2 Sheets—Sheet 1.

J. E. MARSHALL.

ENVELOPE.

No. 188,299. Patented March 13, 1877.

Fig. 1.

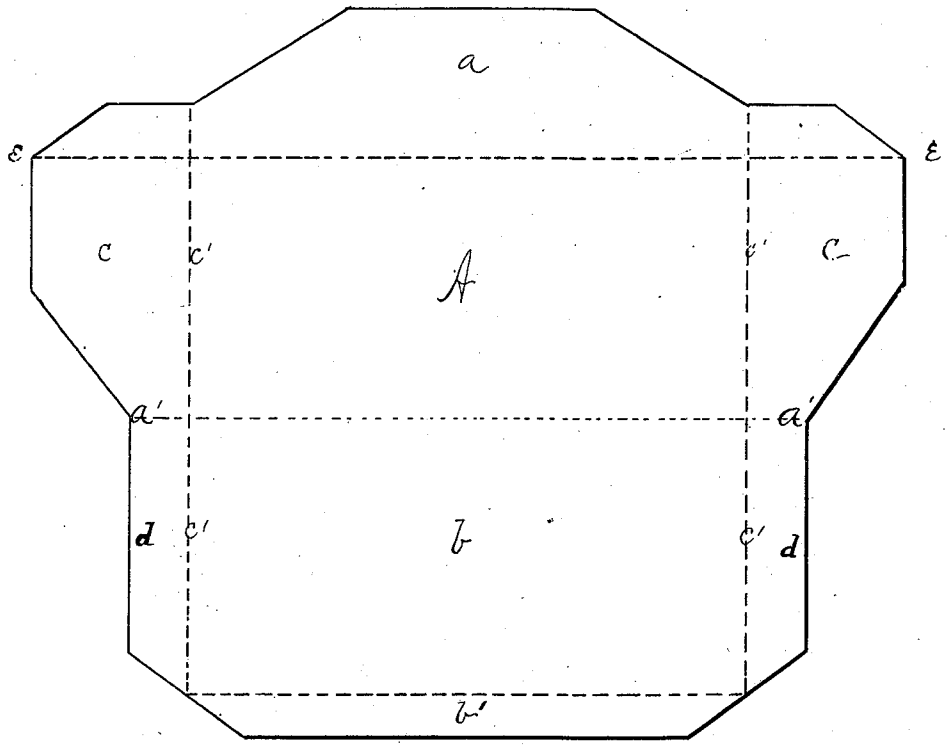
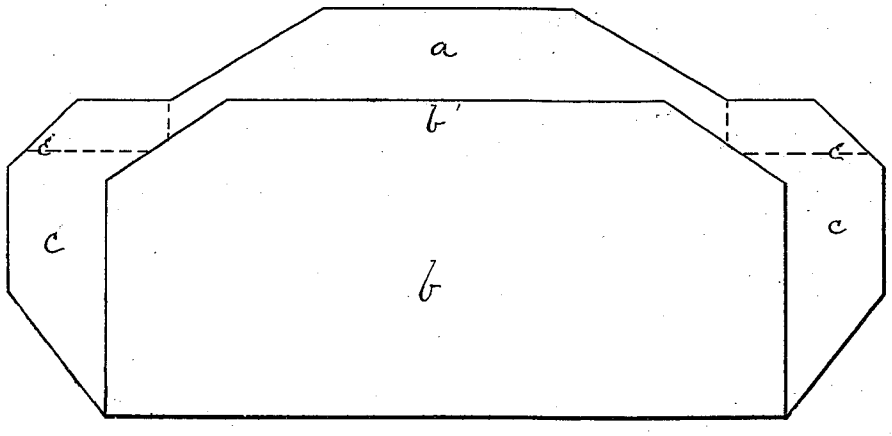


Fig. 2.



T. K. Parsons.
J. R. Drake.
} Attest:

Jno. E. Marshall
Inventor, By
J. R. Drake
Atty.

N. PETERS, PHOTO-LITHOGRAPHER, WASHINGTON, D. C.

2 Sheets—Sheet 2.

J. E. MARSHALL.

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Fig. 3.

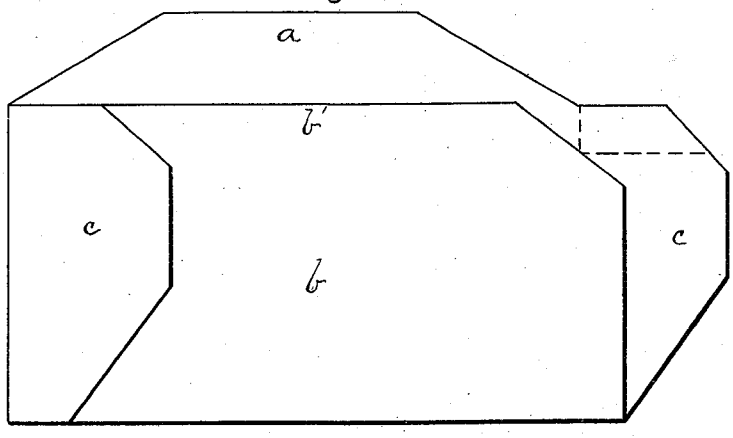


Fig. 4.

