

M. VIERENGEL.
 ENVELOP.
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1,302,885.

Patented May 6, 1919.

Fig. 1.

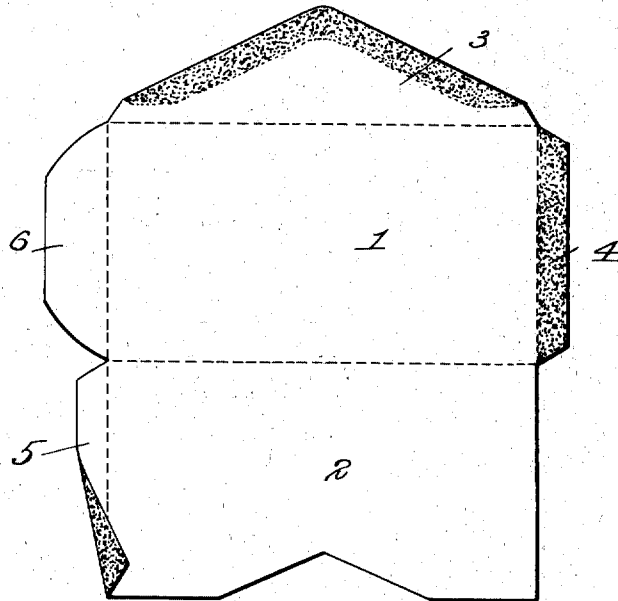


Fig. 2.

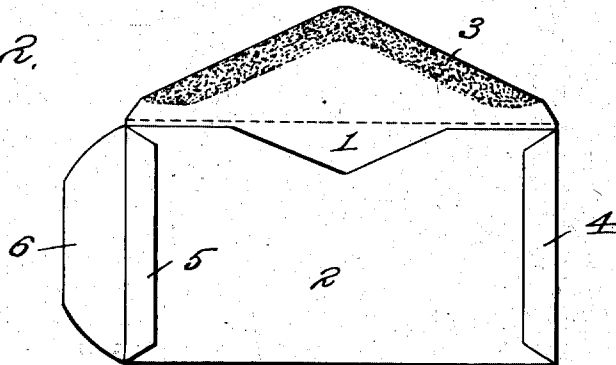


Fig. 3.

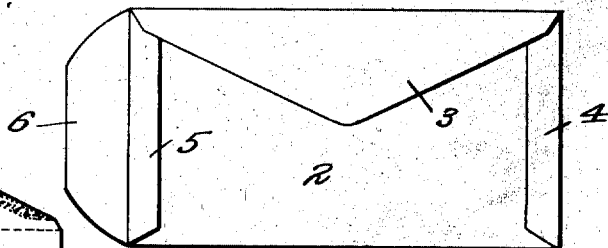
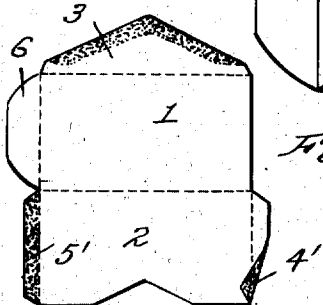


Fig. 4.



Inventor
 Matthew Vierengel
 By his Attorneys *Smith & Wadsworth*

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

MATTHEW VIERENGEL, OF BROOKLYN, NEW YORK.

ENVELOP.

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Specification of Letters Patent.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, MATTHEW VIERENGEL, a citizen of the United States, residing at Brooklyn, in the county of Kings and State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Envelops, of which the following is a full and clear specification.

My invention relates to postal inspection envelopes of the type which simulates the ordinary commercial envelop and are sealed in the manner of such envelops, but in which a flap, other than the usual sealing flap, is unsealed and turned in, so that the communication appears to be a sealed communication, but is, nevertheless, open to postal inspection.

In the usual envelops of this type both the end flap and the ordinary sealing flap of the commercial envelop are left unsealed by the envelop making machines and the user of the envelop, after inserting the communication, seals the ordinary sealing flap, leaving the end flap in folded position within the envelop in the way in which it has been folded and left unsealed by the machine. This end flap being, therefore, available to the postal inspector for inspecting the contents of the envelop.

