

T. ORTON.

Combined Letter-Sheets and Envelopes.

No. 136,666.

Patented March 11, 1873.

Fig. 1.

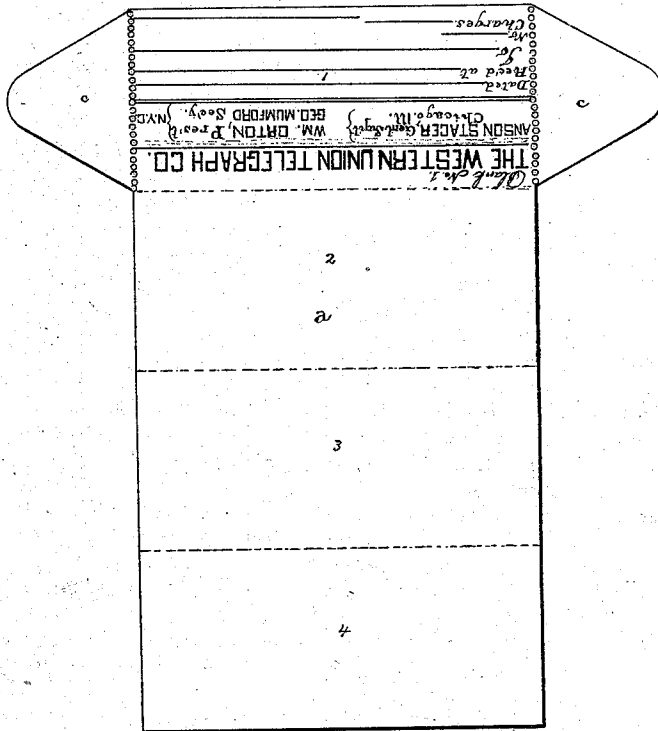
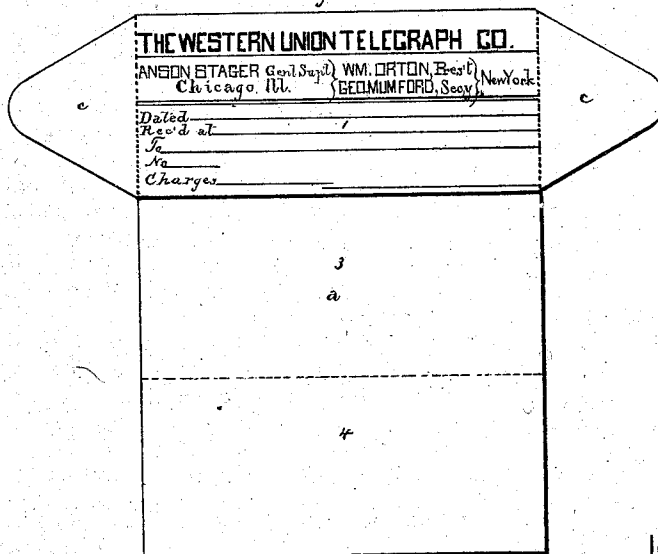


Fig. 2.



WITNESSES.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

THOMAS ORTON, OF CHICAGO, ILLINOIS.

IMPROVEMENT IN COMBINED LETTER SHEETS AND ENVELOPES.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 136,666, dated March 11, 1873.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, THOS. ORTON, of Chicago, county of Cook and State of Illinois, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Combined Letter Sheet and Envelope, of which the following is a specification:

The nature of my invention consists in the construction of a combined envelope and telegraphic-message blank, so that the address, which forms a part of the message, can be so placed upon the paper that it will envelop the message, and thus save the time and labor of rewriting the address upon a separate envelope, as will hereafter be more fully set forth.

In the accompanying drawing, Figure 1 represents a full-length view of my invention. Fig. 2 is a similar view of the same, the upper fold being turned back so that the address and message can both be copied together.

a represents an ordinary telegraphic blank or form, made longer than is usually done, so that it will have four folds, 1 2 3 4. Upon the upper fold 1 is printed the same heading as is to be found upon all telegraphic blanks, and attached to each end of this fold is a flap, c, which, after the message has been written, addressed, and folded, is pasted back, as shown in Fig. 2, so as to form an envelope. The printed heading and address are on one side of the paper, and the message on the other, so that when the address is folded back, as shown in Fig. 2, both the address and message can be copied upon dampened paper by a single impression, and when the message is folded the address will be upon the outside and the message upon the inside. When folded and sealed the message will be as completely hidden as though placed in a separate envelope, and the message thus inclosed may be opened without danger of marring the writing. The usual printed heading on telegraphic-message blanks is to be printed upon fold 1, with the usual blank space for the address. This fold is then turned forward over fold 2, and the message written directly under on folds 3 and 4. A copy of the address and message can then be taken upon dampened paper, to be retained in the office as is

always done, at a single impression. Folds 4 and 3 are then folded together, fold 1 raised up, when folds 4 and 3 are folded over section 2, and then fold 1 is returned to its place and the flaps turned back and sealed.

The universal method in use by all telegraph companies is to receive the message as it comes over the wire on a blank prepared for that purpose, with a printed heading, stating name of the company, together with space for the address of the person to whom it is addressed. Then follow the message and signature. An impression or copy of the message is then taken on dampened paper to be retained in the office, and the message then placed in an envelope, on which the address must be rewritten.

Where my form is used the message can be copied from it, and then when folded, it is ready to be delivered, saving not only an envelope but also writing the address a second time.

The essential requisites for a practical message-blank for the purpose stated are, first, that the message and address shall be on same side of the paper, so that both can be copied at one impression; second, that the blank can be so folded that the address will envelop the message so perfectly that not a word of it can be read while the seal remains unbroken; third, that the message thus inclosed may be opened without danger of marring the contents. All these advantages are evidently possessed by this invention, as clearly appears.

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

A letter-sheet and envelope combined, consisting of a rectangular sheet provided with side sealing flaps at its extreme end, whereby it is adapted to be folded and sealed, as herein set forth.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing as my invention I hereunto affix my signature this 2d day of January, 1873.

THOMAS ORTON.

Witnesses:

JAS. S. DICKINSON,
GEO. C. FELTON.