

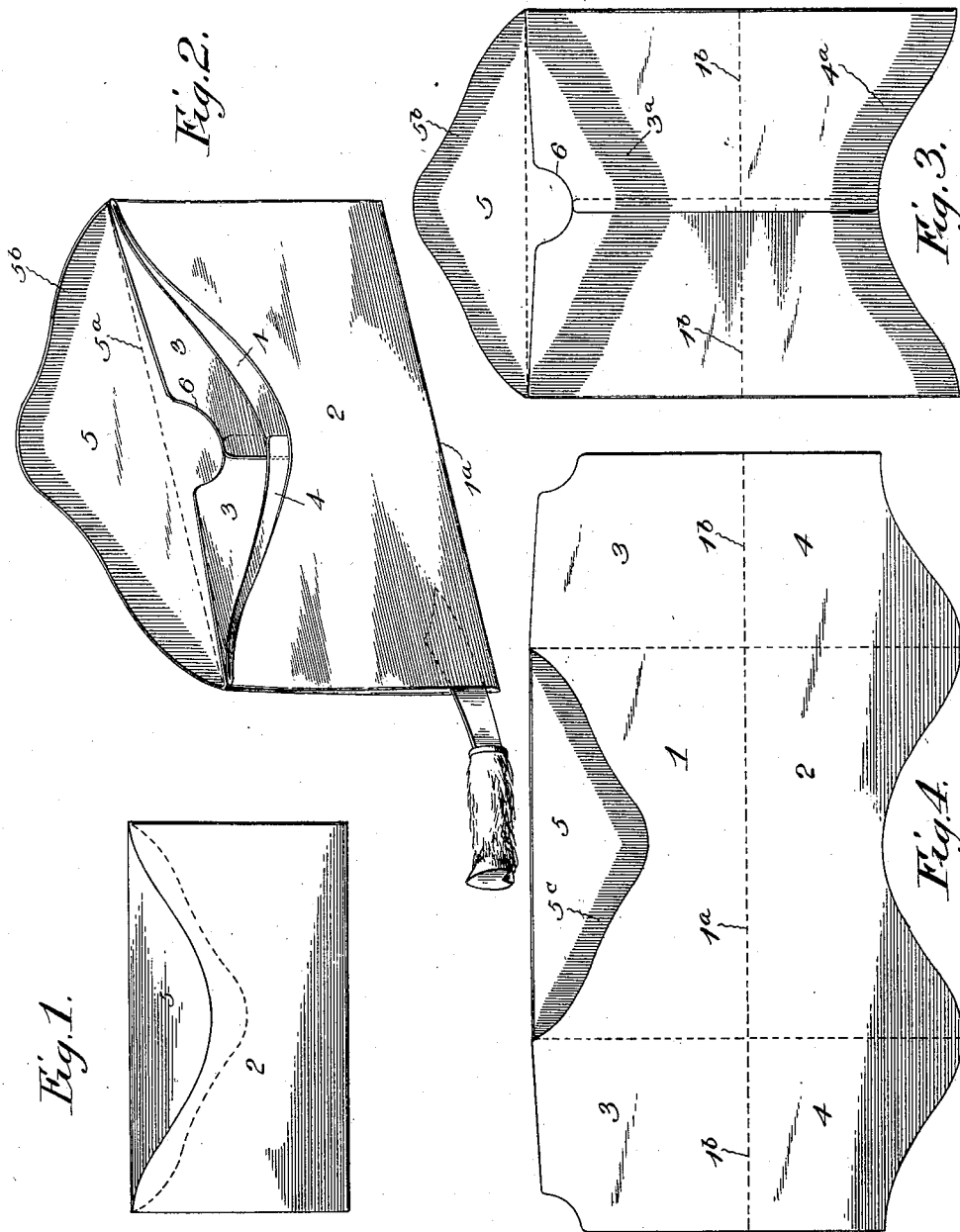
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W. WOLFE.
ENVELOP.

(Application filed Mar. 7, 1898.)

(No Model.)



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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ENVELOP.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 628,152, dated July 4, 1899.

