

(No Model.)

2 Sheets—Sheet 1.

J. WEST.
ENVELOPE.

No. 461,724.

Patented Oct. 20, 1891.

Fig. 3.

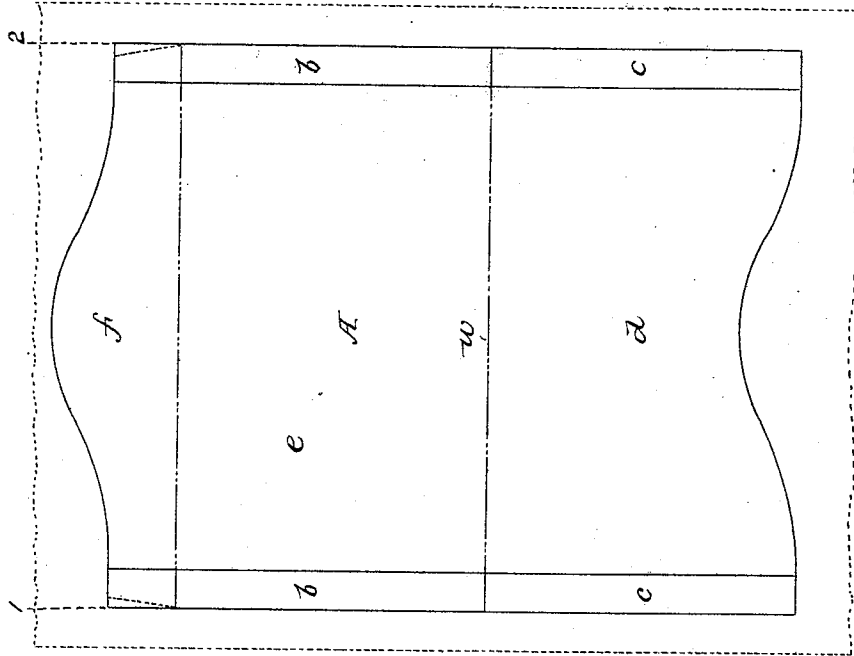


Fig. 1.

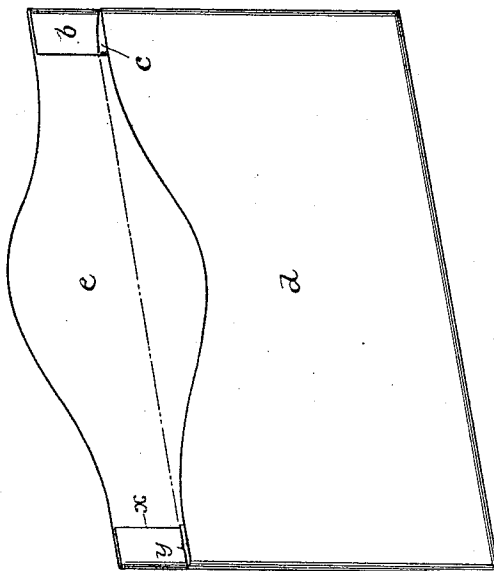


Fig. 2.



Witnesses

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W. S. McArthur

Inventor

James West

By his Attorneys

Walter & Freeman

(No Model.)

2 Sheets—Sheet 2.

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Fig. 5.

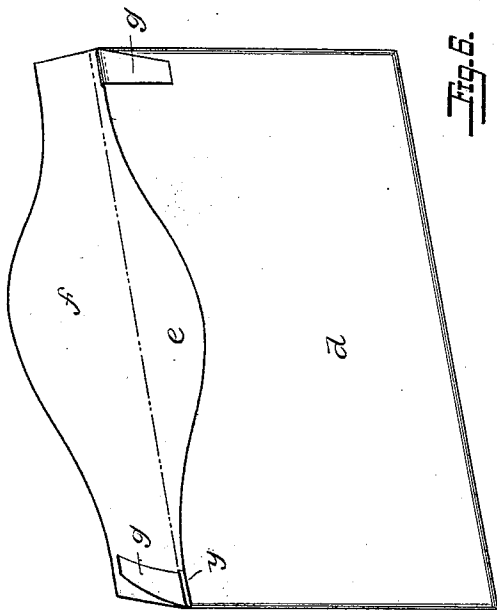


Fig. 6.

