(No Model.)

P. BUSSE.

ENVELOPE.

No. 271,413. Patented Jan. 30, 1883.

Fig. 1.

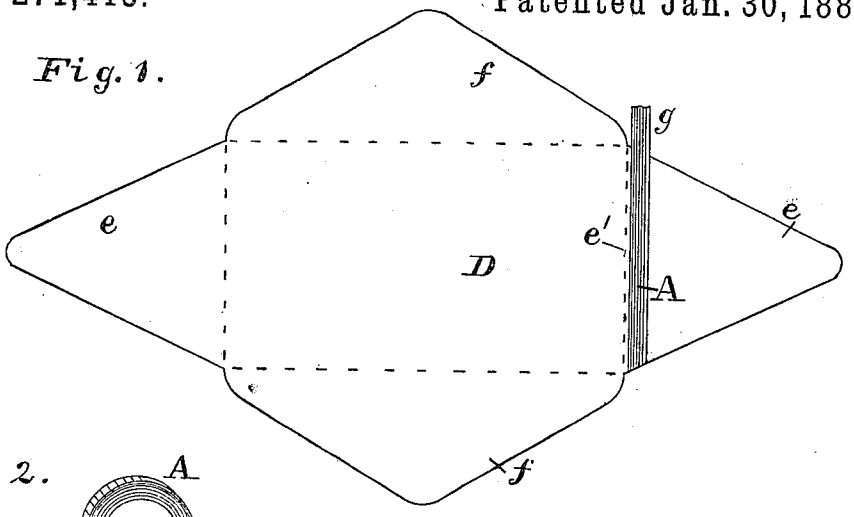


Fig. 2.

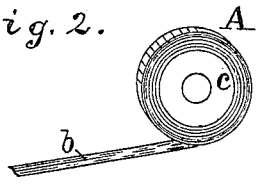


Fig. 3.

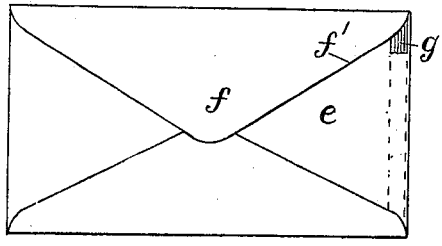
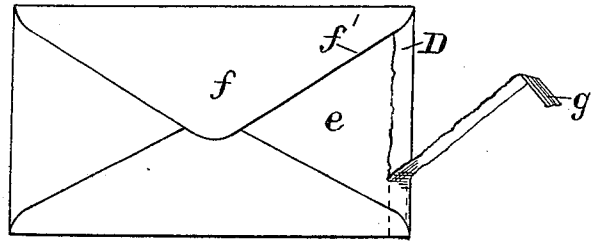


Fig. 4



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

PAUL BUSSE, OF BALTIMORE, MARYLAND.

ENVELOPE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 271,413, dated January 30, 1883.

Application filed July 26, 1882. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, PAUL BUSSE, a subject of the German Empire, residing at Baltimore, in the State of Maryland, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Envelopes, of which the following is a specification, reference being had therein to the accompanying drawings.

My invention relates to an improvement in that class of envelopes which are provided with means whereby the envelope may be torn open to withdraw the letter. The improvement will first be described, and the invention then distinctly claimed.

In the drawings hereto annexed, Figure 1 is an inner side view of the blank from which the envelope is made, showing the tearing-strip attached. Fig. 2 shows the tearing-strip wound on a spool in roll form. Fig. 3 shows the envelope complete and sealed. Fig. 4 shows the envelope as it appears when opened by the tearing-strip removing a part of the back side at the end.

One object of this invention is to provide envelopes with a flat tearing-strip which, when the envelope is sealed, shall have one end projecting to afford means for grasping by the hand, and which shall be so attached to the envelope that when pulled it will tear away or remove only a part of the back side at one end, thereby leaving the entire front side of the envelope unmutilated. Another object is to provide improved means for tearing open one end of the envelope, which shall be especially adapted for ready attachment to the paper during the process of manufacturing.

The material of the tearing-strip A may be thin cotton or other woven fabric, or it may be tough fibrous paper of sufficient strength to serve the purpose. Ordinarily the strip should be about one-eighth to three-sixteenths of an inch wide, and should be gummed on one side, *b*, and the gum allowed to dry. Thus prepared, the strips may be wound on a spool, *c*, which is adapted to be fixed on an arbor or pin suitably located in an envelope-making machine, and thereby be in a practicable shape for attachment to the paper or blank from which the envelope is made.

The letter D designates that part which constitutes the front side of the envelope; *e*, the end flaps, and *f* the side flaps, which, when folded, constitute the back of the envelope. As ordinarily and generally constructed, the end flaps are folded first, and then the side flaps are folded down and lap over upon the end flaps.

In attaining one of the objects of my invention—to wit, to open the envelope by tearing away only the back and that part of the back extending across one end—it is necessary that the tearing-strip should be attached to the inner side and crosswise of one of the end flaps, with one edge of the strip immediately adjoining the line *e'*, (see Fig. 1,) whereat the said end flap is or will be folded. The strip is unwound from the spool and a piece cut of sufficient length to permit one end, *g*, to project beyond the edge of the flap. It is attached to the blank while the latter is in the spread-out condition shown in Fig. 1 by simply moistening the gummed side *b*. When the end flap has been folded and the side flap, *f*, folded and overlapped upon the end flap, the projecting end *g* of the strip will thereby be folded back upon the outer side of the end flap, and will be between the said outer side and the overlapping edge *f'* of the side flap. Thus the overlapping side flap will serve to almost or entirely hide the projecting end from view, as desired. The gummed side of the projecting end, being turned against the outer side of the end flap, cannot adhere to another envelope in a pack, although the said projecting end may not be covered by the overlapping side flap. This projecting end may be grasped by the hand, and when pulled will tear the envelope open, as shown in Fig. 4, in such a way as to leave the entire front side of the envelope unmutilated.

Having described my invention, I claim and desire to secure by Letters Patent of the United States—

1. An envelope provided with a flat tearing-strip, A, attached to the inner side and crosswise of one of the end flaps, *e*, and having a projecting end, *g*, of the strip folded back between the outer side of the end flap and the overlapping side flap, *f*, whereby the project-

ing end may be almost or entirely hid from view, as set forth.

2. An envelope provided with a flat tearing-strip, A, one side of which is gummed and attached to the inner side and crosswise of one of the end flaps, *e*, and having a projecting end, *g*, of the strip folded back with the gummed side *b* against the outer side of the end flap, whereby all liability of the projecting end to adhere to another envelope is avoided, as set forth.

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

PAUL BUSSE.

Witnesses:
JOHN E. MORRIS,
JNO. T. MADDOX.