No. 677,248. Patented June 25, 1901.

J. B. MEIXELL.

MAIL RECEIPT ENVELOP.

(Application filed July 11, 1900.)

(No Model.) 2 Sheets—Sheet 1.

Fig. 1.

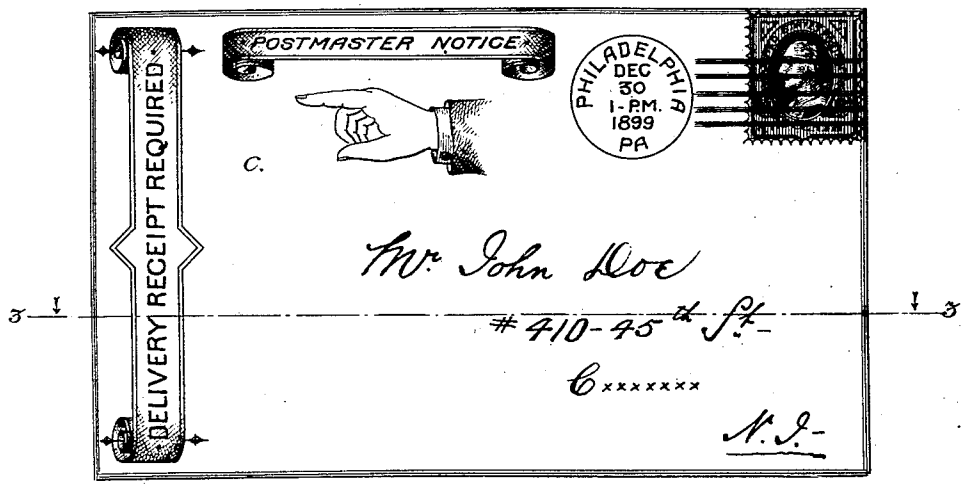


Fig. 3.

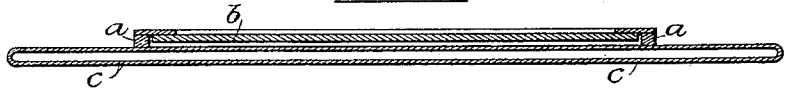


Fig. 2.

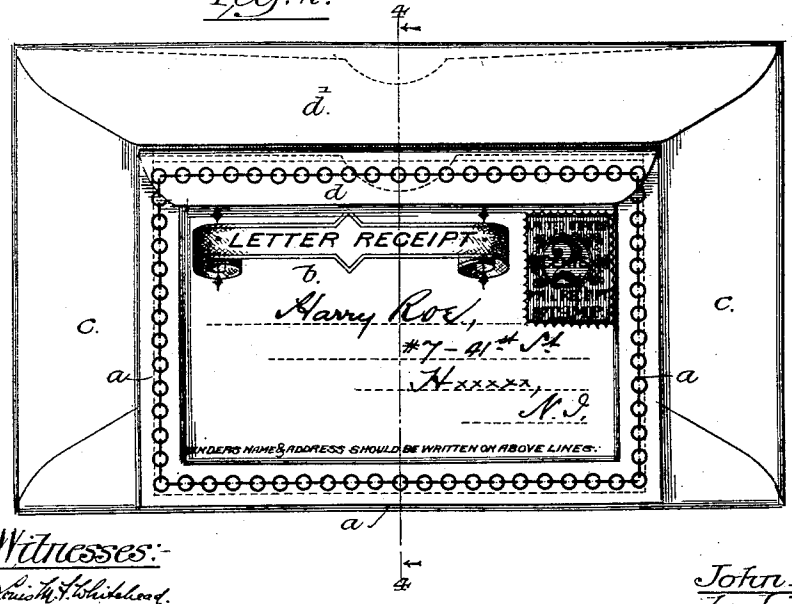
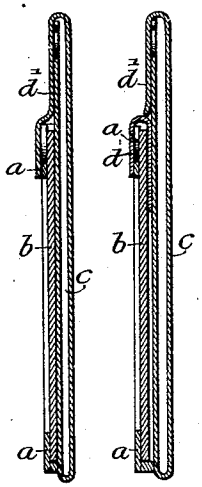


Fig. 5. Fig. 4.



