

(No Model.)

A. McCANCE.
ENVELOP.

No. 570,289.

Patented Oct. 27, 1896.

Fig. 1.

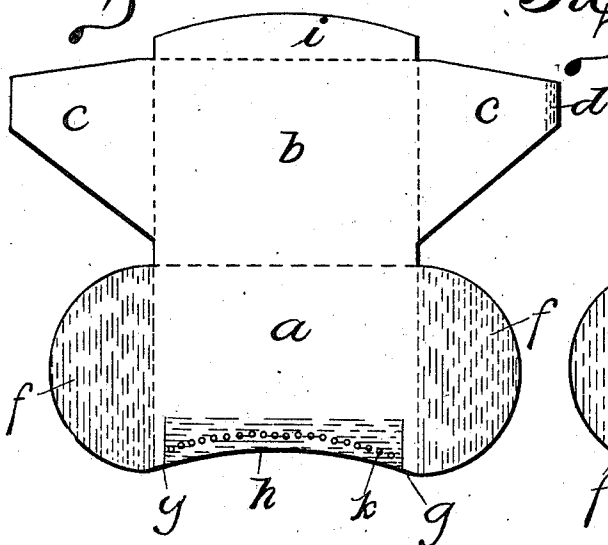


Fig. 2.

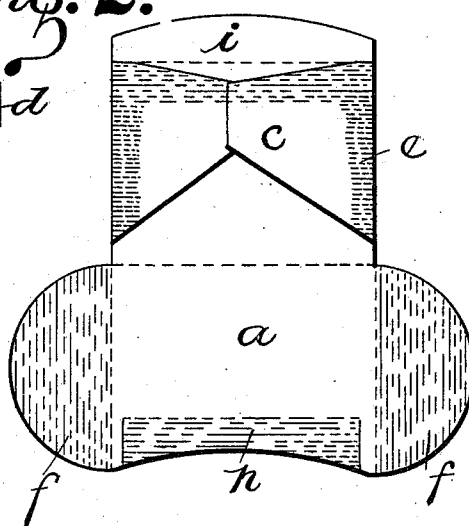


Fig. 3.

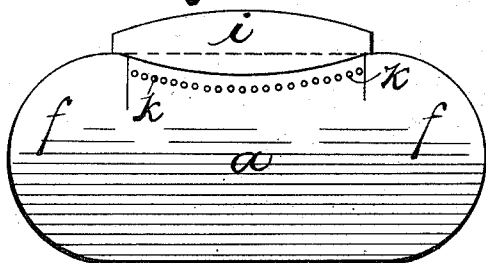


Fig. 4.

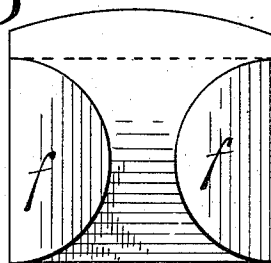
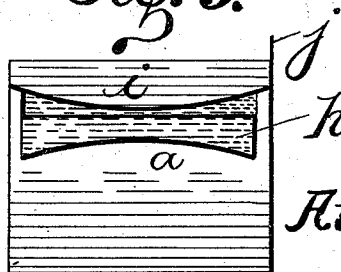


Fig. 5.



Witnesses:
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ALEXANDER McCANCE, OF WHITE ASH, PENNSYLVANIA.

ENVELOP.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 570,289, dated October 27, 1896.

Application filed January 14, 1896. Serial No. 575,428. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ALEXANDER McCANCE, a citizen of the United States of America, residing at White Ash, in the county of Allegheny and State of Pennsylvania, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Envelops, of which the following is a specification, reference being had therein to the accompanying drawings.

10 This invention relates to certain new and useful improvements in envelops in general, and relates particularly to that class known as "safety-envelops," and which cannot be opened without detection.

15 The invention has for its object the construction of an envelop of the above-described class whereby the envelop may be employed for the sending of money, checks, or other valuables, and the likelihood of the same being tampered with is lessened by reason of the detection being made possible.

20 A further object of the invention is to provide an envelop of the above-described class that will be extremely simple in its construction, strong, durable, effectual in its operation, and comparatively inexpensive to manufacture.

