

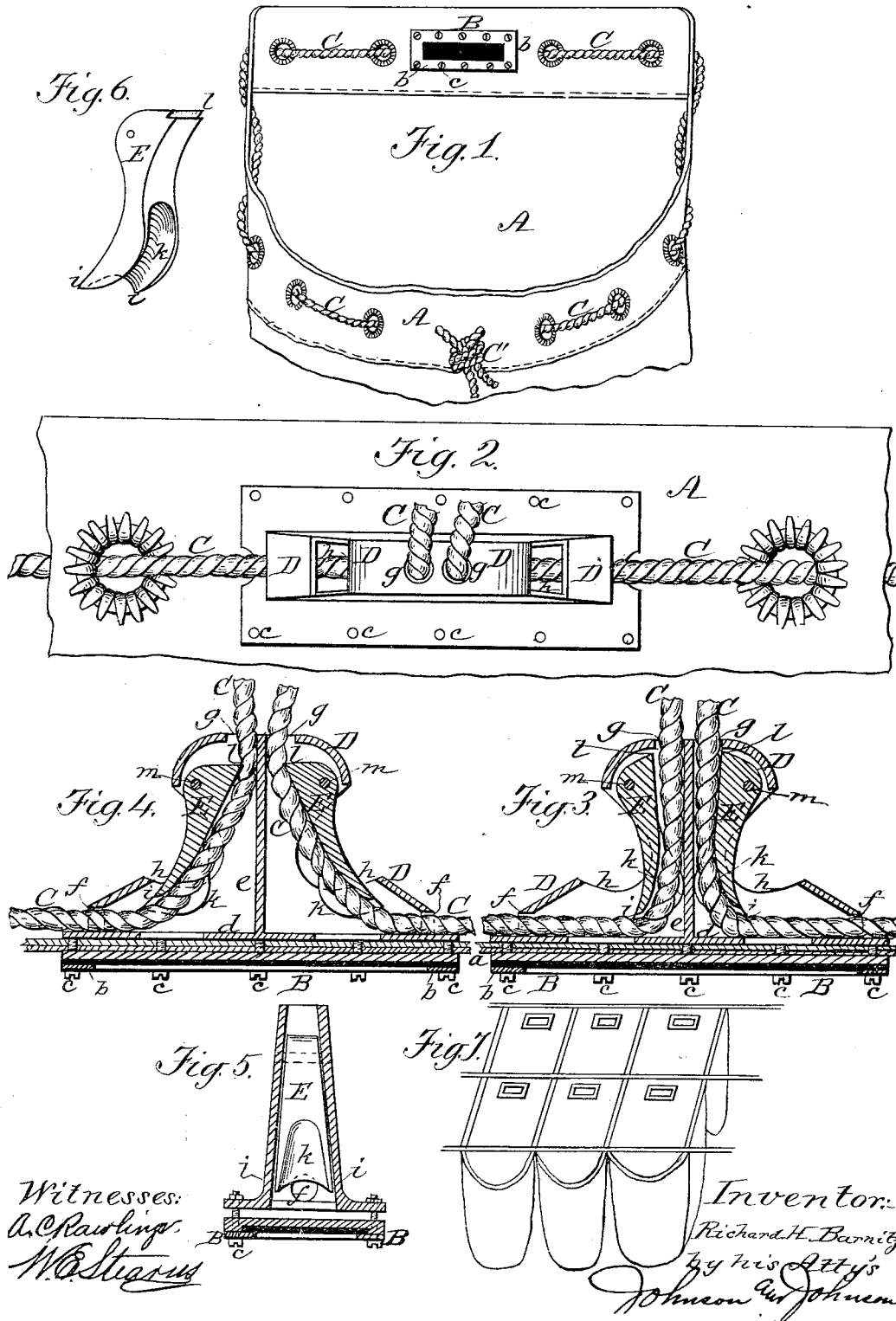
(No Model.)

R. H. BARNITZ.

COMBINED FASTENER AND LABEL FOR MAIL BAGS.

No. 348,374.

Patented Aug. 31, 1886.



UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

RICHARD HARRISON BARNITZ, OF WASHINGTON, DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.

COMBINED FASTENER AND LABEL FOR MAIL-BAGS.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 348,374, dated August 31, 1886.

Application filed March 9, 1886. Serial No. 194,635. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, RICHARD HARRISON BARNITZ, a citizen of the United States, residing at Washington, in the District of Columbia, have invented new and useful Improvements in a Combined Fastener and Label for Mail-Bags, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to devices for fastening and labeling mail-bags; and my object mainly is to label or unlabel the sack while it is hung in the usual rack ready for use, and that the label shall be in plain sight upon the spread open sack to the view of the operator, in order that he may know that the bag is ready and labeled for dispatch; so, also, to provide a means whereby the paper label is not exposed to the weather.

