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SAMUEL D. BATES.

Envelope.

No. 122,212.

Patented Dec. 26, 1871

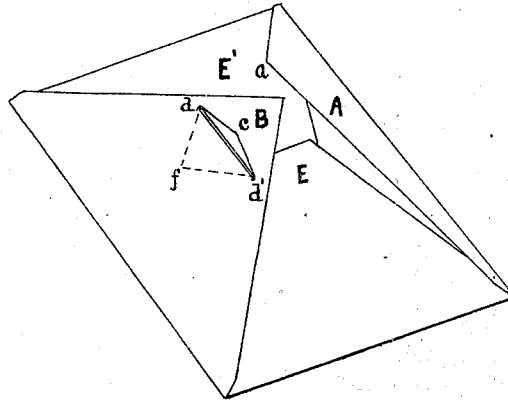


Fig. 1

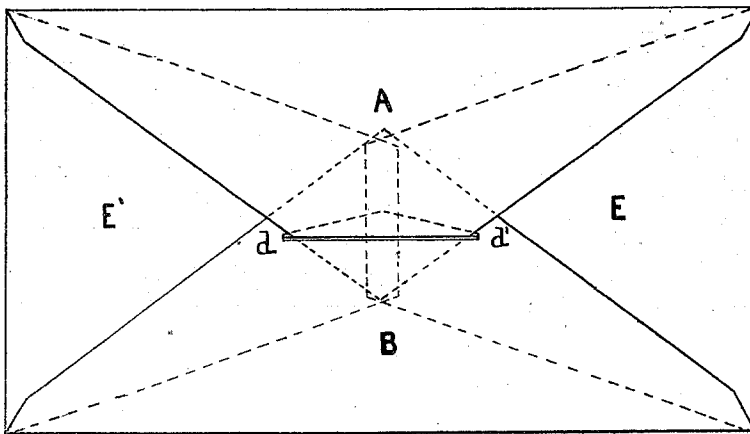


Fig. 2



Fig. 3

WITNESSES

Frank G. Parker
Frank H. Nutter

INVENTOR

Samuel D. Bates
Millum Edison City.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

SAMUEL D. BATES, OF BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS.

IMPROVEMENT IN ENVELOPES.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 122,212, dated December 26, 1871.

To all whom it may concern:

I, SAMUEL D. BATES, of Boston, county of Suffolk and State of Massachusetts, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Envelopes, of which the following is a specification:

The nature of my invention consists in making a triangular slit in the lower lappel of an envelope, so arranged that the point of the upper lappel may pass through the same, and thus be protected, the said point being made water-proof and also adhesive, thus affording cheapness and protection due to water-proofing and interlacing.

Though the adhesive agent is soluble in water it is so protected by water-proofing and interlacing as to be impenetrable by any solvent that will not disfigure the paper. The interlacing above, in connection with the water-proofing, will prevent any possibility of opening the envelope without the use of moisture, except by such mutilation as will be apparent; the object of the invention being to so protect the contents of the envelope as to render an attempt to open the same certain of detection.

Description of the Accompanying Drawings.

Figure 1 is a perspective view of my improved envelope as it appears when folded loosely, the parts not being together. Fig. 2 is a plan showing the back of the envelope. Fig. 3 is a section crosswise through the envelope.

General Description.

To make my improved envelope the paper is cut in the form shown by the dotted and full lines in Fig. 2. In the lower lappel B a triangular slit, *d c d'*, is cut, the lower edge or lip *d d'*

being slightly raised by being embossed, as shown in Figs. 1 and 3, to facilitate the introduction of the point *a* of the upper lappel A. The end lappels E and E' fold over so as to slightly lap upon each other, as shown in Fig. 2. The end lappels are wide enough to occupy all the space that is covered by the interlacing point *a* of the lappel A. The upper part of the point *a* is covered with water-proofing, which also serves to render it stiff and easy to insert within the slit *d c d'*. The under side of the lappel B, within the lines *d d' f*, Fig. 1, is also water-proof, so that when the lappel *a* is inserted its under side—that is, the part having the soluble gum—is completely protected from the action of moisture.

When my improved envelope is ready for the market the lappels E E' and B are joined in the usual manner, except that the lappels E and E' may be connected by a water-proof cement, the under side of the lappel A being provided with a suitable adhesive mixture, as usual.

To close the envelope the adhesive mixture on the lappel A is moistened and the point *a* is inserted in the slit *d d'* and pressed down until it adheres firmly.

I claim—

As a new article of manufacture, the envelope described and shown, having a triangular slit, *c d d'*, with an embossed lip, *d d'*, in the lower lappel, and arranged to receive the triangular point *a* of the upper lappel, said point being water-proof, substantially as set forth.

SAMUEL D. BATES.

Witnesses:

FRANK G. PARKER,
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