

(No Model.)

W. HAWN.

MAIL BAG.

No. 293,459.

Patented Feb. 12, 1884.

Fig. 1.

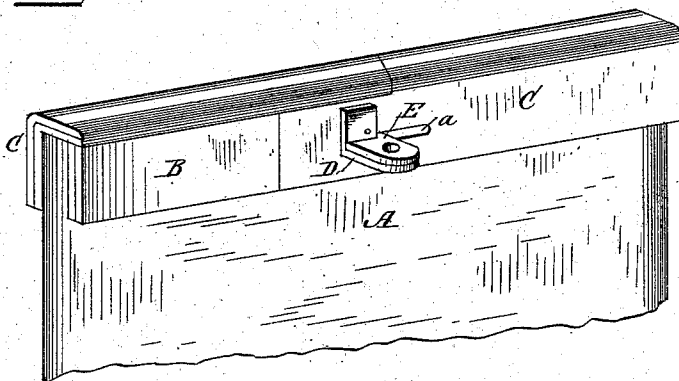


Fig. 2.

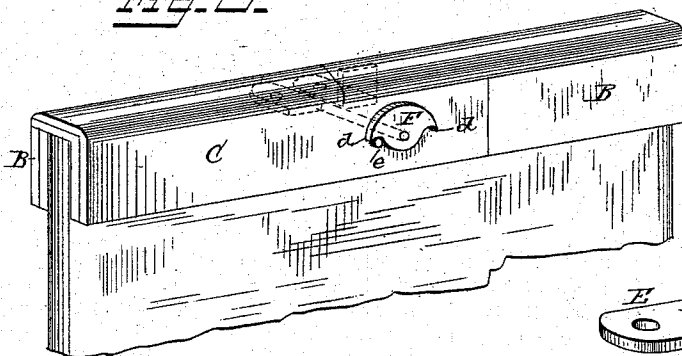


Fig. 3.

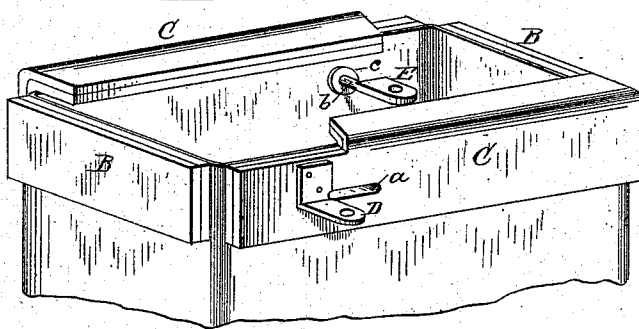
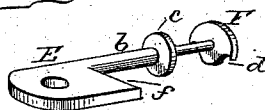


Fig. 4.



WITNESSES

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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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## MAIL-BAG.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 293,459, dated February 12, 1884.

Application filed December 20, 1883. (No model.)

### *To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, WILLIAM HAWN, a citizen of the United States, residing at Knoxville, in the county of Knox and State of Tennessee, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Mail-Bags; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description of the same, reference being had to the annexed drawings, making a part of this specification, and to the letters and figures of reference marked thereon.

Figure 1 of the drawings is a perspective view of the upper portion of a mail-bag constructed in accordance with my invention, showing it closed and the staple and perforated plate in position for attaching thereto the padlock; Fig. 2, a perspective view of the reverse side of the mail-bag, showing in dotted lines the position of the staple previous to its being turned to register with the perforated plate. Fig. 3 is a perspective view of the bag, showing it open and ready for filling; and Fig. 4, a detail view of the staple.

The present invention has relation to that class of mail-bags which are re-enforced or made rigid at their mouths, and especially to the improvement embodied in my patent of June 13, 1882, No. 259,309.

The object of the invention is to adapt the above-mentioned class of mail-bags to the use of padlocks, which object I attain by the construction substantially as shown in the drawings and hereinafter described and claimed.

In the accompanying drawings, A represents a mail-bag made in accordance with my Letters Patent hereinbefore referred to, having secured around its open end sections B C. Near the end of one of the sections, C, is a slot, *a*, which extends through it and through the leather of the bag, and to the outer side of the section, immediately at the extremity of one end of the slot, is secured a perforated plate, D, which extends out horizontally from the bag. The slot *a* is adapted to receive a staple, E, extending out horizontally from the interior of the bag and on a line diagonally opposite the slot when the bag is open, as shown in Fig. 3.

The staple E consists, preferably, of a perforated metal plate similar to the plate D, terminating in a shank, *b*, with a shoulder, *c*, and at its extremity with a stop-plate, F, by which means the staple is connected to the bag in a manner to admit of its turning. When the bag is closed, the staple E will penetrate the opposite side of the bag through slot *a*, coming in line therewith and above the perforated plate D, when the staple is turned in its bearing. When the staple is turned over in a direction toward the perforated plate, so that it will rest thereon or be immediately above it, the respective perforations will register or come into line, and thus are in position to receive the link of the padlock. The stop-plate F serves as a convenient means for turning the staple E, and also, like the shoulder *c*, acts as a washer in securing the shank *b* to the bag. The plate F has two shoulders, *d*, which, in connection with the check-pin *e*, serves as a guide to bring the staple in line with the perforation of the plate D, and also prevent the staple from turning completely around. The staple E, having a square shoulder, as shown at *f*, Fig. 4, which comes against the angular portion of the plate D, serves to hold the sides of the bag firmly together when closed.

Having now fully described my invention, what I claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

A mail-bag provided on one of its sides with a slot and a perforated plate, and upon the opposite side of the bag a suitable perforated staple adapted to turn in its bearing after passing through the slot, to bring it over the perforated plate, for securing the two together by a suitable padlock, substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

In testimony that I claim the above I have hereunto subscribed my name in the presence of two witnesses.

WILLIAM HAWN.

Witnesses:

ED. COYKENDALL,  
J. C. HOOPER.