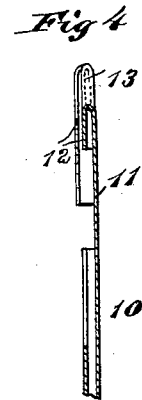
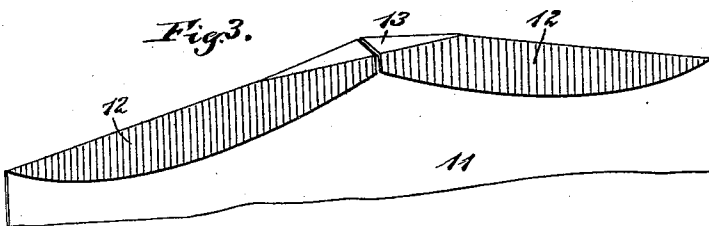
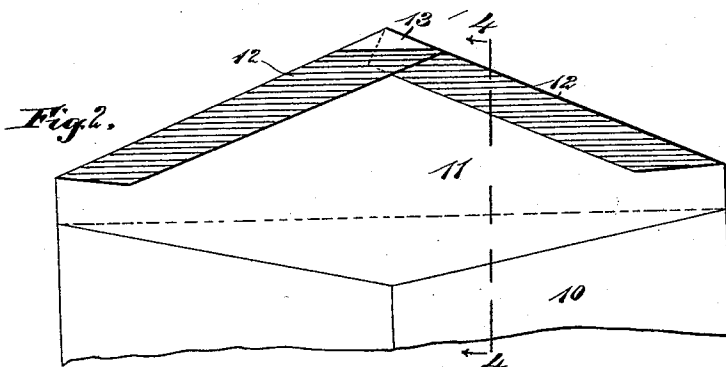
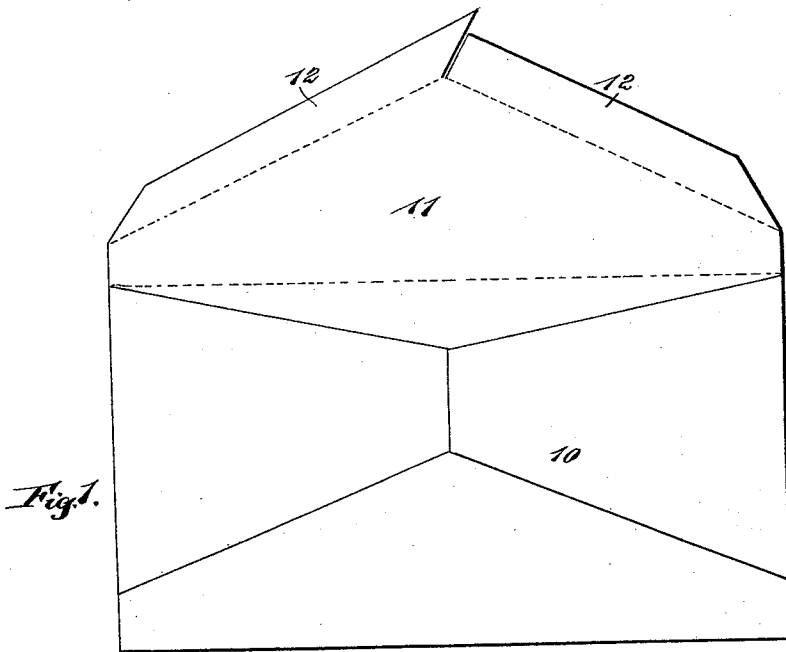


(No Model.)

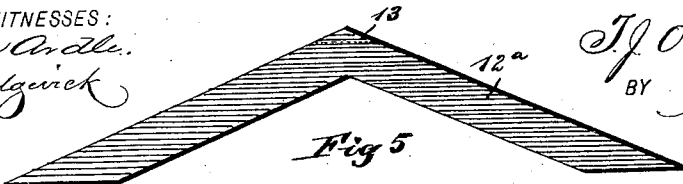
T. J. O'DONNELL.
ENVELOPE OR WRAPPER.

