W. E. LOVER.

BAG AND ENVELOPE.

APPLICATION FILED JULY 2, 1918.

1,424,836. Patented Aug. 8, 1922.

FIG. 1.

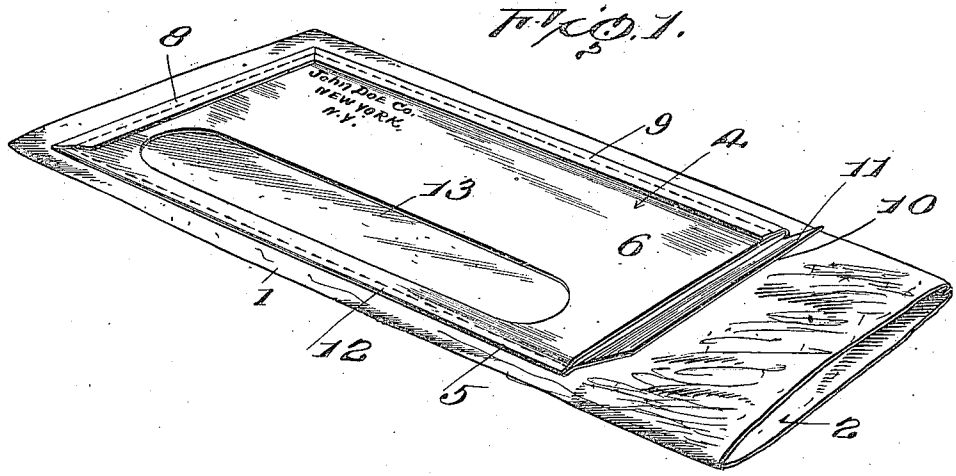


FIG. 2.

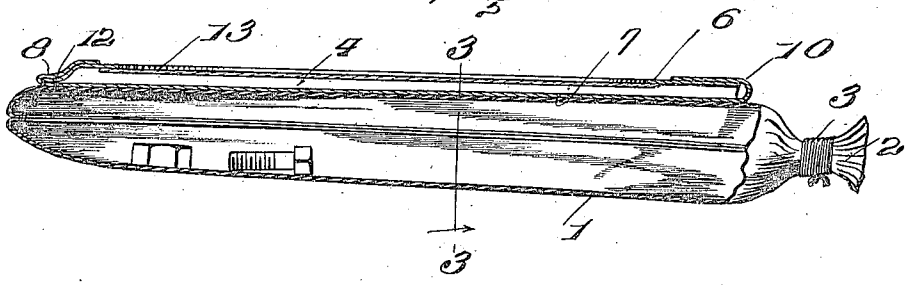


FIG. 3.

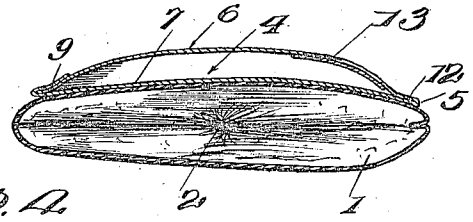
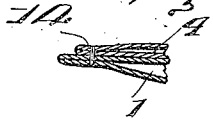


FIG. 4.



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BAG AND ENVELOPE.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM E. LOVER, a citizen of the United States, residing at Findlay, in the county of Hancock and State of Ohio, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Bags and Envelopes, of which the following is a specification.

This invention has as its object to provide a combined bag and envelope for use in the transmittal by mail of small articles of merchandise such as small castings, bolts, etc. At the time of shipping such articles it is customary for the manufacturer or dealer to also send a bill or letter referring to the shipment, and heretofore the article and bill have been separately transmitted. Thus it has been necessary to separately wrap, address, and apply postage to the article and to separately address and stamp the envelope containing the bill or other communication. The primary object of the present invention therefore is to practically reduce by half the time and labor required in preparing for mailing, such articles as above referred to, the invention being in the nature of a cloth bag in which the article to be transmitted is placed and which bag may be securely closed by a draw string or the like and yet in a manner to permit of inspection by the postal authorities, and an envelope which is permanently and securely united to the bag and in which may be placed the bill or letter of transmittal. Thus by the use of the present invention, and particularly where an envelope with a transparent front is employed, it is only necessary to write the name and address of the consignee a single time, as distinguished from the two or three writings heretofore required. Furthermore, due to the fact that the envelope for containing the bill or letter of transmittal is permanently secured to the bag, the said bill or letter and the article will reach the consignee simultaneously.

It is true that in some instances the bill or letter and the article to be mailed are enclosed in a single envelope but this practice is not satisfactory as the envelope being of paper, is liable to be mutilated in the mails resulting in the loss of the article or articles which are placed therein.

The present invention therefore has as its further object the provision of permanently connected containers for the article or articles and the bill or letter of transmittal, the containers being respectively of the form best suited for the uses to which they are to be put. Thus in the instance of the present invention, the bag is of cloth or other flexible and yet strong material, whereas the envelope is of stiff paper so that it will maintain its flat form, the material comprising the bag, however, being, as stated above, flexible to permit it to adapt itself to the shape of the article deposited therein.

In the accompanying drawings.

Figure 1 is a perspective view of the article embodying the present invention in its initial form;

Figure 2 is a longitudinal sectional view through the article, both the bag and envelope being sealed;

Figure 3 is a vertical transverse sectional view on the line 3—3 of Figure 2;

Figure 4 is a fragmentary view similar to Figure 3 illustrating a slight modification of the invention.

