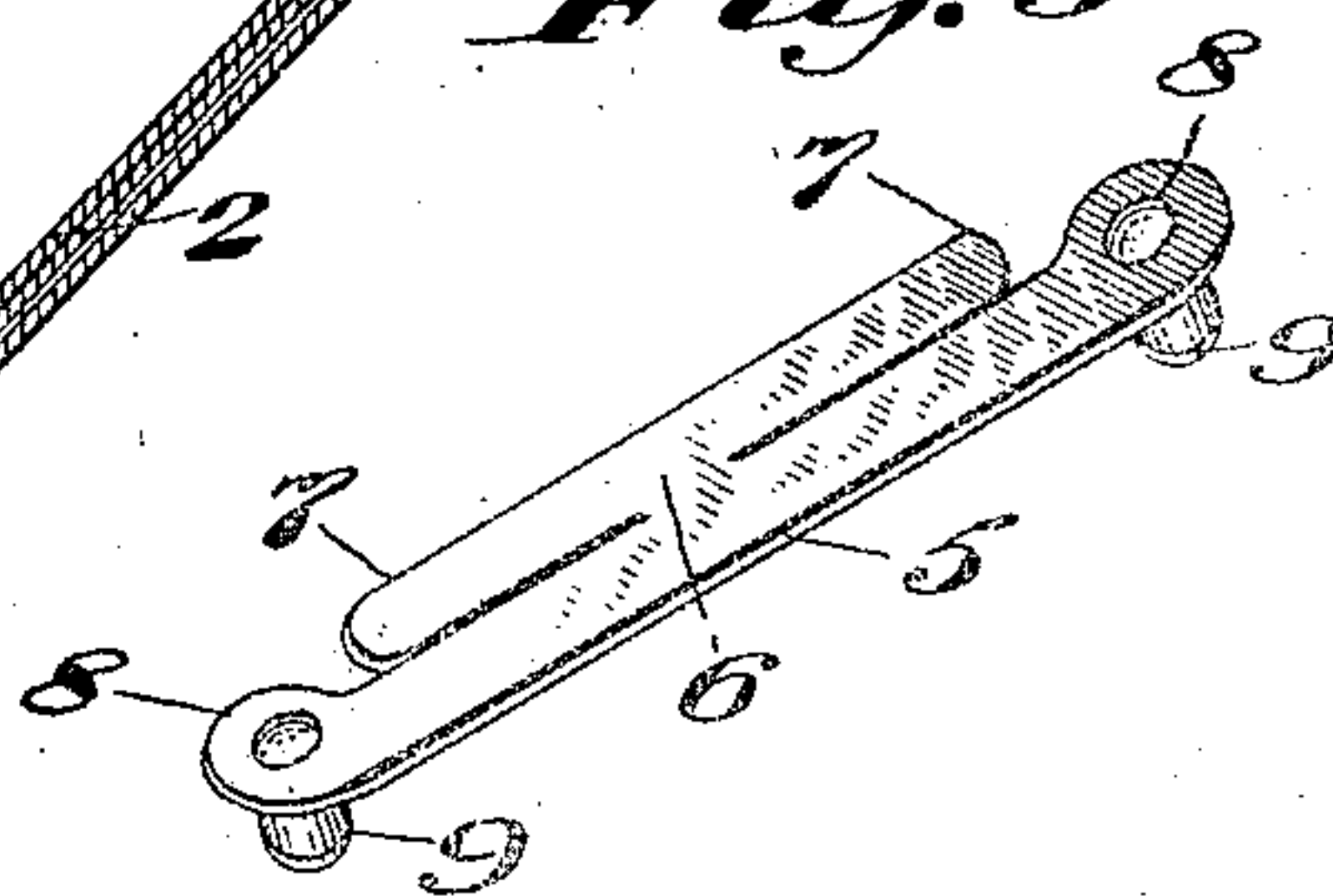


Fig. 5

