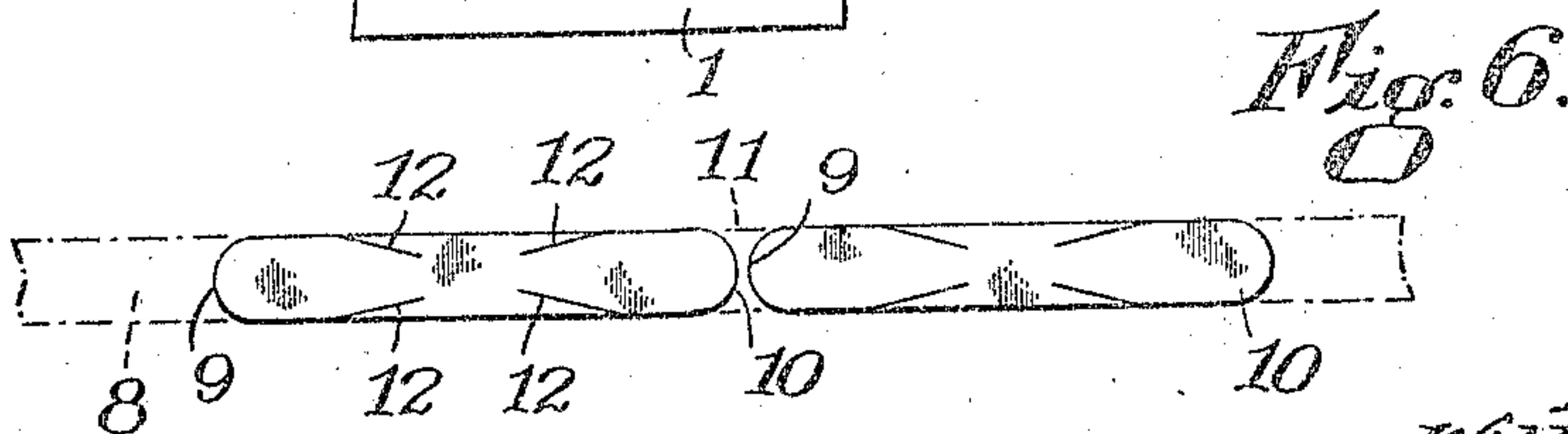
