

June 19, 1923.

1,459,414

F. J. PARKS

ENVELOPE

Filed April 16, 1917

2 Sheets-Sheet 1

Fig. 1.

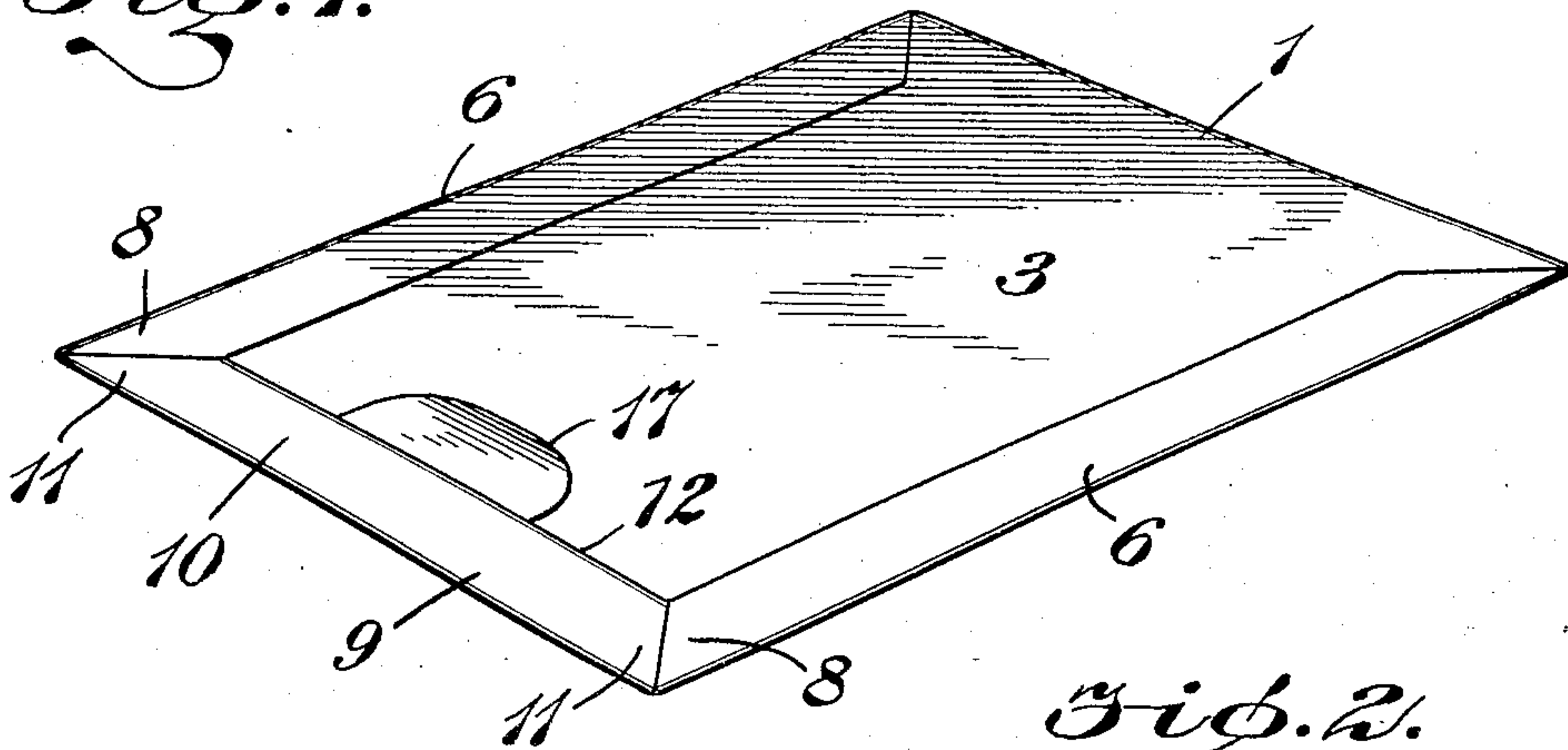


Fig. 2.

