

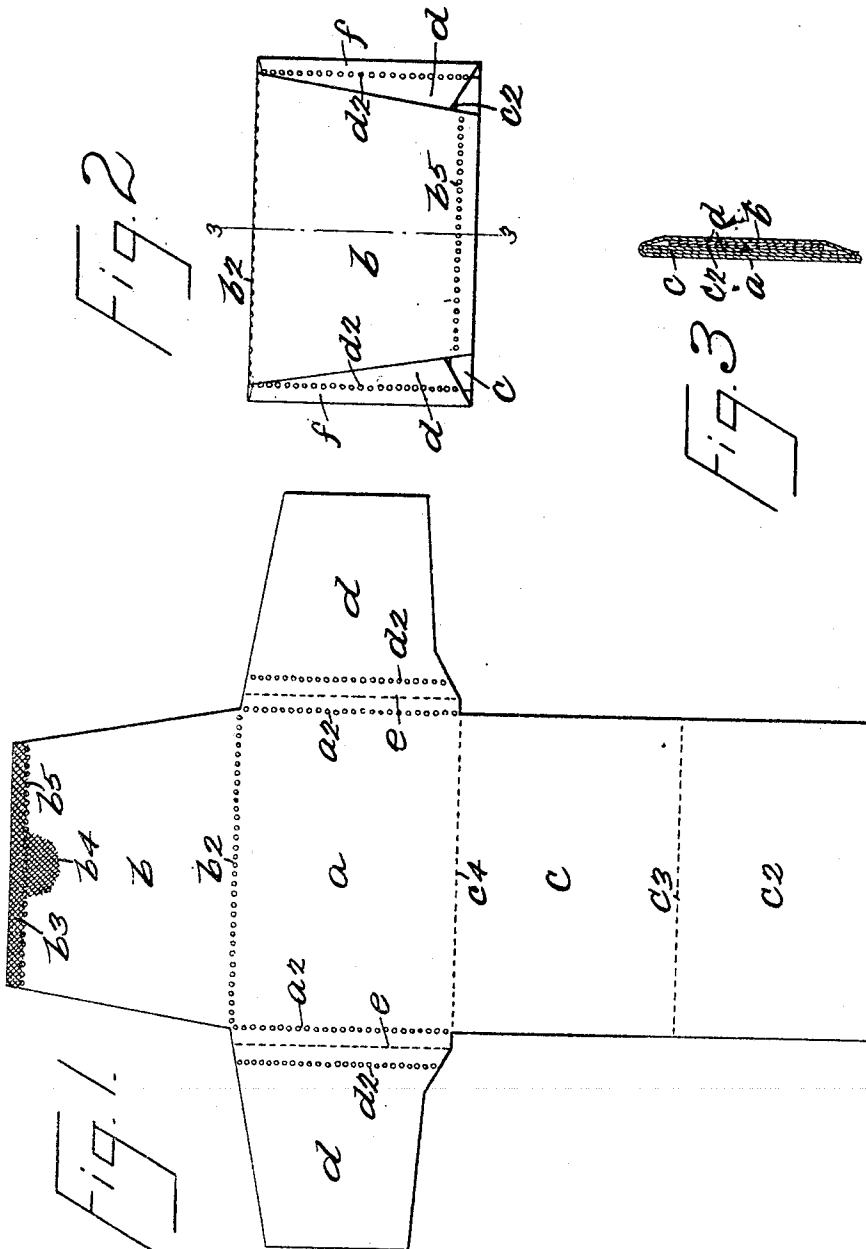
No. 818,657.

PATENTED APR. 24, 1906.

W. H. BASSINGER.
COMBINATION ENVELOPE AND MESSAGE BLANK.

APPLICATION FILED OCT. 15, 1904.

