H. TRENCHARD, JR.

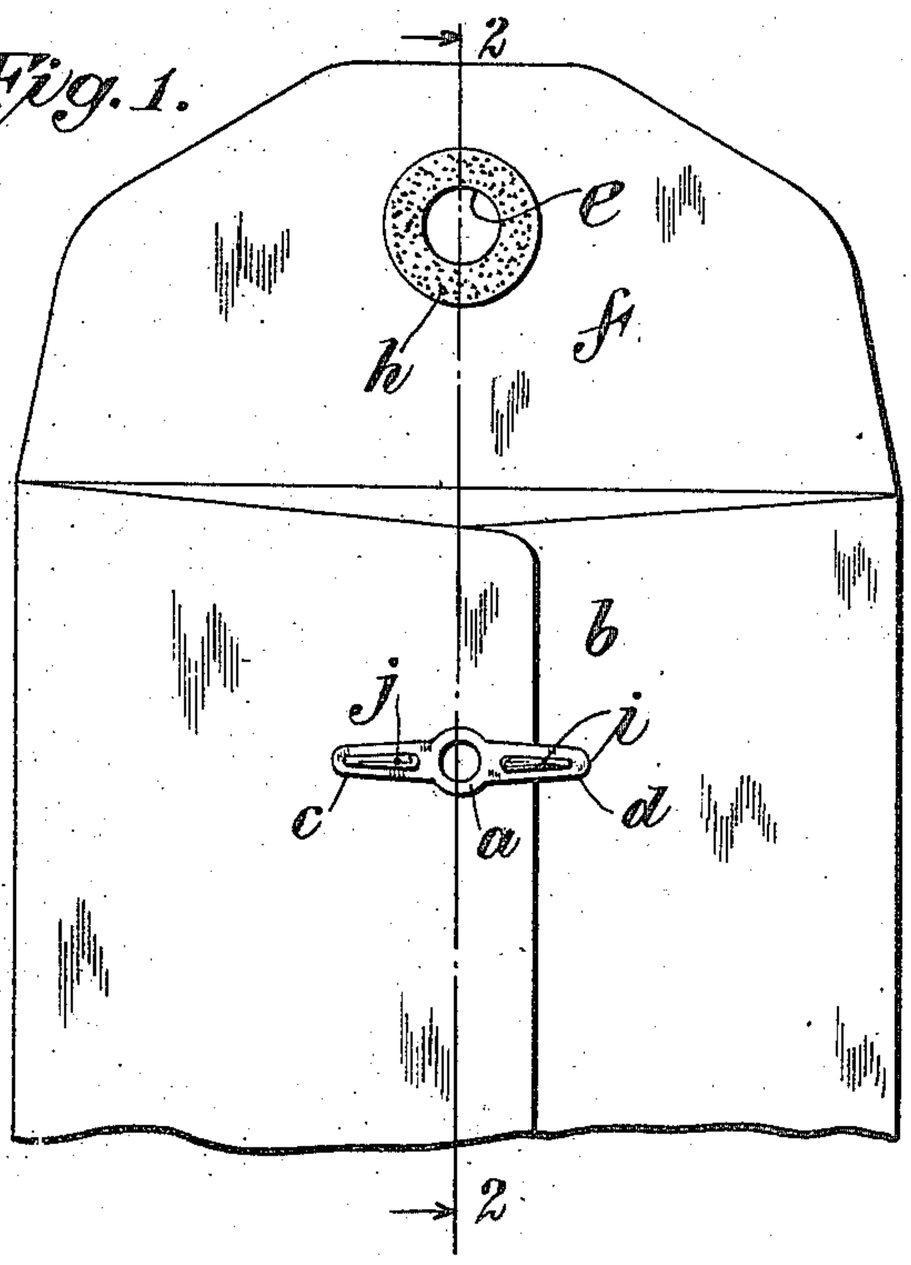
ENVELOP FASTENER.

APPLICATION FILED DEC. 19, 1913

1,167,321.

Patented Jan. 4, 1916.

Fig. 1.



