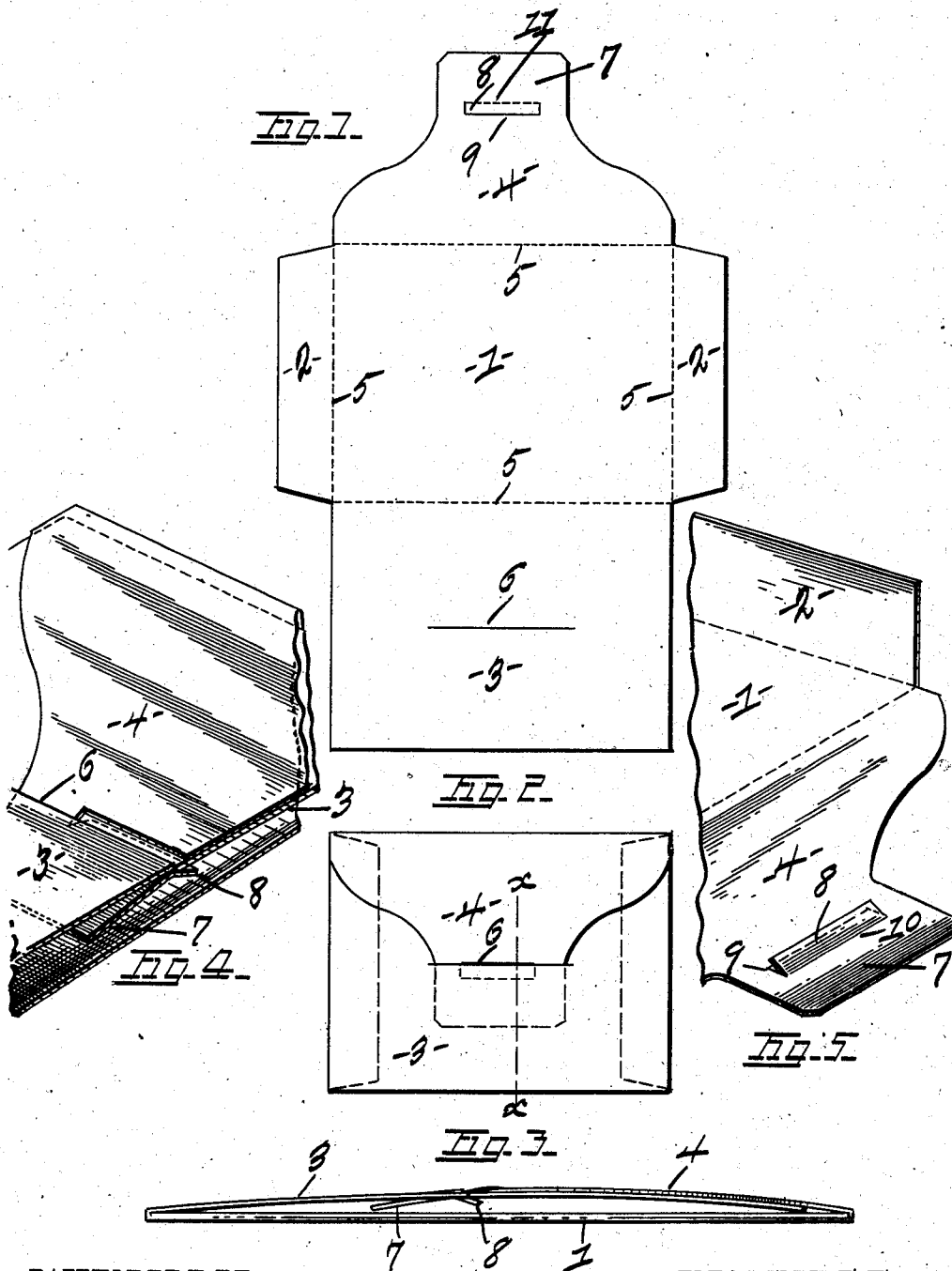


No. 728,435.

PATENTED MAY 19, 1903.

L. E. BARNES.
MAILING WRAPPER.
APPLICATION FILED APR. 7, 1902.

NO MODEL.



WITNESSES

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LEROY E. BARNES, OF TOLEDO, OHIO, ASSIGNOR OF ONE-HALF TO
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MAILING-WRAPPER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 728,435, dated May 19, 1903.

