

W. D. SMITH.
ENVELOP.

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914,982.

Patented Mar. 9, 1909.

Fig. 3.

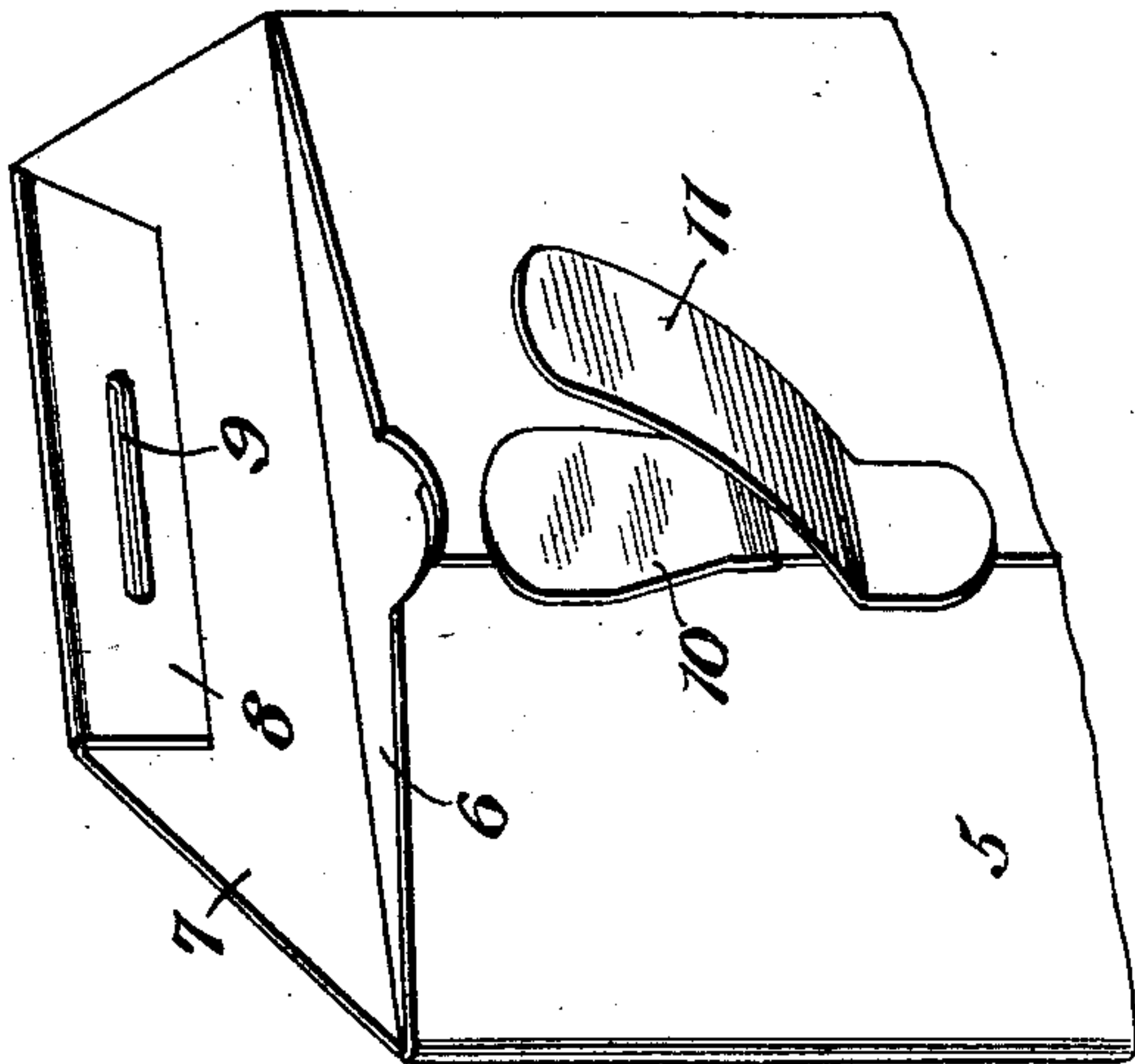


Fig. 2.

