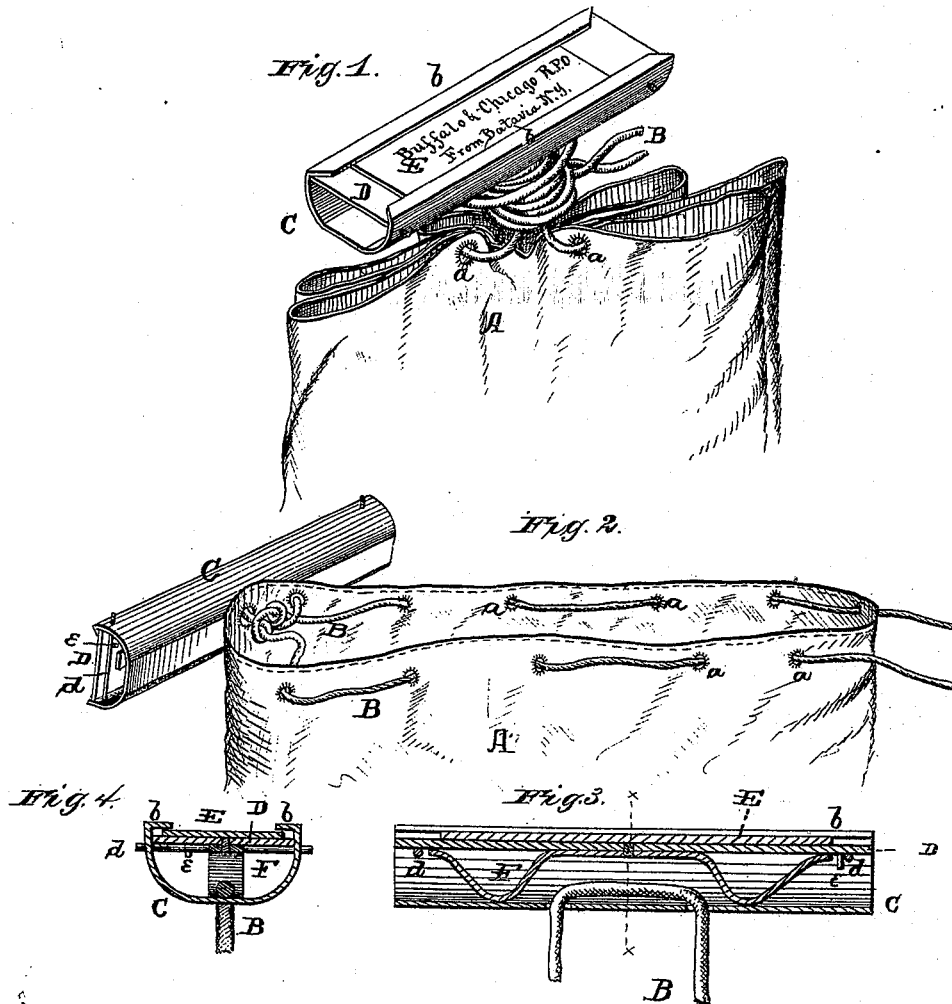


H. B. FERREN.  
 Mail-Bag Fastener and Label-Holder.

No. 209,878.

Patented Nov. 12, 1878.



WITNESSES  
 P. L. Curand  
 E. Aubrey Toulmin.

By His Attorney

INVENTOR  
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 Alexander Mason

# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

HORACE B. FERREN, OF BATAVIA, NEW YORK.

## IMPROVEMENT IN MAIL-BAG FASTENER AND LABEL-HOLDER.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 209,878, dated November 12, 1878; application filed October 21, 1878.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, HORACE B. FERREN, of Batavia, in the county of Genesee, and in the State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Label-Holder and Mail-Bag Fastener; and do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description thereof, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and to the letters of reference marked thereon, making a part of this specification.

My invention relates particularly to cloth mail-bags; and it consists in connecting the label-holder to the tie-cord and forming a combined mail-bag label-holder and handle, permanently fastened to the bag by the cord used to close the bag, as will be hereinafter more fully set forth.

In order to enable others skilled in art to which my invention appertains to make and use the same, I will now proceed to describe its construction and operation, referring to the annexed drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of the upper end of a mail-bag embodying my invention, showing the bag closed. Fig. 2 is a similar view thereof, showing the bag open. Fig. 3 is a longitudinal section of the label-holder, and Fig. 4 is a cross-section of the same.

A represents an ordinary cloth mail-bag, with tie-cord B passed through holes *a a* therein, in the usual manner. The label-holder consists of a body, C, made nearly in semi-tubular form, and provided along its edges with inwardly-projecting flanges *b b*, as shown. D represents a flat plate placed within the body C, and held by a spring, F, against the inner sides of the flanges *b*.

It is, of course, obvious that one or more springs, F, may be used, as may be deemed most desirable.

E is the label, which is inserted between the plate D and the flanges *b*, and held in place by the tension of the spring or springs F.

The plate D is, near each end, on the under side, provided with a lug, *e*, which projects sufficiently far inward to come on the inner side of a pin, *d*, passed through the body C near each end, by which means the plate D is prevented from coming out from the body C, while it does not interfere with its being pressed inward, for the removal or insertion of the label.

The label-holder thus constructed is connected to the mail-bag by means of the tie-cord B, which is passed through holes in the body C, as shown in Fig. 3. When the mouth of the bag is drawn closed the tie-cord is wound around the label-holder, to prevent the mouth of the bag from opening. The label-holder also, when the cord is thus wound around, forms a convenient handle for carrying the bag.

It will thus be seen that my label-holder, while it has its proper function as a label-holder, also performs the offices of a bag-tie and a handle for the bag.

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

1. The label-holder composed of a body, C, provided with flanges *b b* on each side of the top opening, the plate D, and one or more springs, F, for holding the label, in combination with the bag and cord, all substantially as set forth.

2. The combination of the semi-tubular body C, provided with the flanges *b b*, the plate D, having lugs *e e*, the pins *d d*, and one or more springs, F, substantially as and for the purposes herein set forth.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing I have hereunto set my hand this 12th day of October, 1878.

H. B. FERREN.

Witnesses:

HARRY C. FERREN,  
A. V. CONDIN.