Application filed March 7, 1898. Serial No. 672,902. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM WOLFE, a citizen of the United States, residing at Williamsport, in the county of Lycoming and State of Pennsylvania, have invented a new and useful Envelop, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to envelopes of the safety type, and has for its object to provide an envelop of a construction adapting it to be sealed with such security as to prevent opening without destroying or mutilating the same to such an extent as to be readily detected, and in carrying out my invention I provide the envelop with a main pocket for contents and an auxiliary pocket for the covering-flap, the latter being secured by sealing material to both walls of the auxiliary pocket.

A further object of my invention is to provide, in connection with means for securely sealing an envelop, a construction whereby the opening thereof to remove the contents can be accomplished with facility.

Further objects and advantages of this invention will appear in the following description, and the novel features thereof will be particularly pointed out in the appended claims.

In the drawings, Figure 1 is a view of the rear side of an envelop constructed in accordance with my invention, the edge of the covering-flap being indicated by a dotted line. Fig. 2 is a perspective view of the envelop prior to securing the covering-flap and showing the auxiliary pocket open for the reception of the edge thereof. Fig. 3 is a plan view showing the relative positions of the parts of the envelop-blank after the first step in folding the same has been taken. Fig. 4 is a plan view of the blank with the covering-flap folded down to show the gummed portion of its exterior surface.

Similar numerals of reference indicate corresponding parts in all the figures of the drawings.

The blank of the improved envelop consists of a main or front fold 1, a rear fold 2, connected integrally with the lower edge of the main or front fold, main end flaps 3, integrally connected with the end edges of the main fold, auxiliary end flaps 4, integrally connected with the lower edges of the main-end flaps

and also with the ends of the rear fold, and a covering-flap 5. The main fold is preferably of rectangular construction, and the main end flaps, which are folded parallel with said main fold and form the rear wall of the main pocket for the contents of the envelop, are preferably provided with diagonal or slightly-inclined upper edges, said inclination being preferably only sufficient to allow the proper folding of the covering-flap 5, and hence being approximately in the plane of the folding-line 5^a of the covering-flap. The main flaps are overlapped at their contiguous edges, and at their upper contiguous corners are cut away, as shown at 6, to facilitate the introduction of the contents of the envelop, and also the removal of such contents before the covering-flap is sealed or otherwise secured in place. The back fold 2, which forms the rear wall of the auxiliary pocket, into which the free edge of the covering-flap is adapted to be inserted, is cut away at its upper edge to approximately follow a line parallel with said free edge of the covering-flap, while the auxiliary end flaps 4, which form the front wall of the auxiliary pocket, are correspondingly cut away to lie parallel with the free edge of the back fold, as clearly shown in Fig. 3.

In constructing the envelop the first step consists in folding the connected main and auxiliary end flaps inwardly to overlap at their contiguous edges, as shown in Fig. 3, after which the back fold and the auxiliary end flaps are folded upwardly together to lie parallel with the main fold and main end flaps. The surfaces of the auxiliary end flaps, which are remote from the back fold, are gummed, as shown at 4^a, and the rear surfaces of the main end flaps are correspondingly gummed, as shown at 3^a, the line of gumming on the main end flaps corresponding with that on the auxiliary end flaps to secure the front wall of the auxiliary pocket (formed by said auxiliary end flaps and the back fold) together, when the second step (consisting of the upward folding of said auxiliary flaps and back fold) in the construction of the envelop is performed. This firmly connects, by cooperating gummed surfaces, the rear wall of the main pocket and the front

wall of the auxiliary pocket and leaves the device, as indicated in Fig. 2, with both the main and auxiliary pockets open at their upper edges for the reception, respectively, of the contents of the envelop and of the covering-flap 5. The covering-flap is preferably secured adhesively to both the inner and the outer walls of the auxiliary pocket either by gumming said facing-surfaces of the walls of the pocket or by gumming both surfaces of the covering-flap contiguous to its free edge, as indicated in the drawings, respectively, at 5^b and 5^c. Inasmuch as the adhesive material by which the covering-flap is secured to the front or inner wall of the auxiliary pocket is concealed and as access cannot be gained thereto by reason of the rear or exterior wall of said pocket, it will be obvious that the softening of the adhesive material by the application of heat or moisture, as by steam, cannot be successfully accomplished. On the other hand, when it is desired to open an envelop constructed in accordance with my invention it is necessary simply to insert an instrument between the contiguous walls of the main and auxiliary pockets and separate said walls upon the folding-line 1^a 1^b between the main and back folds and between the main and auxiliary flaps. Obviously this operation opens the main pocket at its lower edge.