3 SHEETS—SHEET 1.



WITNESSES

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C. C. Mulreany

INVENTOR

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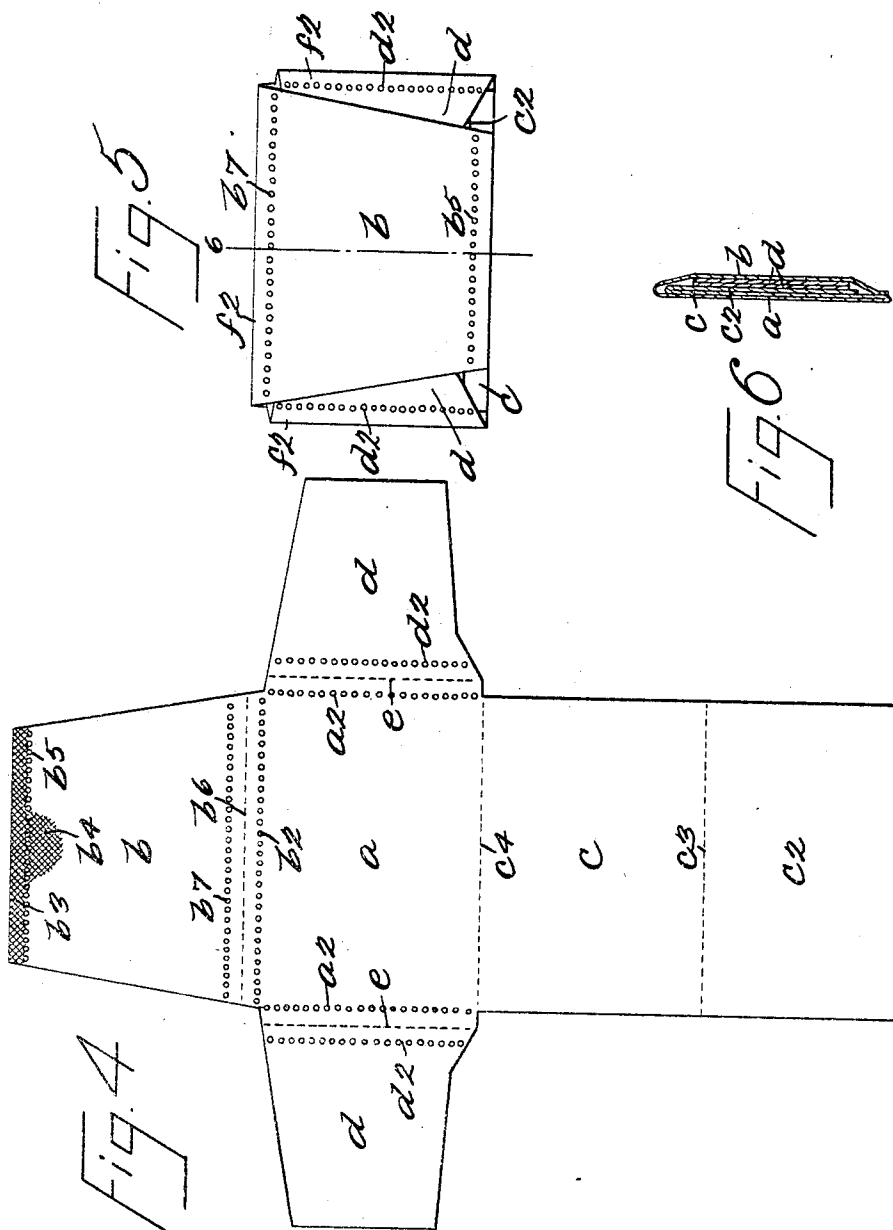
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WITNESSES

