L. CONROY.

Screens for Postal Cards.

No. 142,899. Patented September 16, 1873.

Fig. 1

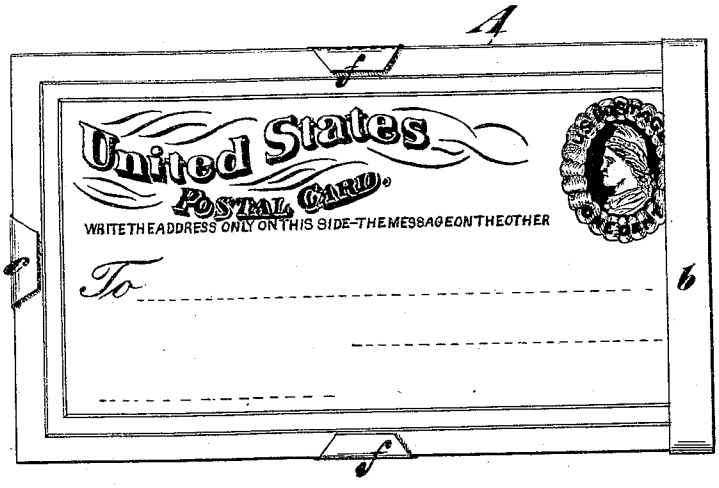
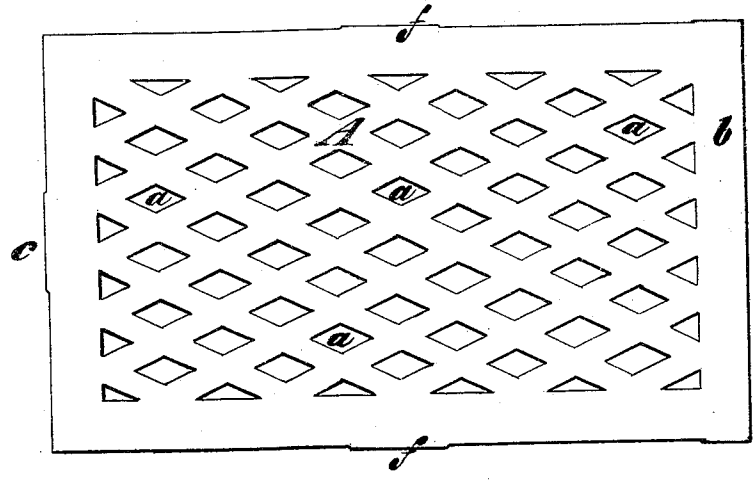


Fig. 2



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

LOUGHLIN CONROY, OF NEW YORK, N. Y.

IMPROVEMENT IN SCREENS FOR POSTAL CARDS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **142,899**, dated September 16, 1873; application filed June 25, 1873.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, LOUGHLIN CONROY, of the city, county, and State of New York, have invented a Screen for Postal Cards, of which the following is a specification:

This screen consists of a piece of paper corresponding in size and shape to a postal card, and provided at one end with a shallow pocket, which receives one end of the postal card, and furnished at the opposite end and at the middle portion of its sides with adhesive flaps, which are fastened to the card to secure the screen in place on it. This screen affords privacy to the writing on the postal card, while it still protects the interests of the Government, for, by exposing the edges of the card, the insertion of an extra piece of paper without being visible is rendered impossible. It likewise insures the proper inscription of the address indicative of the card's destination.

In the accompanying drawing, Figure 1 is a front view of a postal card having my screen applied, and Fig. 2 is a back view of the same.

Similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts in both figures.

The postal card is distinguishable by its face. A is its screen, which consists simply of a piece of paper corresponding in size and shape with the card, and provided with a pocket and adhesive flaps to secure it in place. The screen is perforated over the greater portion of its extent with a series of lozenge-shaped openings, *a a*. At one end there is a pocket, *b*, formed on it, and at the opposite end there is an adhesive flap, *c*, which folds over the face of the card, and is there fastened. Likewise, on the middle of the sides of the screen are other flaps, *f f*, which also are folded over the face of the card and attached by their adhesive coating. The edges of the screen between the pockets and flaps are doubled over and gummed to afford additional strength to the screen and insure it against being torn. These screens afford privacy to the writing on the cards, while they exhibit enough of the cards to show that no paper or other missive is inserted between them and the screens. The exposure of the edges of the cards also attains this result. Moreover, the perforations in the screen effectually prevent any writing being inscribed on its inside. Thus the interests of the Government are guarded.

I do not claim, broadly, the perforation of the front of an envelope, as I am aware that envelopes have been perforated in parts to enable the post-mark stamp to make a partial impression on the letter and for other purposes; but

What I claim as my invention is—

The perforated screen A, covering the back of a postal card, and provided with a pocket, *b*, to receive one end of the card, and adhesive flaps *c* and *f f*, which are folded over its edges and attached to its face, essentially as and for the purpose herein set forth.

L. CONROY.

Witnesses:

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