

J. W. VANDEGRIFF.
 MEANS FOR OPENING ENVELOPS.
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1,013,909.

Patented Jan. 9, 1912.

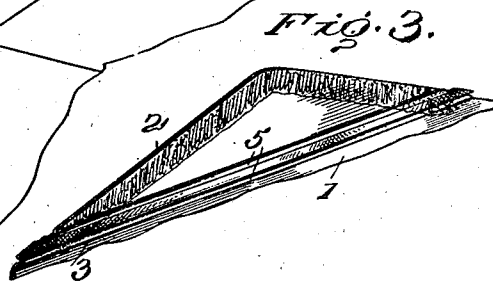
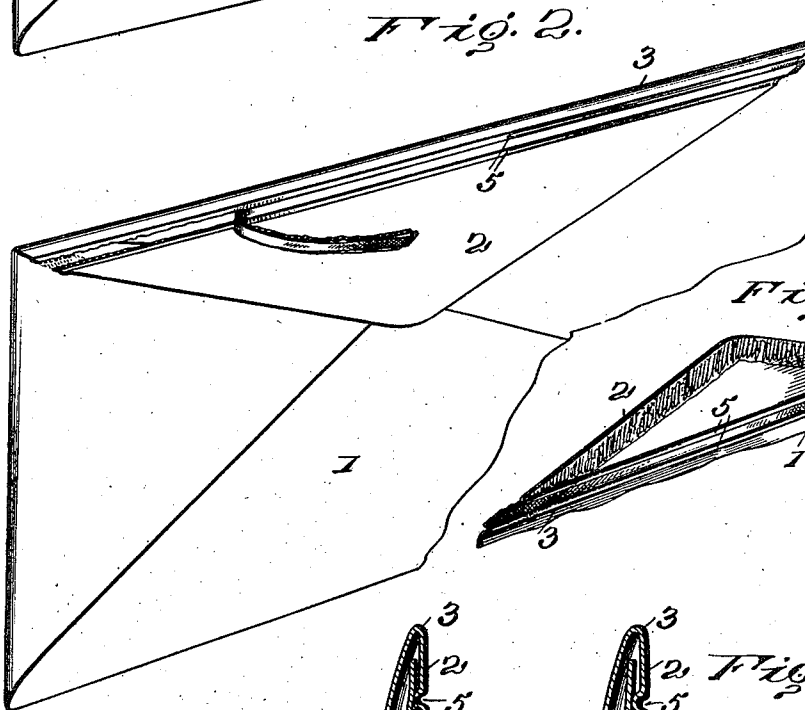
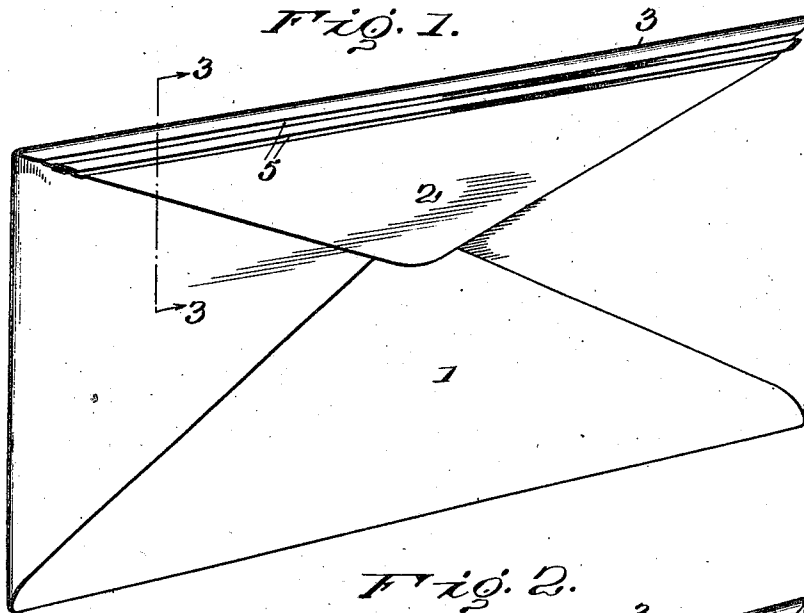
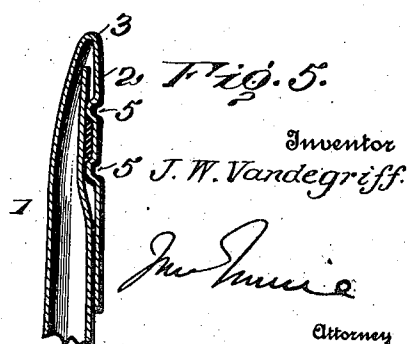
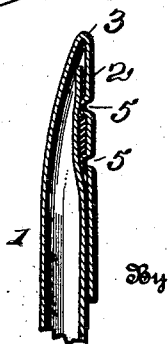


