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W. J. NORRIS.
SAFETY ENVELOP.

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1,154,878.

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Fig. 1.

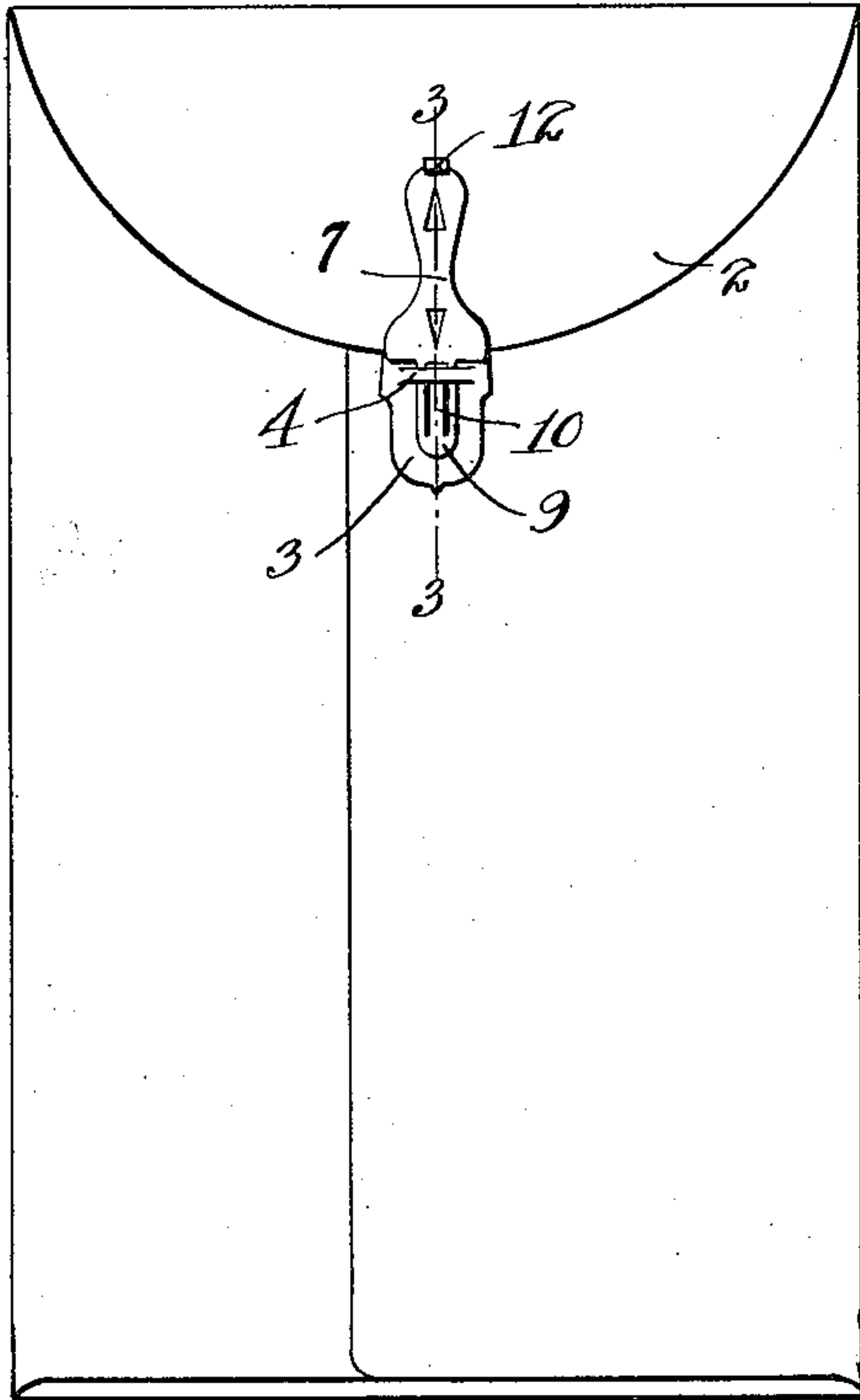