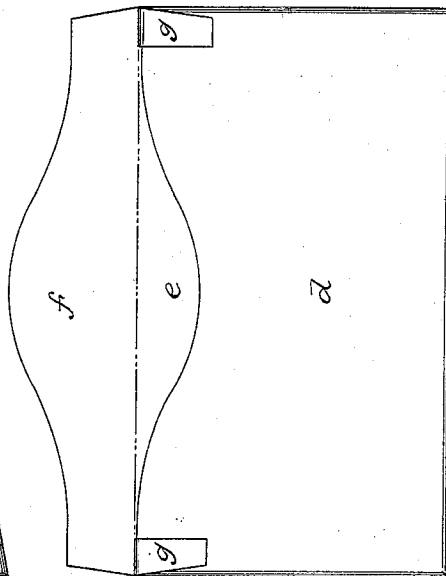
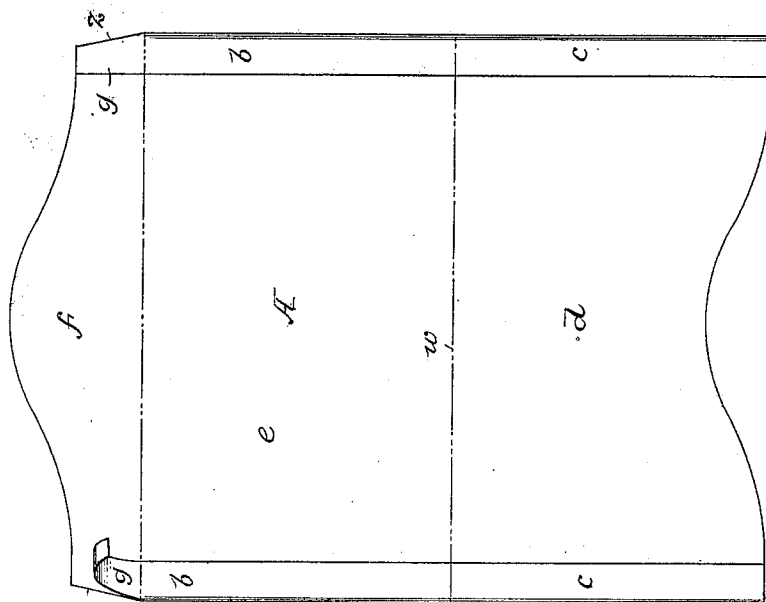


Fig. 7.



Witnesses

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By the Attorneys

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JAMES WEST, OF ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI, ASSIGNOR OF ONE-HALF TO SAMUEL CUPPLES, OF SAME PLACE.

ENVELOPE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 461,724, dated October 20, 1891.

Application filed January 8, 1890. Serial No. 336,257. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JAMES WEST, a citizen of the United States, residing at St. Louis, Missouri, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Envelopes, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to that class of envelopes in which the backs and fronts are provided with inturned folds that are cemented together; and my invention consists in providing such envelopes with infolds connected to each other and to the back, the front infolds having tongues that cover the edges of the folds and hold the latter in connection with the back section of the envelope, as fully set forth hereinafter, and as illustrated in the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a perspective view illustrating the construction of envelopes of that class upon which my envelope is an improvement. Fig. 2 is an edge view looking in the direction of the arrow, Fig. 1. Figs. 3, 4, and 5 are views illustrating the manner of constructing my improved envelope. Fig. 6 is a view illustrating the improved envelope.

In that class of envelopes each formed from a sheet or blank inturned at the edges to form edge-folds *b c*, the former on the front side or face *e* and the latter upon the back *d*, said folds have heretofore been pasted together face to face, and the fold *b* has been pasted against the inner face of the front *e* of the envelope. This construction has proved objectionable for two reasons: first, because the pasting of the folds to the front portions of the envelope wrinkles the latter and renders it more rigid at such parts than elsewhere, detracting from its finished appearance and interfering with the printing of the face; second, because the edge *x* of the fold *b* and the top edge of the folds *c* occupy such a position that inserting cards and other matter in the envelope the corners or edges thereof will catch under the said edges *x* and *y* or strike the same so that their insertion is obstructed, thereby interfering with the packing of the envelopes and

impairing their efficiency with circulars, &c., where it is very desirable to inclose the mail-matter rapidly. To obviate these objections I construct the envelope of a blank or strip *A*, which is first folded upon the lines *1 2* to form the inturned folds, which thereafter constitute the folds *b c*. After being so folded, as shown in full lines, Fig. 3, the blank is cut at opposite edges to form notches *z*, Fig. 3, or is otherwise slit or cut, so as to form the edge *b* of that part of the sheet which afterward constitutes the flap *f*, and so also as to leave a loose flap *g* at the end of the fold *b*. The blank is then folded across the center on the line *w*, and the faces of the infolds *b c* are brought together and pasted one to the other, and preferably the face of the fold *c* is pasted against the inner face of the back *d*, so that the paste is not applied to any portion of the front of the envelope, which therefore has a neater finish and is better adapted to be printed upon than when the envelope is made as shown in Figs. 1 and 2. The tongues *g* are now folded over the edges *y* of the folds *c* and over the edges of the back *d* of the envelope and down upon and are pasted to the back, as illustrated in Fig. 6, showing the completed envelope. By thus doubling the tongues *g* down upon and securing them to the back, as described, the folds *b c* are held close to the back in case they are not pasted thereto while in any event the edge *y* is covered instead of being exposed, as in Fig. 1, while there are not edges *x* upon the front of the envelope, as in Fig. 1, and there is no obstruction to the ready insertion of the matter to be enveloped.

I have shown the tongues *g* as formed by cutting notches *z* in the blank, as described; but they may be formed by simply slitting the blank or in any other suitable manner, and they may be of any desired shape and proportion, as also may be the envelope itself.

Without limiting myself to the precise form and proportions shown, I claim—

An envelope provided with infolds *b c* upon

both the front and back portions, cemented
together and to the back of the envelope, with
tongues extending from the infolds of the
front portion of the envelope and folded over
5 and cemented to the back of the envelope,
substantially as described.

In testimony whereof I have signed my

name to this specification in the presence of
two subscribing witnesses.

JAMES WEST.

Witnesses:

J. S. BARKER,

CHARLES E. FOSTER.