

(No Model.)

J. W. WILKINS.
SAFETY ENVELOP FASTENER.

No. 581,220.

Patented Apr. 20, 1897.

Fig. 1.

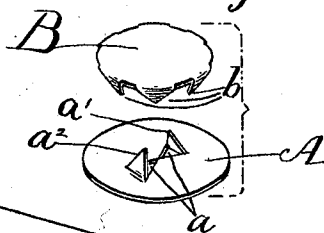


Fig. 2.

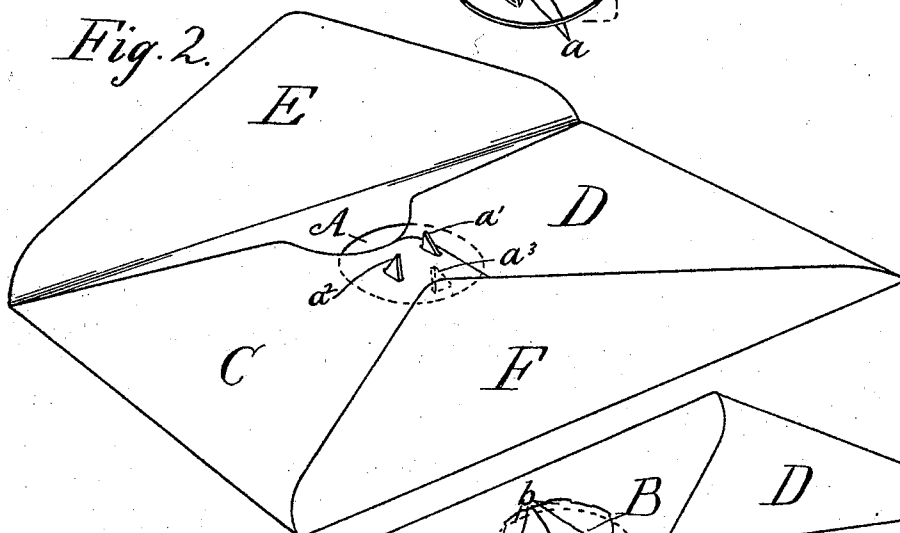


Fig. 3.

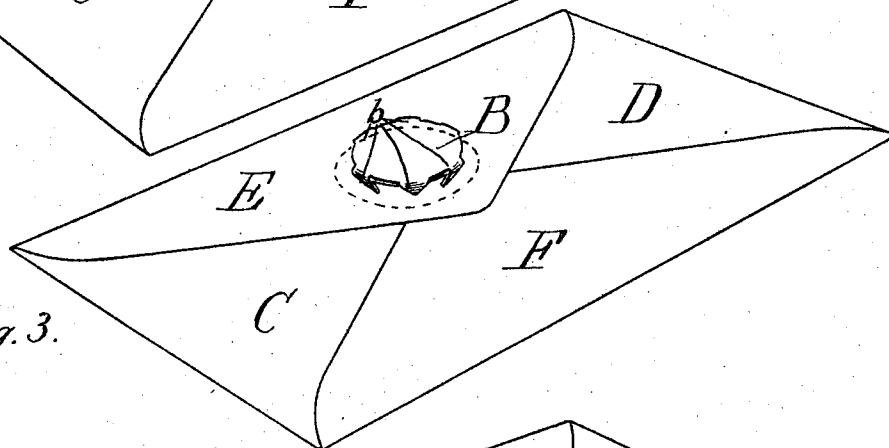
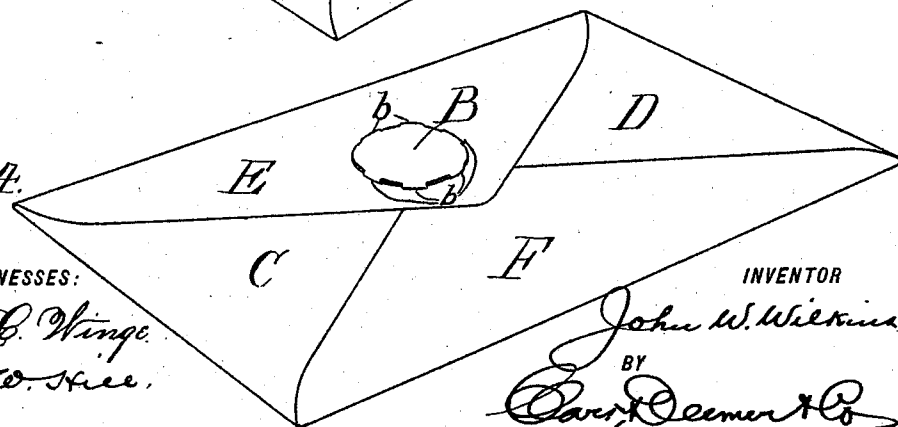


Fig. 4.



