

(No Model.)

2 Sheets—Sheet 1.

A. K. MINTON.
DUPLEX SAFETY ENVELOPE.

No. 424,123.

Patented Mar. 25, 1890.

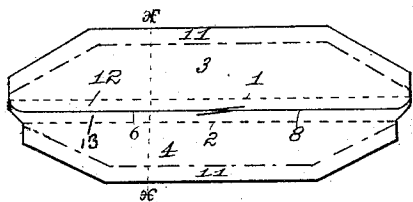


Fig. 1.

Fig. 3.

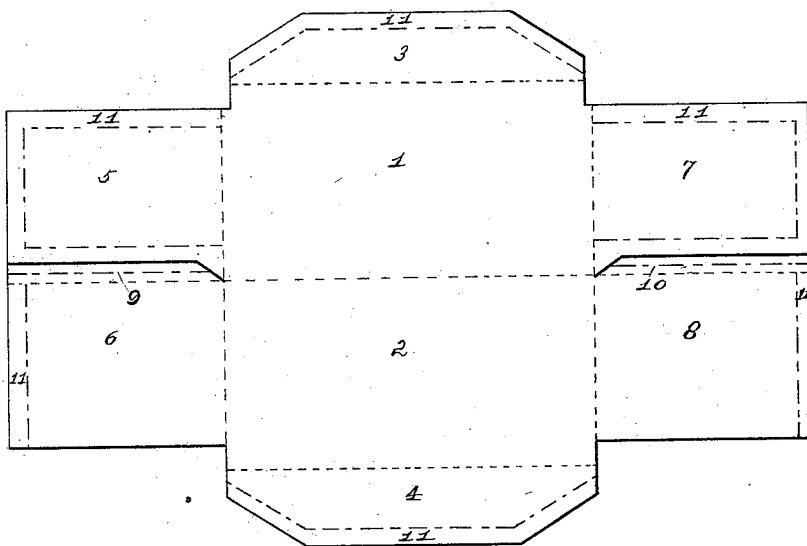
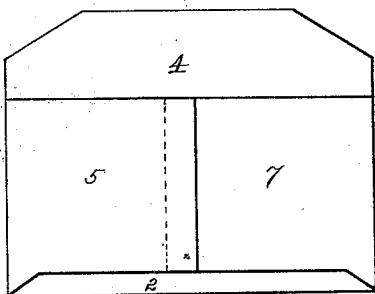


Fig. 4.



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2 Sheets—Sheet 2.

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Fig. 2.

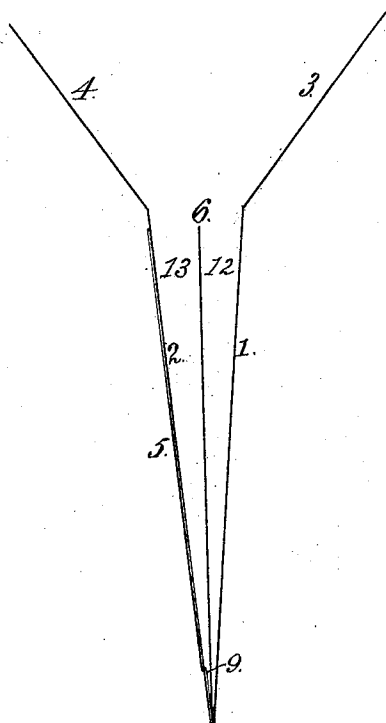
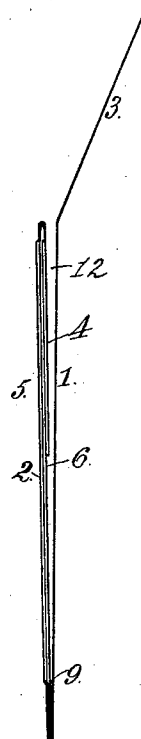


Fig. 5.



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Wm. J. Fowleski
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Albert K. Minton
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BY *A. J. O'Brien*
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ALBERT K. MINTON, OF DENVER, COLORADO, ASSIGNOR OF TWO-THIRDS TO
D. ALBERT ABRAMS AND WILLIAM E. GRAY, OF SAME PLACE.

DUPLEX SAFETY-ENVELOPE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 424,123, dated March 25, 1890.

Application filed January 21, 1889. Serial No. 296,972. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ALBERT K. MINTON, a citizen of the United States of America, residing at Denver, in the county of Arapahoe and State of Colorado, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Duplex Safety-Envelopes, of which the following is a specification, reference being had therein to the accompanying drawings.

