

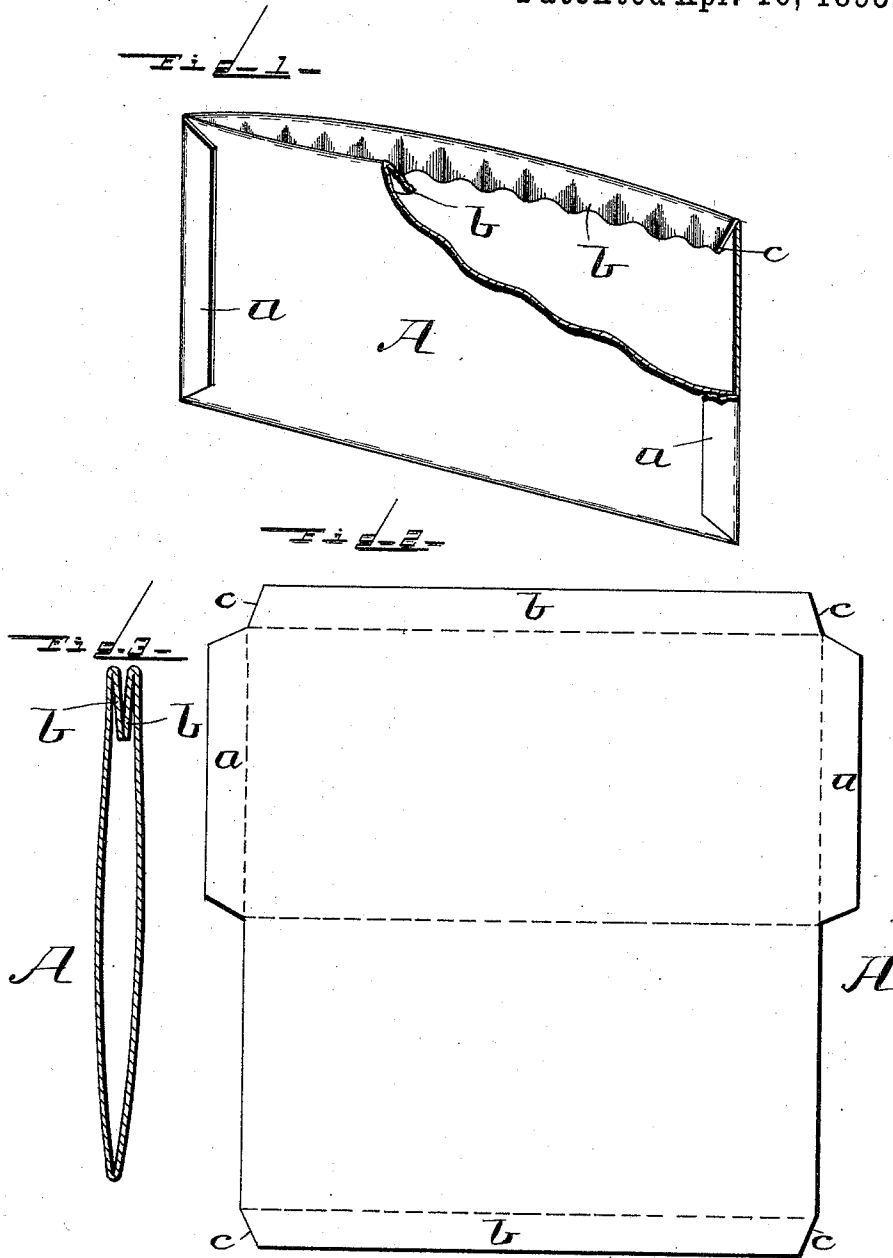
(No Model.)

2 Sheets—Sheet 1.

B. WATERS.
ENVELOPE.

No. 537,656.

Patented Apr. 16, 1895.



Witnesses.

Claude Lunsford
J. H. Russell

Inventor.

Brent Waters

By *C. J. Bell*
Attorney.

