

A. C. COOKE.
SAFETY ENVELOP.
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966,383.

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Fig. 1.

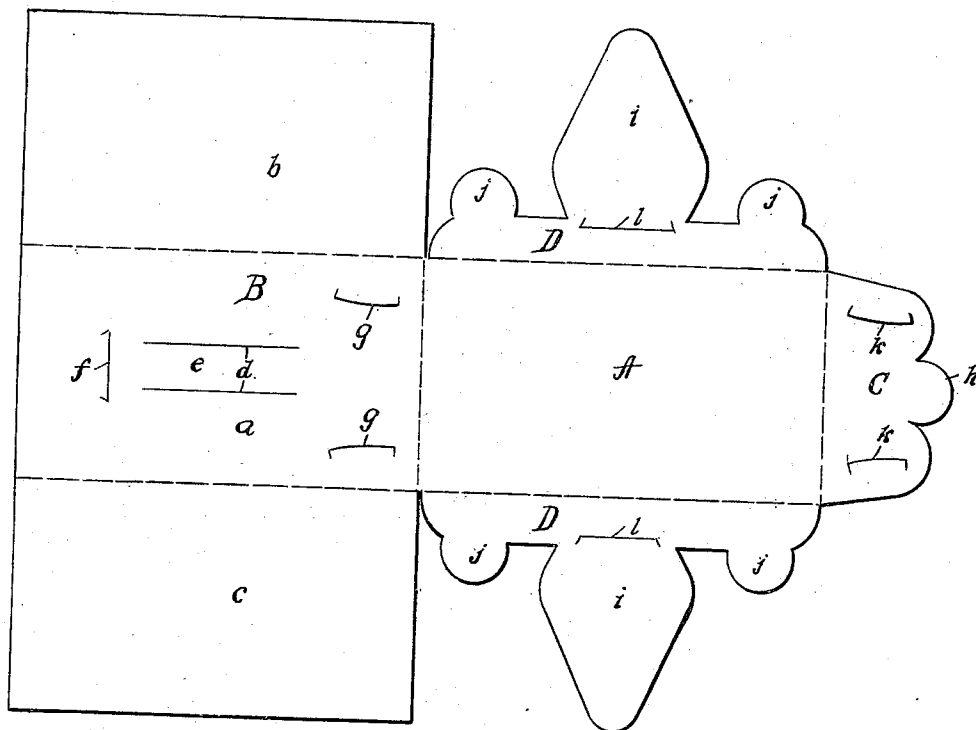


Fig. 2.

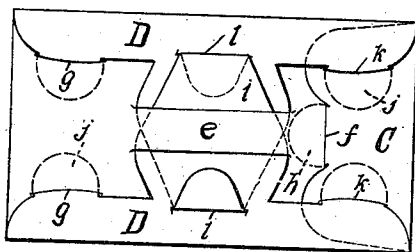
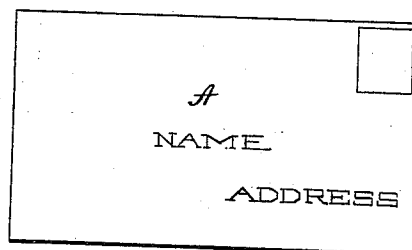


Fig. 3.



WITNESSES:

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SAFETY-ENVELOP.

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Specification of Letters Patent.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ANNA C. COOKE, a citizen of the United States, and a resident of Toledo, in the county of Lucas and State of Ohio, have invented a certain new and useful Locking Means for Packages; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and to the letters of reference marked thereon, which form a part of this specification.

My invention relates to locking means for envelops or other packages; and has for its object the provision of a simple, unique and highly efficient means of this class, which is adapted to securely lock the envelop, package, carton or other article to which it may be applied against accidental opening, but which is capable of being easily and quickly opened by the recipient without destroying its effectiveness.

The operation, construction and arrangement of the parts of the invention are fully described in the following specification, and a preferred embodiment thereof illustrated in the accompanying drawings, in which,—

Figure 1 is an unfolded plan of my invention embodied in a reversible envelop having letter sheets attached. Fig. 2 is a rear view of the same with the parts folded and interlocked, and Fig. 3 is a face view thereof.

