

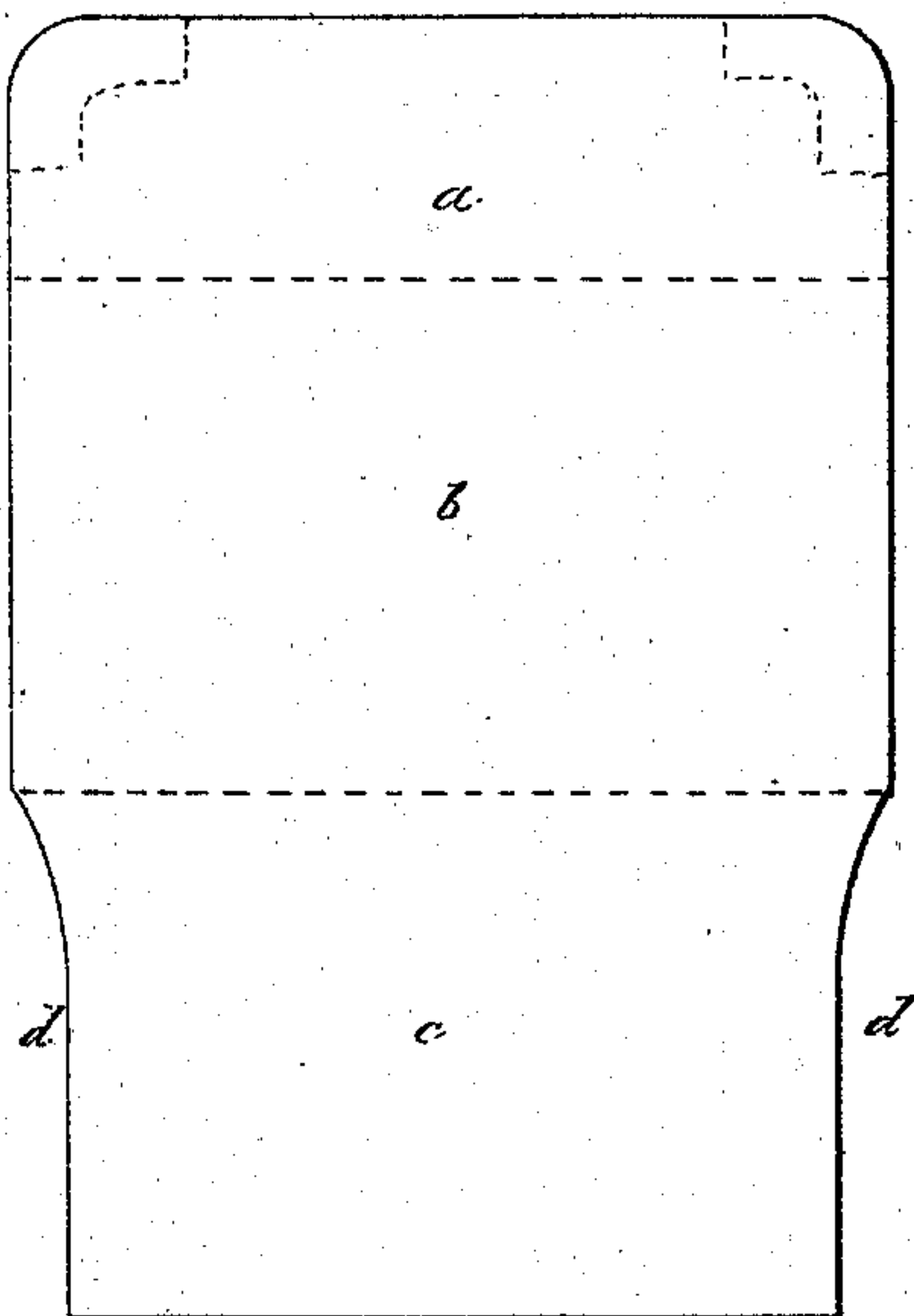
A. C. FLETCHER.  
Letter-Sheet Blank.

