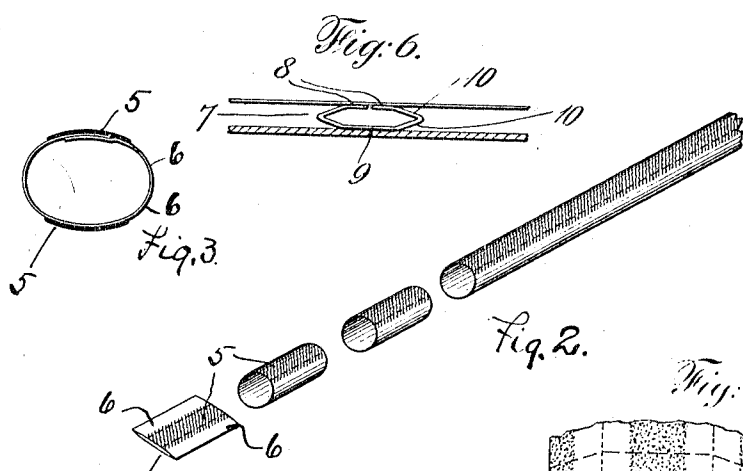
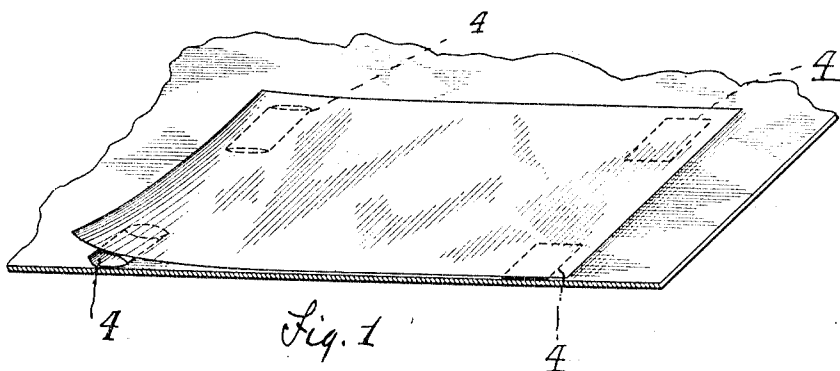


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 WAVER.
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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM BELL WAIT, Jr., a citizen of the United States, and a resident of the borough of Manhattan, city, county, and State of New York, have invented new and useful Improvements in Wafers, as hereinafter set forth.

This invention is an improvement in stickers or paper fasteners, and its object is to produce a cheap and simple article of manufacture for securing separate papers together, and for other similar purposes, but particularly for the mounting of photographic or other prints on card board book pages or other mounts.

The fastener consists of a wafer or sticker, with both sides either partly or wholly coated with gum or solvent adhesive material, so that it is capable of being interposed between the mount and the print, with its opposite faces adhering to the proximate faces of each, thus securing the two together, and providing a satisfactory substitute for the pasting process usually employed, and which will hold the print flat so that warping of the mount will not take place and also so that the print can be removed from the mount whenever desired without injury to either. These qualities are obtained by the formation of the wafer with two separate gum-coated portions or sides, united at their lateral edges so as to be capable of relative movement when necessary, after the manner of a bellows, which thus permits of sufficient relative motion between the print and the mount to avoid wrinkling of the former and warping of the latter, the differences in the shrinkage and expansion of the two being accommodated by the flexibility of the wafers. The use of little or no moisture in the affixing of the print, also tends to avoid the tendency of the mount to warp. The desired extent of such relative motion between the two gummed portions of each wafer is determined by the relative area of each side of the wafer that is covered by the gum, the latter being preferably, though not necessarily, applied to the central part of each face, leaving an uncoated margin on each side which hence does not adhere to either the mount or the print and is therefore free to flex in self-adjustment according to the condition of the strains. Such a wafer, coated as described, and formed of

fine, tough paper or tissue, normally holds the print flat against the mount in quite the same position as if pasted thereon, and also provides a quick and easy method of removing the print, since the uncoated portion of each wafer can be flexed outwardly and then cut or torn to separate the two gummed portions of the wafers, thus releasing the print without damaging it or the mount, the amount of wafer left adhering to the mount being negligible.

In the drawings forming a part hereof, Figure 1 is a fragmental perspective view of a card mount on which a sheet of paper is secured by means of four wafers according to my invention, the view being in section through two of the wafers; Fig. 2 is a perspective view of one of the wafers, showing also the preliminary stages of one of the methods of its manufacture; Fig. 3 is an enlarged end view of a section of the tube illustrated in Fig. 2 and of two of the wafers before they are collapsed or flattened. Fig. 4 represents another and simpler method of manufacture; Fig. 5 a perspective view of the modified form of wafer produced thereby; and Fig. 6 a section of the same in use between a cardboard and a print.