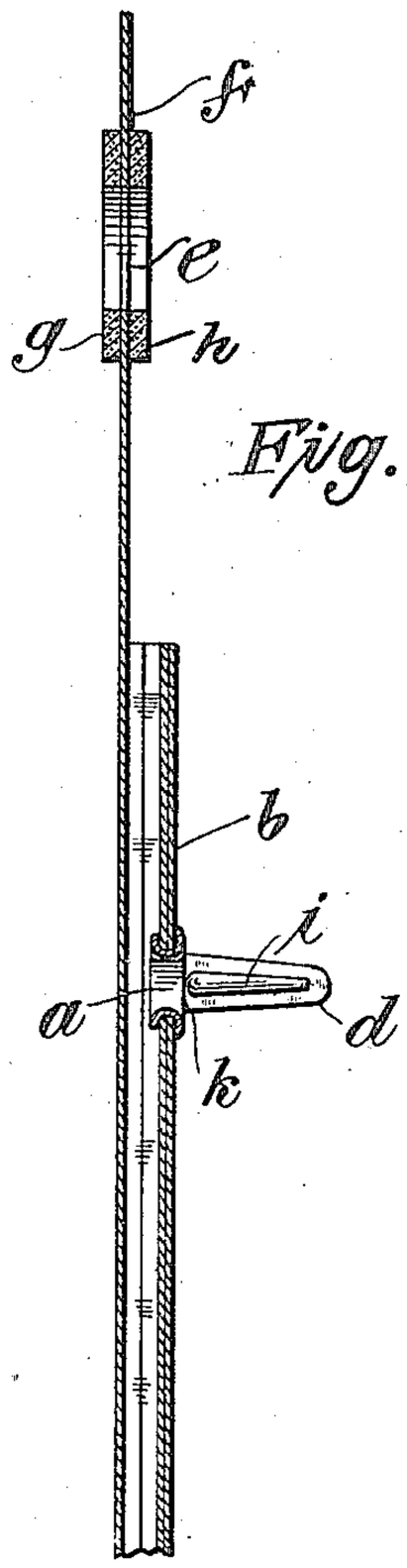


Fig. 2.

Fig. 3.

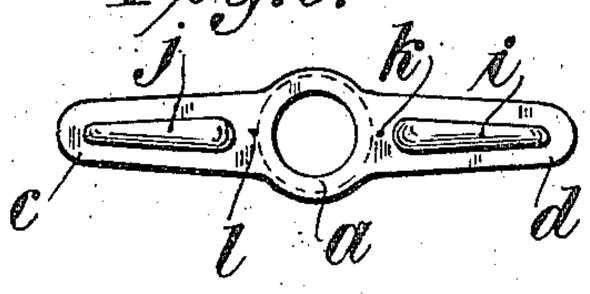


Fig. 4.

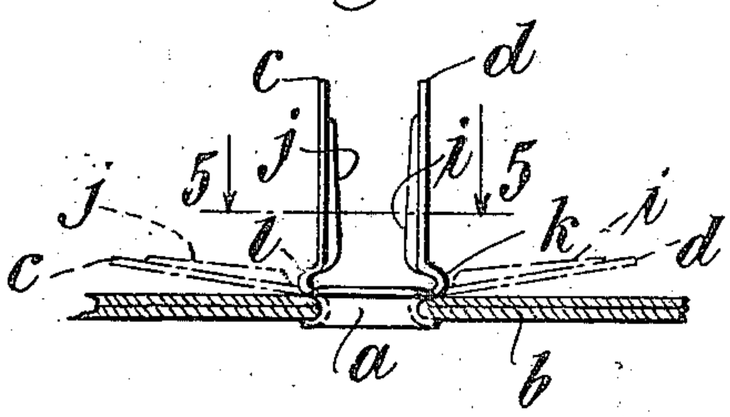
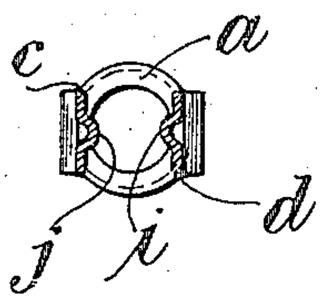


Fig. 5.



WITNESSES

Geo. Schmidt

Manuel Whittemore.

INVENTOR

Henry Trenchard, Jr.

BY

Emery Booth Janney & Vamey

ATTORNEYS

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

HENRY TRENCHARD, JR., OF NEW YORK, N. Y.

ENVELOP-FASTENER.

1,167,321. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Jan. 4, 1916.

Application filed December 19, 1913. Serial No. 807,609.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, HENRY TRENCHARD, Jr., a citizen of the United States of America, and a resident of the city of New York, borough of Brooklyn, in the county of Kings and State of New York, have invented an Improvement in Envelop-Fasteners, of which the following description, in connection with the accompanying drawings, is a specification, like letters on the drawings representing like parts.

