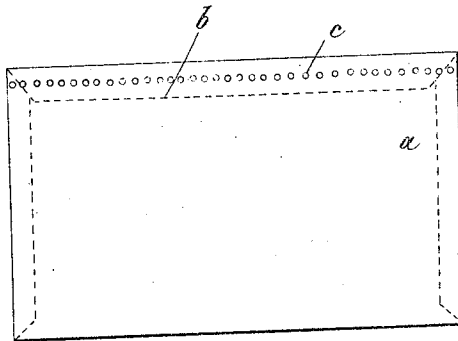


(No Model.)

R. HIRSCH.
ENVELOP.

No. 564,247.

Patented July 21, 1896.



Witnesses,

W. H. Graham

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Inventor,

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att'y

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

RAPHAEL HIRSCH, OF HANOVER, GERMANY.

ENVELOP.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 584,247, dated July 21, 1896.

Application filed January 8, 1896. Serial No. 574,768. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, RAPHAEL HIRSCH, a citizen of the German Empire, residing at Hanover, in the Kingdom of Prussia, Germany, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Envelops Incapable of Being Opened Without Detection, fully set forth in the following description, and represented in the accompanying drawing.

Envelops in common use are capable of being easily opened by unauthorized persons, their contents removed or tampered with, and their flaps closed and sealed so that it is impossible or difficult to detect the fraud. This invention has for its object to protect the contents of envelops by making it impossible to reseal the envelops without leaving evidence that they have been opened after the original sealing, at the same time effecting this in such manner that the contents of the envelop are left uninjured by the protecting means. This is accomplished by making the envelop with front and back portions of substantially similar shape and size and forming one of said portions with one or more gummed flaps adapted to be folded over the other portion and caused to adhere thereto along its edge. This envelop, after being sealed, is punched with perforations, or a line thereof along said sealed flap or flaps, at or near the edge or edges, thereby avoiding injury to the contents of the envelop, and in such manner that the three thicknesses of paper, namely, the flap, the front, and the back of the envelop, are completely perforated with corresponding holes or series of the latter. In practice it is impossible after an unsealing of such a sealed and punched flap to replace the three thicknesses and reseal the flap in such manner as to leave all of the various holes in the various thicknesses in exact correspondence with each other. The perforations being entirely through the envelop renders it easy to detect any variance from such correspondence or alinement of the holes.

In order to make my invention more clearly understood, I have shown in the accompanying drawing means for carrying it into prac-

tical effect without limiting my improvements, in their useful applications, to the particular constructions which, for the sake of illustration, I have delineated.

In said drawing the figure is a back view of an envelop sealed and perforated and embodying my invention.

Referring to the drawing, *a* is the body of the envelop, composed of front and back portions of corresponding shape and size and united with each other along one or more edges by any suitable means. Along the open edge or edges one of said portions has a gummed flap *b*, which is preferably narrow, as illustrated. After the envelop has received its contents and the flap sealed, as shown, perforations *c*, or a line thereof, as seen in the drawing, are punched entirely through the three thicknesses of the envelop, namely, the flap, front, and back, at or near the edge of the same. Such punching may be performed by any known or preferred apparatus or tool. In case the envelop is formed with sealed end flaps which are not punched, such end flaps may be secured by having the punched flap *b* sealed down over them.

This envelop has also the advantage that where the perforations are formed close together in a line, as shown, it may be readily opened by tearing off the edge on a line through the perforations. The body of the envelop may then form a neat receptacle for retaining the contents.

I claim—

An envelop having a body formed of front and back portions of substantially similar shape and size, and an edge flap, said flap and front and back portions being perforated by holes near the edge of the envelop and entirely through the three thicknesses of the same.

In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand in presence of two witnesses.

RAPHAEL HIRSCH.

Witnesses:

PAUL MANSFELD,
JOBS VIRACKE.