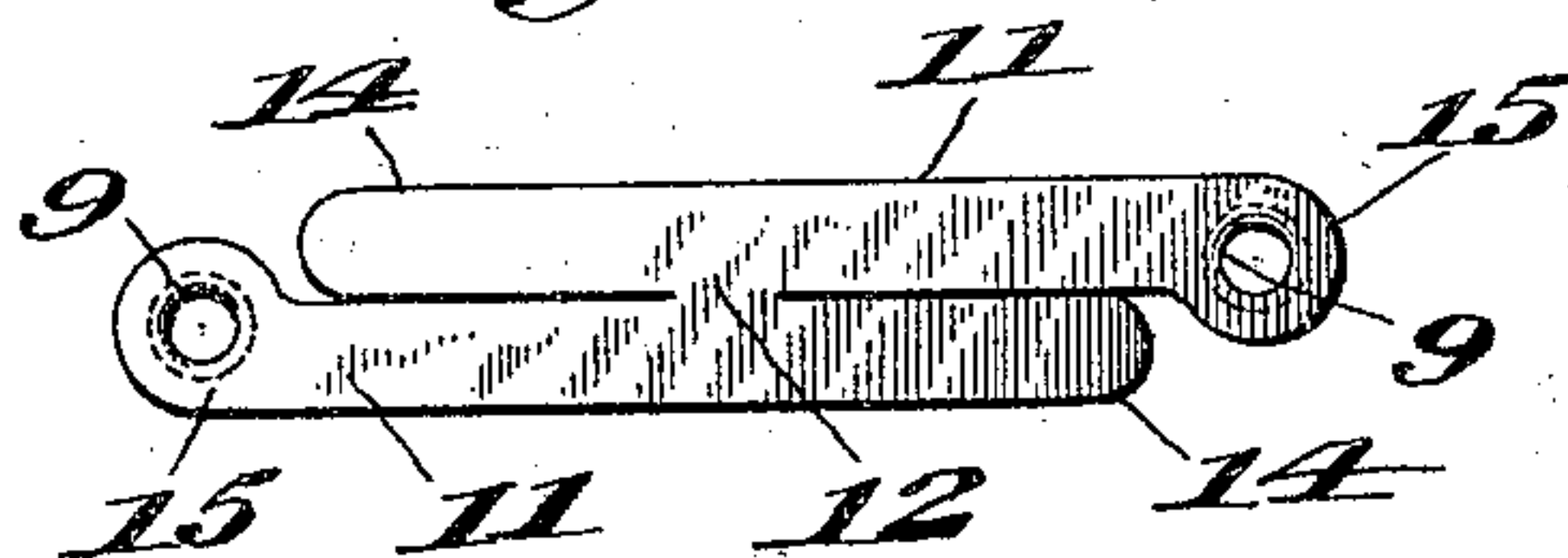
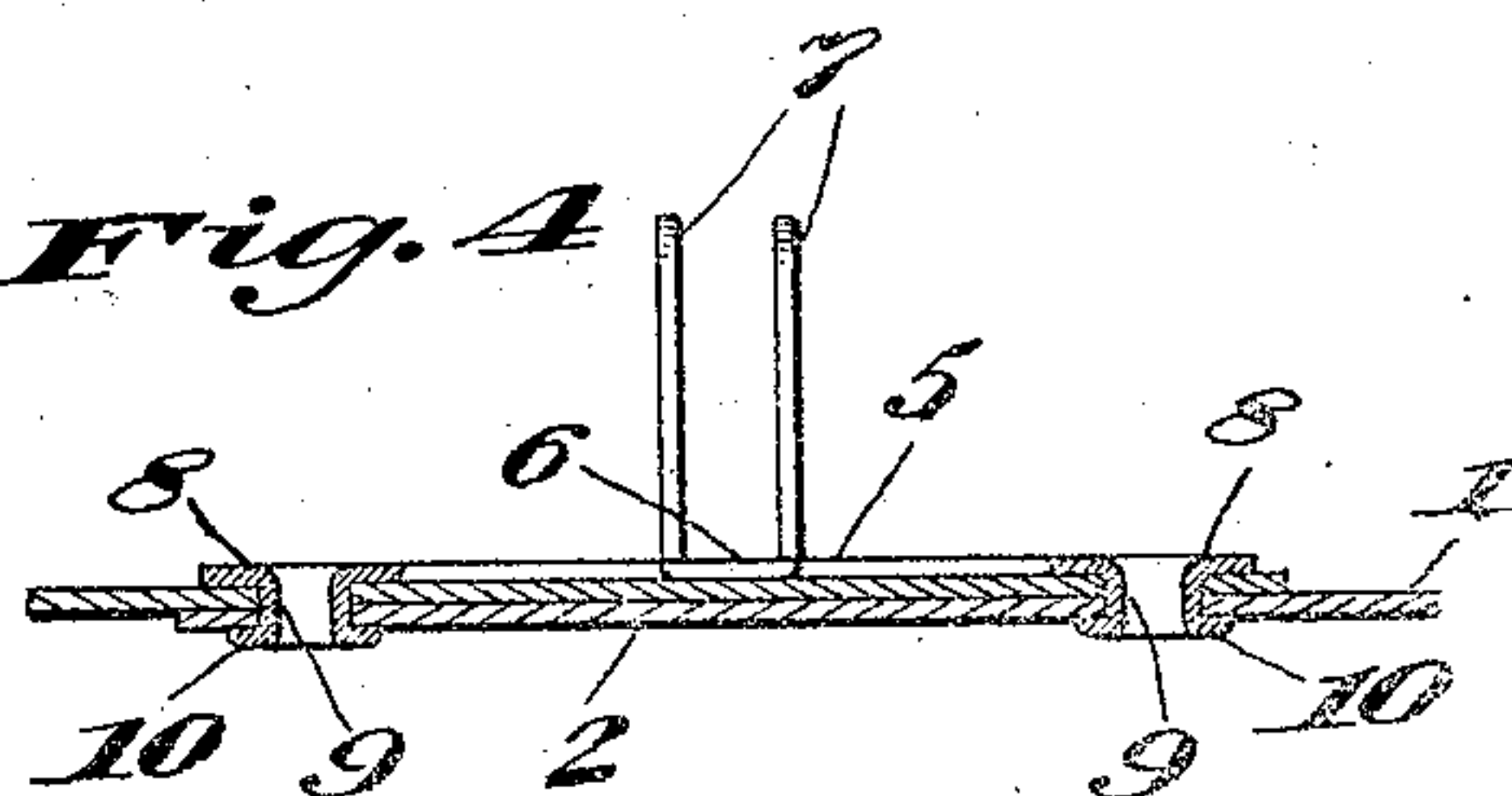


