

A. M. JAYNE.
MAIL BINDER.

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978,591.

Patented Dec. 13, 1910.

Fig. 1.

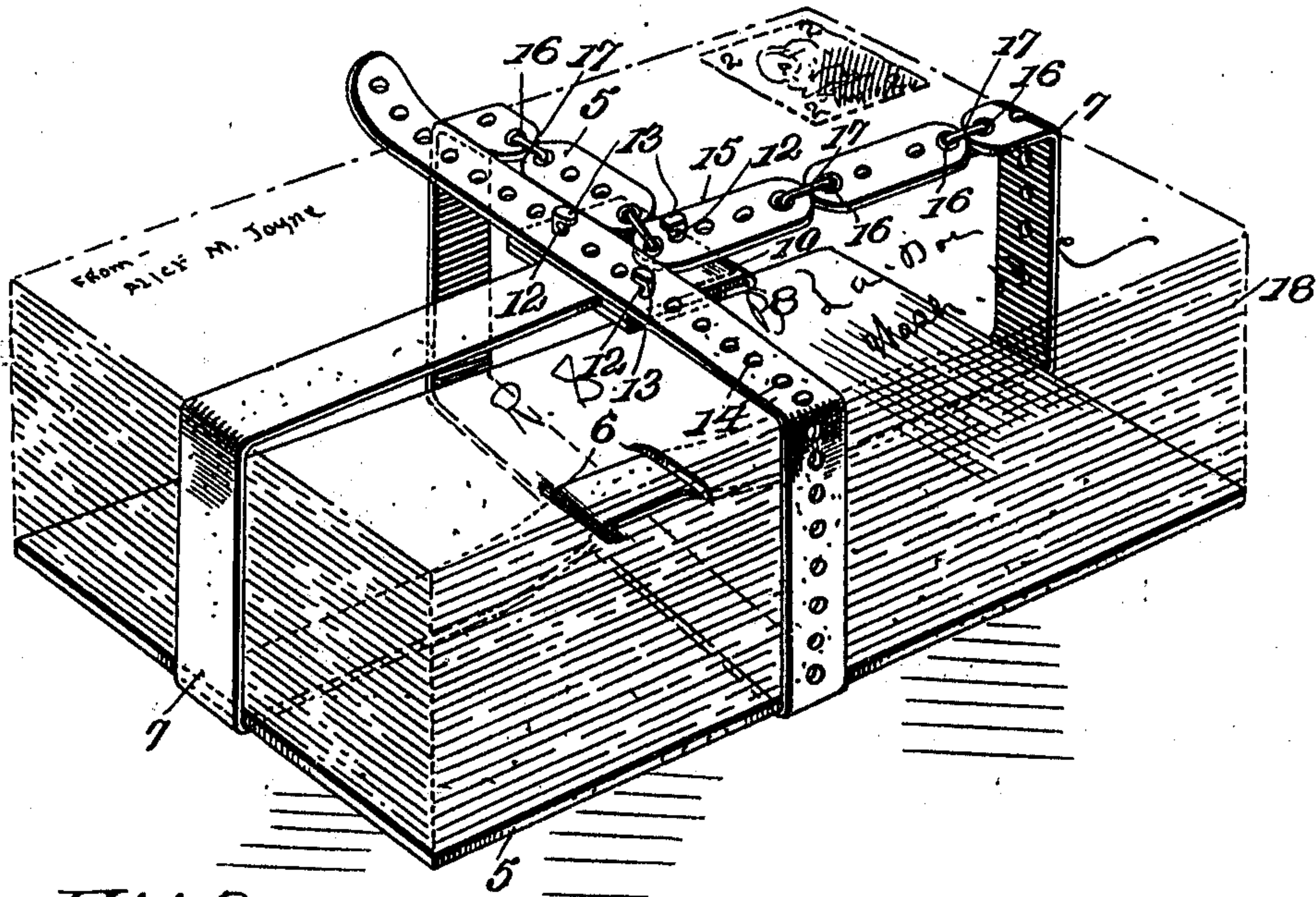


Fig. 3.