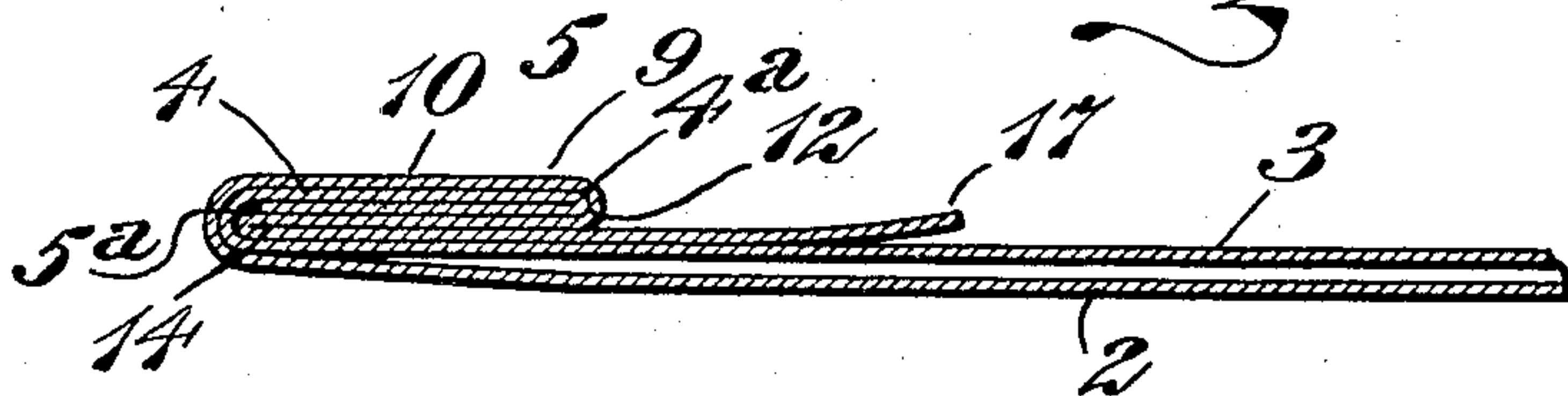


Fig. 3.

