G. MACAULAY.

HAND BAG.

APPLICATION FILED NOV. 20, 1914.

1,164,833.

Patented Dec. 21, 1915.

2 SHEETS—SHEET 1.

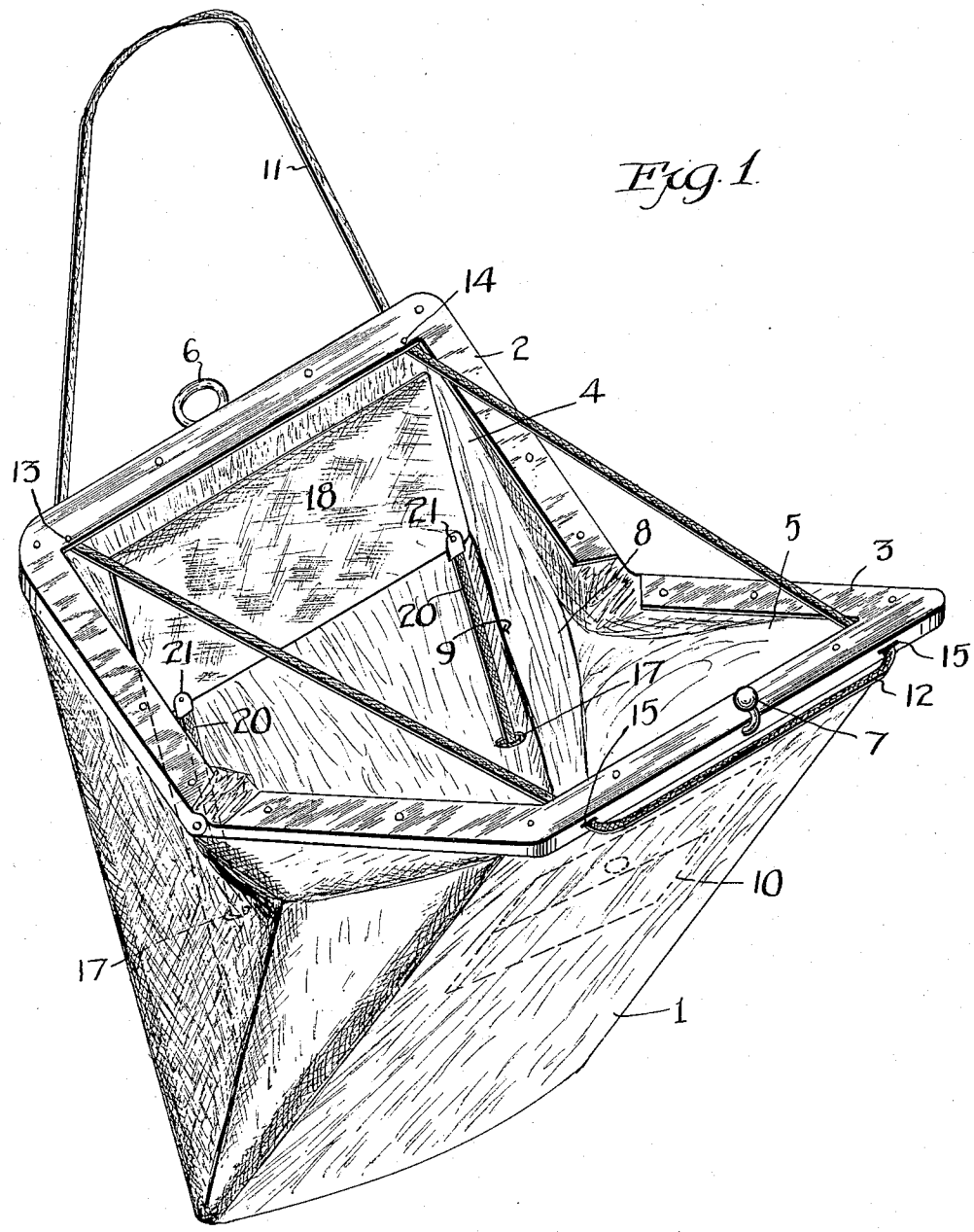


Fig. 1.

WITNESSES

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2 SHEETS—SHEET 2.

Fig. 2.

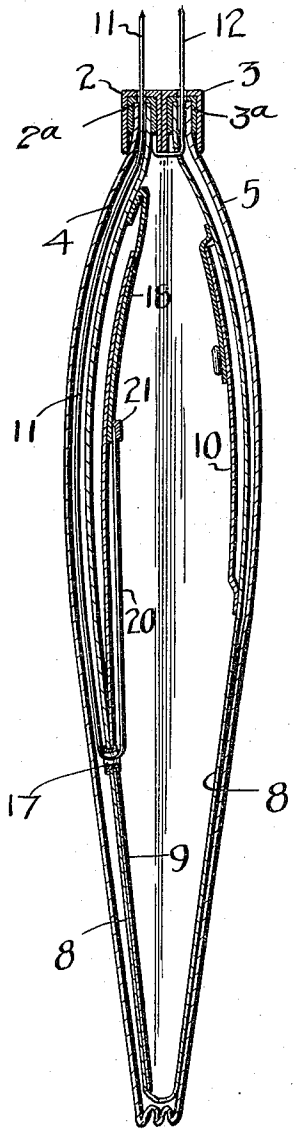


Fig. 3.