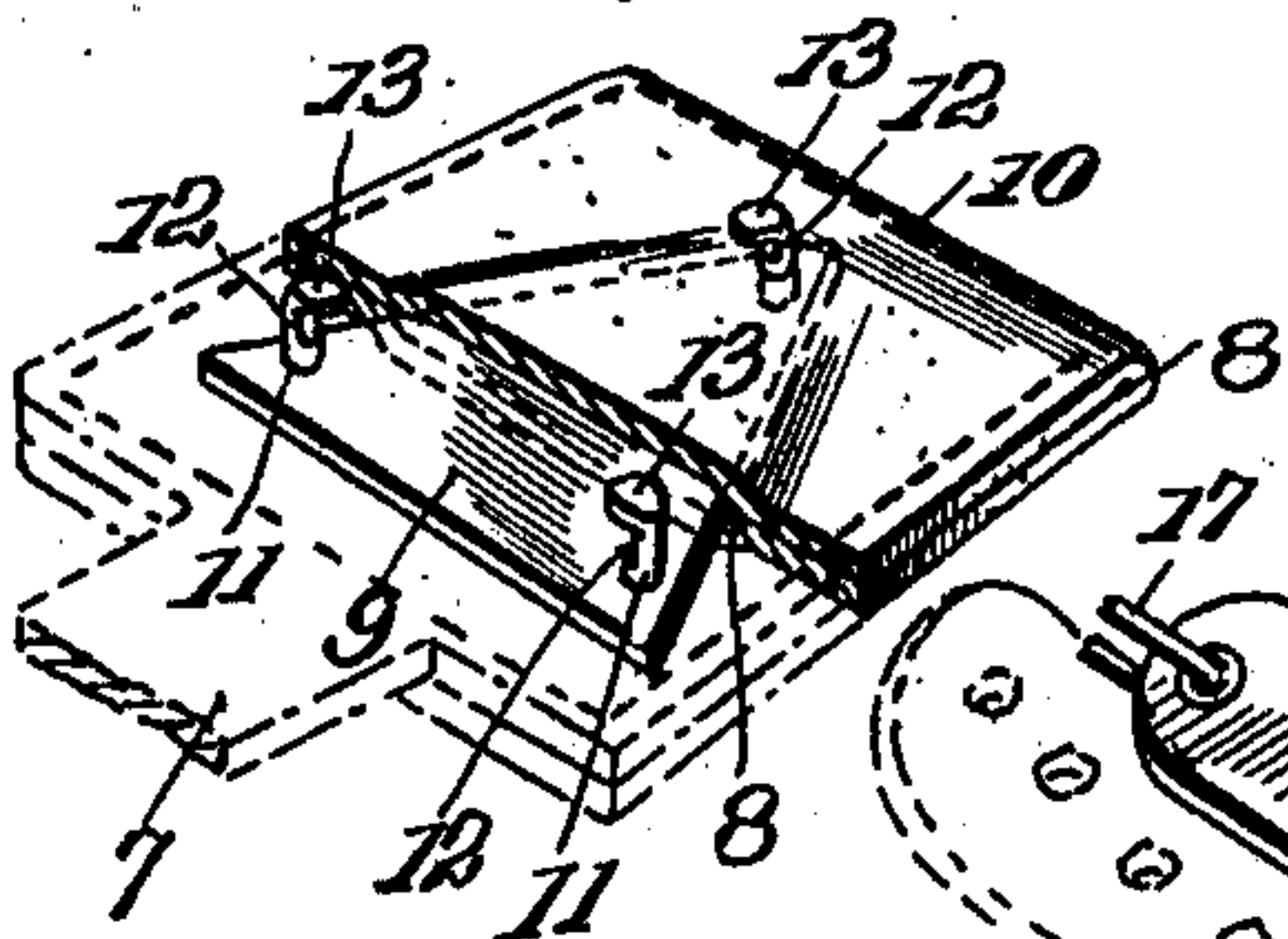