WITNESSES:

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JOHN WARE WILKINS, OF NEW YORK, N. Y., ASSIGNOR OF ONE-HALF TO
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SAFETY-ENVELOP FASTENER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 581,220, dated April 20, 1897.

Application filed April 28, 1896. Serial No. 589,364. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOHN WARE WILKINS, a citizen of the United States, and a resident of New York, county of New York, and State
5 of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Safety-Envelop Fasteners, of which the following is a specification, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, forming a part thereof, in which
10 similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts.

This invention relates to an improved fastener for envelops, and has for its object to provide a device which when applied to any
15 ordinary envelop will render it impossible to open the same without tearing.

The device will also make the envelop distinctive in appearance, and may be made to advertise to some extent the business of the
20 sender.

It may be very cheaply manufactured and is easily applied.

In the drawings herewith, forming part of this specification, Figure 1 is a perspective
25 view of the two portions comprising the device. Fig. 2 is a similar view showing the inner portion applied. Fig. 3 is a similar view showing the two portions in approximately relative position to each other, and Fig. 4 is
30 a view showing the envelop completely fastened by means of the device.

In the practice of my invention there is provided a thin disk A, of nickel, aluminium, or other light metal, having in the center
35 thereof an X-shaped slot a , formed by diagonal incisions crossing each other and the points released, a' and a^2 being pressed upwardly until their position is nearly vertical to the horizontal surface of the disk A. There
40 is also provided a disk B, of somewhat smaller diameter, made of metal similar to that composing disk A, and having on its circular edge a plurality of projecting angular tongues b integrally formed therewith. The said tongues
45 b having been so formed are all bent in the same direction toward the center of the disk B until they reach an inclination of about thirty-five degrees to the horizontal surface of the disk B. The disk A is now placed
50 within the envelop, as shown in Fig. 2, with

the tongues a' and a^2 projecting upwardly, and forced through the material composing the flaps C and D, each tongue passing through both of said flaps. The top flap E is then folded over and the tongues a' and a^2 are
55 forced through it also. The disk B is now placed in position with its center coinciding with that of disk A and with its depending tongues b pointed downwardly. It is then pressed firmly toward the disk A, when the
60 points of the tongues b will be forced through all of the thicknesses comprising the four flaps of the envelop and against the upper surface of the disk A, whereby said tongues b will immediately be clenched or flattened against
65 the upper surface of disk A and hold between it and the flattened tongues b the ends of flaps E, C, D, and F of the envelop. Simultaneously with this action the tongues a' and
70 a^2 , meeting the under surface of the downwardly-forced disk B, will in the same manner be bent or flattened against disk A, holding flaps E, C, and D.

It is obvious that the scope of my invention will permit the device to have any shape
75 other than circular and the tongues to be angular or otherwise, as may be desired. The disk A may also be provided with an additional tongue a^3 , as shown in Fig. 2, so that the lower flap F may be held by the tongues
80 in both the inner and outer disks or fasteners.

There is no special device prescribed for forcing the disk B down upon the disk A. It may be done with any implement having a hard flat surface, or, if preferred, a seal such
85 as used by notaries may be used, impressing upon the outer surface of disk B the name of sender, his business, &c.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim as new, and desire to secure by means
90 of Letters Patent, is—

An envelop-fastener consisting of an upper plate B and lower plate A, the lower member having at its central portion upwardly-projecting tongues a' , a^2 produced integrally
95 therewith and having an inward angle of inclination, and the upper member B, of smaller diameter than disk A, having produced integrally therewith on its edge a plurality of downwardly-projecting tongues b , said
100

tongues being bent inwardly at an angle of about thirty-five degrees, said tongues a' , a^2 and b being adapted to pass through all the flaps of an envelop as E, C, D and F and seal
5 the same when pressed against the opposing disks A and B, respectively, substantially as shown and described.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing as my invention I have signed my name in presence of two witnesses.

JOHN WARE WILKINS.

Witnesses:

M. MACLEAN,
B. M. OAKES.