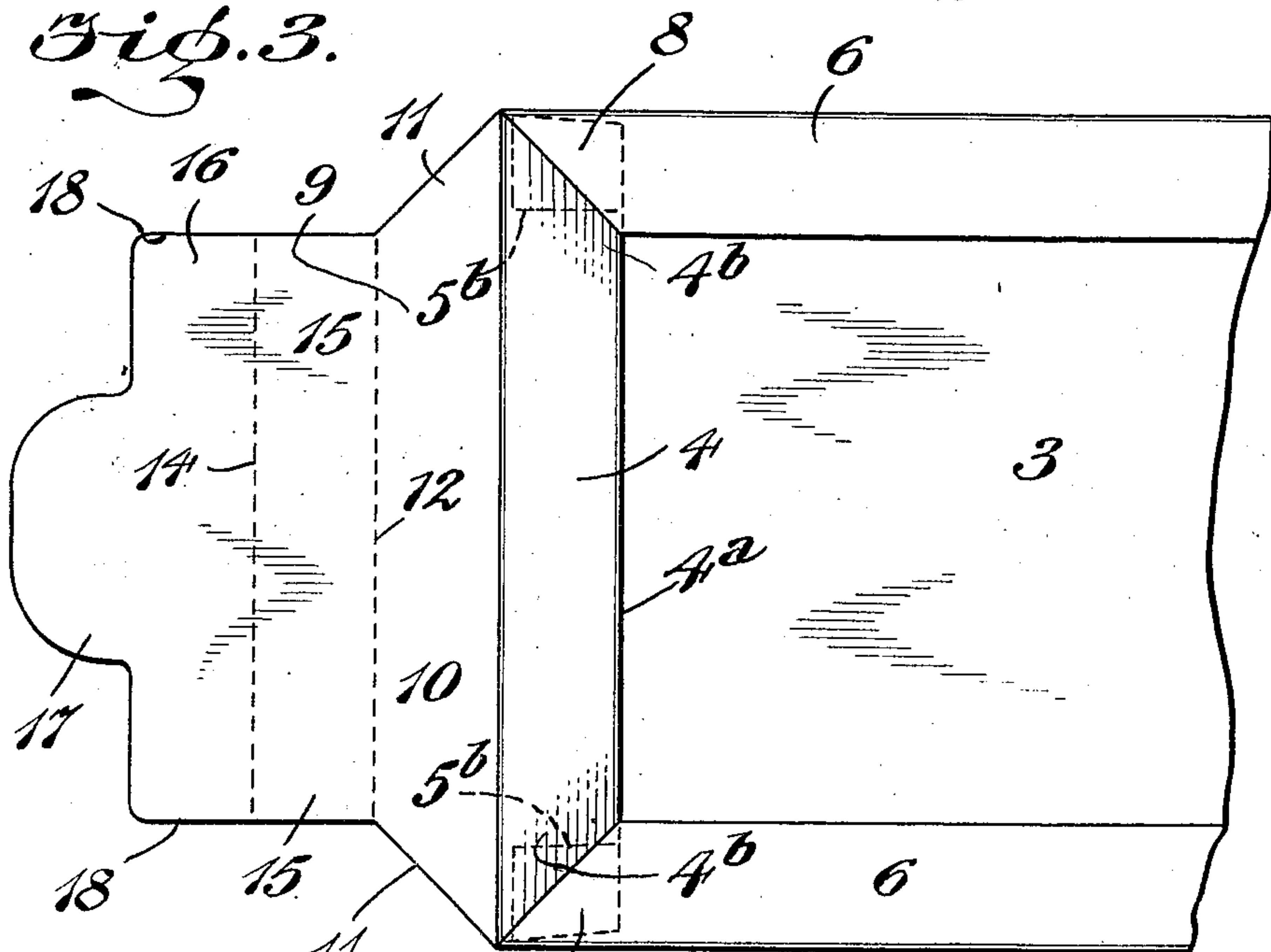
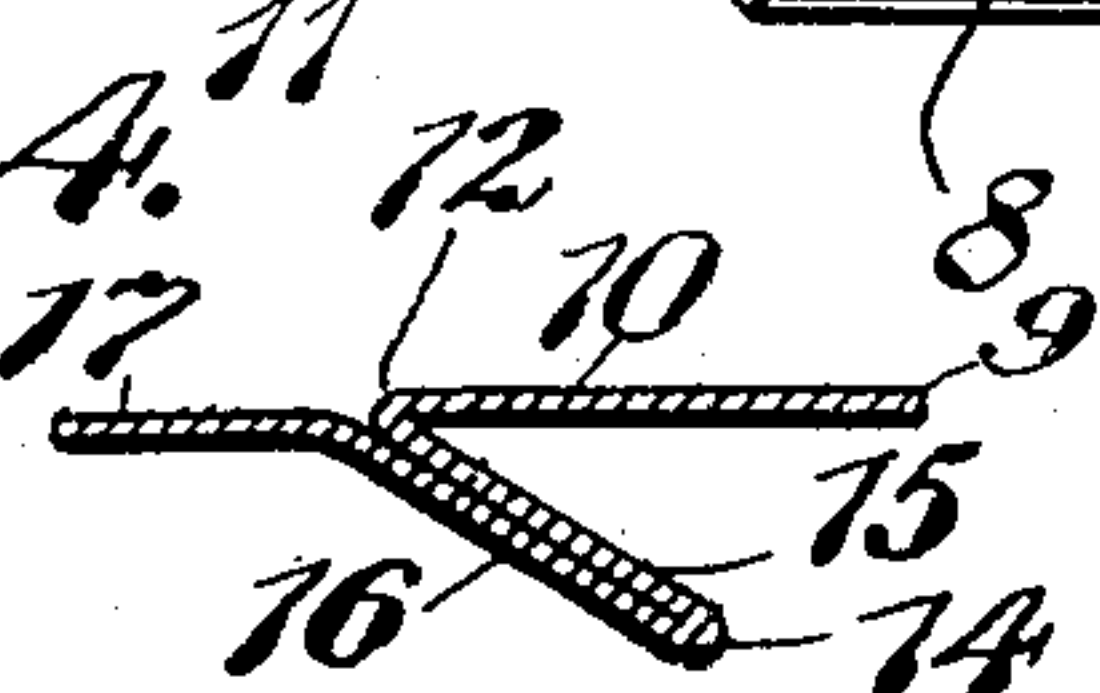