Hence in addition to preventing the unauthorized opening of the envelop without such mutilation as to be readily detected the construction described facilitates the authorized opening thereof without endangering the contents, as when the end of an envelop is cut or torn off. The cutting-line in the improved envelop is wholly outside of the main pocket, and hence no injury can result to the contents of said pocket by this method of opening.

Furthermore, it will be understood from the foregoing description that the essential feature of the envelop embodying my invention consists of parallel main and auxiliary pockets designed for the specific purposes mentioned and connected at a folding-line which is between the pockets, the exterior walls of both pockets consisting of a continuous portion of the blank and the interior or contiguous walls of said pockets being likewise formed of continuous portions of the blank. This construction is accomplished by the primary lateral folding of the main and auxiliary end flaps and the subsequent or final upward folding of the auxiliary flaps and back fold to occupy a position parallel with the main fold and main flaps.

The blank after the initial folding of the side portions presents the appearance of a flattened tube, as illustrated most clearly in Fig. 3. This tube is folded upon itself to form the envelop and pocket, and the end portions only of the tube are cemented, leaving the remaining parts free so as to receive between them the cutting instrument when it is required to simultaneously open the envelop and the pocket. The covering-flap seals

both the envelop and pocket, and having its edge portion gummed upon both sides is adapted to be cemented or adhesively secured to both walls of the pocket, whereby tampering with the package is rendered difficult and susceptible of being quickly detected.

A further important feature of the construction described consists in its simplicity so far as the operations necessary for folding the blank are concerned, and the small number of gummed surfaces necessary in order to maintain the parts in their proper relative positions. It will also be seen that the covering-flap may be secured to the outer surface of the rear or exterior wall of the auxiliary pocket when the insertion thereof between the walls of the auxiliary pocket is unnecessary.

Various changes in the form, proportion, and the minor details of construction may be resorted to without departing from the spirit or sacrificing any of the advantages of this invention.

Having described my invention, what I claim is—

1. A combined envelop and pocket formed from a flattened tube folded upon itself to form the envelop and pocket, and having the end portions only of the tube cemented leaving the remaining parts free for the introduction of an instrument between them, when it is required to cut the tube along the line of the fold, and an end covering-flap integral with the tube to fold over the open ends of the envelop and pocket and seal them, substantially as specified.

2. A combined envelop and pocket formed from a flattened tube having an integral covering-flap at one end to seal the open ends of the envelop and pocket, and having the opposite end of the tube indented to bring the mouth of the pocket in a lower plane than the mouth of the envelop, said tube being folded between its ends to form the envelop and pocket, and having its end portions only cemented, leaving the remaining parts free for the introduction between them of a cutting instrument when it is required to sever the tube along the line of its fold to simultaneously open the envelop and the pocket, substantially as described.

3. A combined envelop and pocket formed from a blank having its side portions folded longitudinally and adhesively secured at their meeting edges forming a flattened tube which is folded upon itself midway of its ends to form the envelop and pocket, and having the inner or contiguous parts of the folds cemented at their free ends, the end of the flattened tube forming the pocket being indented to bring the mouth of the pocket below the mouth of the envelop, and the rear wall of the envelop having its edge inwardly notched at an intermediate point, and an integral covering-flap at the opposite end of the tube to fold over the open ends of the envelop and pocket and seal them, and having its edge portion

gummed upon both sides to come between the folds of the pocket and be cemented to both walls thereof, the envelop and pocket being simultaneously opened by cutting the tube
5 along the line of its fold, substantially as described.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing as

my own I have hereto affixed my signature in the presence of two witnesses.

WILLIAM WOLFE.

Witnesses:

A. A. LAYMAN,
H. H. STRYKER.