W. P. TALBOT.

MAILING BOX.

APPLICATION FILED APR. 25, 1918.

1,281,701. Patented Oct. 15, 1918.

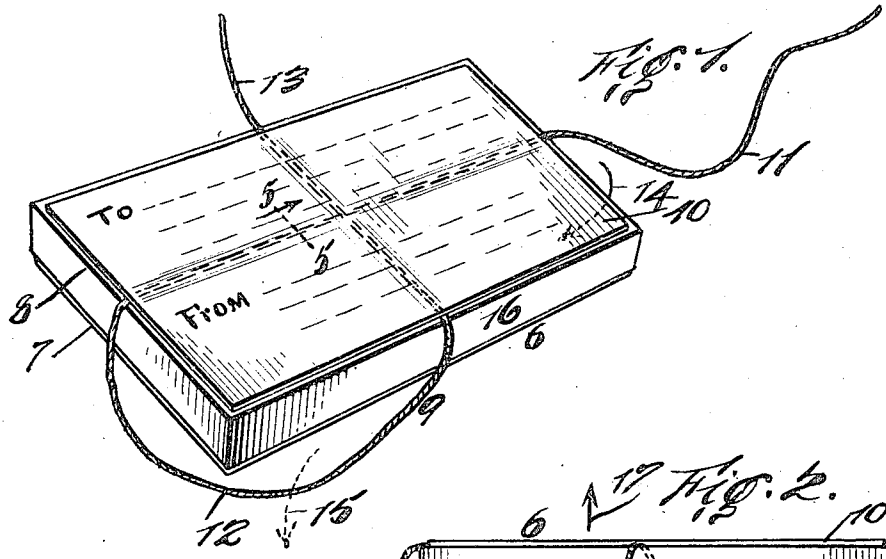


Fig. 1.

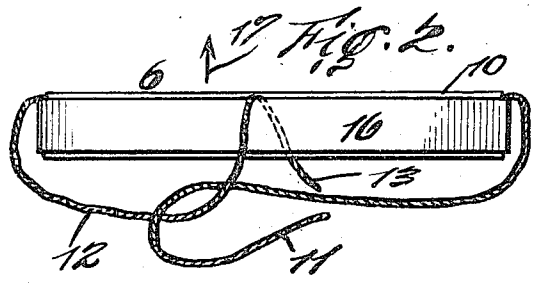


Fig. 2.

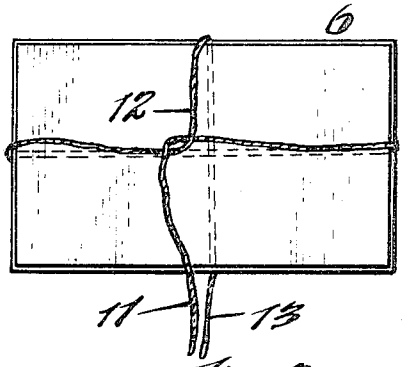


Fig. 3.

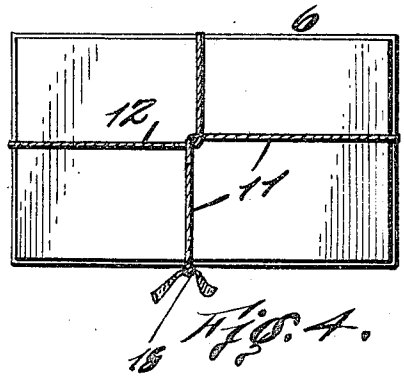


Fig. 4.



Fig. 5.

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THE NORRIS PETERS CO., PHOTO-LITHO., WASHINGTON, D. C.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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MAILING-BOX.

1,281,701. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Oct. 15, 1918.

Application filed April 25, 1918. Serial No. 230,663.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM P. TALBOT, a citizen of the United States of America, residing at New York city, county and State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Mailing-Boxes, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description.

My improvement relates to cartons for mailing purposes, one of the chief objects of the invention being to provide an inexpensive carton or package that can be rapidly and securely tied and in which the tying cords or tapes will not be in the way when the address is written on the carton. To carry my invention into practice, or in other words, to produce a package that can be rapidly and securely tied, I provide a box or carton which is supplied with a permanently applied fastening cord or tape, partly secured thereto before the carton is assembled for final closing. In other words, I apply to one member of the carton, preferably the cover, the tape or other securing element and paste a label over the tape or cord so as to entirely conceal the same. To provide a perfectly flat writing surface, I preferably employ a fastening means consisting of a flat tape over which the label will be applied. The flat tape which I employ is preferably made out of fibrous material that will swell when wet, the object being to provide a fastening means that can be tied with a relatively small knot which, after being moistened, will swell and produce an exceedingly tight knot, which cannot be opened without destroying the cord or tape.

To provide a partly tied carton or package, I secure the tape to the cover of the carton transversely and longitudinally thereof, that is to say, the tape is secured to the cover in crossed relationship, one end of the tape extending beyond one side of the carton, the other end of the tape extending beyond one of the ends of the carton. Intermediate its ends the tape is normally permanently looped, the loop being sufficiently large to be passed over one corner of the assembled carton and to be engaged by that end of the tape which extends over the opposite end of the carton, the latter end to be finally tied to the end of the tape which extends over the side of the carton. Generally speaking, the cover of my improved carton will have secured thereto, longitudinally thereof, a portion of the securing tape; another portion of the securing tape will be secured to the cover transversely thereof and across the longitudinally extending tape, all this being produced out of a single length of tape, and hence the tape will be provided with a permanent loop adjacent one corner of the carton, which loop is subsequently utilized when the carton is filled with merchandise, etc., for the final securement of the tape, as will hereinafter appear.

