

# H.C. Bristol. Envelope.

N<sup>o</sup> 41,828. Patented Mar. 8, 1864.

Fig: 3.

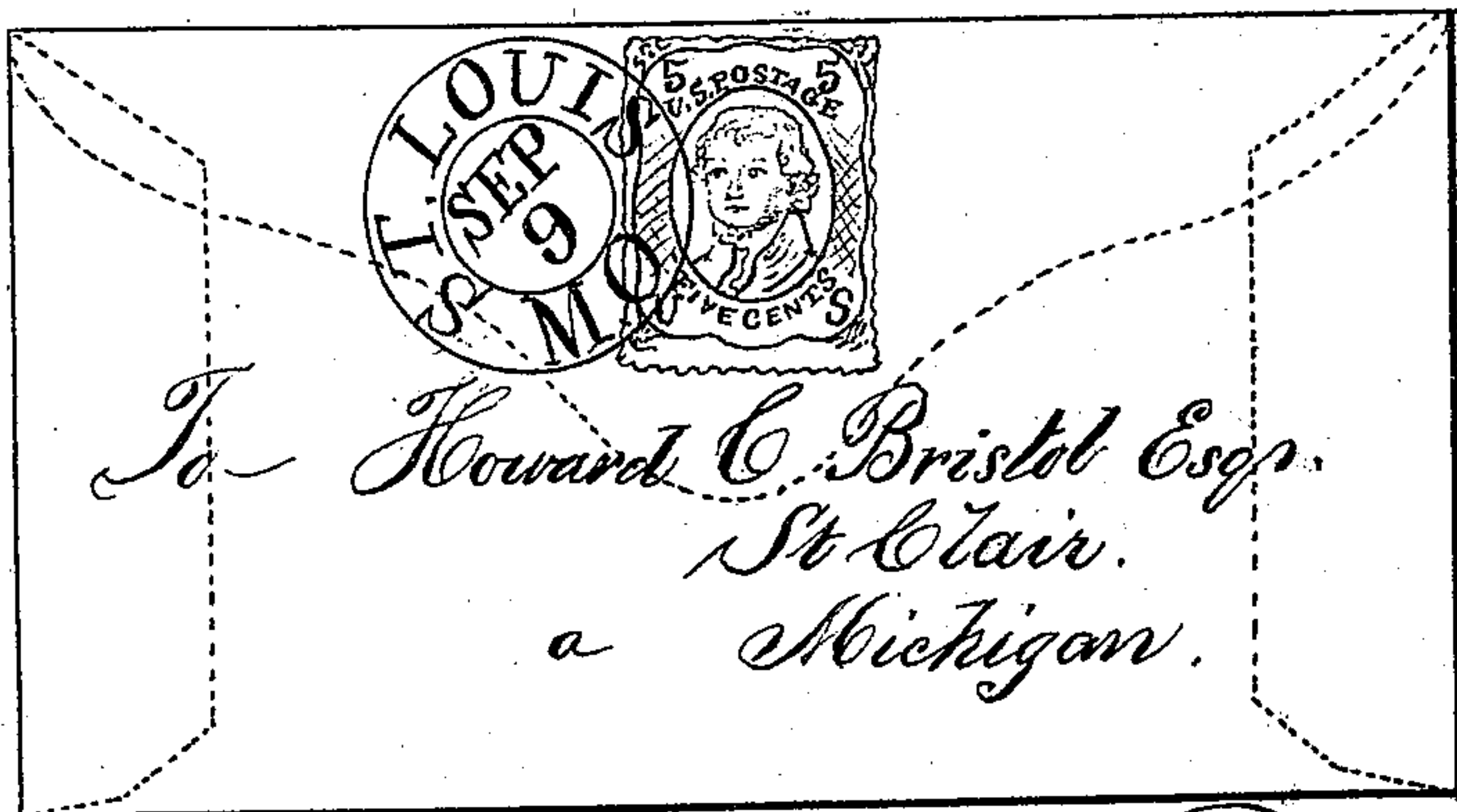


Fig: 1.

