J. H. WEAVER.

Fastening Strip or Clasp.

No. 219,609. Patented Sept. 16, 1879.

Fig. 1

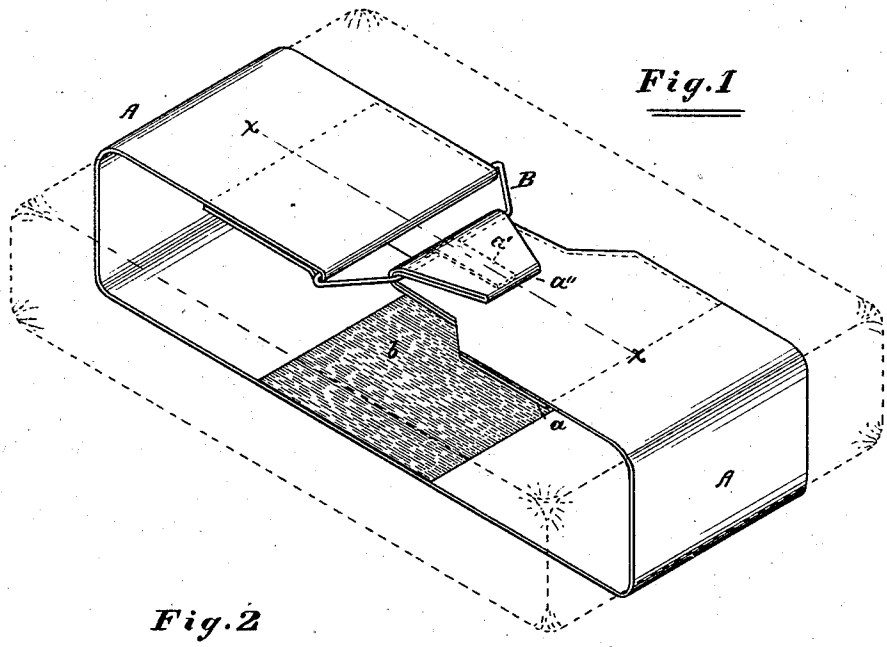


Fig. 2

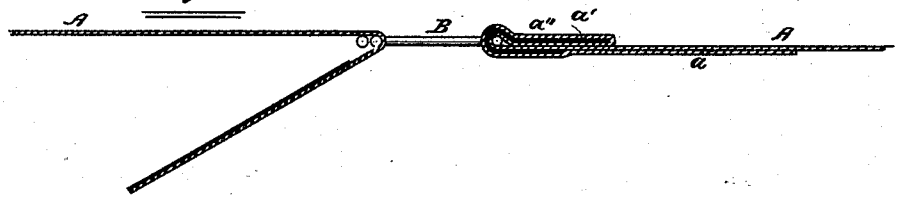
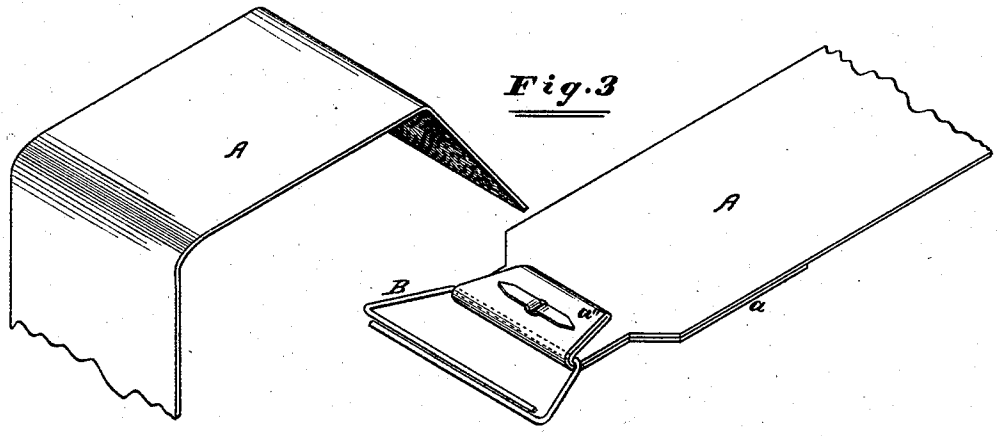


Fig. 3



Attest:

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JAMES H. WEAVER, OF CHICAGO, ILLINOIS.