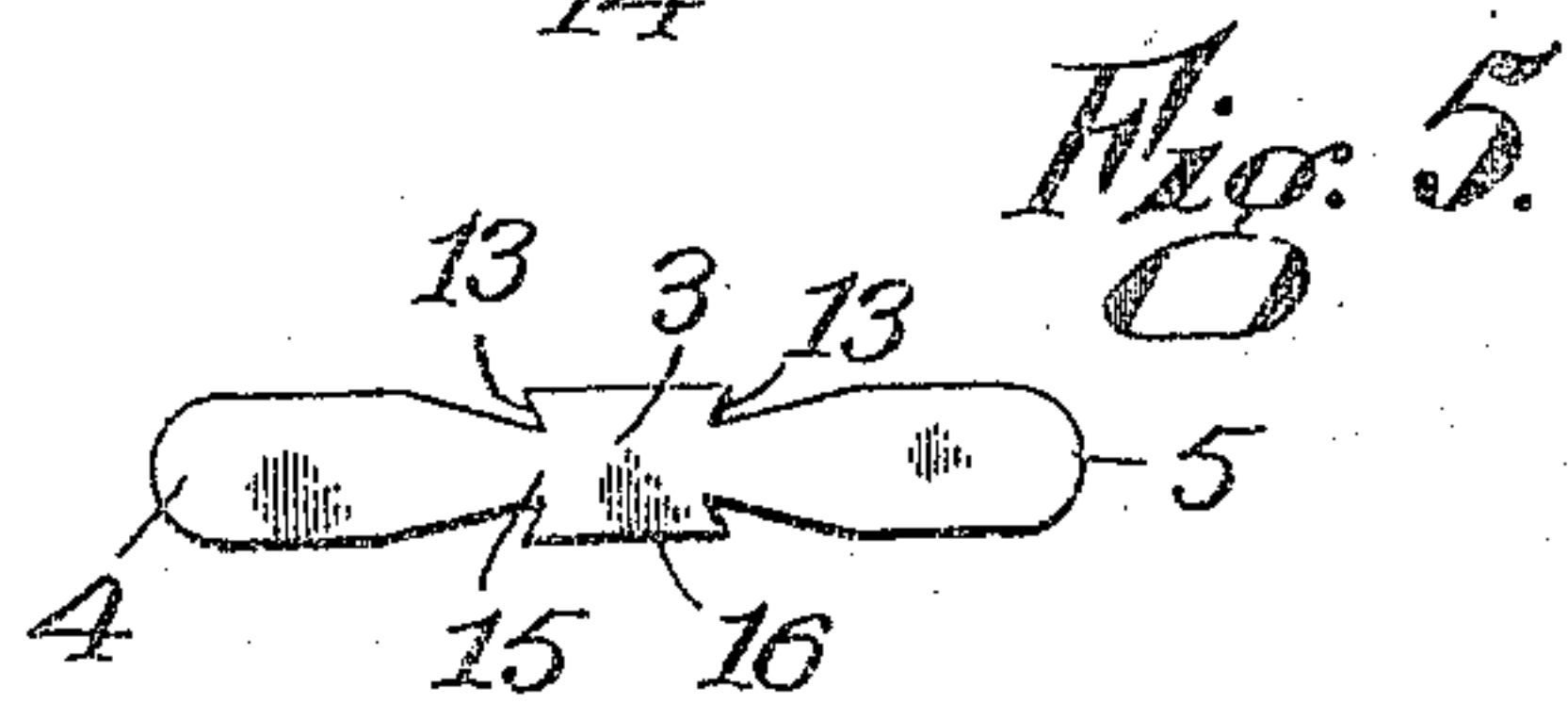