25 With the above and other objects in view the invention finally consists in the novel construction, combination, and arrangement of parts to be hereinafter more particularly described, and specifically pointed out in the claims.

30 In describing the invention in detail, reference is had to the accompanying drawings, forming a part of this specification, and wherein like letters of reference indicate similar parts throughout the several views, in which—

35 Figure 1 is a plan view of my improved envelop before being folded. Fig. 2 is a similar view showing the first fold in forming the envelop. Figs. 3, 4, and 5 are side elevations showing the different folds necessary to form the envelop.

40 In the drawings, *a* represents the front portion of the envelop, and *b* the back portion of the same. On the back are provided wings *c c*, one of which is gummed at the tip, as shown at *d*, and on the other side the said wings are gummed around the top and sides, as shown at *e e e* in Fig. 2 of the drawings.

The front portion *a* is provided with flaps *f f*, which are gummed on one side, as shown in Figs. 1 and 2 of the drawings, and this portion is also provided with slits *g g* near the flaps, which forms a flap *h*, which is also gummed on the same side as the flaps *f f*. On the top of the back portion is provided the tongue or flap *i*, ordinarily employed for sealing the envelop, which in my construction is plain instead of gummed on one side and is sealed as explained hereinafter in the description.

The manner of folding my improved envelop is as follows: When the envelop has been formed and gummed in the manner shown and described, the wings *c c* are folded together, and the gummed tip of the one wing adheres to the other wing, forming the first fold. The envelop is then doubled in the manner shown in Fig. 3 and the flap *h* is bent downward in the manner shown in Fig. 5. The flaps *f f* are folded over and sealed on the back portion of the envelop, and it is then ready to receive the contents. When the letter or other matter has been placed in the envelop, the tongue *i* is folded down and the flap *h*, having been previously moistened, is folded over the tongue and adheres to the same and to the gummed portions *e e* of the wings *c c*. The tongue *i* when folded down will also adhere to these gummed portions *e e*, as will be readily apparent by reference to Figs. 2 and 5 of the drawings.

By this construction of an envelop it will be noted that the tongue *i* is sealed on both sides and also to the wings *c c*, and when the flap *h* is folded there will be two thicknesses of paper between the inner seal and the outside of the envelop, which will make it practically impossible to open the same by steaming, as even should the outer seal be loosened the steam will not affect the inner seal.

To afford an additional protection, the stamp is placed partly on the body portion of the envelop and partly on the tongue *i*, as will be readily apparent. The flap *h* is also provided with perforations *k k*, which will make the flap much more sensitive, and should there be any tampering with same would show detection quicker, as the flap would easily tear, but would not permit the

person tampering with the envelop to get at the contents, as the other portion would still be sealed.

Another point to which I wish to call particular attention is that the address, seal, and stamp all being on the same side the envelop will not be liable to be mailed without being sealed, as the omission to seal would likely be detected before mailing the letter, and even should it not be sealed the stamp would form a seal for the same.

Another advantage in my construction resides in the fact that it obviates the necessity of turning the envelop over after addressing the same to seal, or vice versa, as is required in the ordinary construction, and another advantage is in the additional fold or seal on the ends of the envelop, as will be readily apparent.

It will be noted that various changes may be made in the details of construction without departing from the general spirit of my invention.

To facilitate the opening of the envelop, I have provided a string *j*, which extends a short distance above the top of the envelop when the same is folded. This string is fastened in the end of the envelop, and when desired to open a pull on the string will cut

the end of the envelop and allowing the removal of the contents.

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

1. In a safety-envelop, consisting of the front and back portions, wings on the back portions, and flaps on the front portion, said front portion having slits forming a flap provided with perforations, all of said flaps being gummed on the same side, substantially as shown and described.

2. In an envelop, consisting of the front and back portions, wings arranged on the back portion, and flaps on the front portion, one of said wings having a gummed tip, and being gummed on the reverse side, slits in the front portion forming a flap said flap being perforated, the perforated flap and the end flaps being gummed on the same side, and a tongue on the top of the back portion, all parts being arranged, substantially as shown and described.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature in presence of two witnesses.

ALEXANDER McCANCE.

Witnesses:

ALFRED M. WILSON,
H. E. SEIBERT.