Fig. 4.



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Fig. 5.

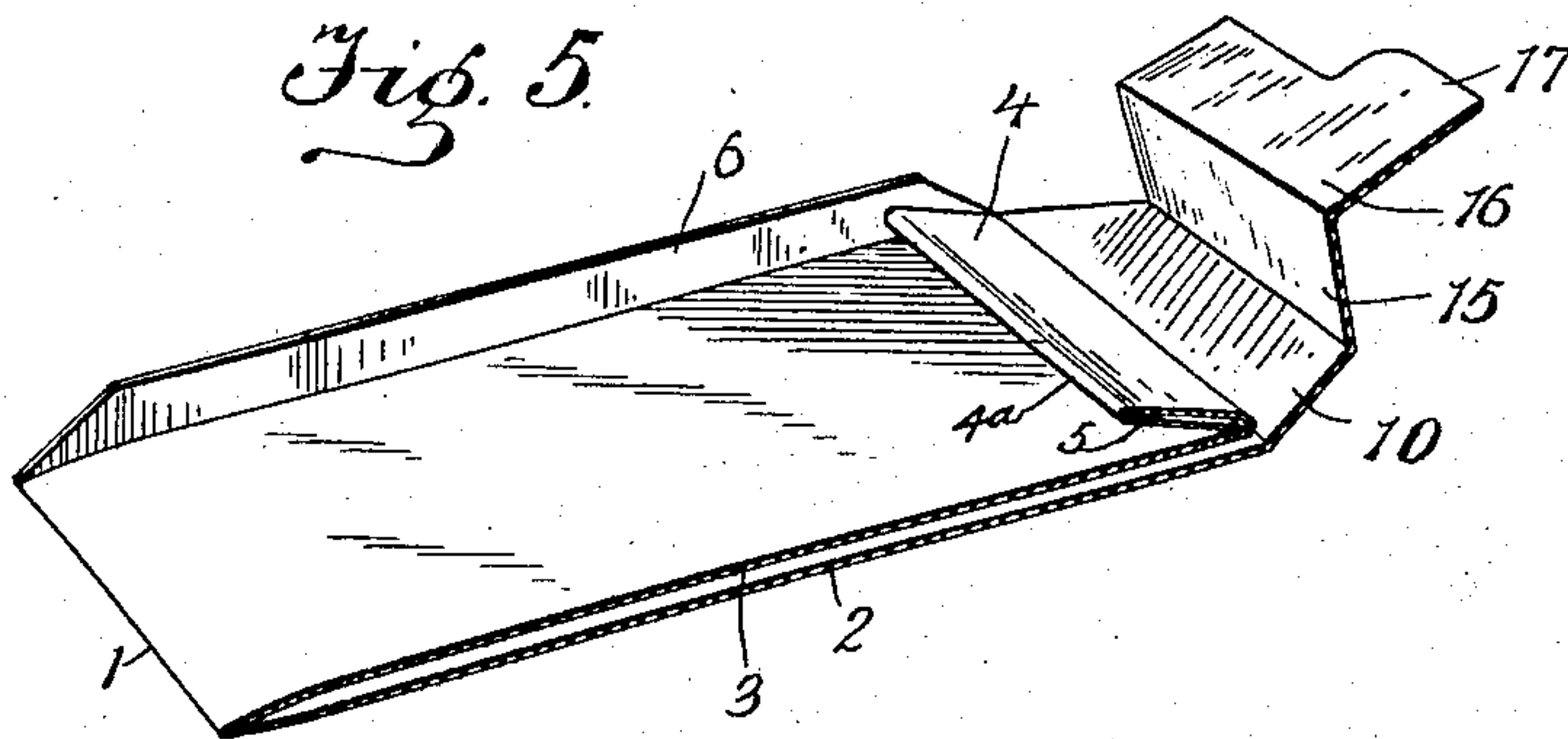
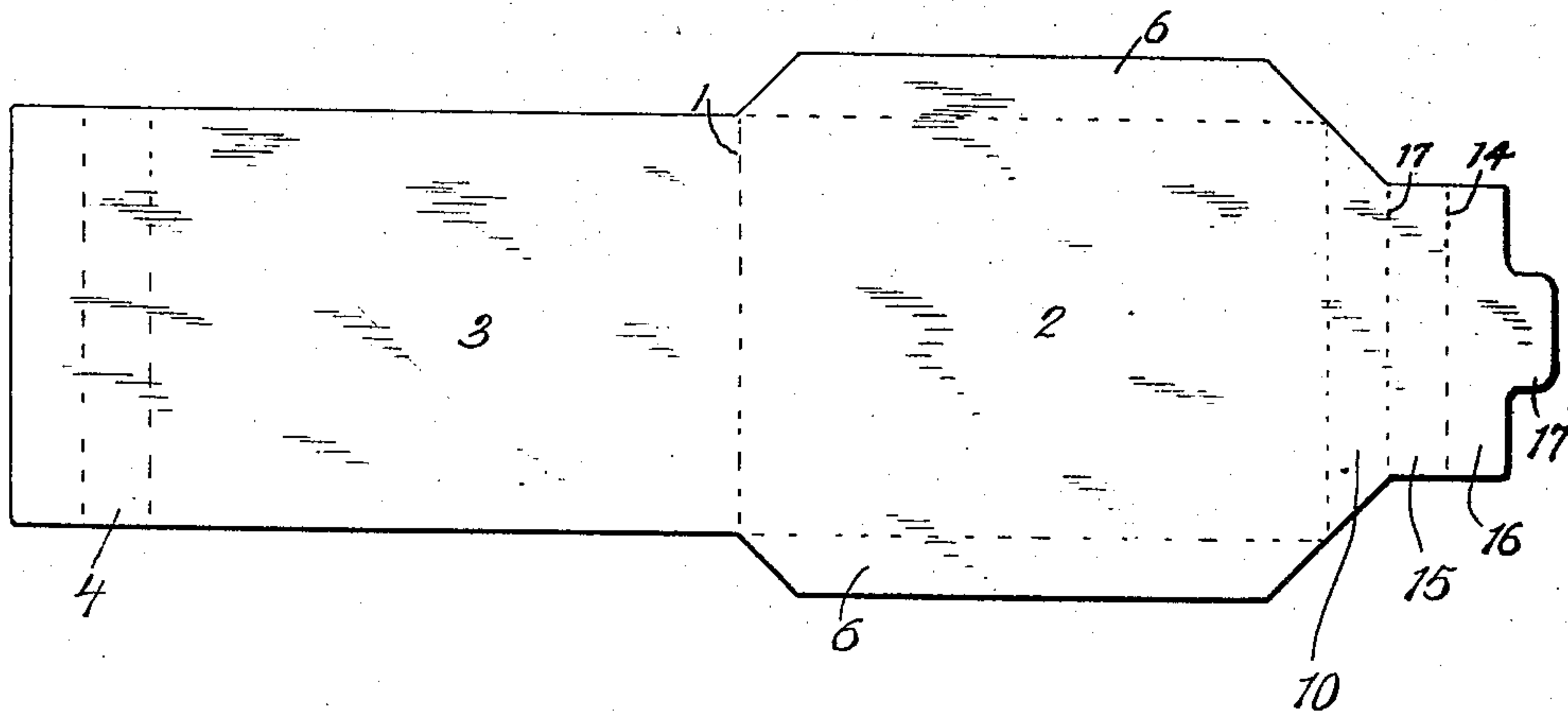


Fig. 6.