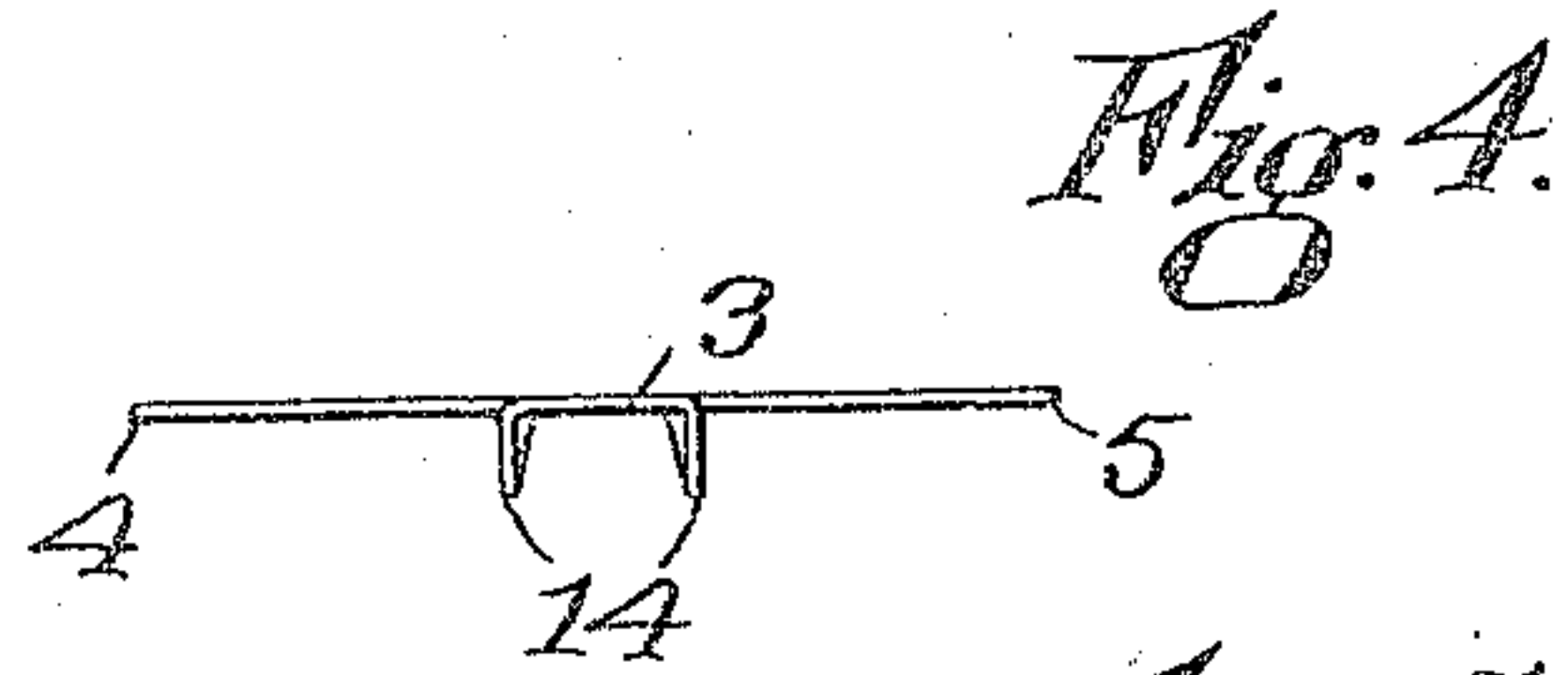
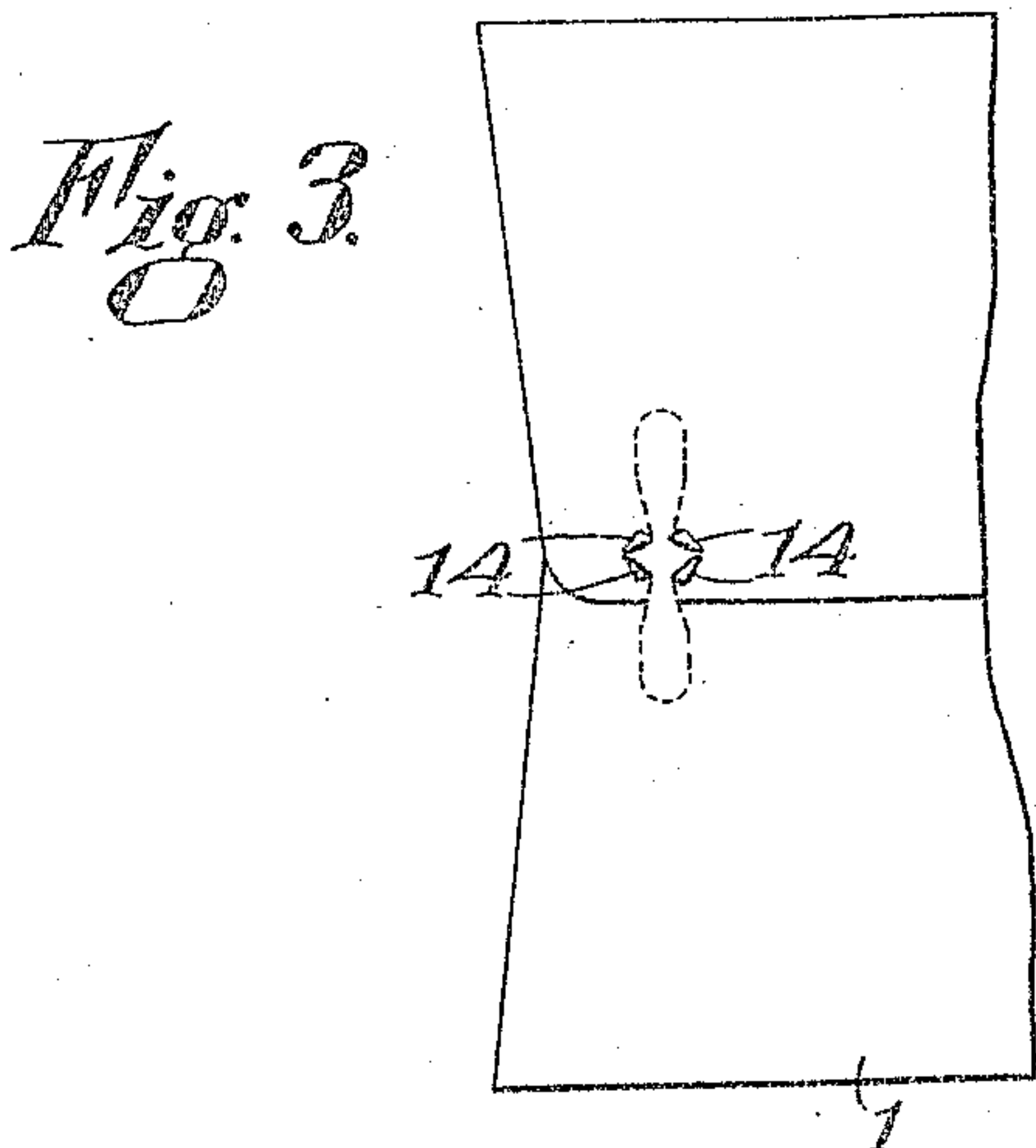