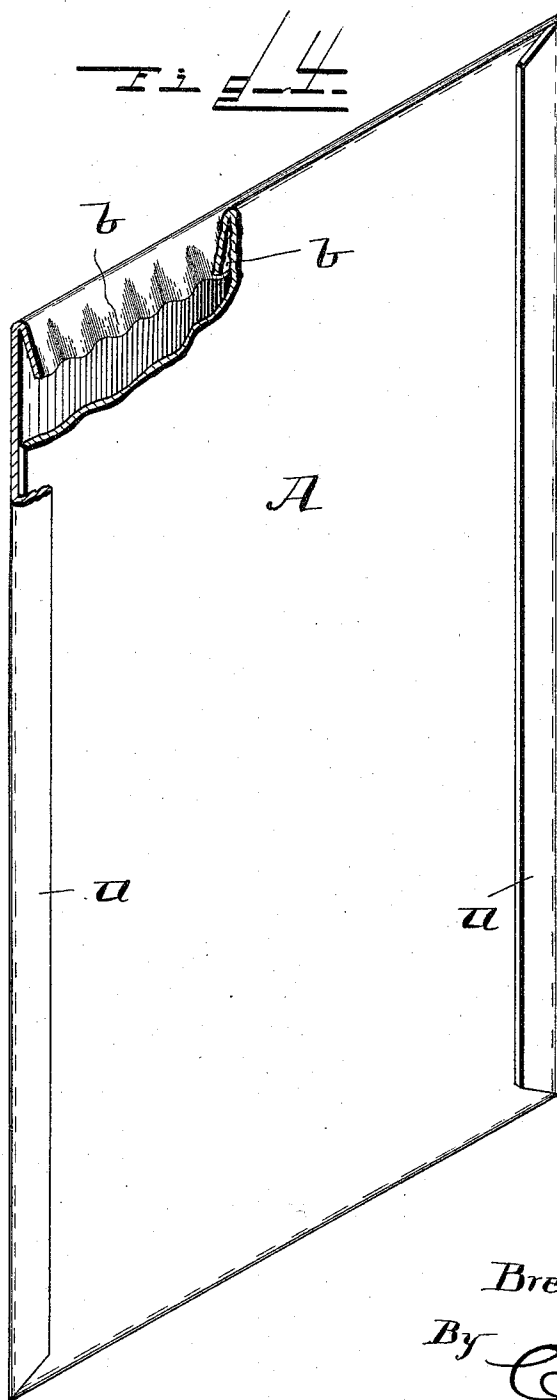
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C. Sunsford.
F. D. Johns

Inventor.

Brent Waters

By

C. J. Pelt
Attorney.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

BRENT WATERS, OF BALTIMORE, MARYLAND.

ENVELOPE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 537,656, dated April 16, 1895.

Application filed February 13, 1893. Serial No. 462,023. (No specimens.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, BRENT WATERS, a citizen of the United States, residing at Baltimore, in the State of Maryland, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Envelopes; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description of the same, reference being had to the annexed drawings, making a part of this specification, and to the letters of reference marked thereon.

The present invention has for its object to provide an envelope especially adapted for containing and mailing printed matter such as circulars and the like wherein no sealing of the envelopes is permitted by the post office regulations.

Previous to my invention, it was common to use the ordinary letter envelope, and after placing the circular or other printed matter therein, it was usually the custom to turn the flap down and into the envelope and over the contents as a safe-guard against the contents dropping out while passing through the mails. The ordinary letter envelope when used for such purpose was found objectionable from the fact that the arrangement of the flaps as above described consumed much time where thousands of circulars or like printed matter are prepared for mailing. Besides, these flaps increase the cost of manufacture as an unnecessary amount of paper is wasted when the envelope is only intended to be used for unsealed matter.

It is the purpose therefore of the present invention to provide an envelope wherein this flap heretofore in use may be dispensed with and a simple means employed for holding securely within the envelope the printed matter designed to be mailed, thus dispensing with the necessity of having to fix the flap on each envelope to secure the contents against loss, and the time necessarily consumed in its accomplishment is therefore saved.

The several objects above enumerated and the advantages gained, are attained by an envelope constructed substantially as shown in the drawings and hereinafter described and claimed.

Figure 1 of the drawings represents a perspective view of an envelope constructed in accordance with my invention with the back partly broken away, the inwardly projecting retaining flanges in the present instance being shown as fluted or corrugated. Fig. 2

represents a plan view of the blank from which the envelope is made. Fig. 3 represents a transverse section on an enlarged scale showing the inwardly extending retaining flanges without being fluted or corrugated. Fig. 4 is an enlarged perspective view of an envelope, partly broken away, showing the flanges at one end, with the said end closed.

In the accompanying drawings A represents the envelope formed from the blank shown in Fig. 2, the flaps *a* forming a means for sealing the ends when the two sides forming the front and back of the envelope are brought together.

The flanges *b* which retain the contents of the envelope in place and prevent their accidentally dropping out, extend down into the envelope upon both sides thereof and are cut away at their ends as shown at *c* so as to be free to expand or extend at an angle as shown in Figs. 1 and 2, thereby closing the opening in the envelope by the two flanges meeting.

If desired the flanges may be corrugated or fluted or made plain as found desirable, in the former case the flange being much strengthened and its resisting action against the accidentally dropping out of the circular or other printed matter increased.

The envelope of course may be of any size and shape and made from any quality of paper to adapt it to the wants of the trade.

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

1. An envelope having inwardly extending flanges upon both sides thereof which come in contact with each other without being secured together to close the envelope, said flanges cut away at their ends to enable them to freely yield when placing the contents in the envelope, as set forth.

2. An envelope having inwardly extending flanges fluted or corrugated and cut away at their ends as shown, said flanges coming in contact with each other to close the opening in the envelope, substantially as and for the purpose described.

In testimony that I claim the above I have hereunto subscribed my name in the presence of two witnesses.

BRENT WATERS.

Witnesses:

HARRY S. DAVIS,
JASPER M. BERRY, Jr.