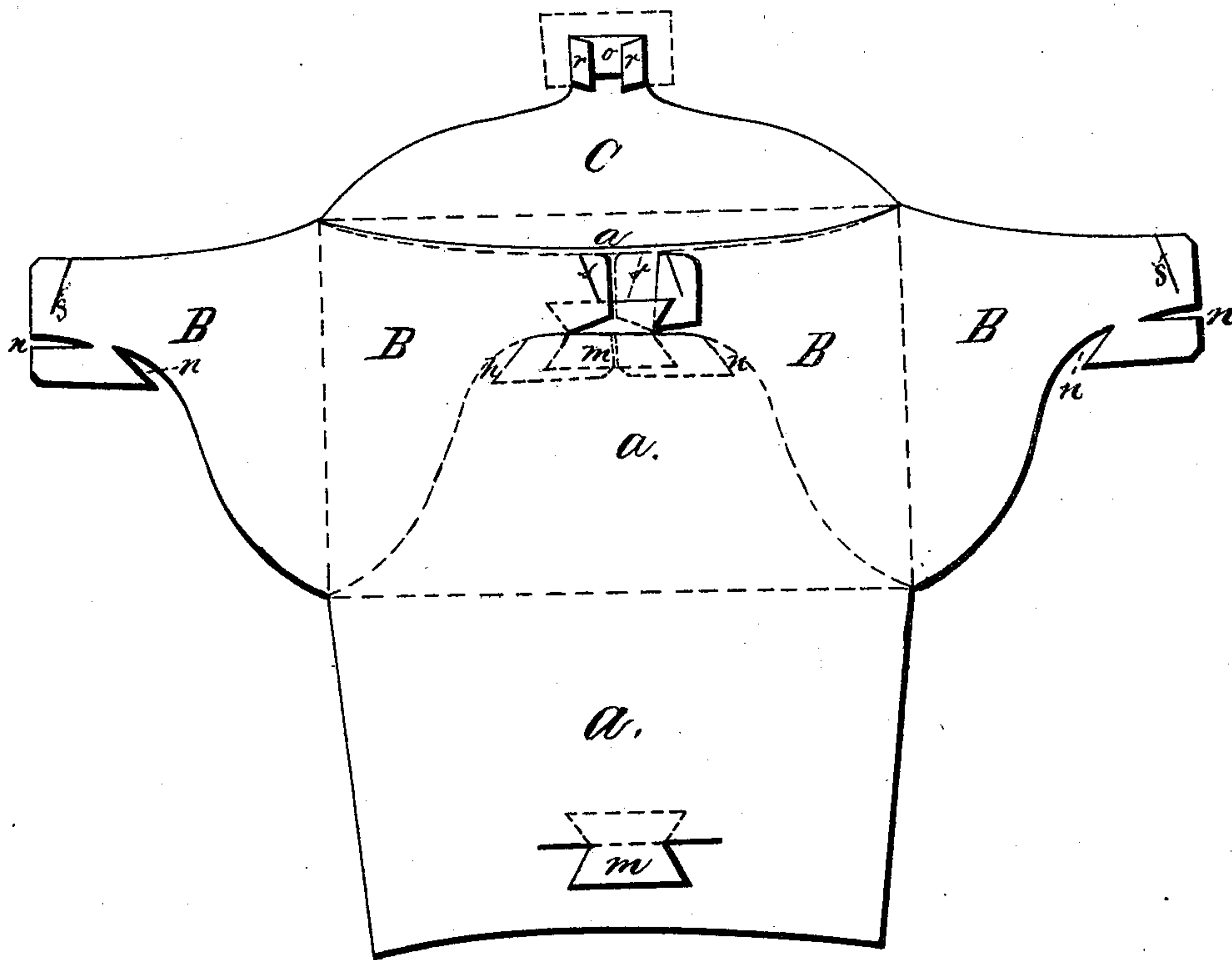


*B. J. Hoffacker.*  
*Envelope.*

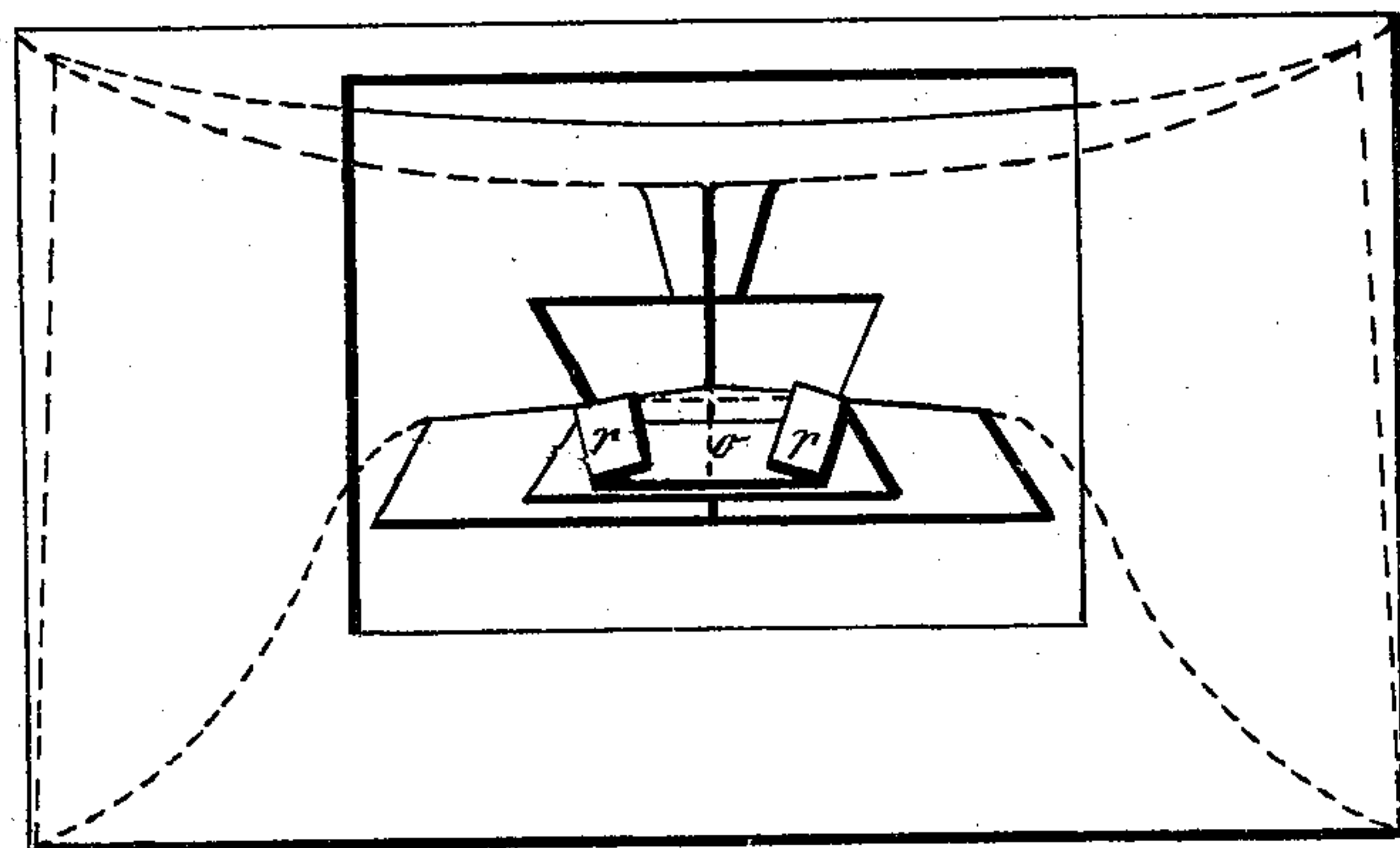
*N<sup>o</sup> 90,663.*

*Patented Jun. 1, 1869.*

*Fig 1.*



*Fig 2.*



*Witnesses:*  
*O. M. Spilln.*  
*L. Dury.*

*Inventor:*  
*Bertrand Jos. Hoffacker*

# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

BERTRAND JOSEPH HOFFACKER, OF MELROSE, NEW YORK.

## IMPROVEMENT IN ENVELOPES.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 90,663, dated June 1, 1869.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, BERTRAND JOSEPH HOFFACKER, of Melrose, in the county of Westchester and State of New York, have invented a new Safety-Envelope; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full and exact description thereof, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and to the letters of reference marked thereon, making a part of this specification.

The nature of my invention consists in an envelope shaped and constructed to close without any adhesive substance, metal pins, plates, bands, or shields, or any other material whatever attached to it.

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

Figure 1 represents the shape of the envelope unfolded, with the two excavations of the side flaps, the dovetailed excavation of the lower flap, and the foldings of the top end of the upper or seal flap. Fig. 2 represents all four flaps folded and the envelope closed.

The object of my invention is to fasten the flaps of the envelope in a more secure, safe, and ready manner (more ready because of excavations instead of incisions) than is done in the ordinary way, without any adhesive or other substance in order to close it, and thus reducing the cost of its manufacture.