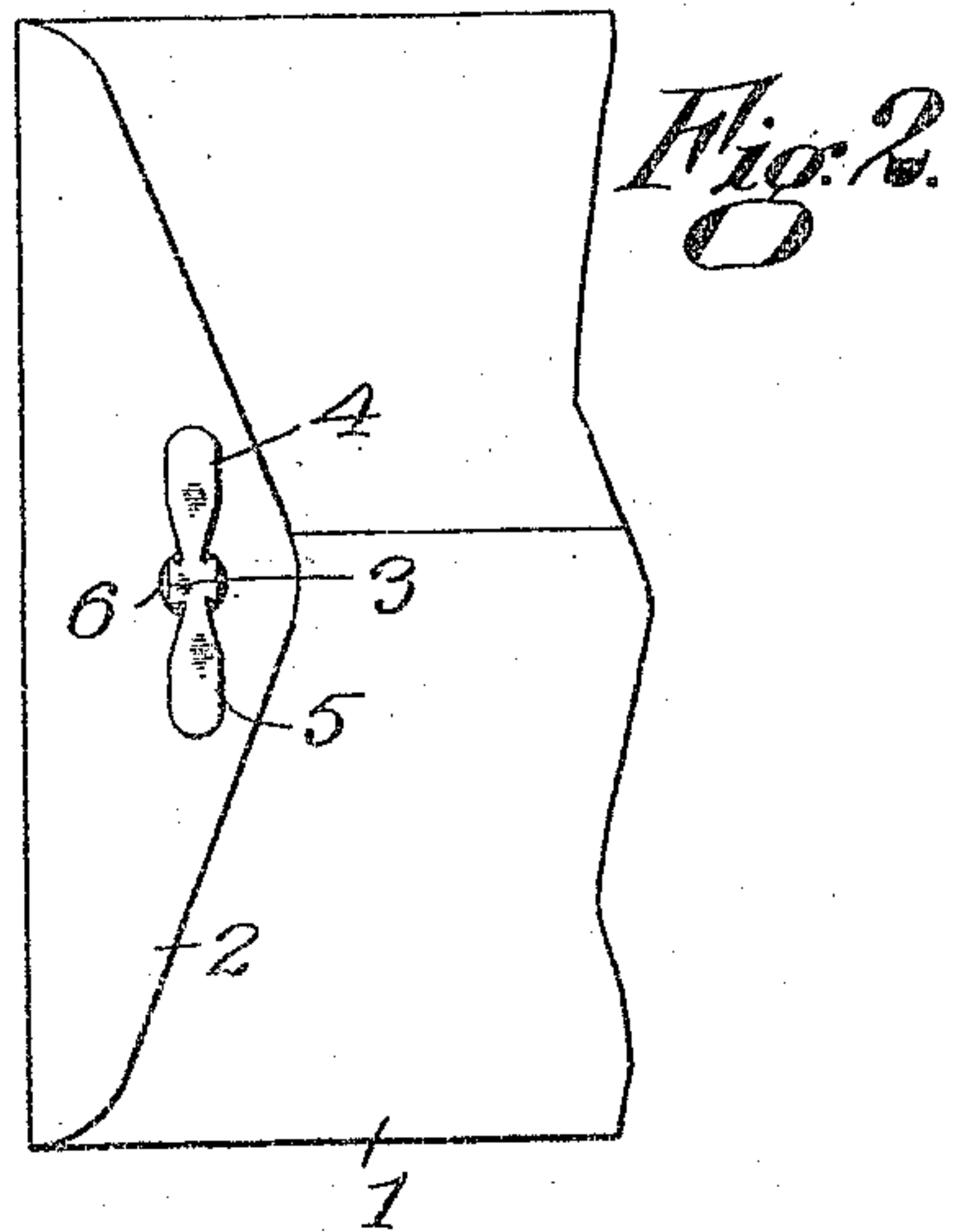