No. 127,330.

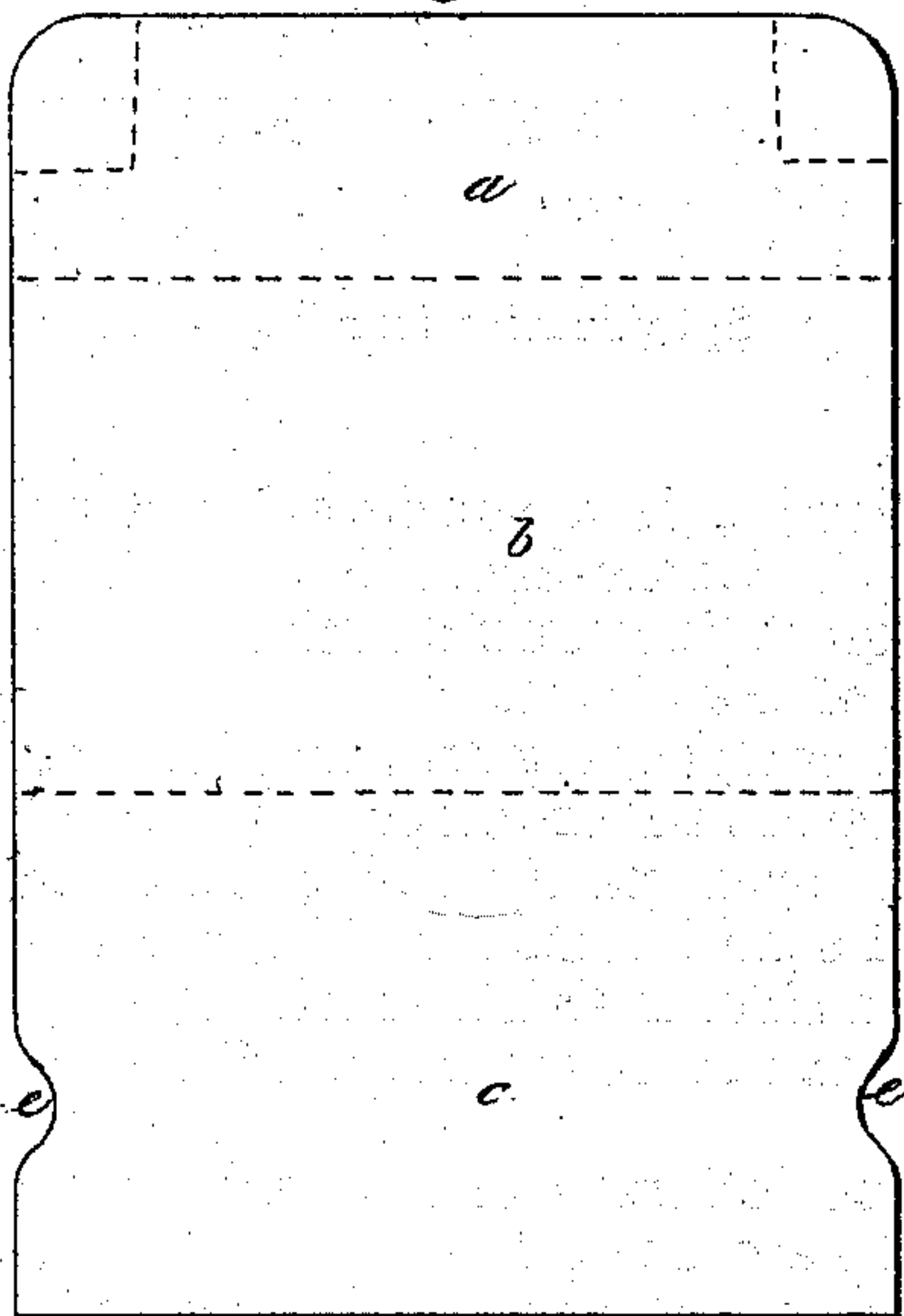
Patented May 28, 1872.

