No. 777,263. PATENTED DEC. 13, 1904.

E. E. MEAD.

BAG CLOSURE.

APPLICATION FILED MAR. 9, 1904.

NO MODEL. 2 SHEETS—SHEET 1.

Fig. 1.

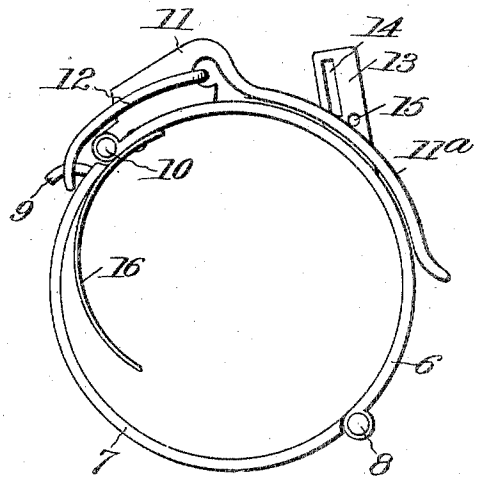
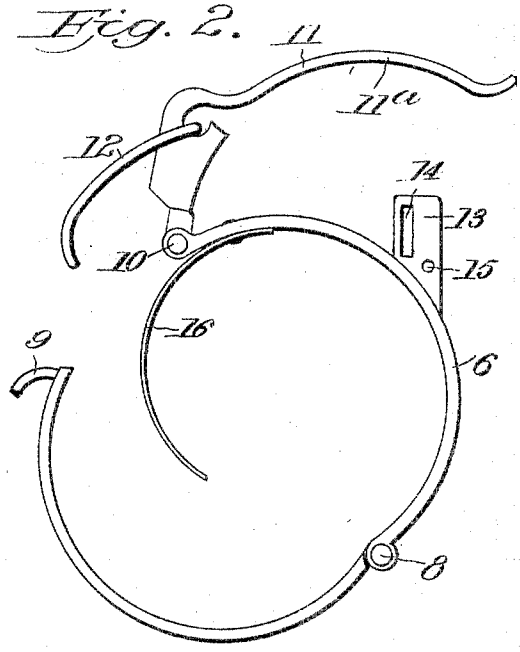


Fig. 2.



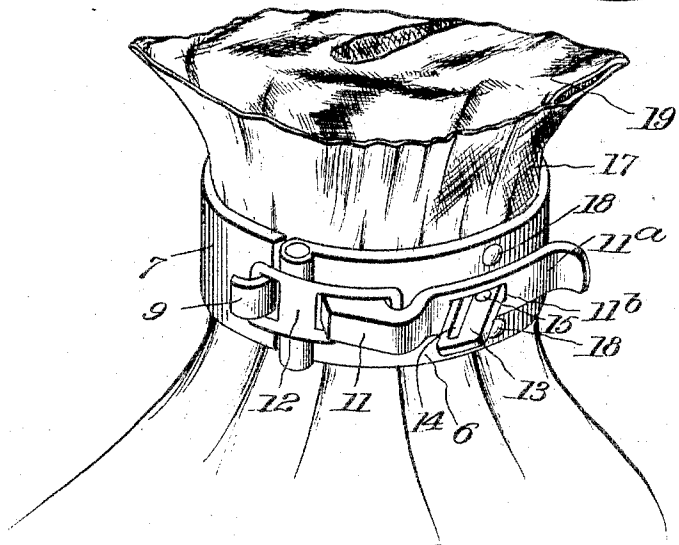


Fig. 3.

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Fig. 4.

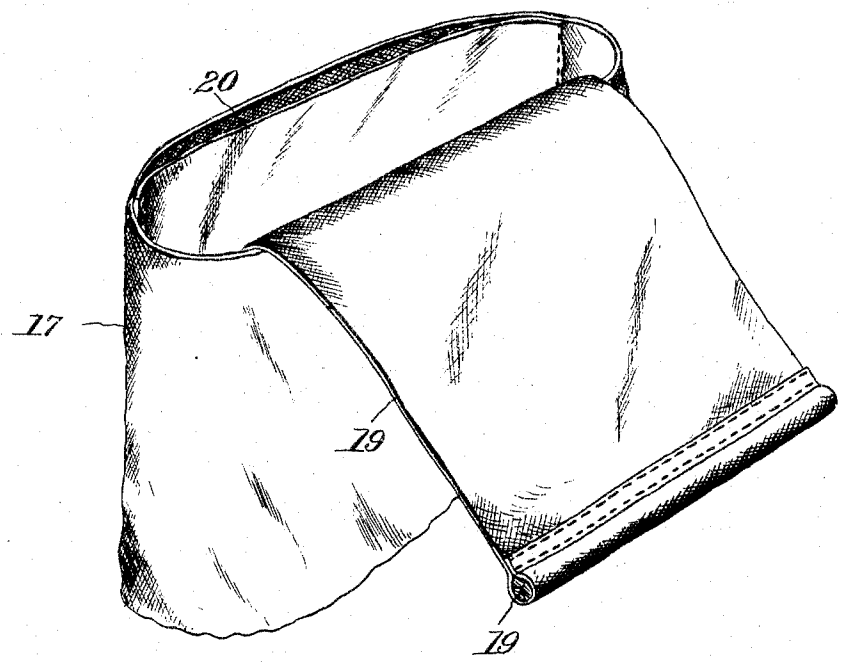
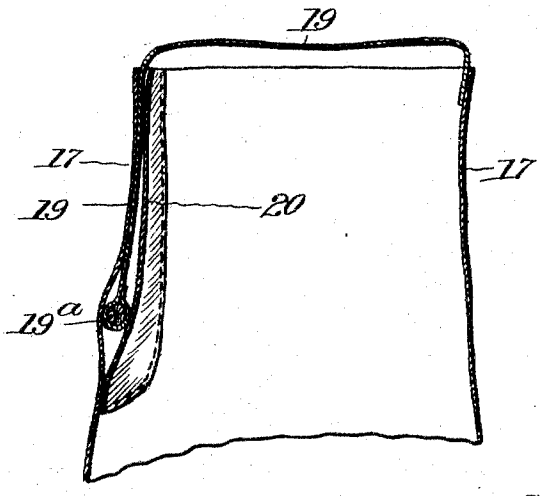