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Patented June 19, 1923.

1,459,414

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

FREDERICK J. PARKS, OF NEW YORK, N. Y.

ENVELOPE.

Application filed April 16, 1917. Serial No. 162,247.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, FREDERICK J. PARKS, a citizen of the United States, and a resident of the city and State of New York, have invented certain Improvements in Envelopes, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to certain improvements in envelopes, and more particularly in that class of envelopes which are especially designed and adapted for use for mailing purposes, and which are provided with disengageable closure members capable of being disengaged to facilitate access to the enclosure for inspection of the contents during transit through the mails, and the object of the invention is to provide an envelope of this general character of a simple and comparatively inexpensive nature having certain features of novelty and improvement whereby a secure and effective engagement of the closure members is assured to prevent accidental loss of the contents of the envelope whilst at the same time the disengagement of said members is facilitated in order to afford greater convenience and saving of time whenever it is desired to open the envelope.

The invention consists in certain novel features of the construction, and combinations and arrangements of the parts of the improved envelope, whereby certain important advantages are attained, and the envelope is rendered simple and commercially practicable and otherwise better adapted and more convenient and effective for use, all as will be hereinafter fully set forth.

The novel features of the invention will be carefully defined in the claims.

In order that my improvements may be the better understood I will now proceed to describe the invention with reference to the accompanying drawings, wherein—

Figure 1 is a perspective view showing an envelope provided with my improvements, in closed condition;

Figure 2 is an enlarged fragmentary sectional view taken through the disengageable closure members and illustrating certain features of construction which will be hereinafter described;

Figure 3 is a fragmentary enlarged rear face view of the improved envelope, showing certain features of the closure members which will be hereinafter described;

Figure 4 is a view somewhat similar to

Figure 2, but illustrating a somewhat different formation of the closing flap of the envelope.

Figure 5 is a sectional perspective view showing the several parts in partially folded position, and

Figure 6 is a plan view of the blank from which the improved envelope is made.

As shown in these views, the improved envelope is made from a blank having front and back plies or portions 2 and 3, integrally joined by a transverse fold 1 affording a permanent closure along that edge of the envelope which is opposite to its mouth, one of said plies or portions, as for example, the front ply or portion 2, being provided with integral side flaps or extensions 6, 6, extended along the opposite parallel sides or edges, which are folded over behind and sealed down upon the corresponding lateral edge portions of the rear ply 3 so as to afford permanent closures along the opposite lateral edges of the envelope.

Along the mouth of the envelope, one of its plies or portions as, for example, the rear ply or portion 3, is provided with an integral outwardly and rearwardly folded two ply portion 5, whose extremities are secured beneath the adjacent ends of the side flaps 6, 6, so as to afford a pocket extended along and parallel with the mouth of the envelope and open at its side parallel with and opposite to said mouth for the reception of a closing flap 9, integrally produced upon and projecting from the edge of the front portion or ply 2 along the opposite side of the envelope mouth, and adapted to be folded across said mouth and upon the rear surface of the envelope outside the two ply strip or band 4, and to be tucked into the pocket to afford a closure for the mouth of the envelope adapted to retain its contents but capable of being opened upon withdrawal of said flap from the pocket, to permit access to the envelope during transit through the mails or otherwise.