Witnesses:-
Louis H. Whitehead.
William E. Bradley.

Inventor:-
John B. Meixell.
by his Attorneys:-
Howson & Howson

THE NORRIS PETERS CO., PHOTO-LITHO., WASHINGTON, D. C

No. 677,248. Patented June 25, 1901.

J. B. MEIXELL.

MAIL RECEIPT ENVELOP.

(Application filed July 11, 1900.)

(No Model.) 2 Sheets—Sheet 2.

Fig. 6.

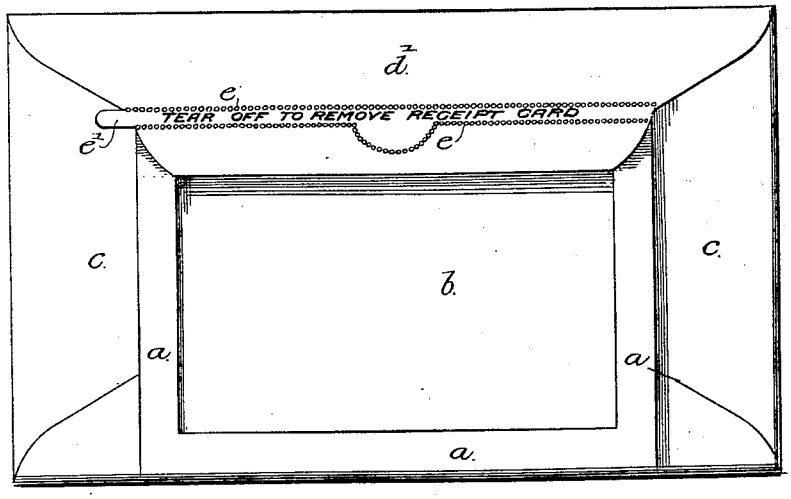
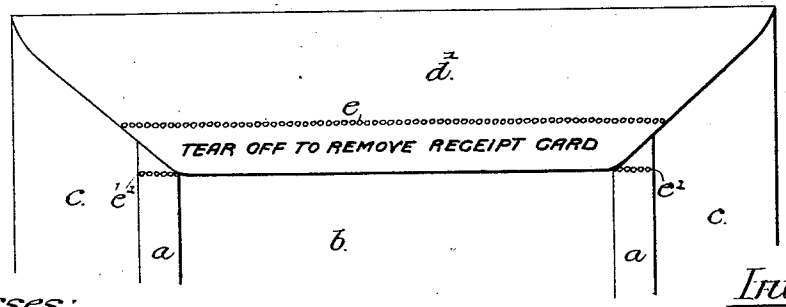


Fig. 7.



Witnesses:

Louis C. Whitehead.

William E. Bradley.

Inventor:

John B. Meixell.

by his Attorneys:

Howson & Howson

THE NORRIS PETERS CO., PHOTO-LITHO., WASHINGTON, D. C.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOHN B. MEIXELL, OF PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA.

MAIL-RECEIPT ENVELOP.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 677,248, dated June 25, 1901.

Application filed July 11, 1900. Serial No. 23,241. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOHN B. MEIXELL, a citizen of the United States, residing in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, have invented certain Improvements in Mail-Receipt Envelops, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to certain improvements in mail-receipt envelops whereby a card and a special form of container therefor are attached to mail-matter, said card being a receipt to be signed by the receiver of said matter and afterward returned to the sender.

The objects of my invention are, first, to provide an improved form of receipt for mail-matter, and, second, to provide means for attaching the receipt to said matter, with means for attracting attention to the same. I attain these objects in the following manner, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a front view of an envelop to which my device is applied. Fig. 2 is a back view of the same envelop, showing the receipt-card with its special containing frame or envelop. Fig. 3 is a sectional view on the line 3 3, Fig. 1. Fig. 4 is a sectional view on the line 4 4, Fig. 2; and Figs. 5, 6, and 7 are modifications showing the flap of the envelop as used to close the frame or envelop containing the receipt-card.