Fig. 4.



Witnesses
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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MEANS FOR OPENING ENVELOPS.

1,013,909.

Specification of Letters Patent.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOHN W. VANDEGRIFF, a citizen of the United States, residing at Atlanta, in the county of Fulton and State of Georgia, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Means for Opening Envelops; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and to letters or figures of reference marked thereon, which form a part of this specification.

This invention relates to improvements in means for opening envelopes.

The invention consists in embedding or impressing a flat fabric strip into the paper of the envelop and form grooves adjacent said strip to form weak lines for the convenient tearing of the paper when the strip is pulled.

The invention also comprehends improvements in the details of construction and arrangement of parts to be hereinafter described and particularly pointed out in the claims.

In the drawings: Figure 1, is a perspective view of a sealed envelop illustrating the application of my improvement. Fig. 2 is a similar view showing the envelop partially ripped by the tape. Fig. 3 is a perspective of the reverse side of the flap of the envelop. Fig. 4 is an enlarged cross section illustrating the construction of the invention. Fig. 5 is a similar view illustrating a slightly different form of the invention.

The numeral 1 indicates an ordinary envelop, and 2 the flap thereof. Embedded or impressed in the flap 2, near the fold line 3, thereof is a flat preferably fabric tape 4. When this tape is applied to the flap, it is pressed into the paper, and along each longitudinal edge is formed a groove 5. The groove is formed by impressing the paper which greatly reduces the thickness thereof, and permits of it being readily torn when the tape is pulled to tear open the envelop.

The grooves may be so formed as to embed the tape without reducing the thickness of the paper as shown in Fig. 5.

Obviously by weakening the lines alongside the tape the latter when pulled will readily tear the paper, whereby to gain access to the envelop.

The tape is preferably of wide mesh fabric to permit the impregnation of paste to secure it to the envelop, and when so secured its bottom will be flushed with the adjacent surfaces of the paper in which it is embedded.

The invention is extremely simple, and by embedding the tape in the paper it will always remain in position when the flap is open.

What I claim is:

1. An envelop having embossed grooves therein and a tape embedded in the paper between the grooves to rip the paper along the grooves when said tape is pulled.

2. An envelop having embedded in the paper thereof a tape, and grooves formed in the paper at the side of the tape to form weak lines to rip the paper when the tape is pulled, the walls of the grooves projecting beyond the surface of the envelop.

3. An envelop having a flap with an adhesive substance thereon, a tape embedded in the flap and secured therein, said flap having grooves alongside the tape to provide weak lines for tearing the paper, the walls of said grooves projecting beyond the surface of the envelop.

4. An envelop having a tape embedded in the paper thereof and grooves formed alongside the tape, the paper where the grooves are formed being reduced in thickness, and walls of the grooves projecting beyond the surface of the paper adjacent said grooves.

In testimony whereof I have signed my name to this specification in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

JOHN W. VANDEGRIFF.

Witnesses:

FLYNN HARGETT,
J. A. BLEDSOE.