Fig. 5.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

EDWIN E. MEAD, OF WOODSTOCK, ILLINOIS, ASSIGNOR OF ONE-HALF TO D. T. SMILEY, OF WOODSTOCK, ILLINOIS.

BAG-CLOSURE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 777,263, dated December 13, 1904.

Application filed March 9, 1904. Serial No. 197,217. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, EDWIN E. MEAD, a citizen of the United States, residing at Woodstock, in the county of McHenry and State of Illinois, have invented new and useful Improvements in Bag-Closures, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to an improved closure and fastener for sacks, bags, and the like, and is especially useful in connection with gusset-mouthed express, mail, and money bags and the like, designed to be locked or sealed for transportation or other purposes.

In addition to the fastening proper the invention includes a novel and useful construction of the mouth of the bag, which will prevent it from being opened even to the slightest extent when fastened with the clamp.

In the accompanying drawings, Figures 1 and 2 are plan views of the clamp and fastener detached from the bag in closed and opened positions, respectively. Fig. 3 is a perspective view of the bag with the clamp applied. Fig. 4 is a perspective view indicating the bag opened. Fig. 5 is a sectional view showing the flap of the bag turned into the pocket which receives it.

Referring specifically to the drawings, the clamp comprises a ring formed in two sections 6 and 7, which are hinged together, as at 8. Each section is preferably semicircular, and at one end the section 7 has a hook 9 on the outer side thereof. The meeting end of the other section, 6, has hinged thereto at 10 a snap-lever 11, which carries a link 12, arranged to hook over the hook 9, and so draw the ends of the ring-sections together. The finger-piece 11^a of the lever is slotted, as at 11^b, to receive the staple 13, projecting from the ring-section, and it is inclined forwardly at such an angle as to enter the slot 11^b at a close fit. A flexible curved tongue or strip 16 projects from the inside of the end of the sections 6 within the ring and serves to guide the material of the bag and to prevent the same from being caught between the meeting ends of the ring-sections.

The device above described is applied to the mouth of a bag 17, as shown in Fig. 3, and is preferably secured on the outside thereof by rivets, as at 18. The clamp is made of proper size to draw the mouth of the bag together tightly; but to prevent any further compression, so that even a small object might be removed from the bag, one side of the mouth of the bag has a flap 19, which is constructed to fit within a pocket produced by sewing a piece 20 on the inside of the opposite side of the mouth or neck of the bag, and the outer edge of the flap is bound over a rope 19^a, and when this flap is inserted in the pocket the rope passes below the place where the neck of the bag is gripped by the clamp, so that the rope is below the clamp, forming an enlarged body of material which makes it impossible for the flap to be pulled out of the pocket while the clamp is closed, and the pocket, too, prevents the insertion of anything into the bag when the flap is in place therein.

It is obvious that the staple 13 may be modified to receive the shackle of a lock instead of a wire or strap seal. The clamp shown is capable of a variety of uses other than in connection with bags. Thus it may be used to clamp patches on hose or pipes and in various other analogous uses.

What I claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. A ring-clamp comprising sections hinged together at one end, one of said sections having a hook at the other end, and the other having a slotted lever hinged thereto, a link carried by the lever and arranged to engage over the hook, and a staple fitting through the slot when the sections are drawn together.

2. A bag having a flap on one side of the mouth thereof and a pocket on the other side to receive said flap, in combination with a ring clamped around the bag over the flap and pocket, substantially as described.

3. A bag having a flap on one side of the mouth thereof, having a thickened outer edge, and a pocket on the other side receiving said flap, in combination with a ring clamped around the bag above said edge when in said pocket, whereby the flap cannot be pulled out.

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

EDWIN E. MEAD.

Witnesses:
D. T. SMILEY,
E. H. WAITE.