Referring to Fig. 2, it will be seen that my device consists of a frame, preferably made of heavy paper or light cardboard, attached to the back of an ordinary envelop and containing the card. It may be made, as illustrated, with strips under three of its sides, thus forming a receptacle for the card, or, if preferred, it may be stamped from one piece, portions of each of three of the sides being offset to form the holder. This frame (shown in section at *a*, Figs. 3 and 4) has a gummed flap *d* for retaining the card *b* within it and being open allows the card within to be plainly visible. I preferably make this receipt-card of heavy paper or cardboard, with the words "Letter receipt" in suitable brackets and printed parallel with the length of the card, about one-quarter distance down from the top of the same. In the upper right-hand corner of the card I attach a special form of stamp having on it the words "United States mail receipt stamp." If preferred, said stamp may be printed on the card. About the middle of the card lines are printed and at the bottom the words "Name and address of sender should be written on above lines." On the back of the card there will be some form of receipt to be signed by the person receiving the letter to which my device is attached.

On the front of an envelop to which my device is attached I print the words, in specially-ornamented brackets, "Postmaster notice" and "Delivery receipt required," with the figure of a hand in the relative position plainly shown in Fig. 1. These words, with the figure, I use to attract the attention of the postmaster or letter-carrier to the letter, so that by no possibility will the taking of a receipt for its delivery be overlooked.

In using my device it is intended that in addition to the address of the person to whom the letter is sent the sender will also put his name and address on the letter-receipt card contained in the frame which is attached to the same. On the arrival at its destination of this letter the postmaster or letter-carrier will remove the card from the frame and obtain upon the back of it a receipt for the delivery of the said letter from the person to whom it was addressed. The card will then be mailed to the sender, having on it the special form of stamp above described.

If desired, I may modify the method of sealing the card-retainer by omitting the gummed flap *d* and sealing the retainer by the use of the flap belonging to the envelop for which a receipt is required, as plainly shown in Fig. 5 at *d'*. This construction may be further modified, as shown in Fig. 6, the flap of the large envelop being perforated, as illustrated at *e*. A continuation of the part of the flap included between the lines of perforations projects, as shown at *e'*. The envelop-flap is gummed on both sides of the lines of perforations, which are so placed as to be about the same distance from the top of the envelop as the top edge of the receipt-retainer. By grasping the projecting piece *e'* and pulling it across the envelop, the flap will be opened, allowing the receipt-card to be removed, while leaving the envelop sealed.

The words "Tear off to remove receipt card" should be printed on the envelop-flap between the lines of perforations, as shown.

As indicated in Fig. 7 at *e*, a single line of perforations may be made in the envelop-flap and others at *e'* on the retainer-frame, which is not attached to the envelop above the lines *e'*. As in the above modifications, the flap is gummed, sealing both envelop and frame, and in order to remove the receipt-card the top of the retaining-frame, with the adhering part of the envelop-flap, is torn along the line of perforations.

It will be understood that in applying my device I may use a special form of envelop or package, with the printing on the front and the card and its retainer on the back, or I may apply said retainer and card to any form of mail-matter requiring a receipt from the consignee.

I claim as my invention—

1. The combination of an envelop, a rectangular frame attached thereto and constructed to removably hold a receipt-card between itself and said envelop, a part of each of three of the sides of said frame being held away from the surface of the said envelop, thereby forming the receptacle for the receipt-card, a flap for retaining the card in the frame while allowing said card to be visible from the outside when said flap is in the closed position, substantially as described.

2. The combination in a device carrying a mail-receipt, of a container of correspondence, a skeleton, rectangular-frame envelop open in front, said frame consisting of two horizontal and two vertical strips joined to each other at their ends and attached to the outside of said container, substantially as described.

3. The combination in a device for carrying receipts for the delivery of mail-matter, of two attached envelops, one containing a mail-receipt, said receipt-envelop consisting of a rectangular frame open in front and formed of two horizontal and two vertical strips joined at the ends, said frame being held away from the surface of the second envelop by strips under three of its sides, and a flap extending over and closing the fourth side, whereby said receipt-card may be retained, while being visible from the outside, substantially as described.

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

JOHN B. MEIXELL.

Witnesses:

G. PERCY FOX,

GEORGE BRINDLE.