In the drawings, the numeral 1 indicates a bag of muslin or any other kind of cloth suitable for the purpose, and of any desired capacity and shape, although herein illustrated as generally rectangular. The bag in itself does not differ from an ordinary bag and has the usual mouth 2 which may be closed by the usual draw string or by wrapping string or wire about the puckered mouth of the bag as indicated by the numeral 3 and as clearly shown in Figure 2 of the drawings. The envelope is indicated in general by the numeral 4 and while it may be an envelope of the ordinary construction, it is herein shown as formed from a single integral sheet of paper so folded transversely as at 5 to provide a front 6 and a back 7, the back at the closed end of the envelope and at its upper edge being provided respectively with flaps 8 and 9, preferably although not necessarily secured by adhesive to the face of the front 6. The back 7 at the open end of the envelope is provided with a closure flap 10 the inner side of which is gummed as indicated by the numeral 11 so that it may be sealed to close the envelope in the usual manner.

In their flat condition, the bag and envelope are of nearly the same dimensions, the envelope being, however, of slightly less width than the bag and somewhat shorter than the bag. In securing the envelope to the bag, as illustrated in Figures 1, 2 and 3 of the drawings, a line of stitching 12 is run through the marginal portion of the envel-

ope and through one side of the bag, this line of stitching extending along the lower margin of the envelope, along the closed end thereof, and along the upper margin of the envelope, and passing in the latter instance through the flaps 8 and 9 so as to secure these flaps in place in the event that adhesive is not employed for this purpose, or, if adhesive is employed to additionally secure the flaps. However, the fact will be appreciated that the line of stitching 12 may serve not only to secure the flap to the bag but also to secure the envelope blank in its folded condition so that in the manufacture of the article, the envelope blank may be folded up to proper form, disposed against the face of one side of the bag, before the bag is hemmed or completed, and the assembled elements then run through a sewing machine for the purpose of not only uniting the folded envelope blank to the bag but also securing in place the folded flaps 8 and 9 to complete the envelope.

By reference to Figures 1 and 2 of the drawings it will be observed that not only is the envelope, as before stated, somewhat shorter than the bag, but furthermore the envelope is so positioned upon the side of the bag that its closed end will be located relatively close to the closed end of the bag whereas its open end will be spaced inwardly from the open end or mouth of the bag a sufficient distance to permit of the mouth being suitably puckered and tied without distorting the envelope or creating any tendency of the members to tear apart.

It will now be understood that the article or articles to be mailed are to be introduced into the bag 1 whereupon the mouth of the bag is to be closed in any suitable manner. The bill or letter of transmittal having been prepared, it is folded and inserted in the envelope in such manner that the name and address of the consignee will be visible through the usual transparent window 13 provided in the front 6 of the envelope. It is then only necessary to seal the envelope and apply a stamp of the proper denomination. Thus in the use of the article embodying the present invention and where the envelope is provided with the window 13 it is only necessary to once write the name and address of the consignee, and the folding up of cartons, boxes or the like and the wrapping thereof to suitably house the article to be transmitted by mail, as heretofore practiced, is entirely obviated.

As before stated, in the form of the invention just described, the stitches 12 are passed through the marginal portions of the envelope and one side only of the bag, but if desired the stitches, as indicated by the numeral 14 in Fig. 4 of the drawings, may be passed through the marginal portion of both sides of the bag as well as through the marginal portion of the envelope. While this arrangement, of course, somewhat reduces the capacity of the bag, nevertheless it provides for a more secure anchorage of the envelope to the bag and vice versa. Furthermore, while it is preferable that the bag and envelope be united by a line of stitching, it will be understood that any equivalent means may be employed for this purpose, and by equivalent means I comprehend any means piercing the bag and envelope or contacting parts thereof.

It will be understood that instead of providing the window or transparent area 13 extending over only a portion of the front of the envelope the entire front of the envelope may be rendered transparent in any suitable manner so that a properly addressed letter head may be so folded and inserted into the envelope that the letter head and the name and address of the addressee will be visible through the transparent front, and, also if desired, the postal mailing permit notice may be printed upon the letter head and will then also be visible through the said front of the envelope. In this manner mistakes are avoided and time is saved in addressing the communication, and the expense incident to separate printing of the usual return card and permit notice upon the face of the envelope is avoided.

It will also be understood that the principles of the invention may be embodied in an article in which the envelope and bag are of different relative proportions. For example, the bag may be sufficiently large to contain seed, laundry, or in fact any article or articles, and likewise the envelope itself may be of any suitable convenient size without departing from the spirit of the invention. It will also be apparent that instead of making the envelope portion of the article of paper, it may be made of cloth or any other suitable material.

Having thus described the invention, what is claimed as new is:

In an article of the class described, a bag of limp material having a mouth at one end, an envelope having a back disposed against one side of the bag, means extending along the side edges of the envelope and the end edge thereof remote from the mouth of the bag to secure the front and back of the envelope together and to the said side of the bag, the said sides and end of the envelope being permanently closed by said means and the other end of the envelope being left unattached and open to provide a mouth spaced inwardly from the mouth of the bag, the said back of the envelope being provided at its last mentioned end with an extension providing a closure flap for the said mouth end of the envelope.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature.

WILLIAM E. LOVER. [L. S.]