

A. M. Murphy, Envelope.

No. 43,126.

Patented June 14, 1884.

Fig 3

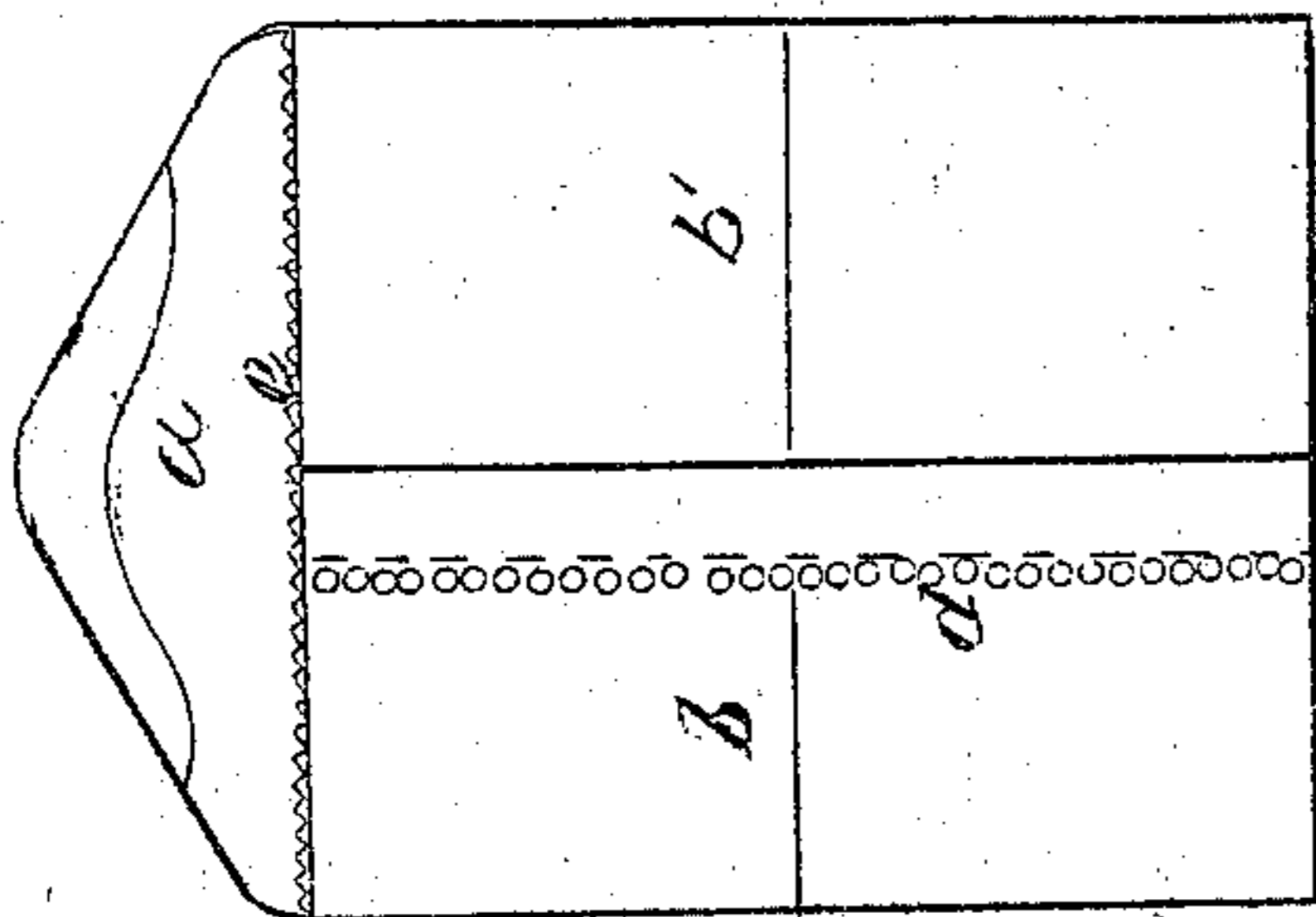


Fig 4

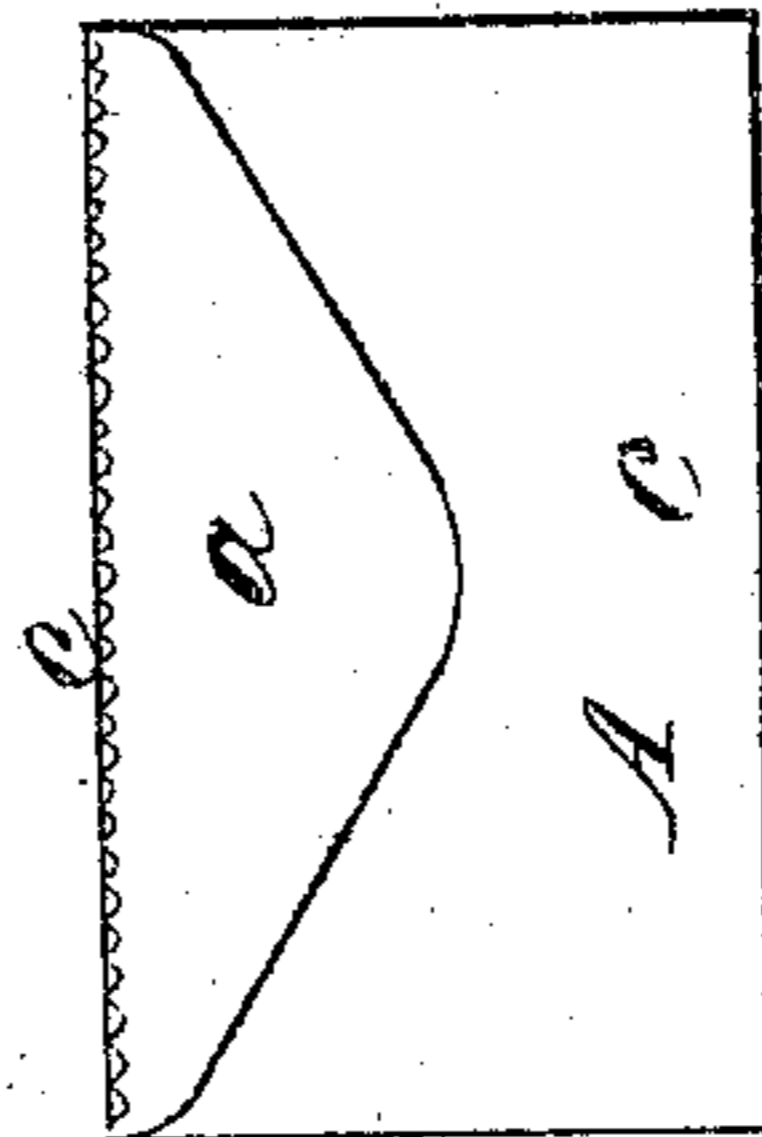


Fig 1