Referring to the drawings, A designates the flap carrying portion of my invention to one end or side of which, as the case may be, is attached the part B. While this part may be of any desired shape or size, depending upon the nature of the package or article which it is desired to form, it is shown in the present instance as comprising the three panels or portions *a*, *b* and *c* forming a letter sheet portion and are adapted to be folded upon each other and then upon the part A with the panels *b* and *c* disposed between the parts A and *a*. The panel *a* of the part B is provided adjacent its center with two parallel slits *d d* extending away from the part A and forming a strap *e*. Adjacent to the outer end of such panel is provided a short transverse slit *f*, while adjacent to the inner corners thereof are provided the longitudinal slits *g g* as shown. At the side or end of the part A which is opposite the panel *a* is a flap or wing C,

which is adapted to be folded over upon the adjacent end of the panel *a*, when such panel is folded over the part A, and is provided with a tongue *h* for insertion within a registering slit *f* of such panel as indicated in Fig. 2. The remaining opposite side edges of the part A have flaps or wings D projecting therefrom for preferably the full lengths thereof for folding over upon the respective side edges of the panel *a*, and each of such flaps is provided with a small central tongue *i* and with a smaller tongue *j* at each side of the tongue *i*. The tongues *j* adjacent to the inner end of the part A register with and are adapted to be inserted with the slits *g g* of the panel *a*, while the other tongues *j* are inserted into registering slits *k* provided in the flap C, over the ends of which flap the flaps D fold, as shown. The large tongues *i* lap each other over the panel *a* and project in opposite directions under the strap *e*, provided in such panel by the slits *d d*, and the end of the outer tongue is turned inwardly upon itself and inserted through or hooked into a registering slit *l*, in the base portion of the other tongue *i*, as indicated.

It is apparent that the manner of folding the parts A and B is reversible, *i. e.*, the part B can be folded upon either side of the part A to adapt one side thereof for the address of the consignee or prospective customer and the other side thereof for that of the original sender where my interlocking means is used in connection with a return envelop. It is also apparent that my manner of interlocking the folds with each other and with the part B of the article provide very secure locking means for the same which is at the same time capable of being easily and quickly opened by the receiver of the same without destroying the efficiency thereof.

I wish it understood that the locking means which I have described and shown is not restricted to use in connection with a reversible envelop and letter sheet but may be used in connection with any article for which it may be adapted or appropriate, such for instance as cartons, or other similar objects; and also that such invention is not limited to any specific form, construction or arrangement of the parts except insofar as such limitations are specified in the claims.

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

1. A package having attached parts fold-

able one over the other, one of said parts having slits therein forming a strap, and tongues attached to the other part and adapted to lap over each other and to project in opposite directions through said slits when the parts are folded one over the other, one of said tongues having a slit with which the end of the other tongue interlocks.

2. A package having a plurality of parts foldable one over the other, one of said parts having slits provided therein to form a strap, and tongues attached to opposite sides of the other part and adapted to lap each other over the slitted part when folded and to project in opposite directions under said strap, said tongues being provided with slits adjacent their bases to adapt the end of either tongue to be projected through the slit of the other tongue, substantially as described.

3. A package having attached parts foldable one over the other, one of which parts is provided with a plurality of slits, a flap projecting from the other part in opposition to the slitted part and having a tongue adapted to interlock with one of said slits when the parts are in folded state, and tongues projected from opposite sides of the part from which the first mentioned tongue projects and adapted to lap each other and each to

project through two registering slits in the other part.

4. A package having attached parts foldable one over the other, one of said parts being provided with a plurality of slits, a flap projecting from the other part in opposition to the slitted part and having slits therein and also a tongue adapted to interlock with the slit in the slitted part when the parts are in folded state, and flaps projecting from opposite sides of the part from which the first mentioned flap projects and each having a plurality of tongues, a portion of which are adapted to interlock with slits in the slitted part, another portion to interlock with the slits in the first mentioned flap, and another portion being adapted to lap each other and to project in opposite directions through registering slits in the slitted part, said lapping tongues each having a slit with which the end of the other lapping tongue is adapted to interlock.

In testimony whereof, I have hereunto signed my name to this specification in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

ANNA C. COOKE.

Witnesses:

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