Fig. 4



Witnesses:
T. H. Wiman
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Inventor
Edwin B. Stimpson
By His Attorney
J. H. [Signature]

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

EDWIN B. STIMPSON, OF BROOKLYN, NEW YORK, ASSIGNOR TO UNITED STATES ENVELOPE COMPANY, OF WORCESTER, MASSACHUSETTS.

ENVELOP-FASTENER.

No. 889,269.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented June 2, 1908.

Application filed July 18, 1907. Serial No. 384,339.

To all whom it may concern:

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

This invention relates to certain improvements in envelop fasteners such as are adapted for detachable engagement with the closing flaps of mailing and other envelopes to permit of holding the same securely closed while allowing the flaps to be readily 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 having improved means of attachment to the body of the envelop whereby the device is rendered less liable to be torn therefrom during use.

The invention consists in a fastener plate having an elongated body portion provided with attaching devices adjacent to its ends and having a central laterally directed web integral with the said body portion and having at one side an elongated flap-engaging tongue which is extended parallel with and closely adjacent to an end of said body portion.

The invention also contemplates 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 the accompanying drawings which serve to illustrate my invention—Figure 1 is a perspective view showing an envelop provided with a fastener constructed according to my invention; Fig. 2 is a fragmentary perspective view similar to Fig. 1, but showing the fastener plate with its flap-engaging tongues upbent for engagement with the closing flap of the envelop; Fig. 3 is an enlarged perspective view showing the fastener plate detached from the envelop; Fig. 4 is an enlarged sectional view taken lengthwise through the fastener plate and envelop whereon the same is secured, and—Fig. 5 is a view showing a modified formation of the

improved fastener plate detached from the envelop.

Referring first to Figs. 1 to 4 inclusive, 1 represents an ordinary open-end mailing envelop to which I have shown my improved fastener applied for use, the side flaps thereof being lapped and secured upon each other along the back of the envelop so as to afford a reinforced portion 2 of doubled thickness whereon it is customary to attach the fastener. 3 represents the open end flap of the envelop and 4 represents a perforation produced therein for the passage of the pliant flap-engaging tongues of the fastener in a well known way.

