

(No Model.)

P. H. EDWARDS.
CLASP FOR SAMPLE ENVELOPES.

No. 364,501.

Patented June 7, 1887.

Fig. 1.

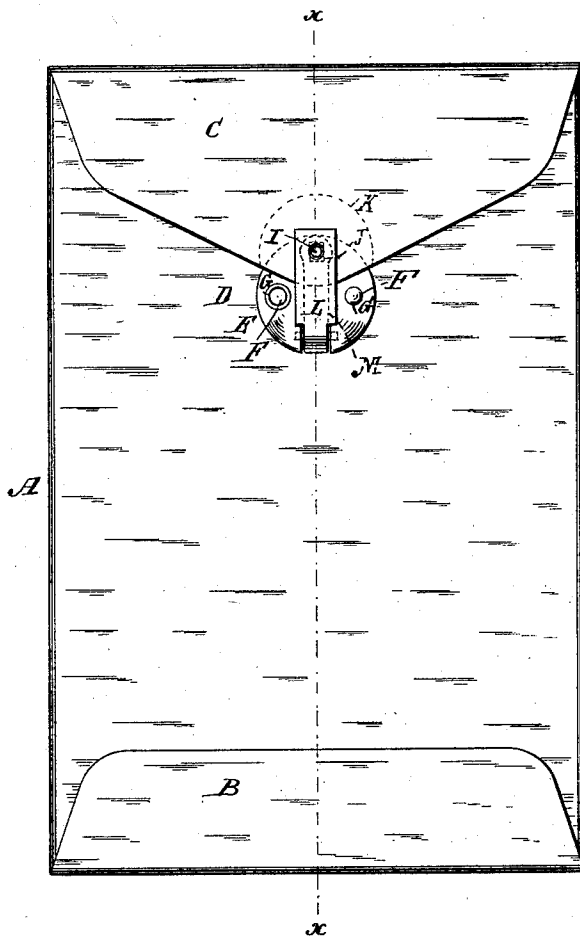
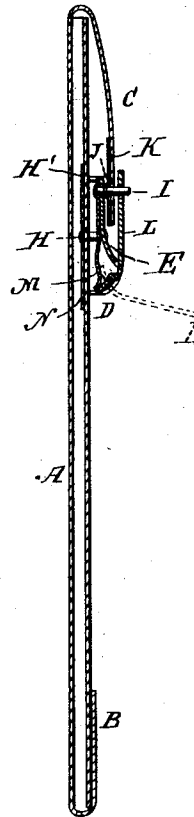


Fig. 2.



WITNESSES:

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PERCY H. EDWARDS, OF BROOKLYN, NEW YORK.

CLASP FOR SAMPLE-ENVELOPES.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 364,501, dated June 7, 1887.

Application filed March 3, 1887. Serial No. 239,566. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, PERCY HAMILTON EDWARDS, a citizen of the United States, residing at Brooklyn, in the county of Kings and State of New York, have invented new and useful Improvements in Sample-Envelopes, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to envelopes of the class known as "sample-envelopes," because they are intended and are used largely for sending samples of goods or articles by merchants to their customers. The invention is fully described in the following specification, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a plan view of the back of the envelope, showing the flap and its fastening; and Fig. 2 is a sectional view taken on the line *x x*, Fig. 1.

Similar letters indicate corresponding parts.

The letter A designates the envelope. The flap B at its lower end is permanently closed or sealed, but its upper or main flap, C, is closed by a removable fastening, D, in such a manner that the fastening can be opened to remove the contents of the envelope and to replace them again.

The fastening D consists of a spring-clasp having a body or plate, E, which is provided with openings F F through it to receive eyelets G, by means whereof it is permanently secured to the back of the envelope near to the lower part of the flap C, corresponding openings, H, being made in the back of the envelope to receive the eyelets.

Instead of eyelets, rivets G may be employed to secure the plate of the clasp to the envelope. The plate E is provided with a perforated locking-plate, L, and with a stud, I, which is adapted to enter the perforation in the locking-plate, and also to enter a hole, J, made for it in the flap C, as shown in the drawings, Fig. 2. The end of the flap C, at the place where the hole J is made in it and immediately surrounding the hole J, is re-enforced by a plate or disk, K, of metal, cloth, or other suitable tough material, which is cemented or otherwise secured to the end of the flap, preferably on its under side. The re-enforcing piece K is indicated in dotted outline in Fig. 1, and is shown in section in Fig. 2. When the stud I is inserted in and passes through the hole made in the flap C, and the perforated locking-plate L of the clasp is brought down over the end of the stud, as shown in the drawings, the

flap C and perforated locking-plate L remain engaged by the stud, because the perforated locking-plate is held down by the action of the spring M, whose free end bears against the tail-piece N of the locking-plate, while its other end is secured to the body of the clasp by the hub of the stud I, whose hub passes through both and is riveted upon them.

In Fig. 2 the perforated locking-plate L is shown in a raised position in dotted outline, in which position it allows the disengagement of the flap from the stud.

By perforating the end of the locking-plate it is allowed to pass down over the stud, and the locking-plate is permitted to press on the flap C and hold it down close to the body of the envelope, and thereby add to the security of the envelope.

This improvement possesses the characteristics of safety in securely locking the envelope, of being easily opened and locked again, of neatness in appearance, of facility and cheapness of production, of economy, inasmuch as the envelope is so constructed as to remain uninjured from being often closed and opened. The improved envelope meets, also, the requirement of the postal law in being capable of being opened readily to examine its contents.

The back of the envelope underneath the place where the body of the clasp is riveted to it is re-enforced by a disk, H', of metal, cloth, or other suitable material, so as to strengthen that part of the envelope and give a firmer hold to the rivets or eyelets.

What I claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

A sample-envelope having the re-enforcing disk H' on the inside of its back, and having the flap C, provided with the re-enforcing disk K, and with an opening extending through it and the disk, in combination with the plate E, riveted to the disk H', the stud I, and the spring locking-plate L, having an opening through it, and adapted to pass onto said stud to bear directly upon the envelope-flap and press it closely to the envelope-back, substantially as described.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand and seal in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

P. H. EDWARDS. [L. S.]

Witnesses:

W. HAUFF,

J. VAN SANTVOORD.