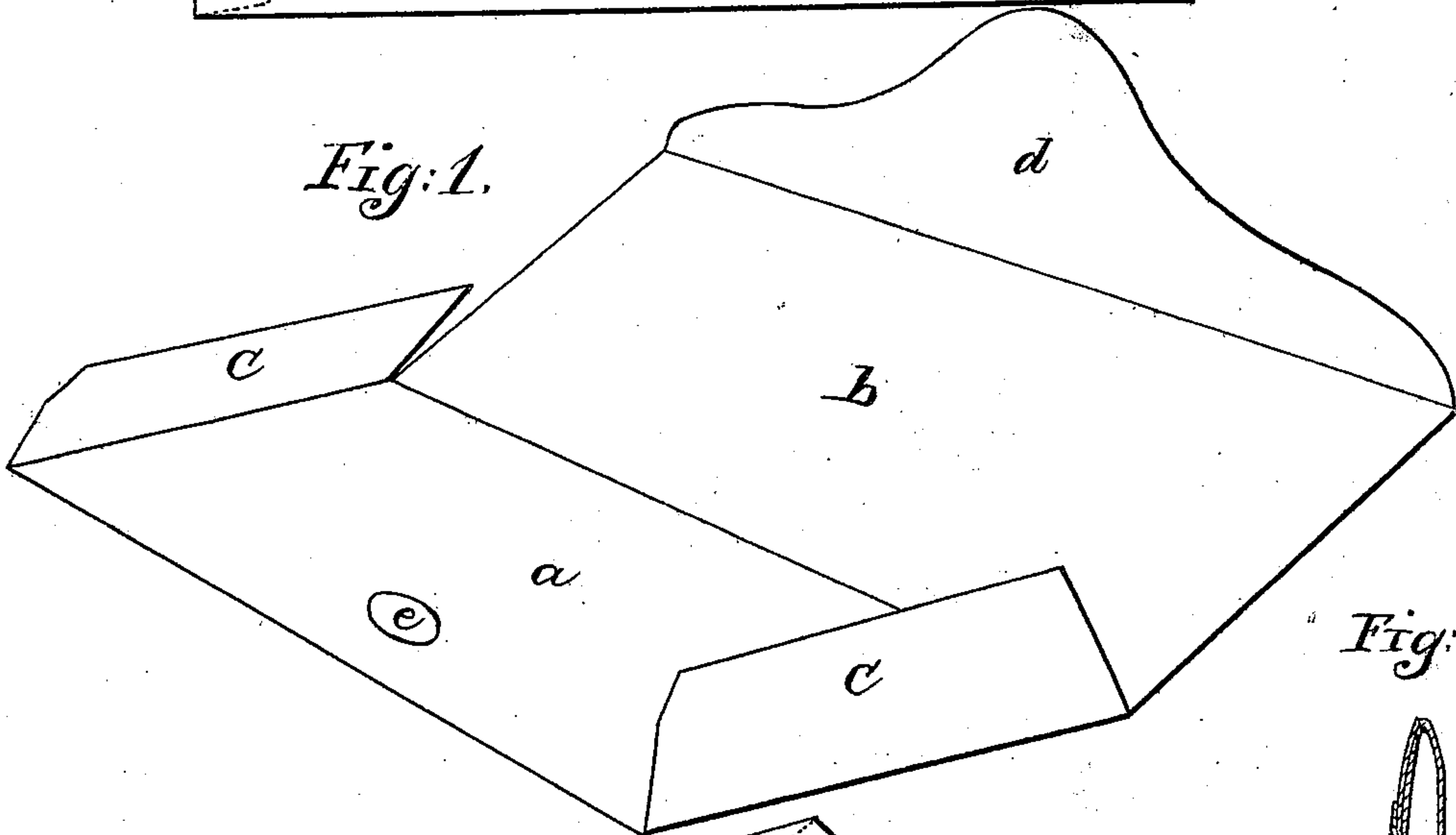


Fig: 2.