The improved fastener is produced, as herein shown, from a piece of thin pliant metal and comprises a flattened body portion 5 of elongated formation with its opposite lateral edges substantially parallel with each other, and at the central part of the said body portion there is extended a laterally directed web or projection 6, integral with the body portion and carrying at its opposite sides, aligned flap-engaging tongues 7, 7, which are extended substantially parallel with and closely adjacent to the ends of said elongated body portion 5, and which are normally extended in the same plane therewith, as seen in Figs. 1 and 3, but are adapted to be bent upwards at their connections with the web or projection 6 so as to stand parallel with each other and at right angles to the surface of the body portion 5, as shown in Figs. 2 and 4, to permit of being conveniently passed through the aperture 4 of the closing flap when the envelop is to be closed.

The length of the body portion 5 of the fastener plate is such that its ends are caused to extend in opposite directions beyond the corresponding and adjacent extremities of the parallel flap-engaging tongues 7, 7, and the extremities of said outwardly extended ends of the body portion are herein shown as made enlarged and rounded as seen at 8, 8, at the edge adjacent to the ends of the tongues 7, 7, the said laterally extended enlargements 8, 8, being thus thrown into substantial alinement with the tongues 7, 7, so as to give a more secure attachment of the device to the envelop whereon it is secured. This arrangement also permits of a material economy in the use of material for the manufacture of the improved fasteners. The rounded enlargements 8, 8, at the extremities of the out-

wardly extended ends of the body portion of the improved fastener plate carry the means for attaching said plate to the material of the envelop 1, and as herein shown, the said attaching means comprises eyelets 9, 9, integrally produced at said enlargements 8, 8, and extended therefrom in position to be passed through the material of the envelop and to be clenched or expanded inside the same as shown at 10 in Fig. 4.

The arrangement of the improved fastener plate according to my invention with its attaching devices at the ends of its body portion and with a central laterally directed web integral with the body portion and carrying the flap engaging tongues extended parallel with the ends of said body portion affords a fastener of an extremely simple and effective character which is capable of being economically manufactured and is adapted for convenient use without liability of being torn from the envelop, particularly when the ends of the body portion at which the attaching means are located are extended beyond the ends of the flap-engaging tongues.

It will be evident from the above description that the improved envelop fastener is especially well adapted for use by reason of its simple and inexpensive nature and of the readiness with which the flap-engaging tongues may be upbent in position for use by reason of their arrangement at the side of the body portion, an added advantage being attained on account of the security of attachment to the envelop afforded by the divergence of the ends of the body portion whereon the attaching means are carried, and it will also be obvious from the above description that the improved fastener is susceptible of considerable modification without material departure from the principles and spirit of the invention and for this reason I do not desire to be understood as limiting myself to the precise form and arrangement of the device as herein set forth in carrying out my invention in practice. For example, in some cases, the device may be advantageously made as shown in Fig. 5, wherein the body portion has its ends 11, 11 thrown out of alinement but still parallel with each other, being integrally connected one with the other by means of the transverse or laterally directed web 12 at their central parts. In this form of the fastener, the flap-engaging tongues 14, 14 upon the opposite sides of said web 12 are also thrown out of alinement with

each other, being arranged at opposite ends of said web 12 and each being alined with one of the ends 11 of the body portion and extended parallel with and closely adjacent to the side of the other end 11 of said body portion. In this form of the fastener, the ends 11 of the body portion are also provided at their extremities with rounded enlargements 15 which carry the attaching means for holding the device to the envelop.

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

1. A fastener adapted to be made out of a piece of sheet metal, comprising an elongated body portion, tongues the bases of which spring integrally from the body portion at its center, said tongues when pressed apart from each other being adapted to lie in the plane of the body portion with their free ends adjacent to the body portion and extending oppositely towards the free ends of said body portion, which last named ends extend beyond the ends of the tongues and are provided with integral eyelets.

2. A fastener adapted to be made out of a piece of sheet metal, comprising an elongated body portion, tongues the bases of which spring integrally from the body portion at its center, said tongues when pressed apart from each other being adapted to lie in the plane of the body portion with their free ends adjacent to the body portion and extending oppositely towards the free ends of said body portion, which last named ends extend longitudinally and laterally around the ends of the tongues and are there provided with means adapted to secure the fastener to the object.

3. A fastener adapted to be made out of a piece of sheet metal comprising two strip-like portions located side by side in the same plane and integrally connected at their middle portion, the free ends of one of said strip portions being extended longitudinally and laterally around the free ends of the other strip portion and being there provided with means adapted to secure the fastener to the article.

In witness whereof I have hereunto signed my name this 13th day of July 1907, in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

EDWIN B. STIMPSON.

Witnesses:

HENRY V. RAU,

WILLIAM J. MURPHY.