

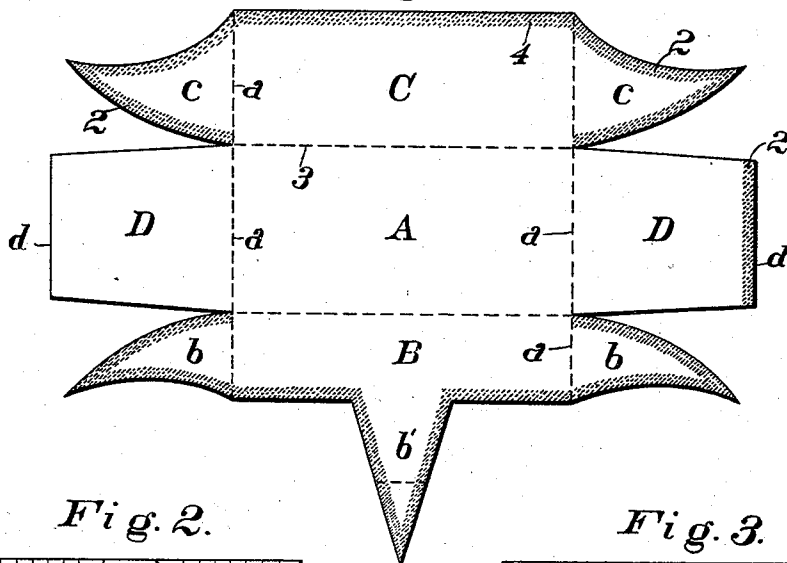
(No Model.)

W. S. MAYER.  
ENVELOP.

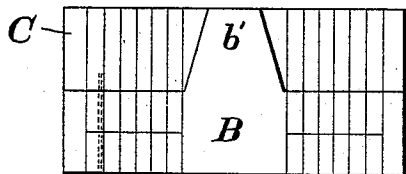
No. 572,554.

Patented Dec. 8, 1896.

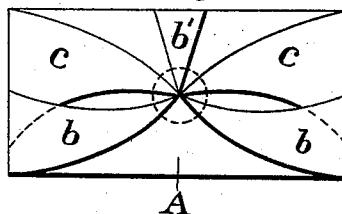
*Fig. 1.*



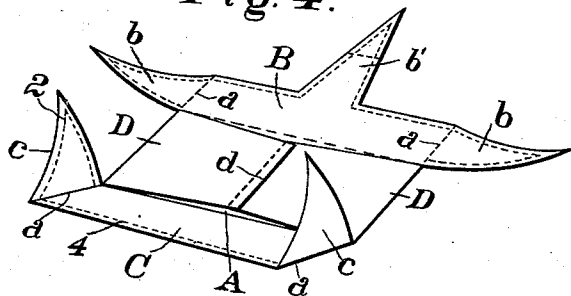
*Fig. 2.*



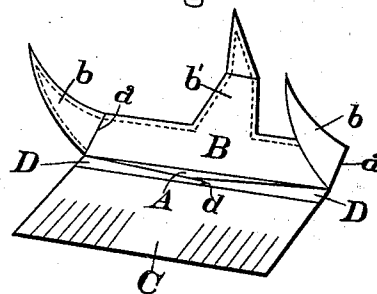
*Fig. 3.*



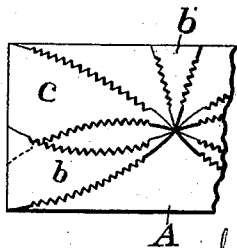
*Fig. 4.*



*Fig. 5.*



*Fig. 6.*



Witnesses  
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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WALTER S. MAYER, OF GALVESTON, TEXAS.

## ENVELOP.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 572,554, dated December 8, 1896.

Application filed September 15, 1896. Serial No. 605,925. (No specimens.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, WALTER S. MAYER, a citizen of the United States, residing at Galveston, in the county of Galveston and State of Texas, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Envelops, of which the following is a specification, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, forming a part thereof.

My invention has special reference to envelops, used to inclose articles of value, and provision of means and structural conformation whereby any surreptitious handling thereof will be detected.

My invention relates specially to envelops used in the post-office for inclosing registered letters and packages for transmission from the original place of deposit to their ultimate destination; but its employment is not limited to official inclosures.

Referring to the accompanying drawings, wherein like letters and numerals of reference point out similar parts on each view, Figure 1 represents a blank from which an envelop is constructed in accordance with my invention. Fig. 2 is a front view of the envelop folded up and closed. Fig. 3 is a rear view thereof. Fig. 4 is a perspective view illustrating the method of folding the separate parts. Fig. 5 represents the envelop in a finished condition ready for insertion of letters or packages into the pocket, which is shown open its full length, but is afterward permanently closed by overlapping flaps. Fig. 6 is a detail view of a portion of the device, showing serrations at the marginal lines of flaps folded over.

A is the rectangular central portion, from which extends top flap B and lower flap C and at each side end flaps D. Said end flaps are folded over inwardly at each side of the central quadrangular section A along the dotted lines *a*, and their terminal edges *d d* overlap, as plainly illustrated in Fig. 4. Said edges at opposite sides are provided with gum or mucilage for a short distance, so that the overlying edges of said flaps D, when turned over, as set forth, will adhere together to compose the main pocket. The line of mucilage is indicated by numeral 2, but, as will be readily understood, is on oppo-

site face edges of the flaps D. (See Fig. 1.) The lower flap is a central rectangular strip C, the body of which is of the same length as the main section A. At each side is an extending wing-flap *c*, semicrescent-shaped, for a purpose presently described.