This invention relates to improvements in metallic fastening devices for envelops of the general class having one or more soft metal wings or fingers fastened to the body of the envelop, adapted to be passed through a hole in the flap thereof and bent downwardly to hold the said flap securely to the body of the envelop. The present improvement lies more particularly in the construction of the bendable wings or fingers of the metallic part of the fastener and will be readily understood by referring to the accompanying drawings, in which,

Figure 1 is a plan view of such an envelop as is described above with the improved fastener attached; Fig. 2 is an enlarged cross sectional view of the envelop shown in Fig. 1 with the prongs or fingers bent up ready to receive the flap, the line 2—2 in Fig. 1 indicating the plane of this section; Fig. 3 is an enlarged plan view of the metallic part of the improved fastener; Fig. 4 is a view of the fastener upon the same scale as Fig. 3, partly in elevation and partly in section; Fig. 5 is a cross sectional view of the fastener, the plane of the section being indicated by the line 5—5 in Fig. 4.

A serious disadvantage inherent in fastening devices of this class has been that in bending up the prongs or fingers the bending will not always take place at the right point, *i. e.* at a point adjacent to but outside of the rim of the eyelet in this case. If the fingers bend at any other point, the hole in the flap will not fit down over the two fingers, causing delay and necessitating a straightening out of the fingers and a second bending; whereas if the fingers are too stiff the exterior rim of the eyelet is liable to be raised with the fingers, thus disengaging the eyelet from the envelop. To obviate these difficulties the present construction has been devised.

Referring to the drawings, it will be seen that the improved fastener consists of an eyelet *a* adapted to pass through the body of an envelop *b* and be headed up on the inside. This eyelet has two wings or fingers *c* and *d* respectively continuous with and projecting from the exterior rim of the eyelet and which are adapted to be bent upwardly and passed through a hole *e* in a flap *f* of the envelop. The hole in the flap may be reinforced, as shown, by applying rings of heavy paper, cloth or fibroid thereto, such reinforcement being indicated by *g* and *h*. The bendable wings or fingers *c* and *d* are embossed or deformed to provide reinforcing ribs or ridges *i* and *j* extending longitudinally of each wing from a point adjacent to the eyelet *a* to the end or nearly to the end of the wings or fingers. A sufficient space should be left between the inner ends of the ridges and rim of the eyelet to allow the wings to bend at that point. The construction and location of those reinforcing ridges will be readily understood from the enlarged detail Figs. 3, 4, and 5.

The advantages over the flat wing possessed by the construction here shown will be obvious. The wings, being thus strengthened and made rigid, will bend only at the proper points, here indicated by *k* and *l*, for the flap to be passed down over them; and, where an attaching eyelet is employed, will not upset its exterior rim.

It will be understood that this invention applies not only to the particular type of wing fastener here shown but to all metallic envelop fasteners having one or more bendable prongs or fingers adapted to be bent up for insertion through the flap of an envelop and thereafter to be bent outwardly and downwardly to securely fasten the flap to the body of the envelop.

I claim as my invention:

1. An envelop fastener comprising an eyelet adapted to pass through the body of an envelop and be headed up on the inside, and a fastening finger which is continuous with and projects from the exterior rim of the eyelet, the said finger having a reinforcing rib, extending longitudinally thereof from a point entirely outside the said rim to the end substantially of the finger, thereby leaving a flat portion on each side of the rib to lie flat against the envelop and a flexible portion between the rim and the end of the rib adjacent to the rim.

2. A fastener including a base provided

with attaching means, and arms extending from the base in opposite directions and provided with a stiffening element extending lengthwise of the arms leaving a flat border on opposite sides of said stiffening element and a narrow space between the stiffening element and base.

3. A fastener including a base provided with attaching means, and arms extending in opposite directions from the base, each arm being tapered from its root to its tip and having a stiffening element extending lengthwise thereof with a flat border extending completely therearound and providing a small space between the end of the stiffening element and the base.

4. A fastener including a base provided with attaching means, and arms extending in opposite directions from the base, each arm having a plication extending from a point a short distance from the base lengthwise along the arms leaving a flat border on opposite sides of the plication, and a narrow space between the ends of the plication and the base.

In testimony whereof, I have signed my name to this specification, in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

HENRY TRENCHARD, JR.

Witnesses:
J. F. SETIRO,
M. G. MARKGRAF.

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