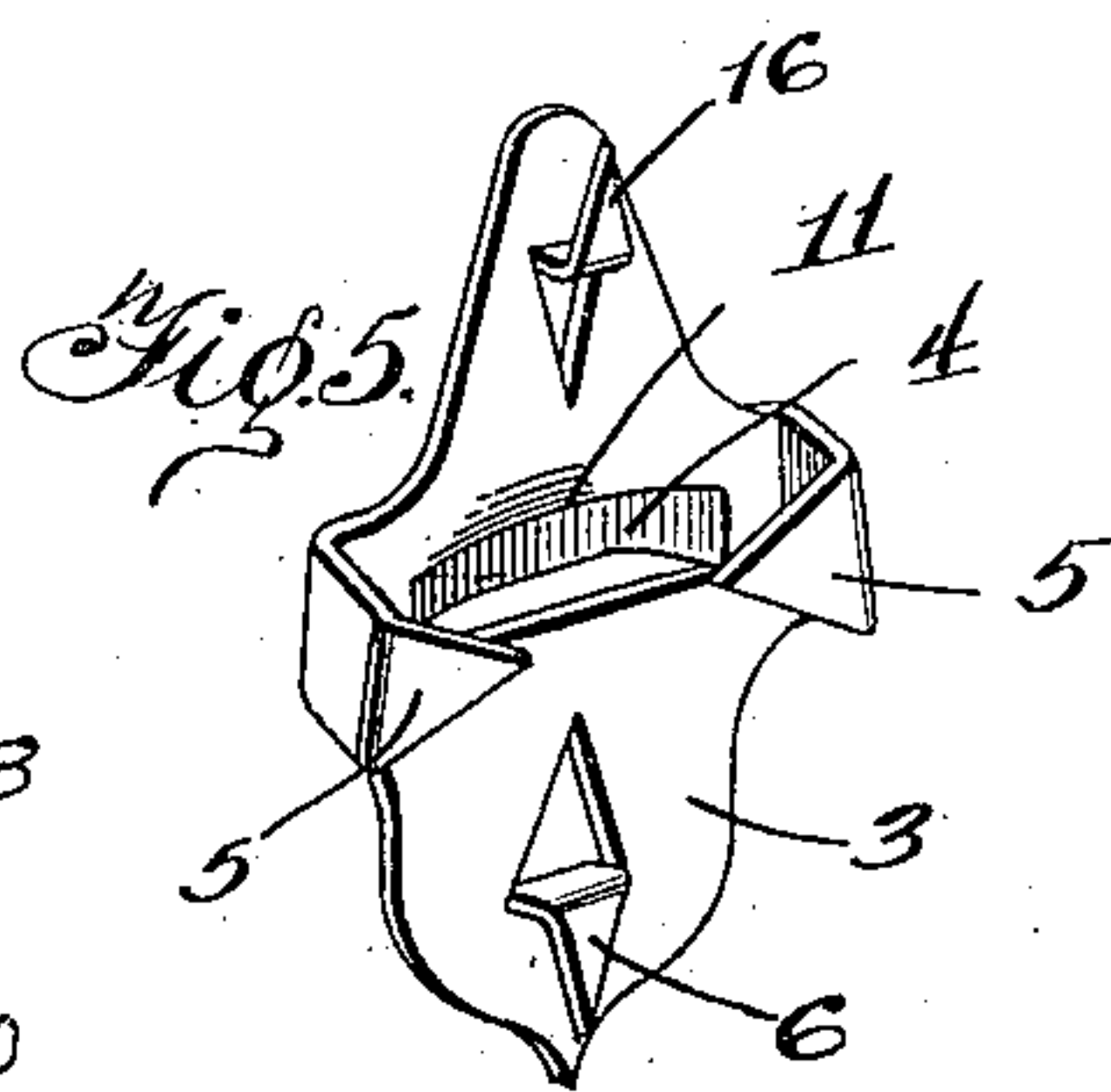
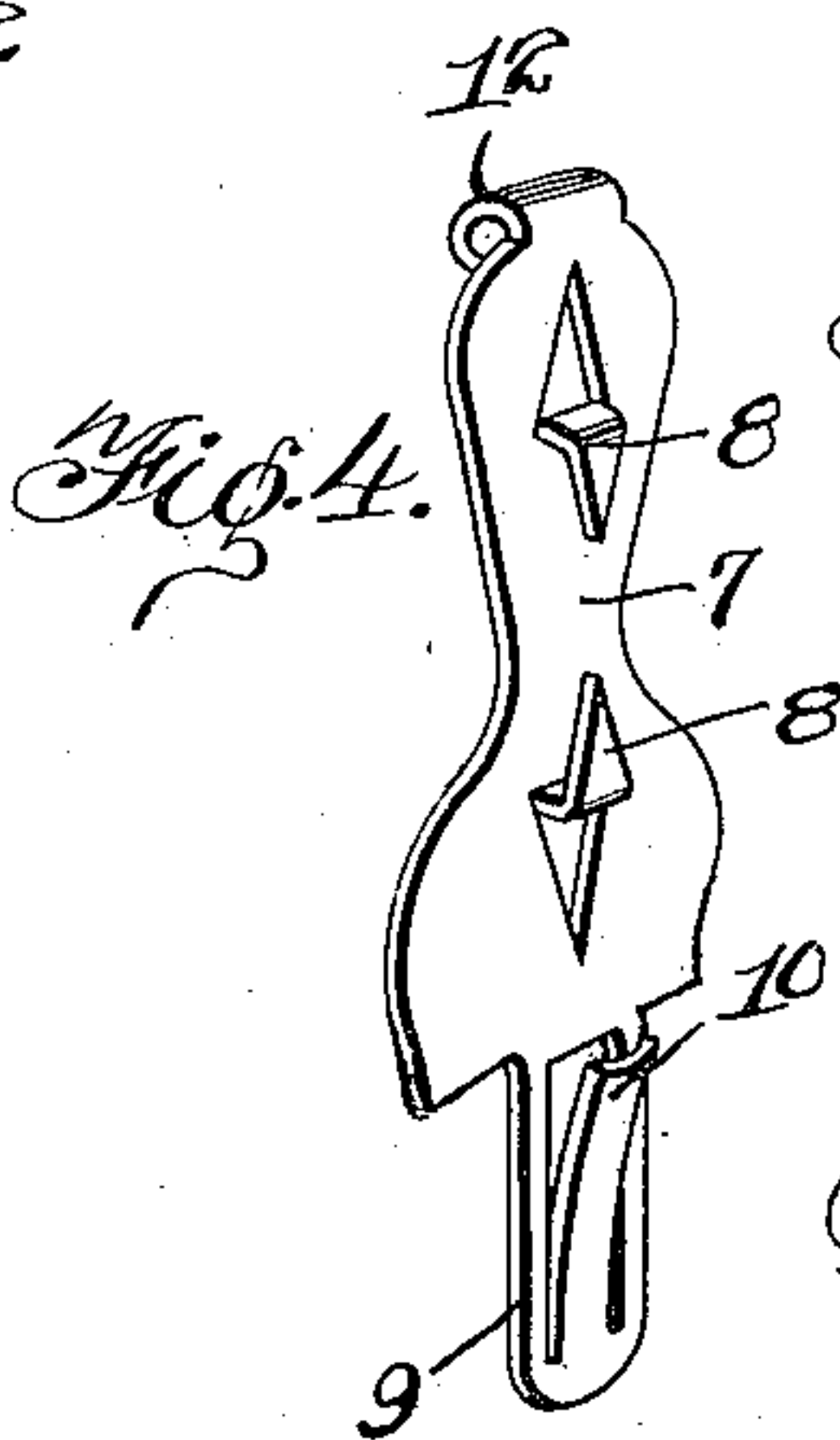