The accompanying drawing shows the steps in the manufacture of my improved envelop,

Figure 1 being an elevation of the envelop blank at that point in its manufacture after the flaps have been gummed and the figure showing the back flap partly turned up to illustrate the gumming of the end flap thereof.

Fig. 2 is a similar elevation showing the point at which the back and two gummed end flaps are folded and sealed, with the sealing flap not yet folded and sealed.

Fig. 3 is a similar view of the completed envelop.

Fig. 4 is a similar view to a smaller scale and part broken away to illustrate a modified form.

The envelop blank is formed in the usual way and of any preferred shape and its flaps are of any usual or preferred shape. It may be formed preliminarily in quantity and handled from a pile or be formed during the course of making the envelops from a roll of paper. The drawing illustrates a form adapted to be made continuously in the machine from a roll of paper. In mak-

ing the envelop blank, it is provided with the portion 1, which is to form the front of the envelop, the portion 2 which is to form the back, the usual sealing flap 3, end flaps 4 and 5 at opposite ends of the front and back respectively and an inspection flap 6. The flaps 3, 4 and 5 are gummed and the flaps 4 and 5 will be gummed on the faces here illustrated or each on the opposite face from that here illustrated, depending upon whether these flaps are to be folded outside or inside of the back flap when the blank is folded. The flaps 3 and 4 are sealing flaps, but the flap 5 is merely a reinforcing flap to provide double thickness at the open end of the envelop. The reinforcing flap may be formed on the "front" and the inspection flap on the "back" instead of as here shown. The gum having been applied as shown in Fig. 1, the back 2 is folded against the front 1, the flap 4 folded with its gummed surface against the back 2 and the flap 5 also folded with its gummed surface against said back. The sealing flap 3 is then folded down against the back 2, its ends, in the construction here shown, but not necessarily in all cases, covering the ends of the flaps 4 and 5. The inspection flap 6 is left ungummed and not folded. The several gummed flaps having all been folded down and sealed the resulting envelop has the appearance shown in Fig. 3, and it will be noticed that the sealed flaps are all sealed in the machine and the inspection flap is left outside, so that when the contents are put in from the end of the envelop the inspection flap may be also turned in over the contents to keep them in safety.

In Fig. 4 I have shown a modified form of blank in which both end flaps are put on the back, but in which as in the other cases, the gum is applied to opposite faces of the flaps 4 and 5. In all cases, the gum, instead of being applied to the flaps, may be put upon the corresponding part of the envelop body.

The advantages of this method are as follows: Making the envelops with the sealing flap gummed down allows the envelop machine to be run much faster than ordinary machines, in which the finishing of the operation is necessarily delayed for the drying of the gum on the sealing flap. The machine is much simplified and cheapened by the omission of drying apparatus and other complicated parts attached to it. In actu-

ally using the envelop it has been found, in practice, that it is a much quicker operation to slide the contents in endwise and snap the inspection flap over them than it is to put the contents in in the old way, then moisten the sealing flap, turn it over and press it down. Furthermore, when the contents are put in in this way it is certain that the inspection flap will be put in in such manner as to prevent anything from falling out, but with prior envelops of this type much care has to be used in manipulating the envelop in order to put the insertion in correctly, so that it will be held in by the inspection flap, it being usually necessary to insert the finger into the envelop to hold the sealing flap away from the body of the envelop, so as to be able to get the insertion

between the inspection flap and the front of the envelop, this being the only condition which will prevent the contents from falling out when the envelop is in transit.

I claim:

An envelop having the body portion composed of front 1 and the back 2, an end flap 4 on one of said members sealed to the other member, reinforcing end flap 5 on the other end of the envelop sealed to the member which carries it, a top flap 3 on the front 1 sealed to the back 2, and an unsealed inspection flap 6 at the same end of the envelop as the flap 5, but unattached to said flap and carried by the member of the envelop body portion which does not carry the end flap 5.

MATTHEW VIERENGEL.