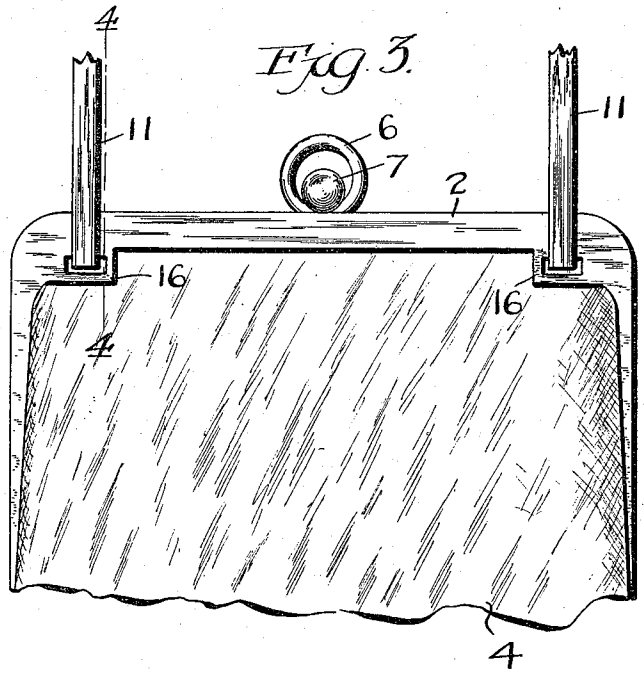
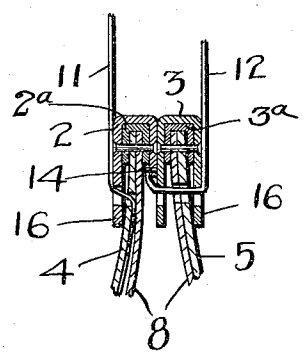


Fig. 4.



WITNESSES

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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HAND-BAG.

1,164,833. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Dec. 21, 1915.

Application filed November 20, 1914. Serial No. 873,134.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, GEORGE MACAULAY, residing in the borough of Brooklyn, county of Kings, and State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Hand-Bags, of which the following is a description.

This invention relates to hand-bags for women, and has particular reference to means for rendering such bags safe as carriers for jewels, money and other valuables.

Among the objects of my invention may be noted the following: to provide a hand-bag with means by which, when the same is closed, it cannot be opened accidentally, nor tampered with without the knowledge of the person carrying the same; to provide a hand-bag with means by which, even if the same were accidentally opened, or allowed to remain open, the contents of one of the pockets thereof cannot be removed without the knowledge of the person carrying the bag; to provide a safety pocket in hand-bags and similar devices, and closing means therefor in which money, jewels and valuable articles may be carried without fear of loss; to provide a means in the form of a safety attachment which will effectively prevent the bag from being opened and its contents removed without the knowledge of the carrier; and to provide certain details of construction for carrying out the foregoing objects, all as presently set forth in detail.

With the above objects in view, and others which will be pointed out in the course of this description, my invention consists in the parts, features, elements and combinations of elements hereinafter described and claimed.

In order that my invention may be readily understood, I have provided drawings wherein:

Figure 1 is a perspective view of a hand-bag for women provided with safety means embodying my invention; Fig. 2 is a vertical sectional view of the bag shown in Fig. 1 taken just beyond the bag-fastener, the bag being closed; Fig. 3 is an elevation of a portion of a bag showing another form of my invention; and Fig. 4 is a section taken on the line 4—4 of Fig. 3.

Referring to the drawings the numeral 1 indicates the bag which may be of the ordinary form, or may be of any special form desired. The bag may be made of leather, silk or other suitable material, and may have pockets, flaps, ornaments, etc., as desired or required without modifying my invention. The usual frame members are indicated at 2 and 3, respectively, and are hinged together and applied to make the flaps or jointed bag-members 4, 5, which are provided with suitable clasp members, 6, 7. Bags of this character are usually provided with a lining 8; and two inner pockets 9 and 10, respectively, may be provided, each covered with a flap which may be fastened in any suitable way. The pocket 9 is the one to which particular attention will be directed, since, in connection with it, I have shown one of the safety features of my invention. Handles or other suitable grips may be applied to the bag; but, in accordance with my invention, these handles consist of tapes, cords or strips of suitable material 11 and 12, respectively. The handle 12 passes through one of the bag-members 5 at the top thereof and at opposite sides, and is extended to the inside and to the top of the opposite bag-member 4, and secured by its ends at points 13, 14 directly opposite the point of passage through the other bag-member. The securing means may be rivets, clamps or other suitable devices which will make a strong fastener. The apertures 15, through which the ends of the handle pass, may be formed in the top of the frame member 3 of the bag, or may be provided in portions extending therefrom, as indicated at 16, Fig. 3, the important feature being that the handle shall slide freely, and with little or no friction, through the said apertures. By this means, it will be readily understood, the opposite bag-member 4, to which the ends of the handle are attached, can be easily drawn by the handle and the bag closed; and it will also be understood that the said bag cannot be opened if the handle is in the hand of the person, or is on her arm or wrist, without her knowledge or realizing the fact by the tugging or pressure of the handle. The other handle 11, passes through the bag-member 4, at opposite sides thereof at the top, as shown in Figs. 1 and 2, and down between the lining 8, and the outer material of the bag, and through the apertures 17 in the lining and pocket material 9, and up toward the top of the bag to engage with the the flap or cover 18 of the safety pocket. The handle 11 thus extended through the

