

W. H. GRIFFIN.
ENVELOP.
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982,594.

Patented Jan. 24, 1911

Fig. 1.

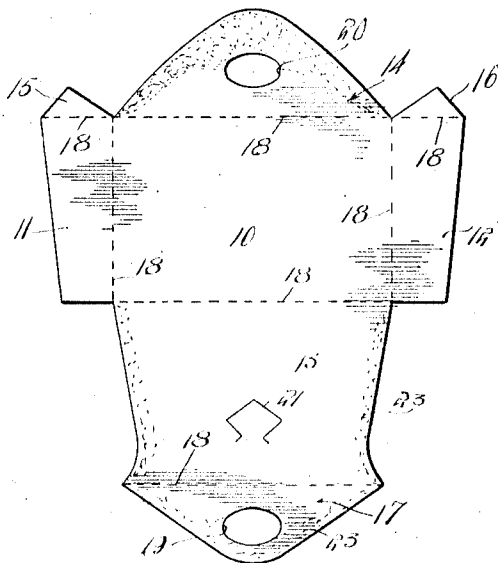


Fig. 2.

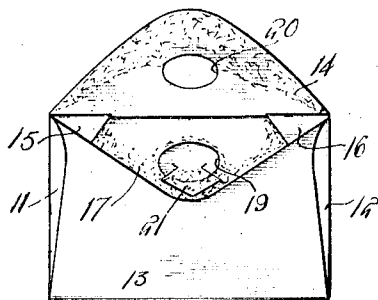
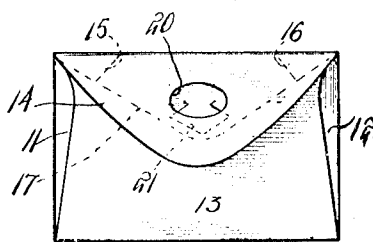


Fig. 3.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLIAM H. GRIFFIN, OF COLUMBUS, OHIO, ASSIGNOR OF ONE-FOURTH TO JAMES O. LATHAM, ONE-EIGHTH TO H. J. CLARK, AND ONE-EIGHTH TO JOHN D. VAN SCOTEN, ALL OF COLUMBUS, OHIO.

ENVELOP.

982,594.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Jan. 24, 1911.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM H. GRIFFIN, a citizen of the United States, residing at Columbus, in the county of Franklin, State of Ohio, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Envelops; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same.

This invention relates to improvements in envelops more particularly to the class wherein provision is made for preventing surreptitious access to the contents, and has for one of its objects to improve the construction and increase the security and safety without material increase of expense or the quantity of material required to construct the envelop.

Another object of the invention is to provide a device of this character having a plurality of securing means the severing of one of which will reveal the fact that the envelop has been tampered with and wherein all of the securing devices must be fractured to enable the envelop to be fully opened.

With these and other objects in view, the invention consists in certain novel features of construction as hereinafter shown and described and then specifically pointed out in the claim; and, in the drawings illustrative of the preferred embodiment of the invention, Figure 1 is a view of the blank from which the envelop is constructed. Fig. 2 is a view of the envelop in condition to receive the contents. Fig. 3 is a view of the envelop fully closed.

The envelop may be constructed of any required size or in any required proportions and may be of any suitable material, and comprises a body portion 10 having relatively narrow end flaps 11—12, a relatively large back flap 13 and a closure flap 14. Extending from the end flaps 11—12 at the ends nearest to the closure flap 14 are small angular extension flaps 15—16, while a supplemental flap 17 extends from the free end of the back flap 13. The various flaps are foldable along the dotted lines 18, as hereinafter explained.

Formed through the supplemental flap 17 is a relatively large opening 19, and formed through the closure flap 14 is a correspondingly sized opening 20, the two openings ar-

ranged to be superimposed when the envelop is folded, as hereinafter explained.

Formed in the back is a cleft whereby a diamond shaped tongue 21 is produced. The edges of the back flap 13 and the supplemental flap 17 are gummed on one face as shown at 23. The closure flap 14 is also gummed in the usual manner as shown at 23. The tongue 21 may also be gummed upon both faces and the extension flaps 15 and 16 gummed on the outer faces but this is not essential as will appear hereafter. The back flap 13 is formed with its ends curving outwardly so that when the envelop is completely folded portions of the end flaps 11 and 12 will be exposed as shown in Figs. 2 and 3.

With a blank constructed as shown in Fig. 1 the envelop is produced as follows: The end flaps 11 and 12 are first folded upon the body 10 and the back flap 13 folded and sealed over the outer faces of said flaps, the extension flaps 15 and 16 being meanwhile retained in the extended position. When the back flap 13 is in place, the supplemental flap 17 is return folded to lie flat upon the outer face of the back flap 13 as shown in Fig. 2 and the tongue 21 is introduced through the aperture 19 and sealed upon the outer face of the supplemental flap 17 as is also shown in Fig. 2. The extension flaps 15 and 16 are folded upon and sealed to the supplemental flap 17 as shown. The main closure flap 14 is then sealed in the usual manner. It will be seen that the tongue 21 is thus locked between the confronting gummed faces of the main closure flap and the supplemental flap and it will further be seen from the dotted lines in Fig. 3 that the main closure flap extends some distance below the supplemental flap. In attempting to open the envelop by the usual method of inserting an instrument beneath one corner of the closure flap and gradually elevating the same it will be seen that the raising of the closure flap of the present envelop will only make the contents more difficult of access, for the supplemental flap will come up with the main flap and unless the tongue is fractured it will be extremely difficult to get the two flaps into a position in which they may be successfully operated upon with an instrument for separating the same.

It will be seen that the root portion of the tongue is exposed by the aperture 20 so that

the recipient of the letter may at a glance ascertain whether the envelop has been tampered with. A further purpose of the aperture 20 is as a warning device to indicate to those handling the envelop that its contents are protected.

What I claim is:—

An envelop including a back portion and a closure flap having an aperture, a supplemental flap extending from the back portion and foldable thereon and provided with an aperture in position to register with the aperture of the closure flap, and a tongue

formed upon the back portion and insertible through the aperture of the supplemental flap and sealable on the body of the same in position to be engaged by the gummed face of the closure flap, the root portion of said tongue being constantly exposed through the registering apertures.

In testimony whereof, I affix my signature, in presence of two witnesses.

WILLIAM H. GRIFFIN.

Witnesses:

CHARLES E. BELCHER,
HOMER J. CLARK.