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R. B. HERTER.

FOLDING MAILING CARD.

APPLICATION FILED NOV. 20, 1918.

1,311,397. Patented July 29, 1919.

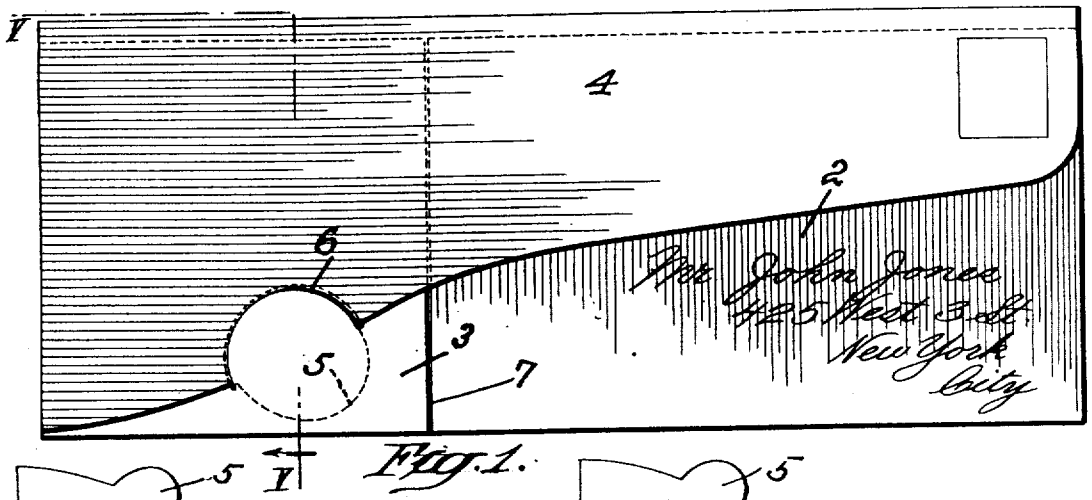


Fig. 1.

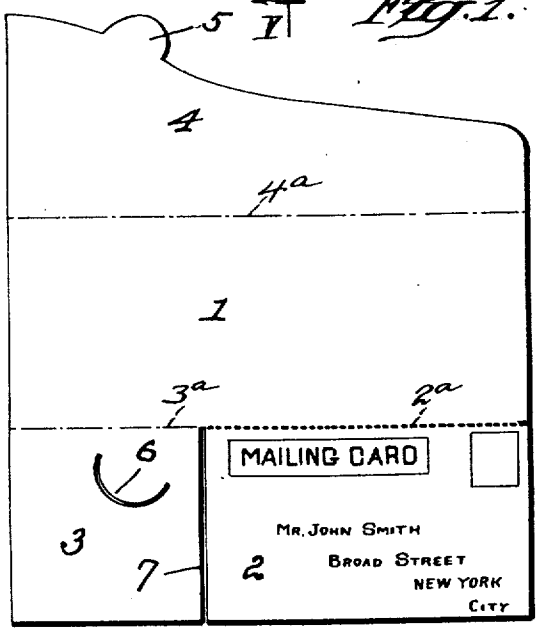


Fig. 2.

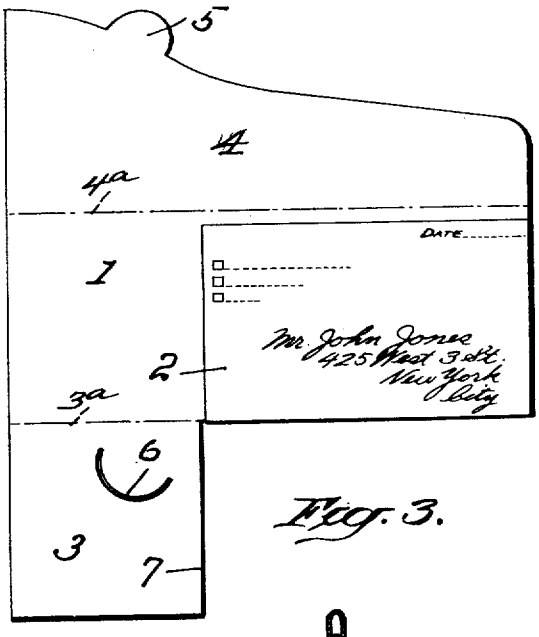


Fig. 3.