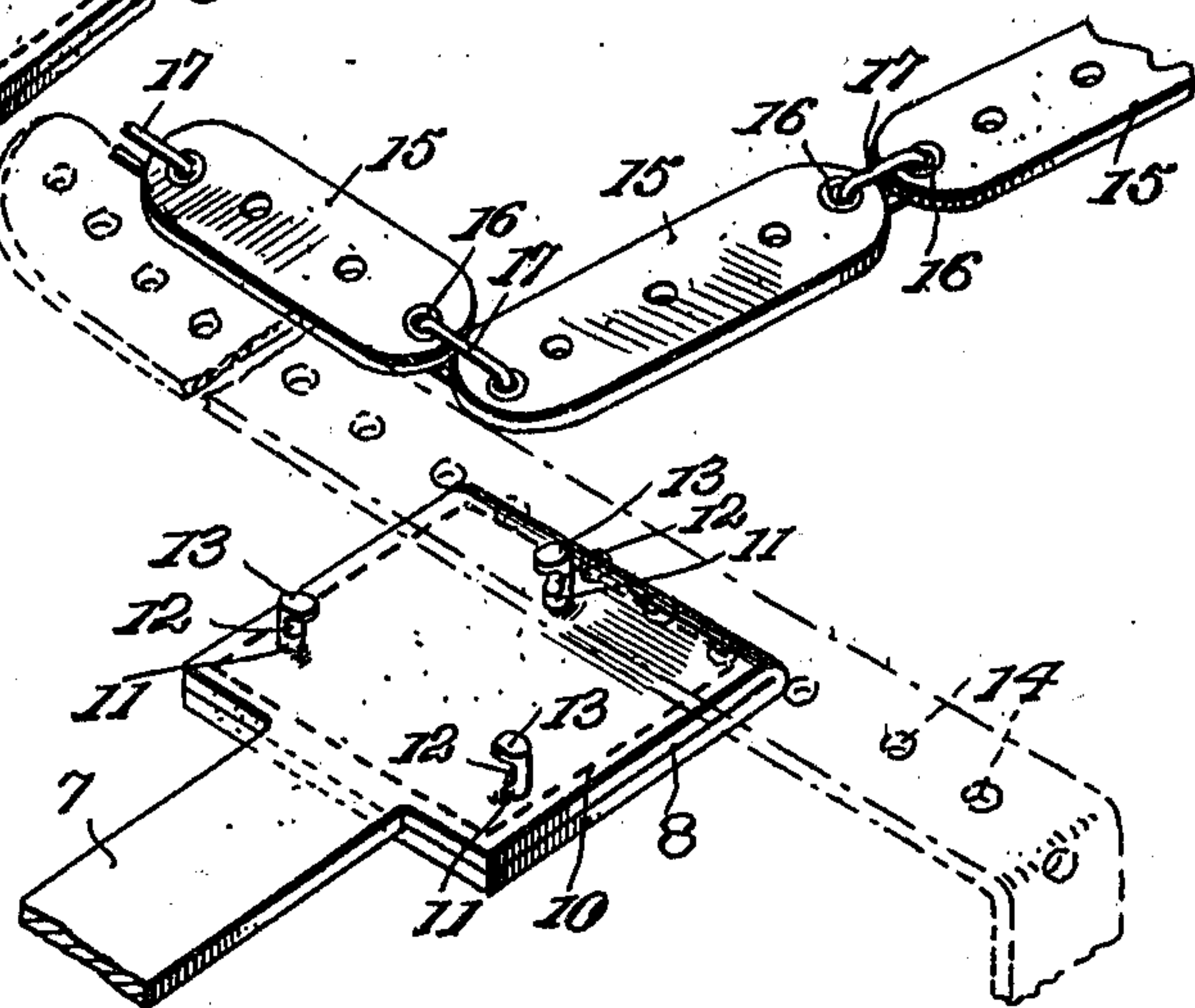