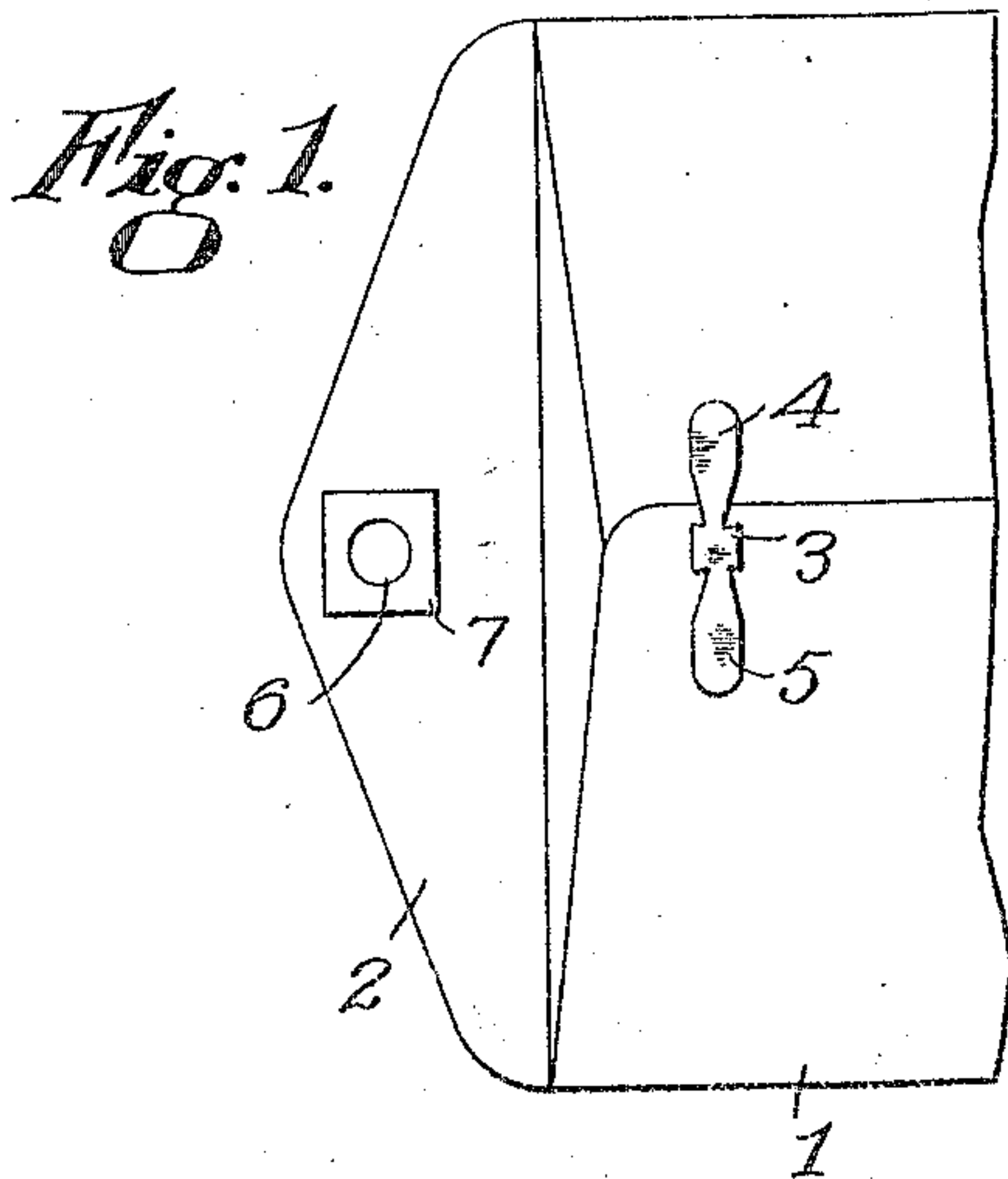


