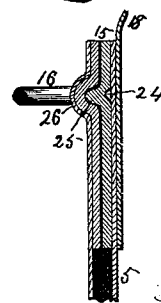
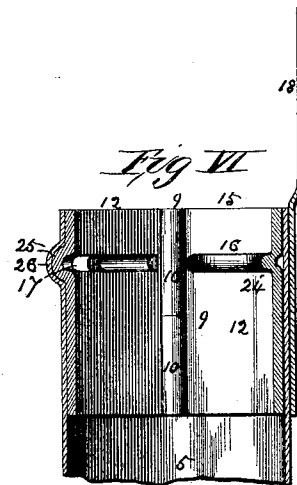
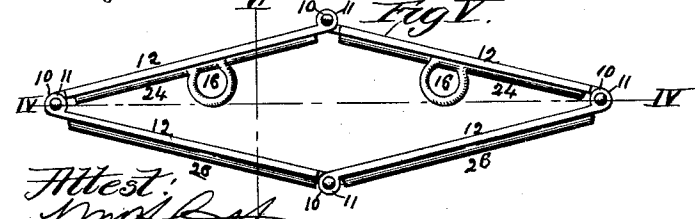
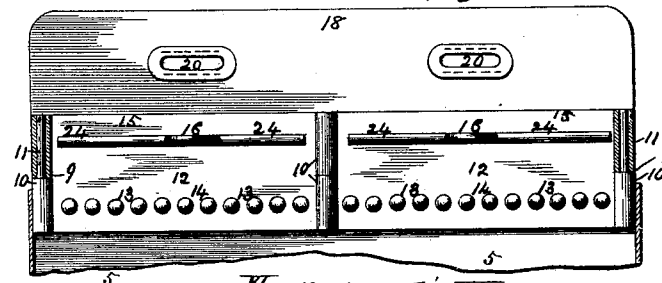
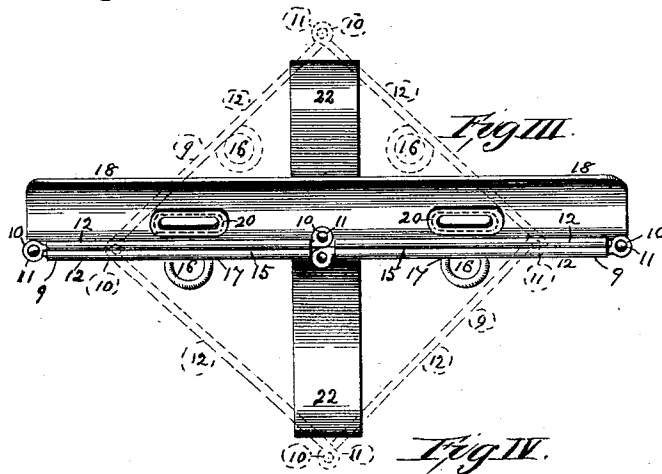
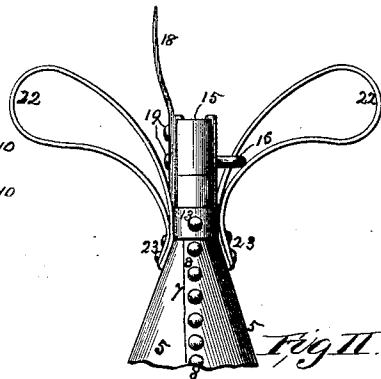
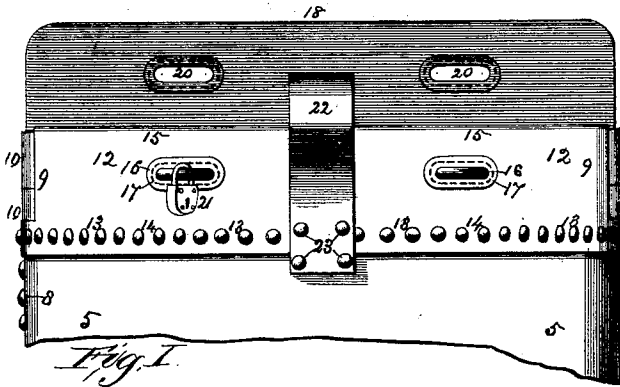


(No Model.)

G. F. WINDFEILDER.
EXPANSIBLE HINGED MOUTH MAIL POUCH.

No. 480,645.

Patented Aug. 9, 1892.



Attest:
J. H. Smith
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Inventor:
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By Knight Bros. Attys

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

GEORGE F. WINDFEILDER, OF ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI, ASSIGNOR OF ONE-HALF
TO HUGO R. RIEBELING, OF SAME PLACE.

EXPANSIBLE HINGED-MOUTH MAIL-POUCH.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 480,645, dated August 9, 1892.

Application filed February 29, 1892. Serial No. 423,277. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, GEORGE F. WINDFEILDER, of the city of St. Louis, in the State of Missouri, have invented a certain new and useful Improvement in Expansible Hinged-Mouth Mail-Pouches, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, forming part of this specification.

10 This invention relates to a mail-pouch with an endless hinged, expansible, and collapsing mouth, the sectional connecting-bars of which mouth carry projecting staples that engage in registering slots in the opposite bars when

15 the mouth is collapsed and carry the padlocks that lock the closure, and the said endless hinged mouth when expanded open constitutes a convenient open mouth-holder frame that largely facilitates the mail collectors' and distributors' work in filling mail into the pouches; and it consists in features of novelty hereinafter fully described, and pointed out in the claims.