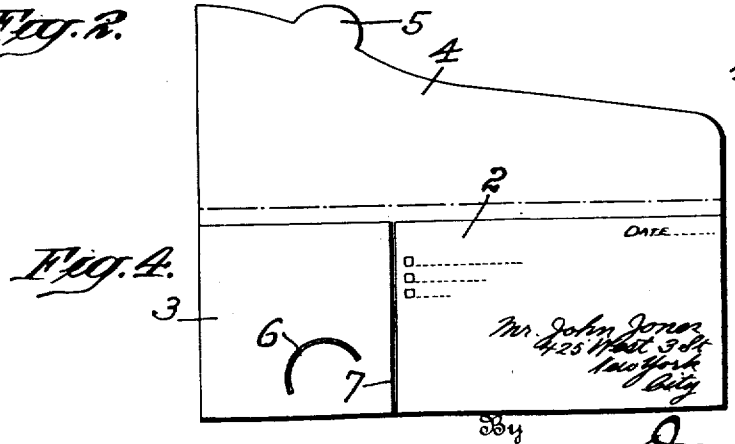


Fig. 4.



Fig. 5.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

RUDOLPH B. HERTER, OF NEW YORK, N. Y., ASSIGNOR TO JONES AND BAKER, OF NEW YORK, N. Y., A COPARTNERSHIP COMPOSED OF WILLIAM R. JONES AND JACKSON B. SELLS.

FOLDING MAILING-CARD.

1,311,397. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented July 29, 1919.

Application filed November 20, 1918. Serial No. 263,294.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, RUDOLPH B. HERTER, a citizen of the United States, and a resident of the borough of Manhattan, in the city, county, and State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Folding Mailing-Cards, of which the following is a specification.

The object of this invention is to provide a mailing card consisting of a main message sheet, a return post card adapted to be detached from the main sheet, and a pair of foldable locking flaps provided with interlocking means, said flaps when folded serving to hold the mailing card in its folded condition, and one of the flaps serving as a covering and protecting means for a part of the return post card. The main body portion of the mailing card and the protecting and covering flap are of greater length than the return post card, and serve to give strength to the card and prevent the accidental detachment of the return post card.

Another object of the invention is to provide a folding mailing card having interlocked protecting flaps, the purpose being to avoid the necessity of using any additional external means for holding together the folded parts of the mailing card. It is a common practice in the use of foldable mailing cards to secure them in their folded position by means of applied clips or pasters. The clips are detachable, and are objectionable for that reason. They are easily accidentally detached while the card is passing through the mails. The application of the pasters or seals is expensive, and requires a special operation. In the use of a mailing card constructed in accordance with this invention it is only necessary to bring the two interlocking flaps into proper engagement in order to complete the card for mailing.

In the drawing, Figure 1 is a face view of the card completely folded and ready for mailing;

Fig. 2 a view of the card completely unfolded;

Fig. 3 a view of the card with the return post card folded in against the main body of the device;

Fig. 4 a similar view, showing the return post card and one of the locking flaps folded against the body of the card; and

Fig. 5 a transverse sectional view of the device folded and taken on the line V—V of Fig. 1.

Referring to the various parts by numerals, 1 designates the body portion of the mailing card; 2 the return post card, which is shorter than the main body of the card and is adapted to be detached therefrom, as indicated by the dotted line 2^a in Fig. 2. The return post card is adapted to be folded against the inner face of the body of the card. As illustrated in the drawing, the return post card is formed integral with the body of the card at the lower edge thereof, but of course it may be arranged at the upper edge, depending upon the position of the printing on the mailing card. The disposition of the printing would determine which was the top and bottom of the mailing card; but, as hereinbefore stated, as arranged in the drawing, the return post card is at the lower edge of the body part of the card.