In forming the pocket of the envelop, after the opposite flaps D are overturned inwardly and fastened together, as hereinbefore described, the flap C is upturned along the dotted line 3 over said side flaps and securely adhered to them by a row of mucilage 4, and a perfect envelop-pocket is composed by conjunction of said elements overturned and connected by adherents in the manner described. The wing-flaps *c* are then turned on the opposite surface, being bent on lines *a*, and thereby reinforce the pocket formed by folding over the opposite flaps D, said wing-flaps having their edges provided with mucilage 2. Thereby a perfect open envelop is completed provided with additional closing elements, as follows:

B is a top flap of the same length as the alining lower one C, and it is provided with similar side wing-flaps *b*, of like shape. From the central edge of said flap B is a conical tongue-flap *b'*, which is of sufficient length to pass downwardly over the overturned edge of the lower flap, and its side wing-flaps are in like manner turned over at opposite sides. Thus every overturned edge is reinforced by the folded wing-flaps extending from opposite sides of the upper and lower main flaps and the overturned portion of the tongue-flap extending from the top flap B.

All of the described flaps and subordinate flaps, tongue, and wings extending therefrom are composed integrally of one sheet of material and when overturned, as set forth, reinforce each folded edge of the envelop. When the envelop is entirely closed, the respective points of the wing-flaps and the tongue of the top flap will approach a common meeting-point at the rear side, as plainly illustrated in Fig. 3, and in practice the postmark will be imprinted directly over said meeting-points, (see dotted lines, Fig. 3,) and, as will be readily understood, it will be impossible to lift any of said points without destroying said stamp, and as none of said

wings or flaps could be lifted without moistening them, which would also deface the stamp, protection is thus provided for this element of the structure against improper manipulation thereof.

Additional protection of similar nature is provided on the face side of the envelop, which has lines imprinted thereon which have to be written on at each station of the transit route through which the closed envelop passes. Said rows of lines for inscription and signature are arranged parallel across the surface width, as fully illustrated in Fig. 2. Sections of the lengths of said lines are on separate faces, to wit, partially on the main section A and partially on the overfolded flap B, but so imprinted that when the envelop is closed, as illustrated in Fig. 2, they will meet and be in perfect alinement, and any attempt to lift or separate the margin of the overlying edge of the closing-flap C by moistening the adherent 4 would destroy all matter written on said lines, besides which, if once opened, the imprinted lines could not be readjusted in parallel alinement. But it is not absolutely requisite that the lines for signature should extend over both sections of the device. They may be imprinted only on the top flap B as a guide for writing officers' names, which in practice would extend beyond the meeting edges of said flaps over on the flap C when closed, in manner illustrated in Fig. 2, and, as will be readily understood, successive written signatures of various parties would be destroyed and defaced by any attempt to lift the adhered flaps when the envelop is closed.

Besides the described lines for signature printed directions are displayed on spaces above and below said rows of lines, which, when brought into conjunction by folding over the flap B, would be defaced by any attempt to surreptitiously open the envelop.

I have limited the description of my invention to having the margins of the flaps, wings, and extensions in continuous lines; but I do not desire to be understood as limiting myself thereto, as said edges may be scalloped or serrated, as illustrated in Fig. 6, without departing from the scope and purview of my invention.

Having thus fully described my invention and the manner of its practical operation,

what I claim, and desire to secure by Letters Patent of the United States of America, is— 55

1. As an improved article of manufacture an envelop consisting of a blank having a central quadrangular flap, with extensions at opposite sides thereof, adapted to be folded over and joined at their meeting edges, a lower flap, of same length as the central one, the margin thereof being in a right line for said length, which in practice is upturned over the folded side flaps and in conjunction therewith composes a pocket-receptacle, said upturned flap having extending from either side wing-flaps, the edges of which are in curved lines, that when the upturned flap is fastened to form said pocket are overturned on the opposite face of the envelop and adhered thereto, all in combination with an upper closing-flap which is of same length as the body of the device said closing-flap having at each side, wing extensions with curved marginal edges, and a tongue extending from median point of its outer edge which tongue and side wings after said closing-flap is turned downwardly are bent over the opposite face of the envelop partially overlapping the side wings of the lower upturned flap all of said side wings when folded over, in the manner described, will have their terminals at a common meeting-point, substantially as described. 60 65 70 75 80

2. An envelop consisting of a quadrangular central blank having flap extending at each side thereof, a lower flap of same length as the central blank, having extending from opposite sides semicrescent-shaped wing-flaps, an upper flap having extending from each side semicrescent-shaped wing-flaps, and from median point of its width a conical tongue-flap, all of said elements of the device composed integrally of one piece of paper, the outer edges of the main flaps and wings provided with strips of adhesive mucilage, the side flaps adapted to be folded over and their meeting edges connected, over which the lower flap is upturned to compose a receptacle-pocket, the wings of said lower flap being then folded over to the opposite side of the pocket, substantially as described. 85 90 95 100

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