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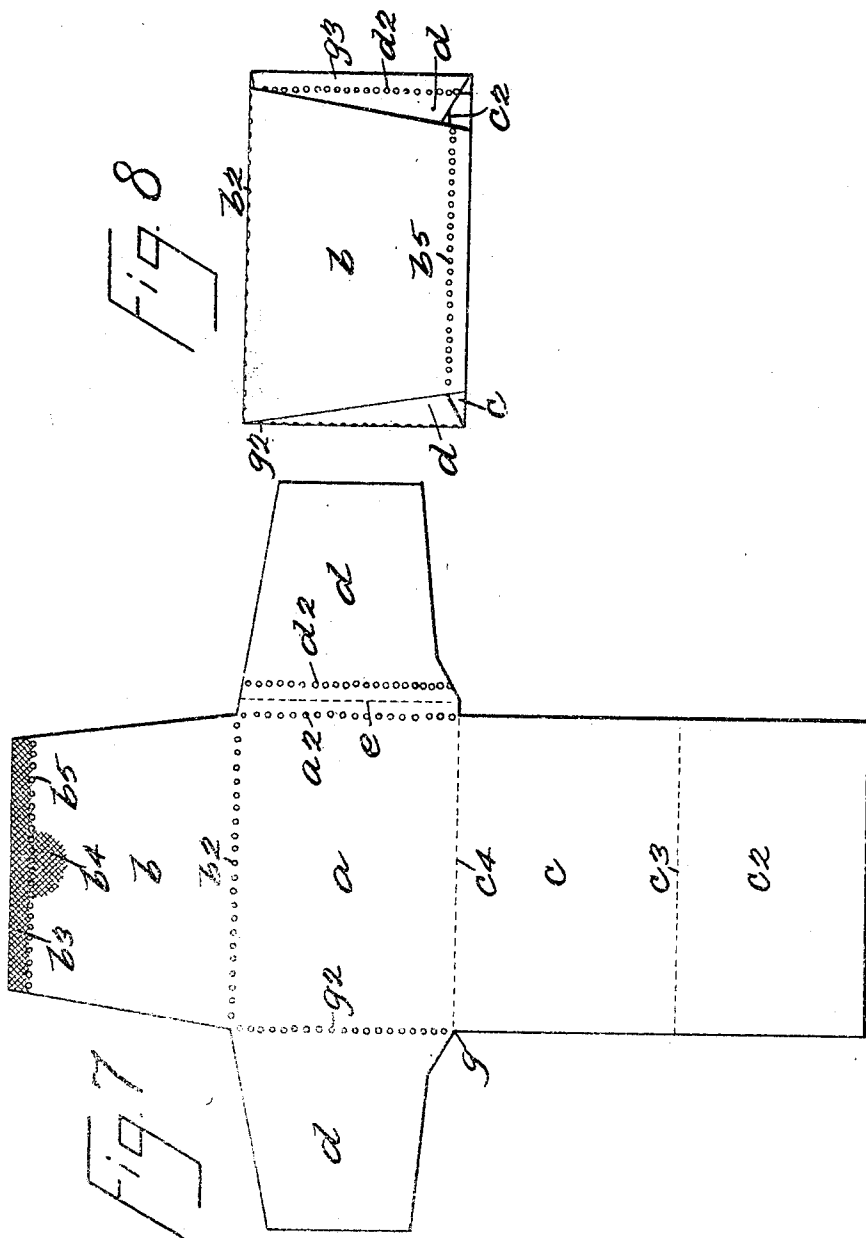
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3 SHEETS—SHEET 3.



WITNESSES

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLIAM H. BASSINGER, OF PASSAIC, NEW JERSEY.

COMBINATION ENVELOP AND MESSAGE BLANK.

No. 818,657.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented April 24, 1906.

Application filed October 15, 1904. Serial No. 228,522.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM H. BASSINGER, a citizen of the United States, residing at Passaic, in the county of Passaic and State of New Jersey, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in a Combination Envelop and Message Blank, of which the following is a specification, such as will enable those skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same.

The object of this invention is to provide an improved combination envelop and message blank designed particularly for use by insurance companies in sending out premium notices and by telegraph companies and by business men or houses in sending out announcements of various kinds or classes.

The invention is fully disclosed in the following specification, of which the accompanying drawings form a part, in which the separate parts of my improvement are designated by suitable reference characters in each of the views, and in which—

Figure 1 is a plan view of a blank which I employ; Fig. 2, a back view showing the blank folded into envelop form so as to be sent through the mail; Fig. 3, a section on the line 3 3 of Fig. 2; Fig. 4, a view similar to Fig. 1, but showing a modification; Fig. 5, a back view of the blank shown in Fig. 4 folded into envelop form; Fig. 6, a section on the line 6 6 of Fig. 5; Fig. 7, a view similar to Fig. 1, but showing another modification, and Fig. 8 a back view of the blank shown in Fig. 7 folded into envelop form.