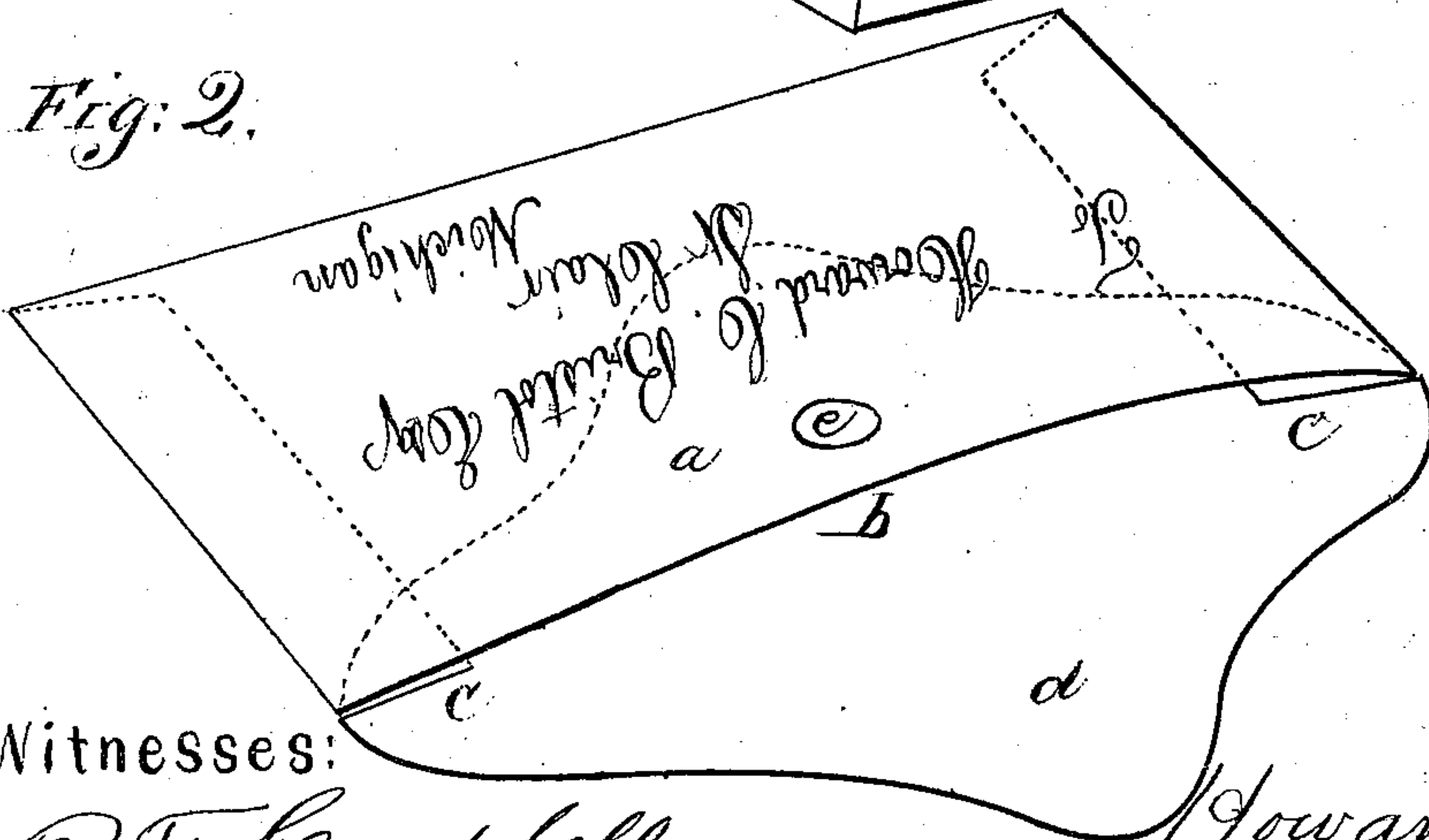
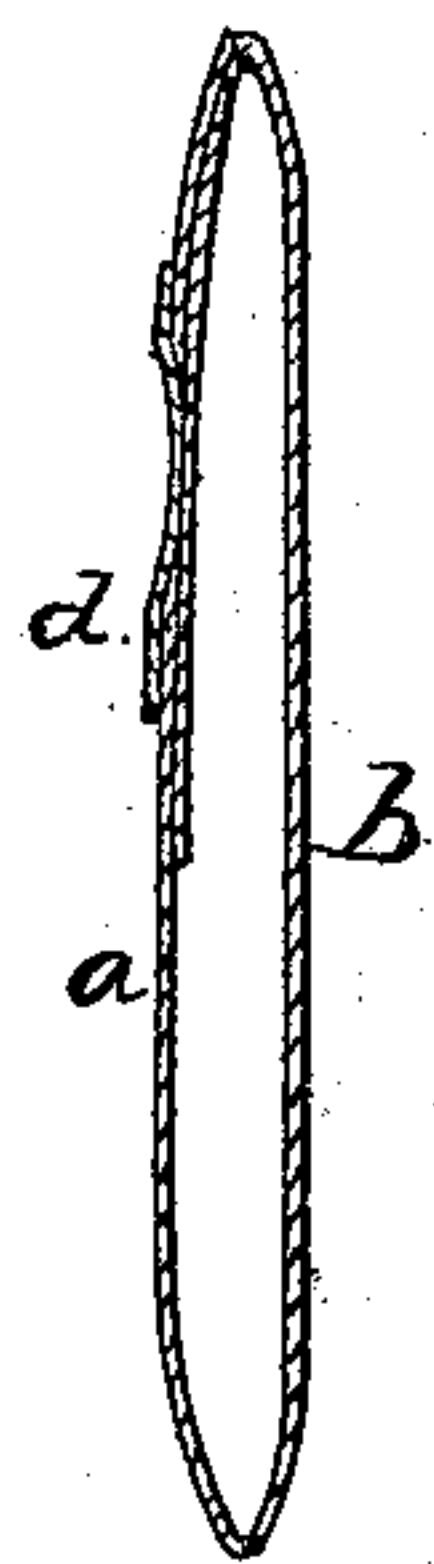


Fig: 4.