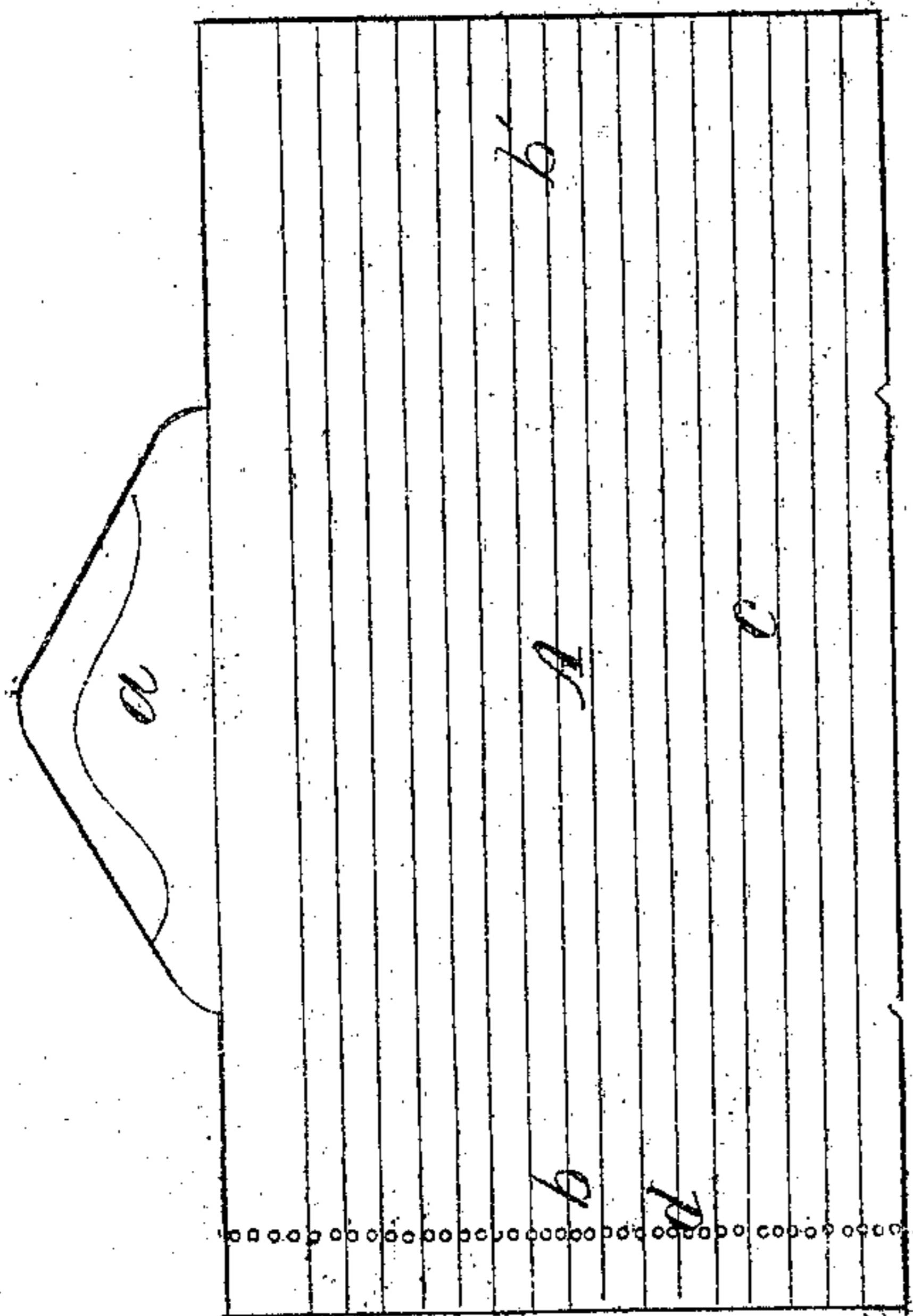
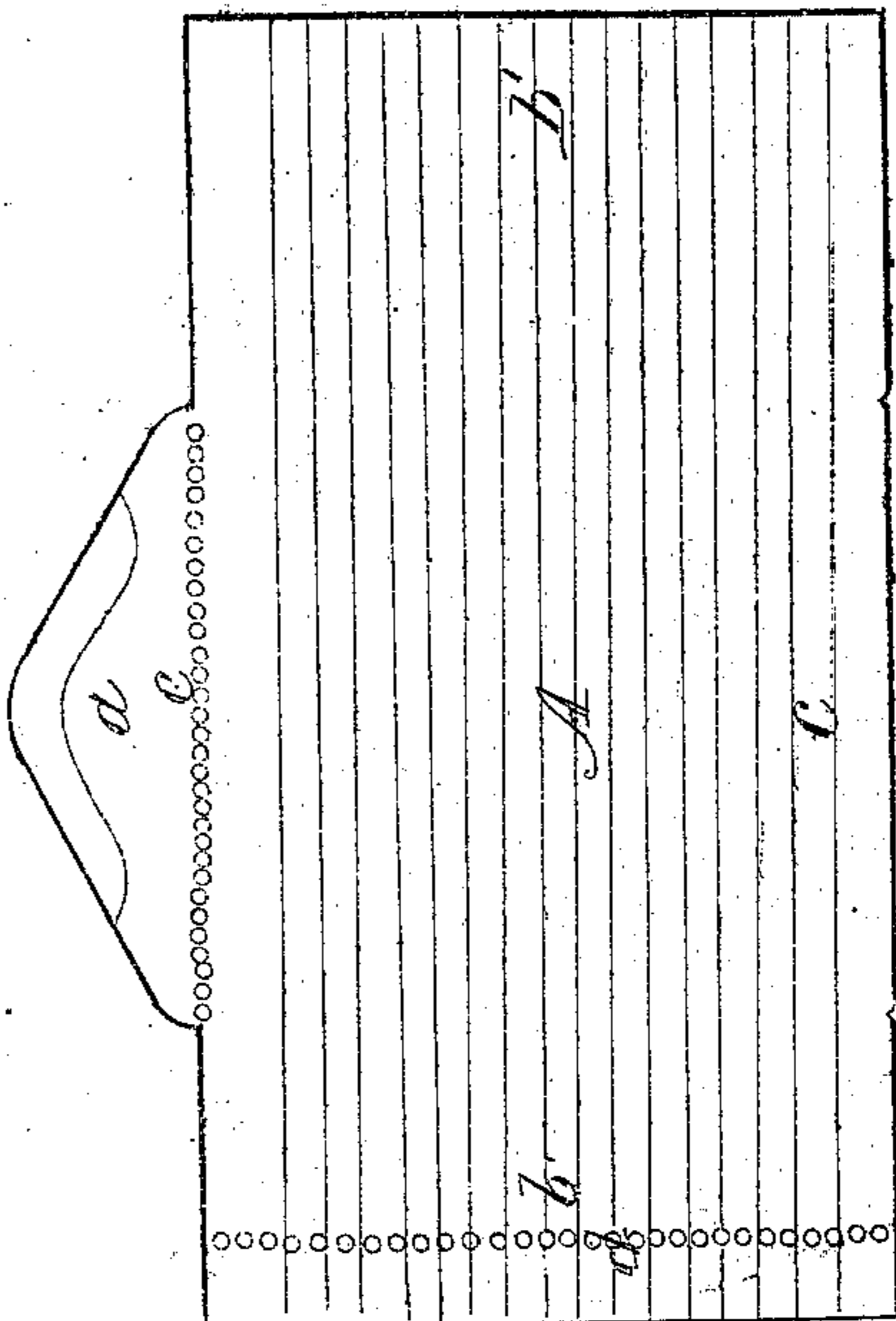