In the practice of my invention, as shown in Figs. 1 to 3, inclusive, I provide a blank, which is shown in Fig. 1 and which is cut from any suitable paper or other material and which comprises a body portion *a*, provided at one side with a sealing-flap *b* and at the opposite side with a folding flap *c* and at each end with an end flap *d*. The separate parts *a*, *d*, and *c* are separated in the form of construction shown by folding lines *e*, and the end flaps *d* are of less width than the body portion *a*, but extend to the base of the sealing-flap *b*, and the bottom edges of said end flap *d* are cut away longitudinal and the top edges thereof are inclined, as clearly shown. The sealing-flap *b* is separated from the body portion *a* by a row of perforations *b*¹, and said sealing-flap is also gummed on the inner side thereof transversely of its free edge, as shown at *b*³, and this gummed portion centrally of the said free edge of the sealing-flap

b extends inwardly, as shown at *b*⁴, and the transverse gummed strip *b*³ is separated from the body portion of the sealing-flap *b* by a row of perforations *b*⁵. The body portion *a* is provided at each end and at a predetermined distance from the folding lines *e* with a row of perforations *a*², and the end flaps *d* are provided at a similar distance from the folding lines *e* and parallel therewith with a row of perforations *d*². The folding side member *c* opposite the sealing-flap *b*, the body portion *a*, and the sealing-flap *b* are all of the same transverse width, and the folding side member *c* is preferably provided with a supplemental folding extension *c*², which is of less width than the folding side member *c* and separated therefrom by a folding line *c*³, while a similar folding line *c*⁴ separates the folding side member *c* from the body portion *a*.

In practice supposing this device to be intended for use by an insurance company in sending out premium notices, the said notices are printed or written on the inner or on both sides of the folding side member *c*, also on the inner or on both sides of the supplemental folding member *c*², if the latter is employed, and if the device is intended for use by a telegraph company the same course is pursued, the message being written, preferably, on the inner side of the folding member *c* and on the inner side of the supplemental folding member *c*², if the latter is employed, and if the device is to be used by business men, houses, or concerns in sending out announcements of any kind or class the said announcements will be printed or written on the inner or both sides of the folding member *c* and the supplemental folding member *c*², if the latter is employed. It will be understood, of course, that the address is printed or written on the outside of the body portion *a* in the usual manner, and in forming the blank into an envelop and sealing the same the folding member *c* is first folded over the body portion *a* and the supplemental folding member *c*², if the latter is employed, is folded downwardly and backwardly over the folding member *c*. The end flaps *d* are then folded over the folding member or members, as shown in Fig. 2, and the sealing-flap *b* is then folded over the end flaps *d* and sealed to the bottom part of the folding member *c*. When folded and sealed in this manner, it will be seen that there is a narrow strip *f* at each end of the envelop, which may be pulled off bodily, and

the sealing-flap *b* may be torn off along the perforated line *b*² by inserting the finger, a pencil, or other device thereunder, and the said sealing-flap *b* may be torn off from the bottom edge of the folding side member *c*, to which it is sealed, and this leaves the body portion *a* and the folding side member *c*, on which the notice or other message has been printed or written, together with the supplemental folding member *c*², if the latter is employed. The folding member *c* may also be detached from the body portion *a*, if desired, along the line *c*⁴, and the notice or message on the said folding side member *c* may be carried in the pocket or in a pocket-book in the manner of an ordinary card, and thus retained for future reference. In this way I provide a device of the class specified which may be conveniently folded into the form of an envelop and sealed and which may also be quickly, easily, and conveniently opened whenever desired, the process of opening the envelop serving also to detach all the unnecessary parts from that on which the notice or message is printed or written.

The construction shown in Figs. 4 to 6, inclusive, is the same as that shown in Figs. 1 to 3, inclusive, with the exception that the sealing-flap *b* is wider along a line running transversely through the body portion than in the form shown in Figs. 1 and 2, and said sealing-flap is provided at a predetermined distance from the perforated line *b*² with a folding-line *b*⁶ and adjacent to said folding-line and at a distance therefrom equal to the distance of the perforated line *c*² therefrom with another row of perforations *b*⁷, and in folding the blank shown in Fig. 4 into the form of an envelop, as shown in Fig. 5, and sealing the same the folding member *c* and the part *c*², if the latter is employed, are folded over the body portion *a*. The end flaps *d* are then folded over the folding side member or members *c* and *c*², and the sealing-flap *b* is folded along the line *b*⁶ over the end flaps *d* and sealed to the bottom outer edge of the folding side member *c*, and this leaves a narrow strip *f*² around both ends and one side of the envelop, all of which may be torn off in the operation of opening the envelop, and the sealing-flap *b* may then be torn away from the back of the folding member *c* or it may be torn off along the perforated line *b*⁵.