Definitely, the objects are, first, to provide a fastening for the mail-bag which shall display the label from the inside as said bag hangs spread open upon the rack for the reception of letters or post-packages or other mail-matter; second, to provide an improved clamp for the holding of the cord; third, to combine with the said clamp the label-holder in a manner to be hereinafter described; fourth, to provide an improved construction of the clamp proper, whereby to avoid the use of a spring. The means whereby I carry out the said objects are hereinafter described, specifically claimed, and shown in the accompanying drawings, wherein—

Figure 1 represents a portion of a mail-bag spread open and showing my label; Fig. 2, a view taken from that portion of the mail-bag which contains the fastener. Fig. 3 is a longitudinal vertical section showing the clamping-jaws passive to permit of the free movement of the cord; Fig. 4, a similar view showing the clamping-jaws as biting upon a fastened cord; Fig. 5, a sectional view showing the groove of one of the clamping-jaws, through which the cord travels; Fig. 6, a perspective of one of the said clamping-jaws, and Fig. 7 a diagram of the rack of bags.

The bag-label, of paper or other material, is held by any suitable means under the frame of the label.

In the said drawings, A is the mail canvas sack; B, the label-frame; C, the well-known

cord, and D the eyelets. The paper label proper is designated by black in the drawings.

The label-frame B consists, preferably, of a spring-plate, *a*, with a rectangular confining-frame, *b*, through both of which bolts *c* pass to the foundation *d* of the cord-clamping device, it being understood that the label is upon the inside of the bag, while the cord-fastening device is upon the outside and connected therewith by said bolts. Rising from said foundation-plate is a head-piece, D, having a central partition, *e*, entrance-holes *ff* for the cord C; and exit-holes *gg* upon each side of the partition *e*, as also openings *hh*, for the play of clamping-jaws E E, which are hinged or pivoted within said head-piece, as at *m*, upon each side of said partition. The said jaws have lower biting-points *ii*, and upon their bearing-faces grooves *kk*, to admit the rope, which latter is hugged therein and released as follows—that is to say: The cord is passed through the inlet-holes of the head-piece between the partition and hinged jaws and out at the top exit-holes; and to securely close the bag it is only necessary to pull the cord C, when the pivoted jaws bite the cord, and the ends thereof may project through the exit-holes *gg*, as shown. At the top of the hinged jaws E they are provided with one or more biting-points, *l*, so that the jaws may grip the cord both at top and bottom.

To loosen the bag, manual pressure is applied to the jaws below their points of pivot to release their grip upon the cord, as in Fig. 3, in which position the cord may freely move in either direction to spread open the bag or to close it. When the cord is drawn taut and the bag closed, the jaws bear upon the cord, as in Fig. 4.

I claim—

1. The combination, with a mail-bag, of a holding-head secured to the outside thereof and having a rope-fastener, and a label-holding frame secured upon the inner side of the bag and connected to said holding-head through the bag, all arranged substantially as and for the purpose specified.

2. The herein-described mail-bag fastener, consisting of the head-piece D, having the foundation *d*, the described open parts *fhg*, for the passage of the cord C, and the partition *e*, in combination with jaws E, pivoted in

said head-piece, as described, and having biting-points *i* *l* and grooves *k*, all as and for the purpose specified.

3. The combination, with the partition *e*, the
5 exit-holes *g*, and the inlet-holes *f* of the head-piece, of jaws *E*, pivoted in said head-piece, and provided with grooves *k* on their inner faces, and biting-points *i* and *l*, and the cord *C*, all as and for the purpose set forth.

10 4. The combination, in a mail-bag fastener, of the head-piece having top and side openings for the cord, with the jaws pivoted in said head-piece, having edges, substantially as described, for the purpose specified.

15 5. The pivoted jaws having biting-edges *l* and concave lower ends, combined with a holding-head having a top opening, *g*, open sides

h, and end openings, *f*, and a middle bearing-partition, *e*, substantially as described, for the purpose specified. 20

6. The combination, with pivoted biting-jaws and a holding-head secured to the outside of the mail-bag, of a holder for a label, fastened on the inner side of the bag by the same fastening which secures the cord-fastener, all arranged to operate substantially as set forth. 25

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

RICHARD HARRISON BARNITZ.

Witnesses:

A. E. H. JOHNSON,

J. W. HAMILTON JOHNSON.