IMPROVEMENT IN FASTENING-STRIPS OR CLASPS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **219,609**, dated September 16, 1879; application filed November 16, 1878.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JAMES H. WEAVER, of Chicago, in the county of Cook and State of Illinois, have invented a new, useful, and Improved Fastening-Strip or Clasp, of which the following, in connection with the accompanying drawings, is a specification.

In the drawings, Figure 1 is a perspective of a fastening-strip or clasp embodying my invention; Fig. 2, a section in the plane of the line *x x*, Fig. 1; and Fig. 3, a perspective representing a modification in the manner of securing the tongue.

Like letters of reference indicate like parts.

A represents a comparatively long strip of paper, one end of which, as at *a*, is folded back upon itself to make two thicknesses or layers, which are made to adhere to each other by means of any suitable adhesive material. Between these layers I arrange a small strip of thin sheet metal, *a'*, consisting, preferably, of tin, but necessarily a metal having the quality of stiffness, and capable of being bent reversely, or back and forth, a number of times without being broken or materially losing its stiffness. By this means a comparatively stiff but flexible tongue, *a''*, is formed, which I bend back upon itself, as shown.

B is a metallic loop, consisting, preferably, of wire, and arranged within the fold of the tongue *a''*, so that the loop and tongue may be readily disconnected from each other by lifting up or raising the end of the tongue sufficiently for that purpose.

I brush the under face of the strip A, at or near its opposite end, with mucilage or other adhesive material which will become dry thereon and retain its adhesive property and become adhesive when moistened. It is immaterial, however, which face of the strip is thus rendered adhesive, as will hereinafter more fully appear. I then loop the broad end of the strip A through the loop B, and stick that end to the face of the strip, thus permanently fastening the metallic loop to said end, as represented in Fig. 1. This may be done, however, before the mucilage on the end to be permanently fastened to the metallic loop becomes dry.

To use this fastening or clasp, I arrange it about a package or bundle, as represented in Fig. 1, wherein the broken lines indicate the bundle. When the size of the package to be fastened is known, or when clasps are to be made for packages of known and uniform size, the length of the strip A may be made to correspond thereto in length, and in such cases the loop B may be permanently secured to the broad end of the strip, in the manner described, before the strip is applied to the package. After arranging the clasp about the bundle the tongue *a''* must be passed through the loop B and drawn back until the strip is tightened upon the package. The tongue *a''* must then be bent down closely upon itself, as shown.

When all the packages to be fastened are intended to be of the same size, it will be found that the tongue *a''* may be drawn a greater or less distance through the loop B, according as there may be greater or less unintentional variation in the size of the packages.

My chief object, however, is to make a fastening-strip or clasp which may be applied to packages or bundles promiscuously, without regard to the size of the packages, and without special care as to the length of the strips or clasps; and for this purpose I leave the broad end of the strip A free or detached until after the fastening is applied to the package, when I pass that end up through the loop B, and then draw the end back until the strip is made sufficiently tight upon the package, when I moisten the coating of dry mucilage on that end and stick the end to the face of the strip, it being understood that for this purpose the mucilage is allowed to become dry before the strip is applied to use, and before the loop B is permanently secured to the strip. The package will thus be securely fastened, but may be unfastened at any time by simply raising the tongue *a''* for that purpose. It may also be again fastened by arranging the tongue *a''* in its original position.

When the surfaces of the packages are smooth and even, it is possible that the fastening might slip off; but to prevent such a possibility I deem it preferable to make a patch of dry mucilage on the strip, as indicated by the shaded portion shown at *b*, so that the strip may be caused to there adhere to the wrapper of the package.

It will be perceived that by loosening the

clasp A the contents of the package may be examined, and the wrapper again fastened by means of the clasp.

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

The combination of the continuous strip A, the flexible stiffening a', and the loop B, all arranged, substantially as specified, with relation to each other, for the purposes specified.

JAMES H. WEAVER.

Witnesses:
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