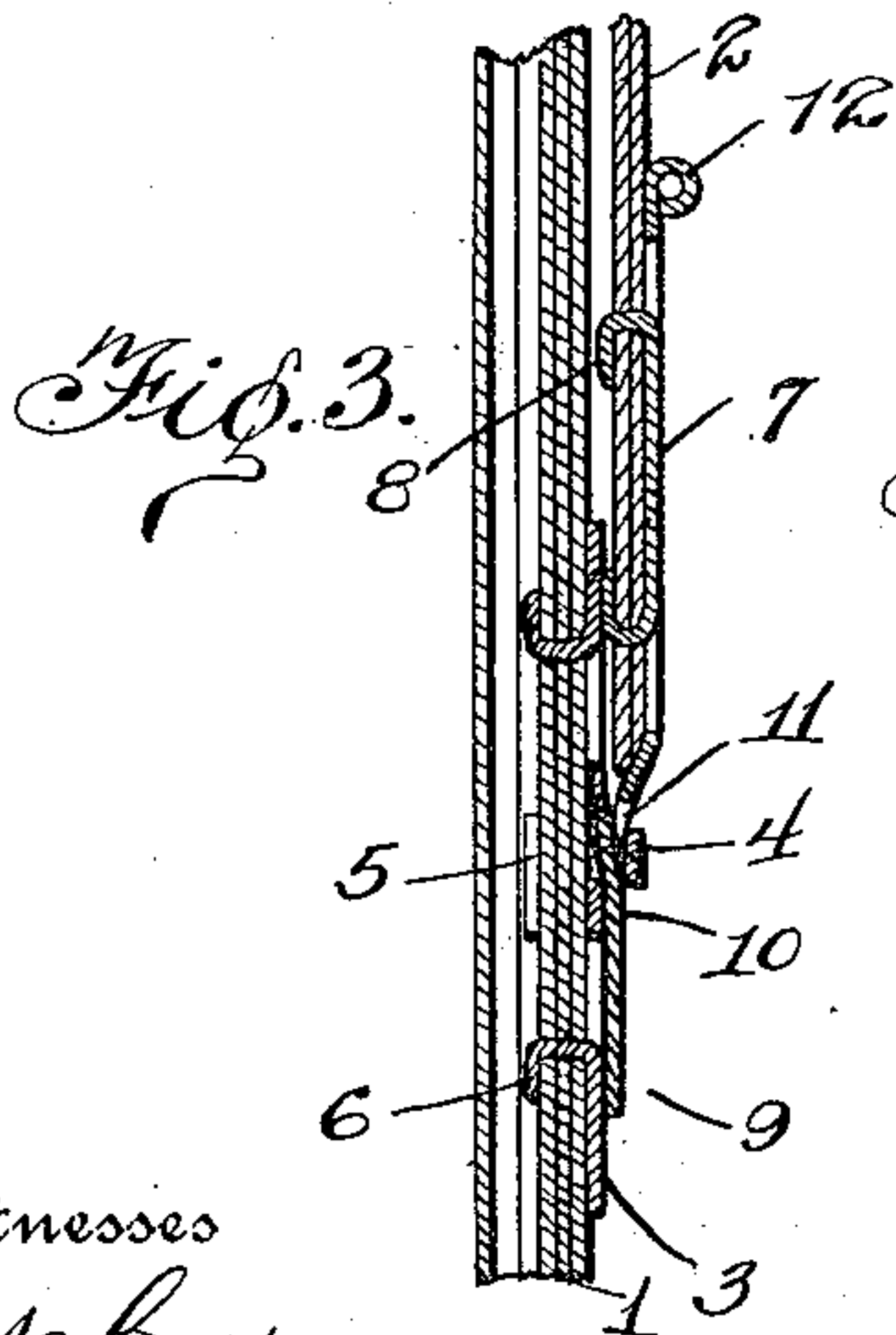
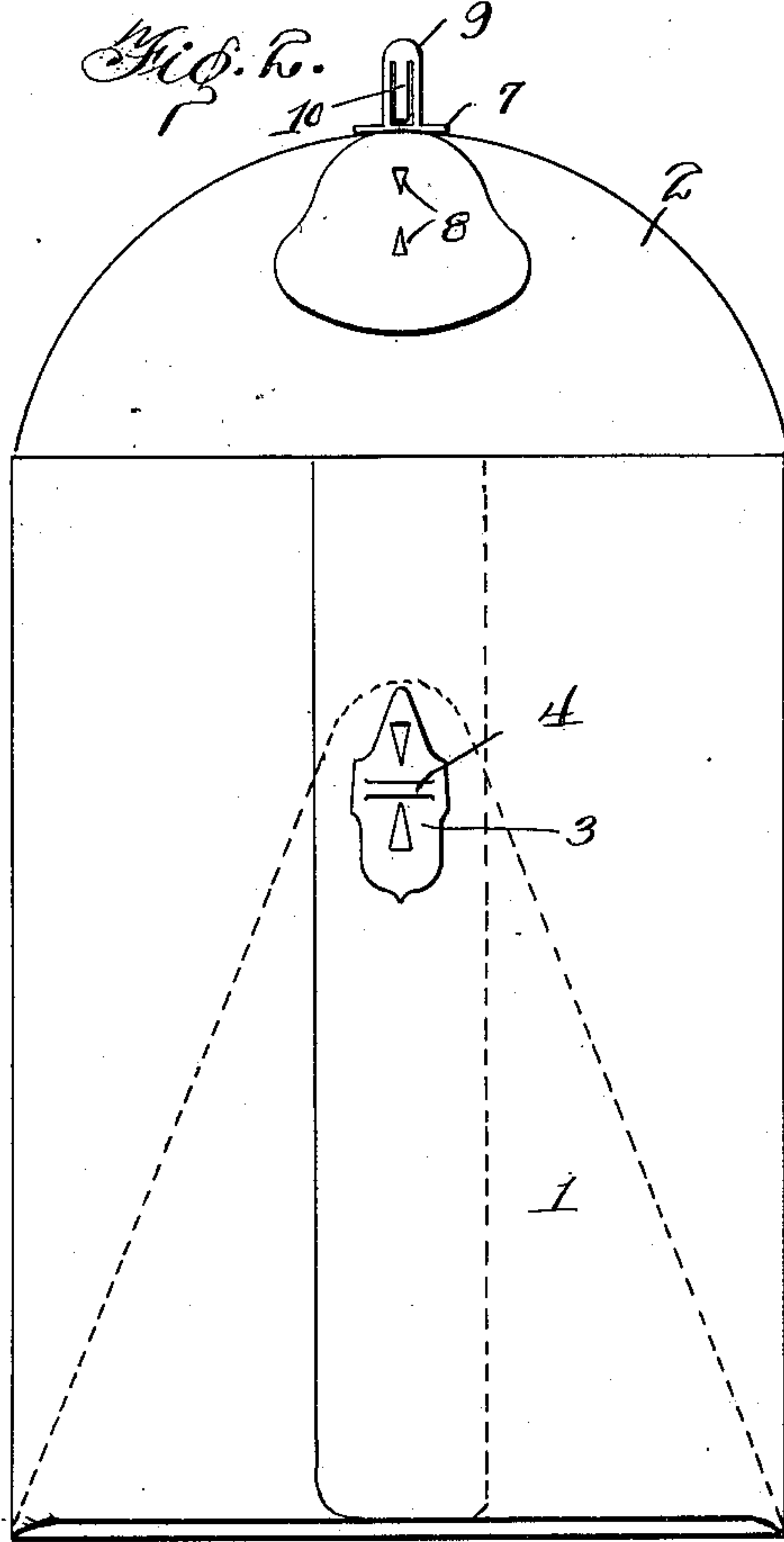