Fig. 2.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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MAIL-BINDER.

978,591.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ALICE M. JAYNE, citizen of the United States, residing at Bradford, in the county of McKean and State of Pennsylvania, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Mail-Binders, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to mail binders and has for its object the provision of a comparatively simple and thoroughly efficient device of this character for holding letters and other mail matter in a compact bundle or package during transmission through the mail and also for the convenience of the letter carrier when delivering said mail.

A further object is to provide a mail binder including a supporting member having a binding or securing strap fastened thereto and adapted to encircle a bundle of letters or other mail matter, means being provided for adjusting the strap to prevent accidental separation of the letters.

A further object is to provide a securing element or strap including a plurality of sections having a link connection between the same so as to permit the strap to be readily passed around a bundle of letters without danger of twisting or buckling the strap. A still further object of the invention is generally to improve this class of devices so as to increase their utility, durability and efficiency, as well as to reduce the cost of manufacture.

Further objects and advantages will appear in the following description, it being understood that various changes in form, proportions and minor details of construction may be resorted to within the scope of the appended claims.

For a full understanding of the invention and the merits thereof and also to acquire a knowledge of the details of construction and the means for effecting the result, reference is to be had to the following description and accompanying drawings, in which:

Figure 1 is a perspective view of a letter binder constructed in accordance with my invention; Fig. 2 is a detail perspective view partly in section, the solid strap portion being shown in dotted lines and the linked portion thereof in full lines; Fig. 3 is a perspective view partly in section, showing the manner of retaining the reinforcing plate within the pocket of the securing strap.

Corresponding and like parts are referred to in the following description and indicated in all the views of the drawings by the same reference characters.

The improved mail binder forming the subject matter of the present invention comprises a supporting member or plate 5, preferably rectangular in shape as shown, and formed of leather or other flexible material, there being spaced transverse sills 6 formed in the supporting member 5 to permit the passage of the intermediate portion of a securing element or strap 7. One end of the strap 7 is extended laterally and folded upon itself to form a terminal pocket 8 in which is seated a substantially triangular reinforcing plate 9, said plate being retained within the pocket by means of a row of stitching 10.

Secured to or formed integral with the reinforcing plate 9 are upstanding locking pins 11, preferably disposed at the corners of the plate 9 and each having a transverse recess 12 formed therein and defining an overhanging head 13 adapted to engage any one of a series of openings 14 formed in the free end of the strap, as shown.

A portion of the securing strap 7 is formed of a plurality of links 15 having eyelets 16 in their opposite ends and adapted to receive suitable connecting links 17, thus to permit the strap to be passed transversely around a bundle of letters, indicated at 18 and allow the strap to conform to the shape of the bundle without danger of twisting or buckling.

In using the device, the letters are positioned on the supporting member or plate 5, with the head or pocket 8 of the strap resting on the upper letter in the pile, after which the free end of the securing strap is passed longitudinally around the bundle of letters and said strap adjusted until the desired tension is imparted thereto. One of the pins 11 is then inserted through the adjacent opening 14 in the securing strap and said strap passed transversely around the bundle of letters, the pivoted sections 15 of the strap permitting the latter to be passed transversely around the bundle of letters without twisting the strap, as before stated. The free end of the securing strap is then passed upwardly over the head or pocket 8 and the heads of the remaining pins 11 inserted in the adjacent openings of the strap as best shown in Fig. 1 of the drawings, thereby firmly retaining the letters in as-

sembled position and effectually preventing accidental displacement of the same during transmission through the mail.

It will of course be understood that the 5 mail binders may be made in different sizes and shapes and if desired, the securing strap may be formed of any number of pivotally connected sections without departing from the spirit of the invention.

10 The device is extremely simple in construction and may be manufactured and placed on the market at a comparatively small cost.

Having thus described the invention, what 15 is claimed as new is:

1. A mail binder including a supporting member, and a securing strap having one end thereof provided with an upstanding pin and its other end formed of a plurality 20 of pivotally connected sections movable in a horizontal plane at right angles to each other and having openings formed therein for the reception of the pin.

2. A mail binder including a supporting 25 member, a securing strap carried by the supporting member and formed of a plurality of sections, each having eyelets formed in

the opposite ends thereof, links engaging said eyelets and forming a pivotal connection between the adjacent sections, and a 30 reinforcing plate carried by one end of the strap and provided with spaced upstanding pins adapted to enter openings formed in said sections.

3. A mail binder including a flexible sup- 35 porting member having spaced slits formed therein, a securing strap having one end thereof extended laterally and folded upon itself to form a pocket, and a substantially triangular supporting plate seated in said 40 pocket and provided with upstanding pins, said plate being retained within the pocket by a row of stitching piercing the adjacent edges of the strap, a portion of the opposite end of the strap being formed of pivotally 45 connected sections having openings formed therein and adapted to receive the pins.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature in presence of two witnesses.

ALICE M. JAYNE. [L. S.]

Witnesses:

C. W. SHARPE,
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