In connection with the following detailed description, reference will be had to the accompanying drawing, wherein:—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of a carton in condition for final securement;

Fig. 2 is a side view thereof, illustrating the first step in the securing operation, after the carton has been assembled;

Fig. 3 is a bottom plan view, illustrating the securing element as partly drawn taut;

Fig. 4 is a similar view illustrating the carton as finally secured together by the securing element; and

Fig. 5 is an enlarged sectional view, the section being taken on a line 5—5 in Fig. 1.

In the drawing, which illustrates a preferred embodiment of my invention, a carton or receptacle is indicated by 6, said carton consisting of a body portion 7 and a cover 8. To carry out the object of the invention, I secure to the top or cover 8 a fastening element 9 consisting preferably of a flat tape made of fibrous material that will swell when wet. The tape is preferably held in place on the cover 8 by a label 10 suitable for addressing purposes. As the tape is flat, the said label will lie substantially flat; hence there will not be any impediment in writing thereon. As has been stated, the securing element will be normally permanently partly positioned for the tying operation; in other words, secured to the top in such manner as to produce flexible

tying portions and a permanent looped portion adapted to be passed over one of the corners of the assembled carton. To produce the above result, the tape 9 will be laid upon the cover longitudinally thereof, with one end 11 projecting over the end of the box sufficiently to provide a yieldable portion that can be finally utilized as a tying element. The remainder of the tape, that is, the portion projecting over the opposite end of the cover, will be looped as at 12 and carried around a corner of the cover of the box in order that that portion, not constituting the loop, may be positioned at a right angle to that portion of the tape heretofore laid upon the cover longitudinally thereof. After the tape has been formed into a loop of considerable size, a portion of the remainder of the tape will be laid upon the cover transversely thereof, the remaining part of the tape overhanging a side of the box to provide the yieldable tying element 13 to engage the tying element 11 extending from one end of the cover (see Fig. 1).

After the tape has been applied as above described, the label 10 will be pasted to the cover 8 over the tape. In other words, the tape will be concealed by the label, that is, that portion which is applied to the cover.

After the cover has been applied to the body portion 7, as illustrated in Fig. 1, for securement thereto, the loop 12 will be engaged by the tying end 11, said tying end being passed under the carton, as indicated by the arrows 14 and 15 in Fig. 1, and passed between the carton and loop 12, as indicated in Fig. 2. After this operation, the end 11 will be pulled taut, thereby pulling loop 12 taut as indicated in Fig. 3, which is a bottom plan view after the side 16 of the carton has been turned in the direction of the arrow 17 in Fig. 2 to reverse the carton. After the latter operation has been performed, the ends 11 and 13 will be tied into a small hard knot, as indicated by 18, Fig. 4.

The fibrous nature of my improved tying element, preferably wood fiber, permits it to be tied into a relatively small knot. After the knot is tied it will be moistened or dampened, whereupon the ends will be again pulled to still further reduce the knot. A knot, thus produced, cannot be loosened, excepting with great difficulty, if at all; hence the carton is more or less secure against being opened without cutting the tape. If the tape is cut, the carton cannot be again tied without the reapplication of a new tape. It will be therefore apparent that my improved carton is practically sealed, as it cannot be opened without detection.

The loop 12 will be proportioned so as to include substantially one quarter of the carton when pulled taut in the tying position, and as the concealed portions of the tape will be positioned centrally of the carton, in their relative positions, the tape will be, when secured, symmetrically positioned on the carton or properly centered.

It will be apparent that I produce a tying element out of one piece of tape, a portion of which is normally permanently looped and adapted to engage one end and one side of the carton by being passed over a corner thereof and carried toward the center of the carton (this will be readily understood by an inspection of Figs. 1 and 3), one of the remaining free ends of the tying element being adapted to engage said looped portion and to be tied, after passing through the loop, to the other free end of the tape.

What I claim as my invention is:

1. In a carton, a body portion, a cover separable therefrom, a securing tape comprising a flexible medium extending longitudinally of the cover and permanently secured thereto, said medium being looped around one corner of the cover, a portion of the looped medium being permanently secured to the top surface of the cover transversely thereof, the free ends of the transversely and longitudinally applied portions of the securing tape overhanging the cover, the looped portion of the tape being adapted to be passed under a corner of the assembled cover and body portion, when the carton is to be tied, and to be engaged by the free end of the longitudinally extending portion of the tape, and the free end of the transversely applied portion of the tape being adapted to be secured to the free end of the longitudinally applied portion thereof after the loop has been engaged, and a label pasted to the top surface of the cover and concealing said tape.

2. A carton cover having applied to its top surface a tying tape comprising a one piece flexible medium, a portion of which is permanently secured to the said cover longitudinally thereof, the remainder of the tape overhanging opposite ends of the said cover, the overhanging portion of the tape, at one end of the cover, being looped around one corner of the cover, a portion of the looped portion of the tape being permanently secured to the top surface of the cover transversely thereof, the remainder of the transversely applied portion of the tape overhanging one side of the cover, and a label pasted to the top surface of the cover and concealing said tape.

3. The combination of a cover for a box, and a fastening element consisting of a tape permanently secured to the top surface of the cover, said tape being crossed upon

itself to provide a permanent loop, at one corner of the cover, to be slipped under the body portion of the box engaged by said cover, one end of said tape being free to engage said loop after it has been passed under the corner of a box, the other end of the tape being adapted for attachment to the end engaging said loop, and a lapel pasted to the top surface of the cover and concealing said tape.

Signed at New York city, N. Y., this 24 day of April, 1918.

WILLIAM P. TALBOT.

Witnesses:
MAURICE BLOCK,
EDWARD A. JARVIS.

Copies of this patent may be obtained for five cents each, by addressing the "Commissioner of Patents, Washington, D. C."