Witnesses:

R. T. Campbell  
E. Schaffer

Inventor:

Howard C. Bristol.  
by his Attys:  
Mason, Fenner & Lawrence.



# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

HOWARD C. BRISTOL, OF ST. CLAIR, MICHIGAN.

## ENVELOPE.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 41,828, dated March 8, 1864.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, HOWARD C. BRISTOL, of St. Clair, county of St. Clair, and State of Michigan, have invented a new and Improved Envelope; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description thereof, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, making a part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 shows in a perspective view a piece of paper cut of the proper shape to form the improved envelope. Fig. 2 is a perspective view of the envelope ready for use. Fig. 3 shows my improved envelope sealed, "stamped," and addressed. Fig. 4 is a cross-section through the envelope of Fig. 3, showing the postage-stamp adhering to the inside flap.

Similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts in the several figures.

The object of this invention is to produce envelopes for containing letters and other packages which are so prepared that they cannot be tampered with nor the sealed contents got at without these facts appearing on the face of the envelopes, while at the same time the envelope is so formed as to present two outer surfaces or "fronts," upon one of which the superscription may be written, and upon the other an advertising-card printed.

The nature of my invention consists in cutting out the paper of which the envelopes are made of such form that when the end flaps are pasted on the inside surface of the face of the envelope the sealing-flap will form a part of the back of the envelope instead of the front, as hitherto. Said flap being gummed on its outside surface and along its creased or folded edge and introduced within the envelope, this flap will adhere to the inside surface of the front of the envelope and prevent the opening of the letter without mutilating the superscription, and thus making the fact apparent if the letter had been tampered with, all as will be hereinafter described.

To enable others skilled in the art to make and use my invention, I will describe its construction.

The shape of the piece of paper before it is folded, pasted, and formed into an envelope is represented in Fig. 1, *a* being the front side of the envelope for receiving the superscrip-

tion, and *b* the back side thereof. The end extensions, *c c*, which are left on the front part, *a*, fold in between the two portions *a b*, instead of outside, as hitherto, and serve, when properly pasted, to unite these portions together at their ends.

The front and back portions, *a b*, are of the same length and width, so that when the envelope is ready for use the edge of portion *a* will just meet the crease of the flap *d*, which is formed on the back portion, *b*, as shown clearly in Fig. 4. The end flaps or lips *c c*, being pasted to the inside surfaces of the back portion *b* at its ends, the envelope is ready to receive the letter, as shown in Fig. 2. The letter is put into this envelope and secured therein by inserting the flap *d* between the letter and the front portion, *a*, as shown in Fig. 4, and sealing this flap *d* to the inside surface of this portion *a*.

The ends of the envelope may be sealed with some insoluble cement, and the lips *c c* may extend some distance inside of the envelope, so that they cannot be unsealed without mutilating the front portion, *a*, and the superscription thereon. The outside surface of the flap *d* may be covered with gum, so as to make this flap "self-sealing," and the gum should be applied either over the entire surface (outside) of the flap or along its three edges—the straight or folded edge as well as the curved edges.

It will be seen that when the flap *d* is thus caused to adhere to the front portion, *a*, it will be impossible to remove the contents of the envelope without mutilating it.

As an additional security, I make an opening through the front portion, *a*, at *e*, (shown in Figs. 1, 2, and 4,) over which the postage-stamp is pasted after the letter is sealed, as shown in Figs. 3 and 4. The stamp will thus adhere to the surface of the flap *d*, as well as to the outside surface of the portion *a*. This opening, however, may be omitted, thus presenting a smooth unbroken face or surface on both sides of the envelope, one of which may be used for the superscription of the letter and the other for an advertising-card.

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

1. So forming a letter-envelope, substan-

ially as shown and described, that when the same is sealed it shall present two fronts, having a smooth unbroken surface, upon one of which the superscription may be written and upon the other an advertising-card printed.

2. A letter-envelope constructed with a single flap, *d*, coincident with the length of the body of the envelope, and with reduced end

flaps coincident with the width of the body of the envelope, substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

HOWARD C. BRISTOL.

Witnesses:

LOUIS ALBORN,  
A. E. BRISTOL.