The flap 9 is provided with transverse parallel folds or creases 12 and 14, reversed one to the other, and spaced apart in such a manner as to divide said flap into a plurality of integrally joined or connected portions 10, 15 and 16, which as herein shown are approximately equal in width, measured lengthwise of the flap, the portion 10 adjacent to the envelope mouth extending the full width of the latter so as to be adapted

to be folded across the same to close said mouth effectively, and having opposite lateral edges 11, 11, beveled or tapered conformably to and adapted to fit between the correspondingly beveled parts 8, 8 of the side flaps 6, 6 where the latter are sealed down over and upon the ends of the two ply band or strip 4 forming the pocket.

The portions 15 and 16 of the closing flap, beyond said portion 10, and integrally joined with each other by the crease or fold 14 are adapted to be pressed flat or flush one upon the other, as indicated in Figures 2 and 4, and to be inserted within the pocket formed by the two ply band or strip 4 so as to afford a two ply member freely insertible in such pocket to close the mouth of the envelope and capable of being readily withdrawn therefrom whenever it is desired to open the envelope for inspection of its contents or other purpose, it being apparent that the provision of the two ply part of the closing flap, comprising the portions 15 and 16, affords greater security against accidental opening of the envelope, by reason of its increased resistance to withdrawal from the pocket, whilst the fold or crease 14, being formed reversely to the fold 12, is conveniently engageable by the fingers to facilitate insertion of said folded two ply portion in the pocket in closing the envelope.

The closure of the envelope is further facilitated by the formation of the pocket as herein shown from the two ply strip or band 4, presenting a resilient rounded edge portion 4^a along the mouth of the pocket at the point where its inner and outer plies are integrally joined or connected by the fold or crease of the paper, and which is adapted normally or before insertion of the closing flap in the pocket, to be lifted or pressed slightly away from the rear surface 3 of the envelope by reason of the resilience of the inner ply 5, and the engagement of the free edge portion 5^a thereof against said rear surface of the envelope within the pocket and adjacent to the envelope mouth. The narrow opening along the mouth of the pocket thus provided, in connection with the inherent resilience of the rounded edge portion 4^a facilitates the insertion of the closing flap and assures its retention in the pocket against accidental withdrawal.

The looseness of the central part of the two ply band or strip 4 requisite to assure the normal narrow opening along the mouth of the pocket, and the rounded resilient formation of the edge portion 4^a of said band or strip, is provided in folding over and sealing down the end portions 8, 8 of the side flaps 6, 6 upon the extremities of said band or strip 4, such folding over and sealing down of the side flaps being effected under pressure which operates to flatten the folded edge portion 4^a of the band or strip

4 at its extremities and beneath the side flaps, as shown at 4^b in the drawings, whilst its central portion, being free from such flattening pressure, is caused or permitted to spring away from the rear surface 3 of the envelope by reason of the resilience of said rounded edge portion 4^a and the pressure of the free edge portion 5^a of the ply 5 upon the envelope surface.

The two ply band or strip 4 also affords reinforcement of the pocket so that the same is not so likely to be torn open, and if desired increased security is afforded by pasting or cementing the extremities of the inner ply 5 of said two ply band or strip upon said surface 3 of the envelope as seen in dotted lines at 5^b, 5^b in Figure 3, whereby the two ply band or strip has each end attached not only to the side flaps 6, 6, but also to the rear surface of the envelope body.

As herein shown, the portions 15 and 16 of the closing flap, which are insertible in the pocket to close the envelope are each in width approximately equal to the depth of the pocket, and one of said portions, herein shown as the terminal portion 16, is provided at its edge with a central integral extension 17, adapted when said portions 15 and 16 are inserted in the pocket, to project rearwardly from and outside the same, as indicated in Figures 1 and 2, so as to afford a finger hold which may readily be seized by the fingers to facilitate the withdrawal of the closing flap from the pocket whenever it is desired to open the envelope.

The breadth of the portions 15 and 16 as indicated in Figure 3, is such that the smooth parallel lateral edges 18, 18 thereof are adapted, when the closing flap is tucked in the pocket, to fit snugly between the edges of the side flaps 6, 6 to afford secure engagement of the closing flap in the pocket and prevent its accidental withdrawal therefrom without interfering with the ready disengagement of said closing flap from the pocket when the extension 17 thereof is pulled.