No. 487,581.

Patented Dec. 6, 1892.



WITNESSES:
F. Mc Ardle.
C. Sedgwick



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

TIMOTHY J. O'DONNELL, OF LAWRENCE, MASSACHUSETTS.

ENVELOPE OR WRAPPER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 487,581, dated December 6, 1892.

Application filed December 22, 1891. Serial No. 415,852. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, TIMOTHY J. O'DONNELL, of Lawrence, in the county of Essex and State of Massachusetts, have invented a new and Improved Envelope or Wrapper, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description.

My invention relates to improvements in the construction of letter-envelopes or wrappers such as are used for holding newspapers or other packages.

The object of my invention is to produce a simple envelope or wrapper which may be cheaply made and which provides for the easy opening of said envelope or wrapper without any possible injury to the contents.

A further object of my invention is to reinforce the gummed portion of the envelope or wrapper flap, so that the envelope or wrapper will be very strong, and this reinforcement in the case of wrappers is often especially valuable from the fact that the body of the wrapper is made of cheap thin material, which easily breaks at the point gummed.

Another object of my invention is to construct the flap of the envelope or wrapper so that it may be easily grasped and torn open by the thumb and finger.

With these ends in view my invention consists of an envelope or wrapper the construction of which will be hereinafter described and claimed.

Reference is to be had to the accompanying drawings, forming a part of this specification, in which similar figures of reference indicate corresponding parts in all the views.

Figure 1 is an inverted plan of the envelope, showing the blank of the flap. Fig. 2 is a broken inverted plan of the envelope with the flap open and formed in accordance with my invention. Fig. 3 is a broken perspective view of a wrapper having the flap made in accordance with my invention. Fig. 4 is a cross-section on the line 4 4 in Fig. 2, and Fig. 5 is a detail plan view of a reinforcing-strip which is adapted to be applied to envelopes or wrappers of very thin material.

The envelope 10 may be of the usual form, and it has the usual flap 11, except that the latter is provided with extension-flaps 12 at its outer edge, which flaps are separated near the center of the blank of the envelope-flap,

as shown in Fig. 1, so that they may be readily doubled over, as in Fig. 2 and as indicated in dotted lines in Fig. 1, to form a double thickness near the edge of the flap, and thus give it great strength. These extension-flaps 12 may be of any desired width, and they are gummed on the surface which comes next the body 10, so that when moistened they may be stuck to the body in the usual way. At the central point of the flap 11, where the two extension-flaps 12 meet, the flap is bent outward, as shown at 13, and this part is left ungummed and serves as a handle, by taking hold of which the envelope or wrapper, as the case may be, can be easily torn open, and when torn the flap will separate next the gum. This saves tearing off the ends of the envelope and preserves its contents entire.

If desired, the extension-flap may be in a single piece 12^a, as shown in Fig. 5, which piece may have the tip or handle 13, as described above, and may be stuck or otherwise secured to the flap of an envelope or wrapper, thus reinforcing the same and adapting it to be stuck in the ordinary way.

The above description applies to an envelope; but it will be understood that it may apply to a wrapper as well, as the wrappers are exactly like the envelopes, except that their ends are open.

Where the envelopes or wrappers are made of very thin material, the reinforcing-strip 12^a may be made of material of a better quality, and it will thus be seen that a cheap envelope or wrapper may be made which will hold its contents as well as if it were composed of a more expensive material.

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

As an improved article of manufacture, an envelope or wrapper having its fastening-flap provided with reinforcing or extension flaps adapted to be doubled over the fastening-flap and overlapped at their adjacent ends, said extension-flaps having gummed surfaces, and a gumless surface at the point 13, substantially as described.

TIMOTHY J. O'DONNELL.

Witnesses:

EDWARD J. MATTHEWS,
JOHN R. O'DONNELL.