Figure I is a front elevation of the outer end of a mail-pouch, and shows its collapsing mouth in its closed position, with the elevated flap ready to fold over, bringing its eyelets into engagement with the lock-staples, ready for the engagement of the padlocks that fasten said closed mouth of the pouch. Fig. II is a like view of the same turned a quarter round, and shows the loops by which the pouches are carried and by which they are automatically caught as the train passes the mail-stations. Fig. III is a top view and shows the expansive mouth of the pouch collapsed in full lines and open in broken lines with the flap not yet folded over. Fig. IV is a detail vertical section of a modification taken on line IV IV, Fig. V, and shows internally-projecting ridges on the connecting rear hinge-bars of the collapsing mouth. Fig. V is a top view of the endless hinged mouth of the mail-pouch, partly opened, and shows the internally-projecting ridges on the rear side of the jaw, with the projections formed by the recessed grooves on the opposite side of said jaw in which said ridges are seated when the jaw is closed; and Fig. VI is a vertical section, the upper member of the dou-

ble figure being taken on line VI VI, Fig. V, and shows one of the internally-projecting ridges, as also one of the staples on the rear jaw, and the externally-projecting recess in which said ridge is seated on the front jaw. 55 The lower member of the double figure also shows the same parts in their closed positions.

Referring to the drawings, 5 is the outer portion of a leather pouch or sack.

7 represent the meeting side edges of the leather pouch, which are secured together by the rivets 8.

9 represents an endless metal hinge, which has four pivot-points constituted, respectively, of the registering duplex loops 10 and the pivot-pins 11, that are seated in and pivotally connect said loops, and the connecting-sections 12, that carry said loops and connect, respectively, between said four turning-points of the hinge. 70

13 represents rivets that pass through near the top margin of the leather pouch and through perforations 14 in the hinge-sections 12, where they are seated and riveted to connect said leather pouch to said sections of the endless hinge. This constitutes for the pouch a convenient and reliable expansive and collapsing mouth 14, which can be easily expanded open to a perfect square or to any intermediate position for convenience in filling 80 in the mail into the pouch, and also as easily collapses again after the mail has been inserted to secure the safe retention thereof. It will also be seen that not only does my endless hinge constitute an easily expanded and collapsing mouth for the mail-pouch, but it also, when expanded, as shown in broken lines in Fig. III, (or still further expanded into a square mouth, if required,) it in either of said expanded positions constitutes a holder 90 15 for the retention of the open mouth, making it much more convenient for the insertion of the mail.

16 represent staples, of which there are preferably two, which are secured to and project forward from the rear sections 12 of the endless hinge 9, and when said hinge collapses the said staples pass through the eye-holes 17 in the front sections of said hinges, projecting sufficiently beyond said sections 100

for the fastening purposes, now to be described.

18 represents a folding flap, preferably of leather, which may be secured by rivets 19 to the back of the rear hinge-sections, above which it projects when open, and 20 are eye-holes in said flap, which when the flap is folded over pass over the front of the projecting staples 16, after which the padlocks 21 may be secured on the staples and locked.

22 represent loop-handles secured by rivets 23 to each side of the pouch near its mouth and which loops serve the double purpose of hand-holds in the carriage of said pouch, and when the pouch is hung up outside a postal-car for automatic delivery at way-stations where the postal-train does not stop said projecting loop-handles are engaged by the automatic clutch which is set up to grasp the pouch intended for said station.

In Figs. IV, V, and VI is shown a modification, in which longitudinal ribs 24 are stamped from the rear forward in the rear hinge-sections on line with the staples on each side thereof projecting in a wing-like position therefrom, and 25 are corresponding elongated recesses that are stamped from the rear forward in the front hinge-sections on line with the eye-holes in which the staples engage and extending in a wing-like position therefrom on either side. The formation of these recesses form ribs 26 on the outside of the sections that carry them, which, as do the ribs 24, stiffen and strengthen said sections. Now it will be seen that when the mouth of the mail-pouch, by means of the endless hinge in this modification, is collapsed the said projecting wing-ribs 24 on the front of the rear hinge-sections enter the corresponding re-

cesses 25 in the front hinge-section, and thus constitute a reinforce closure of the mouth of the mail-pouch for the secure holding of any small articles of value that may escape from any of the letters in the pouch.

I claim as my invention—

1. The combination, with a pouch, of an endless hinge 9, consisting of two sections 12 having loops 10 and staples 16, two sections 12 having loops 10 and staple-eyes 17, and the pivot-pins 11, by which the loops are hinged together, means by which the hinge is secured to the pouch, and a folding flap 18, secured to the outside of the staple-sections, having staple-eyes 20, substantially as described.

2. The combination, with a pouch, of an endless hinge 9, consisting of two sections 12 having loops 10 and internal ridges 24, formed with staples 16, two sections 12 having loops 10 and internal grooves 25, providing projections 26 and formed with staple-eyes 17, and the pivot-pins 11, by which the loops are hinged together, and means by which the hinge is secured to the pouch, substantially as described.

3. The combination, with a pouch, of an endless hinge 9, consisting of two sections 12 having loops 10 and internal ridges 24, formed with staples 16, two sections 12 having loops 10 and internal grooves 25, providing projections 26 and formed with staple-eyes 17, and the pivot-pins 11, by which the loops are hinged together, means by which the hinge is secured to the pouch, and a folding flap 18, secured to the outside of the staple-sections, having staple-eyes 20, substantially as described.

GEORGE F. WINDFELDER.

In presence of—

BENJN. A. KNIGHT,
SAML. KNIGHT.