Application filed April 7, 1902. Serial No. 101,615. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, LEROY E. BARNES, a citizen of the United States, residing at Toledo, in the county of Lucas and State of Ohio, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Mailing-Wrappers; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same.

My invention has reference to a mailing-wrapper for third-class or "open" mail-matter, and has for its object to provide a simple, durable, and inexpensive wrapper which may be effectually locked after the article is once placed therein and at the same time permit inspection thereof. It is particularly designed for wrapping photographs, catalogues, pamphlets, and the like, and comprises the simple and novel arrangement hereinafter described and claimed, and illustrated in the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a plan view of the wrapper in blank prior to being folded. Fig. 2 illustrates the same folded. Fig. 3 is an enlarged edge view of the wrapper, showing the upper and lower flaps of the same overlapped and interlocked. Fig. 4 is an enlarged view in sectional perspective, showing the means employed for locking the wrapper, the section being taken on line *xx*, Fig. 2. Fig. 5 is an enlarged perspective of the tongued flap of the wrapper, showing the tongue thereon pressed inward prior to locking.

The wrapper is constructed of a single piece of paper of a quality and thickness to permit of bending without being easily broken. Fig. 1 shows the blank of the wrapper, and the same comprises a body portion 1, on the outer face of which the address may be written, the end flaps 2, the lower slitted flap 3, and the tongued flap 4. The blank is scored in process of manufacture along the lines 5 to permit the several flaps to be folded upon the body portion to inclose the photograph or other article contained in the wrapper.

The novel feature of construction which my invention contemplates consists in the means employed for locking together the flaps 3 and 4, respectively. The flap 3 is provided

with a single plain straight slit 6 cut transversely in the same adapted to receive the reduced end 7 of the flap 4. This slit is of substantially the same size as the width of the reduced portion 7, whereby the latter fits snugly therein. The flap 4 is provided with a tongue 8, severed from the body of the flap along one side on a transverse line, as at 9, and on short end lines at right angles to said transverse line and yet connected therewith at 10, the severed portion being adapted to extend in the blank toward the body portion 1. The blank is scored along the line 11 to facilitate bending the tongue inward. All the scoring is thus on one side of the blank.

The operation of the device is as follows: The end flaps 2 are folded inward to overlap the ends of the photograph or other article adapted to be inclosed by the wrapper, and thereby effectually prevent the same from falling out of the open ends of the wrapper. The slitted flap 3 is then folded over the end flaps. The tongue 8 having been pressed inward by running the finger along the same, Fig. 5, the reduced portion 7 of the flap 4 is inserted in slit provided in the flap 3 and is pushed inward and then drawn back slightly, when the wrapper will be effectually locked, the tongue 8 instantly springing inward after entering the slit of the flap, owing to the resiliency of the paper of which the wrapper is constructed, but such tongue being held in locked position when the sides of the wrapper come together. The contents of the wrapper may be easily inspected by pressing apart the upper and lower edges of the same, as indicated in Fig. 3, the article on the interior appearing through the open ends of the wrapper. It is evident that the blank forming the wrapper may be additionally scored and folded along lines equidistant from the line 5, so as to form a box-wrapper. This is, however, not an essential part of my invention, as I do not wish to confine myself to any special form of wrapper.

From the foregoing the extreme simplicity of construction and operation of my invention will be understood. The only directions required for the operation of my improved wrapper will be the phrase "Press this in," printed upon the outer face of the tongue 8,

when the operation will be apparent to even a person having no knowledge whatever of simple mechanical operations.

The utility and novelty of my invention will
5 be apparent.

Having described my invention, what I claim, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

A mailing-wrapper formed of a single blank
10 of paper or like stiff material, scored entirely on one side and comprising a body, two end flaps, one side flap formed with a single, plain, straight transverse slit, and a second side flap formed with a reduced portion substan-
15 tially the width of and adapted to enter the slit and having a transverse tongue within

and narrower than the reduced portion, the tongue being cut from the reduced portion along a transverse line and then from the ends of this line at right angles thereto on 20 short lines extending outward away from the body, and scored across its shank whereby it is adapted to be bent slightly out of the plane of this portion on a second transverse line connecting the outer extremities of said short 25 lines, substantially as described.

In testimony whereof I hereunto affix my signature in presence of two witnesses.

LEROY E. BARNES.

Witnesses:

CARL H. KELLER,

FRANCIS E. PALMER.