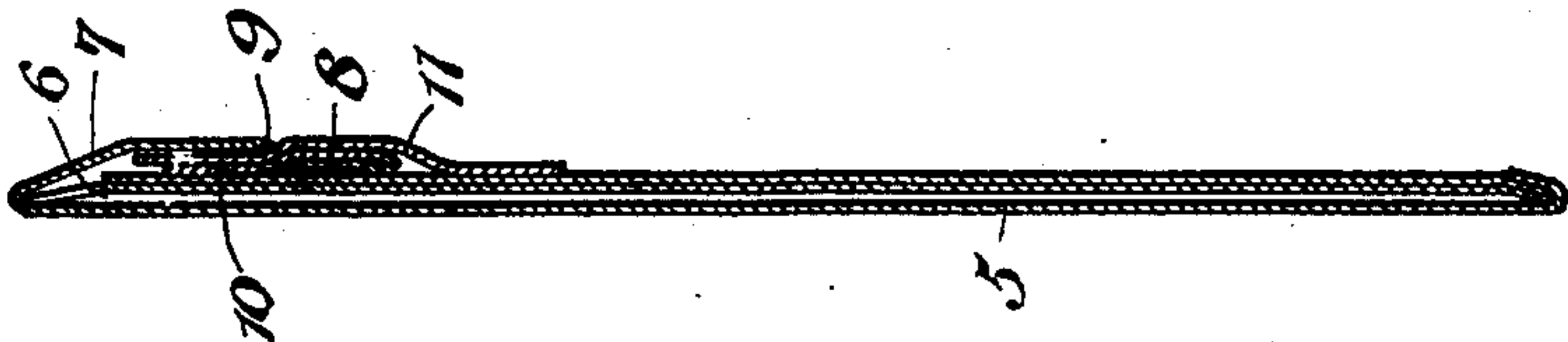
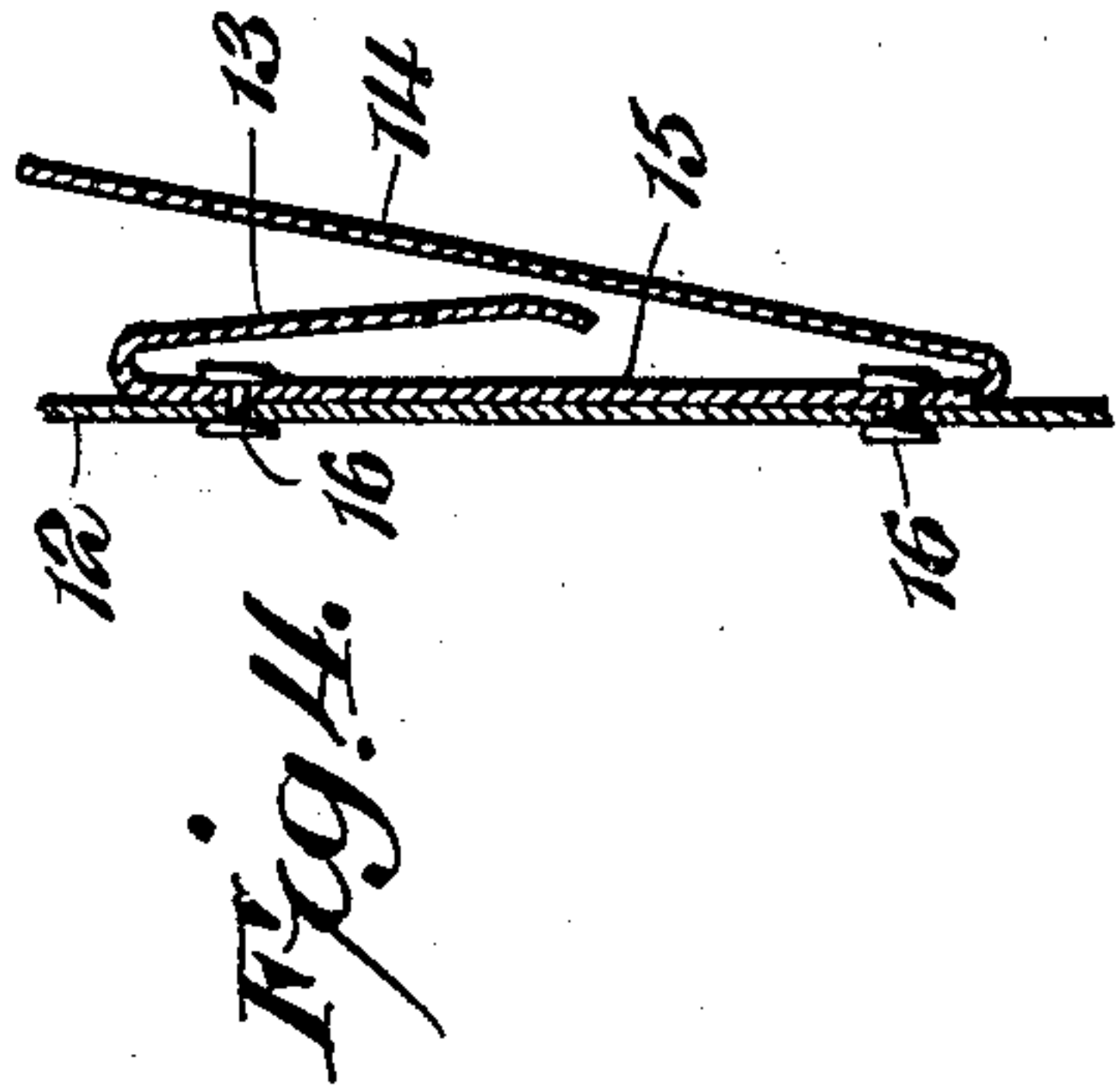