Fig 2



Witnesses.

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Inventor.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ANNA M. MURPHY, OF NEW YORK, N. Y.

IMPROVEMENT IN LETTER-ENVELOPES.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 43,126, dated June 14, 1864.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ANNA M. MURPHY, of the city, county, and State of New York, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Letter-Envelopes; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description of the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, forming a part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 represents a plan of one of my letter sheets when unfolded. Fig. 2 is a similar view of the same having the folding edge of the seal-flap perforated to facilitate the opening of the same. Fig. 3 is a similar view of the same partially folded. Fig. 4 is a similar view of the same when completely folded.

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

This invention is an improvement on that class of letter-envelopes on which Letters Patent have been granted to William Murphy, June 2, 1863; and the object of the same is to facilitate the operation of opening the letter without tearing the same.

The nature of my invention and its peculiar advantages will be readily understood from the following description:

My letter-envelope consists of a sheet, A, of ordinary writing-paper, ruled or unruled, and provided with a flap, *a*, at its head similar to the closing flap of an ordinary envelope. This flap occupies the middle portion of the sheet, and it extends over less than one-half its full length, leaving room for the side flaps, *b b'*, one on either side, as clearly shown in Figs. 1 and 2 of the drawings. The side flaps extend down over the full width of the sheet, and they form an essential part of the same, being intended to be written upon the same as the central portion or body, *c*, of the sheet. The width of the flaps *b b'* is such that when the same are folded, as shown in Fig. 3, the edge of the flap *b* overlaps that of the flap *b'*, and when the edge of the flap *b* is provided with gum the two flaps can be firmly united.

In opening the letter it is desirable to preserve intact all that portion of the sheet which is covered with the writing, and in separating the two flaps *b b'*, I met with the great difficulty that the same could not be separated nicely without a knife or scissors. Such instruments are not always on hand, and

I have therefore devised some simple means whereby the proper separation of the two flaps can be effected easily and without the use of any instrument whatever. This purpose I have effected by a series of perforations, *d*, in the flap *b*, just behind the gum, as clearly shown in Figs. 1 and 2. If the two flaps *b b'* are gummed together and it is desired to separate them, a slight strain will part the flap *b* in the line of the perforations and the writing on the letter-sheet is not injured. This same observation also applies to the seal-flap *a*. If the folding edge of this flap is left intact, as shown in Fig. 1, and the letter is opened incautiously, the writing on the body of the letter-sheet is liable to be injured. This difficulty I have obviated by the application of a series of perforations, *e*, on the folding edge of the seal-flap, as clearly shown in Fig. 2 of the drawings. By these means a letter written on one of my sheets can readily be opened without the aid of any instrument, and the danger of spoiling or injuring any part of the writing is effectually obviated.

I do not claim as my invention the application of perforations to envelopes for the purpose of facilitating the opening of the same, as I am aware that such have before been used in various ways. I am also aware that the patent of William Murphy, before referred to, describes an envelope letter-sheet resembling mine in its general form. This, therefore, I do not claim, but I have found that the use of the two lines of perforations *d* and *e* applied to the side lap, *b*, and sealing-lap *a*, respectively, remove the great difficulty existing in the use of the said William Murphy's device and make a much more complete and useful article.

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

As a new article of manufacture, an envelope letter-sheet constructed with a center, *c*, side laps, *b b'*, sealing-lap *a*, and two rows of perforations, *d* and *e*, all as herein described, and for the purposes specified.

ANNA M. MURPHY.

Witnesses:

THOS. J. DOUGLAS,
WM. REETH.