W. E. SWIFT.
 MERCHANDISE ENVELOP.
 APPLICATION FILED MAR. 13, 1914.

1,155,016.

Patented Sept. 28, 1915.



Witnesses.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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MERCHANDISE-ENVELOP.

1,155,016.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Sept. 28, 1915.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLARD E. SWIFT, a citizen of the United States, residing at Worcester, in the county of Worcester and Commonwealth of Massachusetts, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Merchandise-Envelops, of which the following, taken in connection with the accompanying drawings, is a specification.

The present invention relates to that class of merchandise envelops in which the closing flap of the envelop is secured in its closed position to the body of the envelop by means of a metallic fastener having one or more bendable tongues adapted to be inserted through one or more openings in said closing flap, and bent over upon the outside of said flap. In its preferred form the invention contemplates, in addition to the above, the provision of novel means for securing the metallic fastener to the body of the envelop, whereby to securely and rigidly maintain the bendable tongues in position to be passed through the opening provided therefor in the closing flap. The above and other objects are attained by the construction and arrangement of parts hereinafter set forth, and illustrated in the accompanying drawings, in which:—

Figure 1 is a plan view of one end of a merchandise envelop embodying my invention, the closing flap being shown in open position. Fig. 2 is a view similar to Fig. 1, the closing flap being shown in closed position. Fig. 3 is a plan view of the inner side of a portion of the two side flaps of the envelop, illustrating the method of securing the metallic fastener to the body of the envelop. Fig. 4 is a side view of one metallic fastener, ready for attachment to the body of an envelop. Fig. 5 is a plan view of the fastener shown in Fig. 4. Fig. 6 is a view representing one stage in the manufacture of a number of fasteners.

Like reference characters are used to designate like parts in the different figures.

Referring to the drawings, 1 denotes a portion of a merchandise envelop embodying the present invention, having a closing flap 2 and a metallic fastener 3, provided, in the present instance, with a pair of bendable tongues 4 and 5. The latter, when the fastener is applied to the body of the envelop, as hereinafter set forth, lie flat against the

envelop as represented in Fig. 1, but are capable of being bent at right angles thereto, so as to bring the tongues 4 and 5 parallel to each other and enable their tips to be inserted through a suitable opening 6 in the closing flap, when the latter is folded over in its closing position, as shown in Fig. 2. The opening 6 is preferably reinforced by attaching an adhesive strip 7 of firm paper or cloth to the inner side of the closing flap. After insertion of the tongues 4 and 5 through the opening 6, the tongues are bent outwardly, as shown in Fig. 2, to securely retain the flap 2 in its closed position.