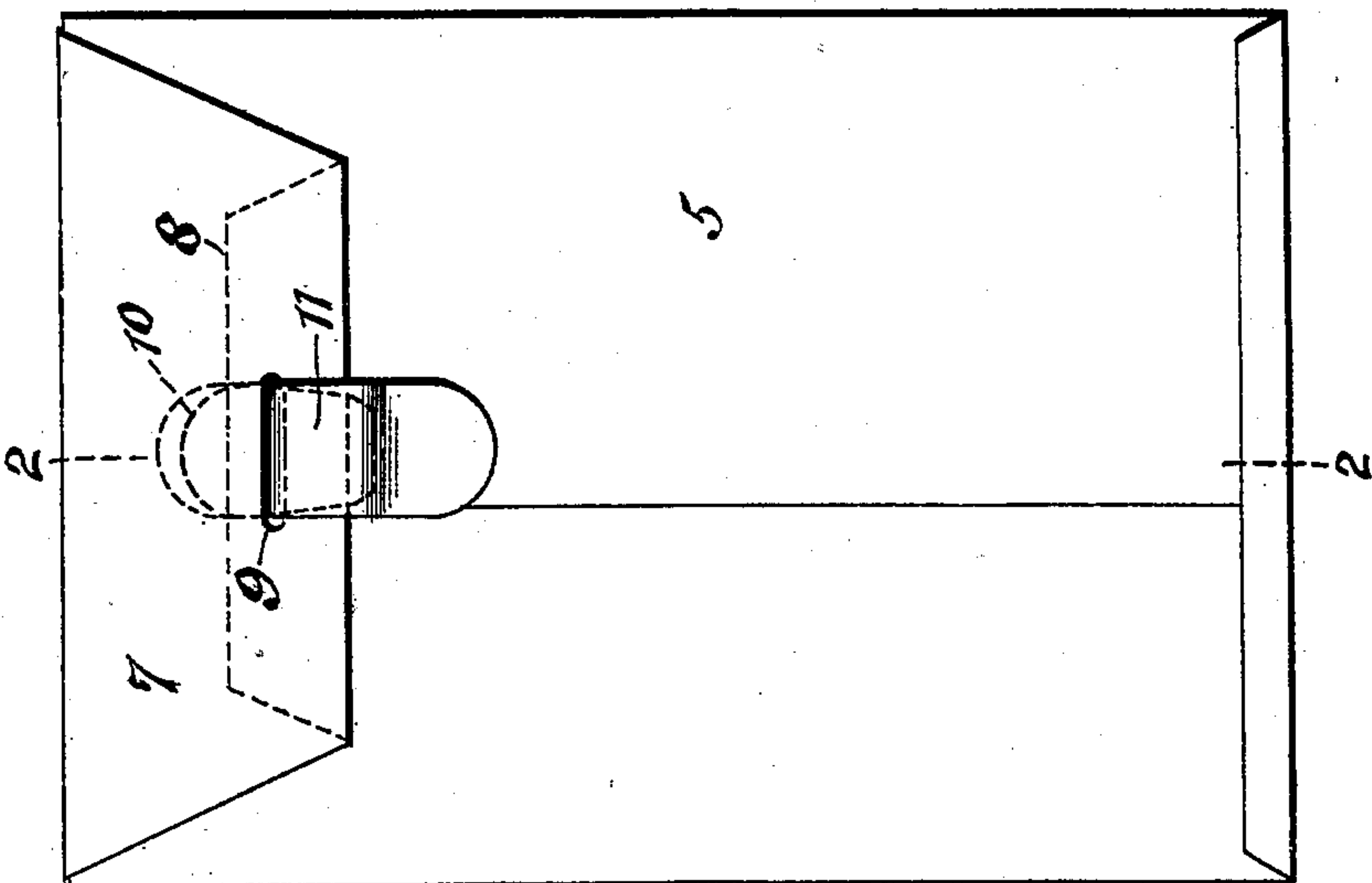