Fig. 2.



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SAFETY-ENVELOP.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM J. NORRIS, a citizen of the United States, residing at Reynolds-ville, in the county of Jefferson and State of Pennsylvania, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Safety-Envelops, of which the following is a specification.

An object of my invention is to provide an envelop having coacting locking members connected upon the flap and the body of the envelop to form a novel type of fastener which may be interlocked to hold the flap of the envelop in a closed position and prevent access to the envelop without destroying or mutilating the structure thereof.

A further object of this invention is the provision of a locking means which comprises a body member to coact with the flap member and arranged to be so mounted on the body of the envelop that the structure is held rigidly secured together at the seam and opening of the envelop at this point is precluded.

With other objects in view, which will be referred to, my invention consists in the peculiar combination and novel arrangement of parts, such as will be hereinafter more fully described in connection with the accompanying drawings and more particularly pointed out in the appended claims.

In the drawing:—Figure 1 is a view in elevation of the rear side of the envelop with the flap thereof closed and the fastening members in their engaged position. Fig. 2 is a view similar to Fig. 1 with the closing flap of the envelop illustrated in the extended position. Fig. 3 is a view in vertical section taken on the line 3—3 of Fig. 1 and illustrating the fastening members in their operative relation. Fig. 4 is an enlarged detail perspective view of the flap member of the fastener. Fig. 5 is a view similar to Fig. 4 of the body member of the fastening means.

The envelop disclosed in the present illustration is of the type cut and folded up from a single sheet of paper, flexible fiber board, or other suitable material and the body portion 1 thereof has a closing flap 2 provided adjacent the opening by which access is permitted to the envelop.

The body member 3 of the fastening is a plate composed of sheet metal and shaped in

its outline, and this plate has a tongue-engaging loop 4 struck therefrom and bent to be out of alinement with the face of the plate member 3. The prongs 5 are formed at the side edges of the plates 3 to be bent to extend at right angles thereto and to permit insertion through the body of the envelop, and the spurs 6 are struck from the body portion of the plate on either side of the tongue-engaging loop 4, these spurs and prongs being so formed that upon insertion through the body of the envelop and clenched upon the inner side thereof, the plate member 3 will be secured to the envelop and will be held against removal from the exterior except that the envelop be mutilated. The flap member 7 of the fastening is also a single sheet of metal cut to the proper form and then bent into shape. This member 7 has the spurs 8 stamped from the body thereof and bent to extend to the rear of the plate and to be penetrated through the closing flap of the envelop and clench against the under side thereof to hold the member 7 secured in place thereon. The member 7 has a locking extension 9 formed to extend from one edge thereof and located in such relation that when the plate member 7 is secured to the flap of the envelop this extension projects in a relation to be received through the tongue-engaging loop 4 of the plate member 3 secured on the body of the envelop and this locking extension has a spring tongue 10 punched or otherwise formed from the body portion thereof and bent to project therefrom as is better illustrated in Fig. 4, and thus when the locking extension 9 is inserted through the tongue-engaging loop 4, this spring tongue 10 will be pressed down to lie in the same plane as the body portion of the locking extension 9 and when the parts have been brought to the proper relation will again spring out at its free end and will abut against the outturned edge 11 of the member 3 provided adjacent the tongue-engaging loop 4 thereof. The inner end of the plate member 7 has a tongue extension 12 thereof rolled over to form a projecting bead and this bead at 12 may be grasped between the fingers when inserting the locking extension through the tongue-engaging loop and when bringing the flap to the closed relation.

As the spring tongue 10 engages with a

portion of the body member 3 beneath the transverse extent of the tongue-engaging loop 4, it is impossible to disengage these parts manually and likewise an instrument as for instance a knife blade, cannot be inserted beneath the locking extension 9 to disengage the spring tongue 10 from its position of abutment against the upturned edge 11 and in consequence a fastening means is provided which has the two members thereof so constructed and arranged that when brought to a closed relation, releasing thereof is precluded and the only way in which access can be obtained to the contents of the envelop is by mutilating the fastening means or by destroying or mutilating the envelop and thus furnishing evidence that the contents has been tampered with, also it will be seen that by securing the prongs 5 and spurs 6 of the plate 3 through the overlapping edges of the seam of the body member 1 of the envelop a fastening is provided therefor which will prevent access through this point except by the removal of the member 3 from its secured position.