My improved metallic fastener is preferably formed from a continuous ribbon-like strip of metal, of suitable width, indicated by broken lines at 8 in Fig. 6. From the metallic ribbon 8 the individual fasteners are cut by a suitable punch and die, which sever the strip at intervals, equal to the desired length of the fastener, upon oppositely curved lines 9 and 10, the only waste of material occurring consisting of a small strip 11 between adjacent fasteners. The punch and die are also capable, at the same movement, of cutting two pairs of slits 12, 12 on opposite edges of the ribbon at oblique angles to said edges, as shown in Fig. 6. Furthermore, the same movement of the punch and die bends each triangular piece thus partially separated from the body of the fastener, upon a line 13 at an oblique angle to the corresponding edge of the ribbon, as shown in Fig. 5, to form upon each edge of the fastener a pair of pointed prongs 14, 14 standing at right angles to the body of the fastener. Each fastener is attached to an envelop by pressing the pointed prongs 14 through the body of the envelop, and then clenching said prongs upon the inside, by bending them inwardly toward each other, and toward the ends of the envelop, on the lines 13, as shown in Fig. 3. Owing to the angle formed by the lines of bending 13 with the edges of the fastener, the turned down prongs 14, shown in Fig. 3, obtain a wider holding surface in the body of the envelop than if they were bent on lines at right angles to the edges of the metallic ribbon, as will be readily apparent. Consequently, the tendency of the fastener to tear loose from the body of the envelop, or to rock sidewise thereon, is effectually resisted by reason of

the relatively large base surface obtained therefor by the specific fastening means above described.

The formation of the pointed prongs 14 from the body of the fastener reduces the width of the same at the bases of said prongs, forming necks 15, 15, and thereby weakening the tongues 4 and 5 at this point, so that the bending of the latter, both in opening and closing the flap 2, is readily accomplished. Between the necks 15, 15 the fastener is of normal width, to form a head 16, which constitutes a supporting surface for the fastener against the body of the envelop.

By the above described method of construction, an entire fastener can be made from a strip or ribbon of sheet metal of uniform width. The only work required to be performed upon the metal ribbon consists in cutting the oblique slits 12, bending down the prongs on the diagonal lines 13, and severing the ribbon into suitable lengths to form the bendable tongues. Fasteners so constructed are very rapidly and cheaply made from a continuous ribbon of thin sheet metal of suitable uniform width to form the head 16 and tongues 4 and 5.

I claim,

1. A merchandise envelop, having an opening in its closing flap, and provided

with a metallic fastener comprising a sheet metal plate having a pair of prongs formed along its edge by means of converging slits on opposite sides of its center, said prongs being inserted through the body portion of the envelop and clenched upon the inside of the same, with the portions of said plate beyond the base portions of said prongs adapted to lie parallel and in substantial juxtaposition when bent upwardly for insertion through the opening of said closing flap.

2. A merchandise envelop, having an opening in its closing flap, and provided with a metallic fastener comprising a sheet metal plate having a pair of prongs formed along its edge by means of converging slits on opposite sides of its center, said prongs being bent on lines at oblique angles to said edge and inserted through the body portion of the envelop and clenched upon the inside of the same, with the portions of said plate beyond the base portions of said prongs adapted to lie parallel and in substantial juxtaposition when bent upwardly for insertion through the opening of said closing flap.

Dated this twelfth day of March 1914.

WILLARD E. SWIFT.

Witnesses:

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NELLIE WHALEN.