inside of the bag has its ends 20, attached to opposite sides of the flap 18, as by clamps 21, or other suitable securing means. Stress upon the handle 11 will cause the ends of the same to draw upon the flap 18, of the safety pocket and thus hold the same tightly down without any other fastener. The handle 11 thus attached to the flap 18 of the safety pocket is made sufficiently long to correspond with the length of the other handle when both of them are fully drawn out, as when the bag is closed by its snap fastener 6—7.

The handles may be passed through apertures formed in the top of the frame-members 2, 3, as indicated in Figs. 1 and 2, or through lugs, ears, or projections formed on or integral with the material of said frame-members, as indicated in Figs. 3 and 4. If the apertures are made in the top of the frame-members, the handle will be passed down through the inner frame-members 2^a and 3^a, usually provided for securing the bag material and lining to the outer frame-structure, and between the bag material and lining, and thence to the apertures 17, which, in order to avoid friction and reduce wear, should be made smooth, as by an eyelet or other anti-frictional device, which may also be made in form to correspond with the cross-section of the handle material. In this connection, however, I desire it distinctly understood that my invention is not limited to the means by which, or the direction in which, the handles are passed through the bag, or through the parts of the frame-structure, as it is within the scope of my invention to combine the handles with the bag in any manner which will bring about the functional results contemplated.

From the foregoing description, it will be seen that I have provided a duplex safety-mechanism which not only prevents the bag from being opened without detection, but should the bag be carelessly left open, the safety pocket therein cannot be opened without detection. In other words, when the bag is closed, the handles will be grasped, or will be passed over the woman's arm or wrist, so that, if attempt be made to open the bag, the handle will be drawn against the arm or wrist and the act be immediately detected. On the other hand, if the handle should be dropped accidentally and the bag surreptitiously or otherwise opened, access to the safety-pocket cannot be gained without the knowledge of the woman, because any attempt to lift the flap will be detected since the handle will be drawn with more or less pressure upon the arm or wrist. It will also be understood that, should the handle 11 be accidentally dropped and the handle 12 retained in the hand or on the arm of the woman, the weight of the bag will close and keep closed the mouth thereof, regardless of whether the fastener be snapped. In fact, the fasteners can be omitted, as shown in Fig. 2, thus making the cost of production less. As will be obvious, viewing Figs. 1 and 2, when the safety-pocket is to be opened, the flap 18 is lifted by hand resulting in drawing the handle 11 down to the bag in a manner similar to the handle 12 in Fig. 1. The pocket material 9 may be extended down into the bag as far as desired.

While I have shown my safety attachments in connection with, and applied to, a woman's hand-bag, I desire it distinctly understood that my invention is not confined to such application. One or both of the attachments may be applied to any other form of bag, and, in some instances, the attachment 11 may be in addition to the ordinary handles of the bag, or in addition to the attachment 12, and an ordinary handle applied to the bag or flap member 4, thus, in combination with heavy bags, relieving the strain on the safety attachment 11, although, ordinarily, the attachment 12 will take the majority of the strain, since it is fixedly and securely attached at 13, 14 to the bag-member 4.

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

1. The combination with a hand-bag having two members movable relatively toward and from each other, of a pocket formed in one of the members and having a flap extending thereover, and a handle loosely extending into one of the members and having its ends secured to the said flap.

2. The combination with a hand-bag having members movable toward and from each other, of a handle loosely extending through one of the members and permanently secured to the other member, and a second handle passing through the last named member and secured to an inside movable portion of the said bag, whereby said movable portion may be held from movement whether the bag be opened or closed.

3. A hand-bag composed of flexible material having a lining, frame members hinged together and applied to the top of the bag material so as to form closing flaps therefor, a safety pocket provided with a covering-flap formed within the bag, and means passing through one of the frame members and between the bag material and lining, and through the latter into engagement with the flap member, whereby the latter may be closed by the weight of the bag or by pulling upon the handle.

4. A bag having relatively moving closing members, and an interior pocket with a covering-flap, and means for holding the flap closed extending to the outside of the bag.

5. A bag having relatively moving closing members, and an interior pocket with a covering-flap, means for holding the flap closed extending to the outside of the bag, and means for holding the bag closed connected to the inside of one member and extending through to the outside of the other member.

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

GEORGE MACAULAY.

Witnesses:
CHAS. M. CHAPMAN,
MARIE R. LEAHY.

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