While I have herein shown and described one specific form of my invention, it will be understood that slight changes might be made in the form and arrangement of the several parts of the structure without departing from the spirit and scope of my invention, and also that the fastening members might be secured to various types of envelops and in various connections, and hence I do not wish to be limited thereto except for such limitations as the claims may import.

I claim:—

1. An envelop fastener comprising a plate to be secured to the body of the envelop at a point adjacent the position occupied by the closing flap and provided with a loop struck from the body thereof in a manner to form a slot therethrough, a plate to be connected with the closing flap of the envelop and provided with a spring tongue bent from the metal thereof, and all of said parts so arranged that the spring tongue may be inserted through the loop as the flap is brought to the closed relation and the free end of said tongue will abut against the metal of the body portion at an edge of the slot and at a point beneath the loop thereof.

2. An envelop fastener comprising a plate to be connected with the closing flap of an envelop and provided with a locking extension, a plate to be secured to the body of the envelop having a loop struck from the body thereof in a manner to provide a slot therethrough, the locking extension adapted to be inserted through the loop as the flap is brought to the closed position, and a spring tongue struck from the body portion of the extension to project therefrom in a relation to abut at its free end against the metal of the body plate at an edge of the slot there-

through when the flap has been brought to the closed relation.

3. An envelop fastener comprising a plate provided with a locking extension, spurs struck from the body of said plate to be penetrated through the flap of the envelop and clenched thereagainst, a second plate having a loop struck therefrom to project from the surface and to provide a slot through the body portion of the plate, spurs formed from the metal of said plate to be penetrated through one side of the body portion of the envelop on that side against which the flap closes and to clench thereagainst to secure said second plate in place, the locking extension adapted to be inserted through the loop and to rest against the face of said second plate member as the flap is brought to the closed position, and a spring tongue struck from the body portion of the extension to be resiliently held to project therefrom and with the parts in the closed relation to abut at its free end against the metal of the body plate and an edge of the slot.

4. A safety envelop comprising a body portion and flap cut and folded from a single sheet of material, a plate to be connected with the closing flap of the envelop and provided with a locking extension, a second plate having a loop struck from the body thereof in a manner to provide a slot therethrough, the folded edges and seams of said body portion so arranged that they overlap at a common point, spurs provided to extend from said second plate member and to be penetrated through the overlying flaps of the body portion and clench thereagainst to mount the plate thereon and to secure the seam of the envelop, and a spring tongue struck from the locking extension of said first plate member to abut against said second plate member when the flap is brought to the closed relation in such a manner as to preclude manual release thereof.

5. A safety envelop comprising a body portion and closing flap cut and folded from a single sheet of material in such a relation that the several forming flaps of the body portion overlap at a point on the rear side of the envelop, a plate provided with a locking extension, spurs formed from the body portion of said plate to be received through the flap of the envelop and clenched thereagainst to secure the plate in place, a second plate having a loop struck from the body thereof in a manner to provide a slot therethrough and having the metal at one of the edges of the slot bent above the surface of the plate to provide an engaging catch, spurs struck from the body portion of said second plate to be received through the several overlying portions of the body of the envelop to mount the plate thereon and to secure said overlapping portion in a

closed relation, the locking extension adapted to be inserted through the loop as the flap is brought to the closed position, and a spring tongue struck from the body portion
5 of the locking extension to project therefrom and to abut at its free end against the catch provided on said second plate.

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

WILLIAM J. NORRIS.

Witnesses:

CHAS. NORRIS,
R. E. NORRIS.

Copies of this patent may be obtained for five cents each, by addressing the "Commissioner of Patents, Washington, D. C."