The wafers 4 consist of a tubular section of tissue or other thin pliable material, which is collapsed or flattened to form a substantially flat wafer, and provided on each side with a coating 5 of gum or glue, so applied that it covers a portion only of each side of the wafer, extending longitudinally from end to end thereof and preferably so as to form well defined lines of separation between the gummed and un-gummed parts. The gum is preferably applied to each side of the wafer, so that each adhesive strip extends along the middle portion of the wafer and is located at equal distances from its lateral edges, so that the uncoated margins 6-6 are of equal width, and the two strips of gum on each wafer are thus located directly opposite to each other.

The wafer 7 shown in Fig. 5 consists of a flat strip with its ends folded over toward and substantially meeting each other, though not necessarily overlapping as in the case of wafer 4. A gum strip is applied to the exterior surface of the side of the wafer that is formed by these proximate ends, as indicated at 8 and another gum strip 9 is applied to

the back or opposite side, the portions 10 near the fold-creases being preferably left ungummed as before and serving to unite the two gummed sides with freedom for one to adjust itself with respect to the other.

Wafers of either form of construction are especially adapted for mounting photographic prints on card mounts or in albums, and when so employed, eliminate the necessity of brushing paste on the back of the print, or of soaking the print in water when desired to remove it from the mount. The wafers are conveniently held by the ungummed margins, 8 or 10, and moistened on both sides, and are then secured to the back of the print near its edges and preferably adjacent to its four corners, as illustrated in Fig. 1. The print is then placed on the mount in the desired position and smoothed down, which compresses the gum faces of the wafers into sticking engagement with the surface of the mount. The print is thus firmly but removably secured to the mount, being free from any inherent strains from the possible misplacement of the wafers, since the latter are capable, as above stated, of adjusting themselves to compensate for any such inequalities. The security with which the print is held, is improved by leaving the margins 8 and 10 uncoated on each side of each adhesive strip, since the flexibility of these portions tends to prevent the starting of a break between the sticking surfaces but the sides of the wafers can, if desired, be completely covered with the coating, in which case the wafers will adjust themselves while the gum is still moist, during the smoothing-down process.

It will be observed from the foregoing that the wafers can be produced at low cost. Various methods of manufacture can obviously be employed. For instance the wafers 4 can be made by overlapping and securing together the lateral edges of a long strip of the tissue, so as to form a long, substantially cylindrical tube, such as is illustrated in Fig. 2, the gum coatings being applied to each side of the tube, with one strip of coating located over the overlapping edges which form the center of one side. The tube so formed is then cut into short sections of the desired length, and these sections are collapsed, or flattened, to form the wafers. The last three steps of this method are illustrated in Fig. 2, showing the tube, the severed sections of the tube, and finally, the flattened tube or the finished wafer. The preliminary securing of the overlapped edges of the paper strip can be avoided by so applying the gum coating, that it will serve to secure the edges of the tube together and at the same time form the gum coating for that side of the wafer. These wafers may also be formed from a spiral-wound tube, or from a strip of paper folded so that its

lateral edges overlap and with the adhesive material applied to the opposite sides of the flat folded strip in such a way as to secure the overlapped edges together. The wafer 7, which I prefer, by reason of its greater simplicity can be made by gumming the central and marginal portions of a flat strip of paper or tissue as shown in Fig. 4, then folding the strip along the longitudinal lines, indicated by dots in that figure, and finally cutting off sections of the folded strip to form the wafers shown in Fig. 5. When these wafers are in use, as shown in Fig. 6, it will be observed that they are essentially the same as the wafer 4 in the respect that both are flattened or collapsed tubes and have the same action in respect of self-adjustment.

While I have herein fully shown and described, and pointed out in appended claims, the novel features and functions which characterize my invention, it will be understood by those skilled in the art, that various changes in the formation, proportions, sizes and details of the wafer may be made, without departing from the spirit or scope of the invention.

I claim:

1. A wafer for the purposes hereinabove described, comprising two sides connected by extensible folds but otherwise separated from each other each side having an exterior gum coating and an uncoated interior.
2. A wafer, comprising two separate relatively movable sides facing in opposite directions and provided with gum adapted to adhere respectively to a print and mount, and being united by their opposite adjacent edges.
3. A wafer, comprising two separate relatively movable, superposed sides united by their opposite adjacent edges, and having an adhesive coating on the exterior face of each side.
4. A wafer, comprising two separate sides, united only at their opposite adjacent edges, and each provided with a coating of adhesive material, the coating of at least one of said sides extending over a part only of said side.
5. A wafer, comprising a flat strip with its ends folded over to form one side of the wafer and having a strip of gum applied to the exterior of said side and a strip of gum applied to the exterior of the opposite side.
6. A wafer, comprising a flat strip with its ends folded over to form one side of the wafer and having a gum coating located on the exterior of each side and uncoated margins on each side of each gum coating.
7. A wafer, comprising a folded strip having two parts provided with gummed surfaces facing in opposite directions and an extensible fold in the ungummed part of the strip connecting said parts.

8. A wafer, comprising a folded strip having its ends provided with gummed surfaces facing one way, and a portion intermediate said ends provided with a gummed surface facing the other way, said strip having extensible folds connecting said intermediate portion and ends.

In testimony whereof, I have signed this specification in the presence of two witnesses.

WM. BELL WAIT, JR.

Witnesses:

MARY McGRATH,
HENRY CROFUT WHITE.