Fig. 1.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WALTON DUANE SMITH, OF PROPHETSTOWN, ILLINOIS, ASSIGNOR OF ONE-THIRD TO FRED L. ADAMS AND ONE-THIRD TO JOHN A. FIRMAN, BOTH OF PROPHETSTOWN, ILLINOIS.

ENVELOP.

No. 914,982.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented March 9, 1909.

Application filed November 14, 1907. Serial No. 402,215.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WALTON DUANE SMITH, a citizen of the United States, residing at Prophetstown, in the county of Whiteside and State of Illinois, have invented a new and useful Envelop, of which the following is a specification.

The principal object of the present invention is to provide simple means of a novel nature for securing the flap of an envelop in closed condition, said means being exceedingly inexpensive to manufacture, the parts being such that they may be expeditiously applied to an envelop, said fastening means moreover being highly effective, and while readily operable, is such that there is little danger of the flap becoming accidentally released by handling or during transit in the mails.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is a plan view of a rear side of an envelop showing the flap fastened by the novel means. Fig. 2 is a longitudinal sectional view on the line 2—2 of Fig. 1. Fig. 3 is a detail perspective view of a portion of the envelop showing the flap open. Fig. 4 is a detail sectional view through a slightly modified form of fastening means.

Similar reference numerals designate corresponding parts in all the figures of the drawings.