It will be understood, of course, that in the use of the form of blank shown in Fig. 4 the notice or other message is printed or written on the parts *c* and *c*², if the latter be employed in the same manner heretofore described with reference to the blank shown in Fig. 1.

In the construction shown in Figs. 7 and 8 the folding member *c* with the supplemental folding member *c*², if the latter is employed, are longer than either of the other forms of construction hereinbefore described, the said folding member or members extend-

ing to the end of the body portion at one end thereof, as shown at *g*, and the end flap *d* at said end of the body portion *a* is separated therefrom by a row of perforations *g*², and the sealing-flap *b* is also separated from the body portion *a* by the row of perforations *b*², as in Fig. 1.

The operation of folding the blank shown in Fig. 7 into the form of an envelop and sealing the same is the same as that hereinbefore described; but the envelop formed in this manner is provided only at one end with a narrow strip *g*³, which may be torn off, after which the sealing-flap *b* and the opposite end flap *c* may be torn off by passing a finger, pencil, or other device around said parts, after which the sealing-flap *b* is detached in the manner hereinbefore described.

It will be understood that when the envelop is folded, as shown in Fig. 3, the perforated lines *d*² and *a*² at each end of the body portion *a* register, thus forming the narrow strips *f*, which may be torn off as hereinbefore described, and in folding the blank shown in Fig. 4 the perforated lines *d*² and *a*² at each end of the body portion *a* register, as do also the perforated lines *b*⁷ and *b*², thus folding the narrow strips *f*², as shown in Fig. 5, all of which are torn off in the operation of opening the envelop, and in folding the blank shown in Fig. 7 the perforated lines *d*² and *a*² at one end of the body portion *a* register, thus forming the narrow strip *g*³, which is torn off in the operation of opening the envelop.

The inwardly-extended portion *b*⁴ of the sealing-gum *b*³ is provided in order that the sealing-flap *b* may also be sealed to the end flaps *d*, as well as to the folding member *c*, if desired; and my invention is not limited to the placing of the sealing gum or medium on the flap *b* in the manner shown.

With each form of construction shown the folding of the blank produces a strong and compact envelop which may be securely sealed in the manner described, and by means of my improvement an envelop thus formed may be quickly, easily, and conveniently opened without the use of a knife or other tool.

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

1. A combination envelop and message blank, comprising a body portion, a sealing side flap, a folding side member opposite the sealing side flap, and end flaps; the body portion being extended at both ends beyond the folding side member and being separated at said ends from the end flaps by folding lines at each side of which are parallel perforated lines, the end flaps being also narrower than the body portion and the sealing side flap being separated from the body portion by a row of perforations, said sealing side flap be-

ing also of a width equal to that of the body portion and the free edge thereof being gummed on its inner side, substantially as shown and described.

5 2. A combination envelop and message blank, comprising a body portion, a sealing side flap, a folding side member opposite the sealing side flap and end flaps; the body portion being extended at both ends beyond the
10 folding side member and being separated at said ends from the end flaps by folding lines at each side of which are parallel perforated lines, the end flaps being also narrower than the body portion and the sealing side flap being
15 separated from the body portion by a row of perforations, said sealing side flap being also of a width equal to that of the body portion and the free edge thereof being gummed on its inner side, and the gummed
20 portion thereof being also separated from the remainder thereof by a perforated line, substantially as shown and described.

3. A combination envelop and message

blank, comprising a body portion, a sealing side flap, folding end flaps, and a folding side member opposite the sealing side flap; all of
25 said flaps being separated from the body portion by perforated lines and at least one of the end flaps being separated from the body portion by two parallel perforated lines, and
30 the body portion being extended at the end where the end flap is separated therefrom by two perforated lines, the end flaps being also narrower than the body portion and the sealing-flap being also of a width equal to that
35 of the body portion and the free edge thereof being gummed on its inner side, substantially as shown and described.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing as my invention, I have signed my name in presence of the subscribing witnesses, this 14th
40 day of October, 1904.

WILLIAM H. BASSINGER.

Witnesses:

C. J. KLEIN,

C. E. MULREANY.