Formed integral with the lower edge of the body of the mailing card is a foldable locking flap 3, said flap being formed with a semi-circular locking slot 6. This locking flap is adapted to be folded against the inner face of the body 1 and to lie close to the end of the return post card, as indicated clearly in Fig. 4. Formed integral with the upper edge of the body of the card is a foldable protecting and covering flap 4, this flap being equal in length to the body of the card and serving to partially cover and to lock the return post card and the locking flap 3 against the inner face of the body of the card. The protecting and covering flap is formed with a locking tab or tongue 5, which is adapted to enter the slot 6 of the locking flap 3. The protecting and covering flap almost entirely covers the locking flap 3, and covers about one half of the return post card. As shown in Fig. 1, the lower part of the return post card is exposed, thus affording an address space. On the post card above the address space may be printed any desired message or any desired information for the person to whom the card is to be sent, and this message space is completely covered and protected by the flap 4. It will, of course, be understood that any desired information or message may be printed on that portion of the return post card which is to be covered by the flap 4. On that side

of the return post card which constitutes the inner side of the card when folded, the address of the party sending out the mailing card may be placed, so that when the return post card is detached it may be returned to the sender in the usual way. The protecting and covering flap 4 is co-extensive in length with the body of the mailing card, and extends throughout the length of both the return post card and the locking flap 3, so that it forms a substantial support and protection for those folded members or parts of the card. The return post card is preferably separated along one edge from the locking flap 3, as indicated by the cut 7, so as to facilitate the detachment of the return post card. The long protecting and covering flap 4 extends across the line of division between the post card and the flap 3, and thereby strengthens the card and effectually prevents the accidental tearing or displacement of the return post card. In mailing cards of this type it is very desirable that the return post card be made readily detachable from the body of the card, in order that the addressee may return the post card with the smallest amount of effort on his part.

It is manifest that the mailing card comprises a substantially rectangular integral sheet having two longitudinal lines of fold 4^a and 3^a to form the body part 1 which extends the entire length of the sheet; the covering and protecting flap 4 which is equal in length to the body of the sheet and is designed to cover substantially all of the locking flap and the upper half of the return post-card; the locking flap 3 and the return post-card 2. The locking flap and the return post-card are separated from each other by a transverse cut 7 extending inwardly to the line of fold 3^a, and the return post-card is adapted to be detached from the body of the sheet along the weakened part 2^a of the line 3^a.

What I claim is:—

1. A folding mailing card comprising a body portion, a return post card integral therewith along one edge and readily detached therefrom along said integral connection and adapted to be folded against the body part, a locking flap integral with the body portion along the edge carrying the return post card and separated from the adjoining edge of the return post card and adapted to be folded against the body part, a protecting and covering flap formed integral with the body portion along the opposite edge from the return card and the locking flap, and equal in length to the body portion of the card and adapted to be folded over to hold the return card and the locking flap against the face of the body part, and interlocking means to connect together the covering and protecting flap and the locking flap.

2. A folding mailing card comprising a body portion, a return post card integral therewith along one edge and readily detached therefrom along said integral connection and adapted to be folded against the body part, a locking flap integral with the body portion along the edge carrying the return post card and separated from the adjoining edge of the return post card and adapted to be folded against the body part, a protecting and covering flap formed integral with the body portion along the opposite edge from the return card and the locking flap and adapted to be folded over to hold the return card and the locking flap against the face of the body part, said covering flap being equal in length to the body portion of the card and covering the greater part of the locking flap and the upper part only of the folded return card, the lower exposed part of the said return card forming an address space, and a locking tab formed on one of the said flaps and adapted to enter a slot in the other flap to lock the parts in their folded position.

3. A folding mailing card formed of a substantially rectangular sheet having two longitudinally extending lines of fold to form a central body portion, an integral return post-card, an integral locking flap connected to the body part along one line of the fold, a protecting and covering flap formed integral with the body portion along the other line of fold, the return post-card and the locking flap being separated from each other by a transverse cut extending from the edge of the sheet inwardly to one of the lines of fold, and a locking tab formed integral with the covering flap and adapted to enter a slot formed in the locking flap to lock the covering and protecting flap over the return post-card and the locking flap.

In testimony whereof I hereunto affix my signature.

RUDOLPH B. HERTER.