Referring to the embodiment disclosed in Figs. 1, 2 and 3, the envelop comprises a body 5, which may be of any desired shape or character and of any material. The mouth 6 is arranged to be covered by the usual flap 7 and the terminal of said flap is preferably reinforced by being doubled inwardly, as shown at 8, though with heavier grades of material, doubling is not necessary. The reinforced portion is provided with a single opening or slot 9. Secured to the rear side of the body of the envelop are oppositely disposed overlapping inner and outer tongues 10 and 11 secured at their outer ends to the rear wall of the envelop body by any suitably means, as for instance, glue. The inner tongue is preferably shorter than the outer tongue, and of less width than the same, having its free portion tapered toward its rear end and said end being preferably curved or bent inwardly slightly as illustrated in Figs. 2 and 3. The various parts are so arranged that when the flap is turned down to closed position, the inner tongue 10

may be passed outwardly through the slot and the outer tongue is then passed inwardly through said slot. It will thus be evident, particularly by reference to Figs. 1 and 2, that the outer end of the inner tongue 10 is covered by the tongue 11 and the free end of the outer tongue is in turn covered by the flap. Consequently there are no projecting ends to be torn off or that will constitute means by which the tongues can be forced to inoperative position. The combination constitutes most effective fastening means for the flap, and at the same time, it is cheap, easily constructed and capable of being expeditiously operated.

Another form of locking device is illustrated in Fig. 4. In this case, the rear wall of the envelop body is designated 12 and the oppositely extending tongues, designated respectively 13 and 14, are formed by the end portions of a single strip, the intermediate portion 15 between the tongues being secured by suitable fasteners 16 to the body wall 12. It will be observed that this structure has all the advantages of the other and operates in the same manner.

From the foregoing, it is thought that the construction, operation and many advantages of the herein described invention will be apparent to those skilled in the art, without further description, and it will be understood that various changes in the size, shape, proportion and minor details of construction, may be resorted to without departing from the spirit or sacrificing any of the advantages of the invention.

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

1. An envelop comprising a body having an open mouth and a flap for closing said mouth, one being provided with a single opening or slot, the other having oppositely disposed tongues that detachably pass in opposite directions through the said opening or slot.

2. An envelop comprising a body having an open mouth and a flap for closing said mouth, the latter being provided with a single opening or slot, and oppositely disposed overlapping tongues carried by the body and detachably passing through the said opening or slot in opposite directions.

3. An envelop comprising a body and a flap, the latter being provided with a slot

and oppositely disposed overlapping inner and outer tongues carried by the body, the inner tongue detachably passing outwardly through the slot and the outer tongue covering the outer end of the inner tongue and passing inwardly through the slot, having its free end covered by the flap.

4. An envelop comprising a body having an open mouth and a flap for closing said mouth, the latter being provided with an opening or slot, and oppositely disposed overlapping tongues carried by the body and detachably passing through the same opening or slot in opposite directions, one of the tongues being longer than the other.

5. An envelop comprising a body and a flap having a slot, and overlapping oppositely disposed inner and outer tongues, the inner tongue being tapered and of less width and length than the outer tongue, said inner tongue passing outwardly through the slot, the outer tongue covering the outer end of the inner tongue and detachably passing inwardly through the slot, having its free end covered by the flap.

6. An envelop comprising a body having a mouth, a closure for the mouth comprising a flap that folds over said mouth and overlaps the body, said flap having an opening, and a plurality of tongues secured to the body and passing respectively inwardly and outwardly through the opening.

7. An envelop comprising a body and a flap, one being provided with a slot, the other having a strip secured between its ends thereto, the ends of said strip constituting tongues that pass through the slot for holding the flap against opening movement.

8. An envelop comprising a body, a closure flap thereon having an opening and oppositely disposed tongues carried by the body, the first of said tongues extending outwardly through the opening and outside the flap, the second covering the first and extending inwardly through the opening and inside the flap.

9. In combination with a body having a closure or flap provided with a slot, and overlapping inner and outer tongues mounted on the body, the inner tongue being of less length than the outer tongue, said inner tongue passing outwardly through the slot and said outer tongue covering the outer end of the inner tongue and passing inwardly through the slot and having its free end covered by the flap.

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

WALTON DUANE SMITH.

Witnesses:

J. H. TASCHER,
GEO. E. PADDOCK.