From the above description of my improvements it will be seen that the envelope made according to my invention is of an extremely simple and comparatively inexpensive nature, and is particularly well adapted for use by reason of the security with which the closure members afforded by the closing flap and pocket are retained in position when engaged, to prevent accidental opening and loss of the envelope contents, and of the convenience with which these members may be disengaged when desired for opening the envelope, and it will also be obvious from the above description that the envelope is susceptible of some modification without material departure from the principles and spirit of the invention, as defined in the appended claims, and for this reason I

do not desire to be understood as limiting myself to the precise formation and arrangement of the several parts as herein set forth in carrying out my invention in practice.

5 For example, the portions 15 and 16 of the closing flap of the envelope may be partially or wholly pasted or otherwise secured together as indicated in Figure 4, to afford a somewhat rigid and unyielding part adapted
10 for ready introduction within the pocket and withdrawal therefrom.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim and desire to secure by Letters Patent is

15 1. An envelope formed from a blank, said blank consisting of a rectangular portion whose free end is to be double-folded, said rectangular portion being connected to a wider second portion having side edges to
20 be creased and folded and whose free end is to be triple-creased and folded, said envelope having said two portions folded upon one another, a two-ply pocket flap formed on
25 said first-named portion on the free end thereof with the end ply facing inwardly to form a pocket adjacent the mouth of the envelope, side flaps formed along opposite
30 sides of said second named portion and folded back and secured to the side edges of the said first named portion and the corresponding edges of the said pocket flap, and a three-fold closure flap formed on the free
35 end of said second named portion and folded over said pocket flap and detachably interlocked in doubled form in said pocket, the terminal fold member of said closure flap
40 being of greater length than the other fold members thereof and extending beyond the edges of the said pocket and constituting a tongue for withdrawing the closure flap from the said pocket.

2. An envelope formed from a blank, said blank consisting of a rectangular portion whose free end is to be double-folded, said
45 rectangular portion being connected to a wider second portion having side edges to be creased and folded and whose free end is to be triple-creased and folded, said envelope having said two portions folded upon one
50 another, a two-ply pocket flap formed on said first-named portion on the free end thereof with the end ply facing inwardly to form a pocket adjacent the mouth of the en-

velope, said pocket flap being secured at its ends to the contiguous side portions of said
55 first named portion, side flaps formed along opposite sides of said second named portion and folded back and secured to the side edges of the said first named portion and the corresponding edges of the said pocket flap, and a
60 three-fold closure flap formed on the free end of said second named portion and folded over said pocket flap and detachably interlocked in doubled form in said pocket, the
65 terminal fold member of said closure flap being of greater length than the other fold members thereof and extending beyond the edges of the said pocket and constituting a tongue for withdrawing the closure flap from
70 the said pocket.

3. An envelope formed from a blank, said blank consisting of a rectangular portion whose free end is to be double-folded, said
75 rectangular portion being connected to a wider second portion having side edges to be creased and folded and whose free end is to be triple-creased and folded, said envelope having said two portions folded upon one
80 another, a two-ply pocket flap formed on said first-named portion on the free end thereof with the end ply facing inwardly and engaging said first named portion and secured at its ends to the contiguous side
85 portions of said first named portion to form a pocket adjacent the mouth of the envelope, side flaps formed along opposite sides of said second named portion and folded back and secured to the side edges of the said first
90 named portion and the corresponding edges of said pocket flap, said pocket flap having flattened extremities and being provided with a resilient edge portion, and a three-fold closure flap formed on the free end of
95 said second named portion and folded over said pocket flap and detachably interlocked in doubled form in said pocket, the terminal fold member of said closure flap being of greater length than the other fold members
100 thereof and extending beyond the edges of the said pocket and constituting a tongue for withdrawing the closure flap from the said pocket.

In witness whereof I have hereunto signed my name this 13th day of April, 1917.

FREDERICK J. PARKS.