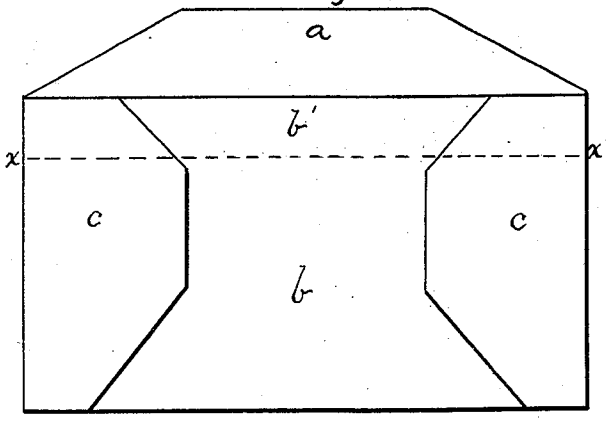
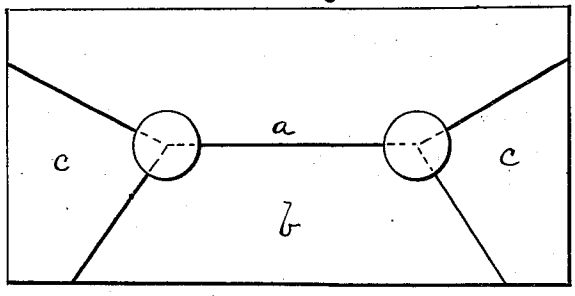


Fig. 5.



Thomas H. Parsons
J. R. Drake
} Attest.

John E. Marshall
Inventor, By
J. R. Drake
Atty.

N. PETERS, PHOTO-LITHOGRAPHER, WASHINGTON, D. C.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOHN E. MARSHALL, OF BUFFALO, NEW YORK.

IMPROVEMENT IN ENVELOPES.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **188,299**, dated March 13, 1877; application filed January 24, 1877.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOHN ELLIS MARSHALL, of Buffalo, in the county of Erie and State of New York, have made certain Improvements in the Form and Construction of Safety-Envelopes, of which the following is a specification:

My invention is intended for the use of express-companies and corporations having occasion to transmit money and valuable papers, and its object is to supply an envelope protected with double folds of paper running along both sides and top, and rendered still more secure by a double gumming (inner and outer) of each of said sides and top, as hereinafter specified.

In the drawings, Figure 1 represents the envelope flat, as first cut from the sheet. Fig. 2 is a plan with the bottom or lower flap folded up into place. Fig. 3 is a plan with the bottom and one side flap folded. Fig. 4 shows all the flaps folded except the top, the dotted line *x x* indicating where the top or last fold is to be made. Fig. 5 shows the envelope folded and sealed, ready for transmission.

The construction and gumming or pasting together of the envelope may be more particularly described as follows: A represents the inside of the face of the envelope, and *a b c c* the flaps of the same. The lower edge *b'* of the flap *b* is first gummed and allowed to dry, like the sealing-flap of ordinary envelopes. The part below the dotted line *a' a'* (*i. e.*, the flap *b*) is next folded over and pasted to the body of the envelope, along its edges *d d*, as shown in Fig. 2. Next, the two side flaps *c c* are folded over along the dotted lines *c' c'*, Fig. 1, and pasted firmly to the body of the envelope. (See Fig. 4.) The remaining top flap *a* is then gummed along its entire length and left to dry, after which it is creased along the dotted line *e e*, Fig. 1, and the envelope is ready for use.

After the envelope receives its inclosure, the mucilage along the inner side of the edge *b'*, Fig. 4, is moistened, and this edge gummed down upon the flap *a*, which is then, in turn, moistened and gummed down, folding over also the edge *b'*, preparatory to the envelope being sealed with wax at the junction of the four flaps, as shown in Fig. 5.

Reviewing the processes above described, it will be seen that we have an envelope wherein the two sides and the top are all three protected their entire length by a double fold of paper, and also still further secured by the double gumming described—first, the gumming down of the three edges *b' d d* of the lower flap *b*, Fig. 1, upon the inside of the flaps *a*, *c*, and *c*, respectively, and, second, the gumming down of these flaps themselves in the further construction and final closing of the envelope.

I am acquainted with no envelope that combines so many elements of safety in so simple a manner. An express-envelope in common use is made by folding down the side flaps first, and bringing the top and bottom flaps together, so as to secure a double fold of paper along the top and bottom of the envelope. My envelope differs from this essentially, in that the lower flap folds over first, and the side flaps and top down upon it, reversing the three edges of the lower flap in such manner as to secure double folds of paper across both ends and along the top of the envelope.

I claim—

A safety-envelope constructed with a flap, *b*, having its edges overlapping the flaps *a* and *c*, and its corners beveled or cut away, to allow the flaps *a c c* and the overlapping edges of the flap *b* to be folded neatly when the envelope is closed, substantially as set forth.

In witness whereof I have hereunto signed my name in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

JOHN E. MARSHALL.

Witnesses:

J. R. DRAKE,

T. H. PARSONS.