My invention relates to a new and improved form and construction of envelope; and its objects are to furnish an envelope which while of simple construction shall have sealing-flaps so arranged that once sealed down unauthorized tampering or opening shall be impossible without the leaving of indications showing that such tampering or opening has taken place.

To this end my invention consists in a duplex envelope or one having two pockets or receptacles, each provided with its own sealing-flap, so that when either pocket is used for the reception of valuables or manuscript, &c., its flap is sealed down within the second pocket, wherein it cannot be reached for re-opening without total or partial disruption of such second pocket, whose flap is sealed down upon the exterior of the duplex envelope in the usual way.

In the drawings is illustrated an embodiment of my invention, Figure 1 thereof being a top or bird's-eye view of the envelope open. Fig. 2 is a transverse section on line *x x*, Fig. 1; Fig. 3, a plan view of one style of blank suitable therefor; Fig. 4, a plan view of such blank partially folded and secured. Fig. 5 is a cross-section on the line *x x*, Fig. 1, with the safety-flap 4 turned inward into sealing position.

Referring now to Figs. 1 and 2, the reference-numerals 12 and 13 indicate the two pockets or receptacles of the improved duplex safety-envelope. These pockets lie parallel to each other, and preferably are similar and of equal sizes, and are divided from each other by a central partition composed of the parts 6 8 of the blank hereinafter described. It may be noted that the reference-numerals used in these figures are the same

as those used for corresponding parts in such blank. Each pocket has its own exterior wall, 1 being that for 12 and 2 that for 13, and each wall has its own attached sealing-flap, the side 1 having the flap 3 and side 2 the flap 4. In practice one of the pockets—say 12, for the purposes of illustration—is to be used for the reception of the contents to be inclosed, and may be called the “contents-pocket,” while the other in this case then 13 is merely to receive and guard the flap of such contents-pocket. This is illustrated in Fig. 5, wherein the pocket 12 having received the contents—money or other inclosures—the flap 4 is turned down within the pocket 13 and sealed upon the interior thereof, the other flap being then turned over and sealed in the ordinary way upon the exterior of the envelope, one flap being used to seal its own pocket within the other pocket, while the other flap seals both pockets and the first flap and the contents within the envelope. Supposing this outer flap to be opened, as in Fig. 2, it is evident that the flap 3 cannot be got at and lifted unless the front or side 2 be at least partially destroyed; hence there is perfect security for the envelope and its contents against anything short of absolute theft or willful destruction of the entire thing.

Such an envelope may be made in several ways, and blanks therefore may be devised of various shapes and either of one or more pieces. If two envelopes of ordinary construction and of the same or even different sizes be firmly secured together back to back, a duplex safety-envelope will be produced. For economy of labor and material, however, in the production it is preferable that an envelope be formed from a blank consisting of a single piece of suitable fabric, properly shaped, creased, and gummed, and an illustration of such a blank is given in Fig. 3, in which the lines of cutting are shown in full lines, those of creasing by regular broken lines, and the limits of the gummed spaces 11 by unequally-broken lines—---, the numeral 11 being in full lines where such gummed spaces are on the side toward the eye and in dotted lines when on the other side. This

blank is composed of a central body portion divided by a crease or folding line into the parts 1 2 for forming the exterior faces of the envelope, the extensions for the sealing-flaps 3 4 being at opposite sides thereof. At the ends of part 1 are the flaps 5 7, and at the ends of part 2 the flaps 6 8, the latter having interior extensions 9 10, formed by cutting somewhat into the flaps 5 7, as shown. These extensions 9 10 are folded over upon the flaps 6 8, and the latter folded over upon the part 2 and secured thereto and to each other by the gummed spaces 11, forming the pocket 13, which is then turned over upon the part 1. The flaps 5 7 are then turned over upon the outer side of part 2 of pocket 13, and secured thereto, uniting all the parts together and forming the other pocket 12. It is evident that this method of folding the blank shown might be varied and other sequences of folding and securing followed to accomplish the same object; but the blank and the mode of its folding are sufficient and typical for

showing how the duplex safety-envelope may be formed.

Such envelopes may be of any desired shape—square or oblong—and open at the side or the end and of any desired size.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim is—

1. A duplex safety-envelope having a contents-receiving pocket, a sealing and closing flap therefor, a second pocket for receiving and guarding such flap, and a flap for such second pocket for sealing over both pockets and such first flap, substantially as set forth.

2. A duplex safety-envelope having outer sides or faces 1 2, a central dividing wall or partition between such faces or sides, and flaps 3 4, substantially as set forth.

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

ALBERT K. MINTON.

Witnesses:

Z. F. WILBER,

D. ALBERT ABRAMS.