The lower flap, A, has a dovetailed lappet, *m*. The side flaps, B B, have an acute-angular excavation, *n n*. When these flaps are folded the projecting pieces of paper caused by said two excavations are inserted into the opening

caused by the dovetailed lappet of flap A, and will pass sidewise under the lower flap. The dovetailed lappet is then bent inside, and by that covers and holds the inserted parts of the side flaps.

In order to secure a more firm hold of the insertion of the two side flaps, I would suggest cuts *s s* to be made in each, by which that part could be passed under the narrow part of the lower flap, or equivalent cuts to the same effect. The two projecting pieces caused by the excavation *n n* can also be inserted into two oblique or perpendicular excavations of the lower flap, A, dispensing by this mode with the dovetailed lappet, and simplifying its manufacture. Another horizontal excavation above or below the inserted side flaps is made for the insertion of the upper flap.

The top O of the upper or seal flap, C, is folded inward, and the projecting sides *r r* likewise. When this is pushed through the opening of flap A, the projecting sides *r r* will hook under, in consequence of the spring-like elasticity, which is effected by their being double folded, and it cannot be withdrawn without tearing its end or that part of the lower flap.

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

The hookwise combination of the four flaps, as set forth.

BERTRAND JOS. HOFFACKER.

Witnesses:

O. M. SPILLER,  
L. DIETZ.