(Modifications)

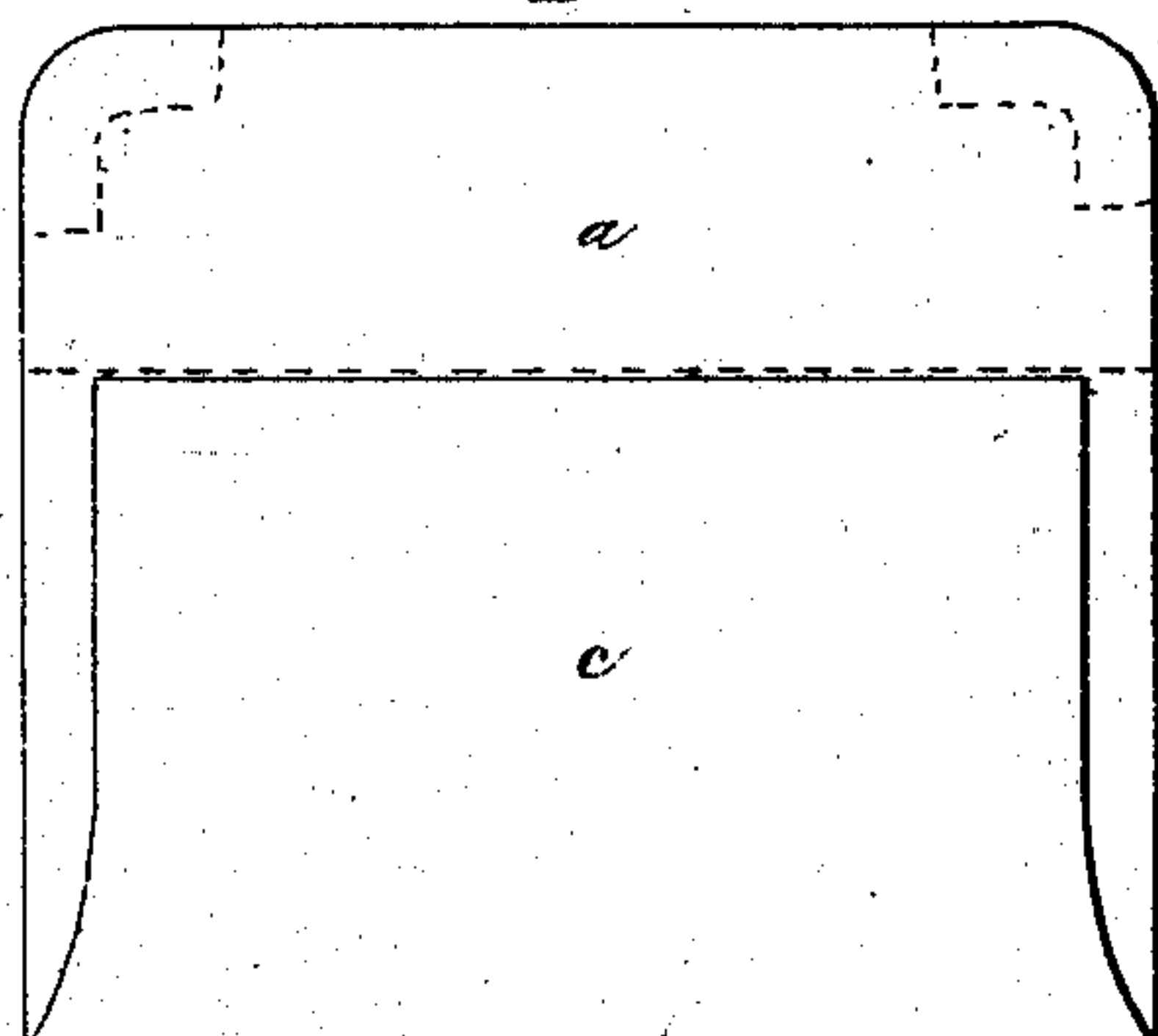
*Fig. 1.*



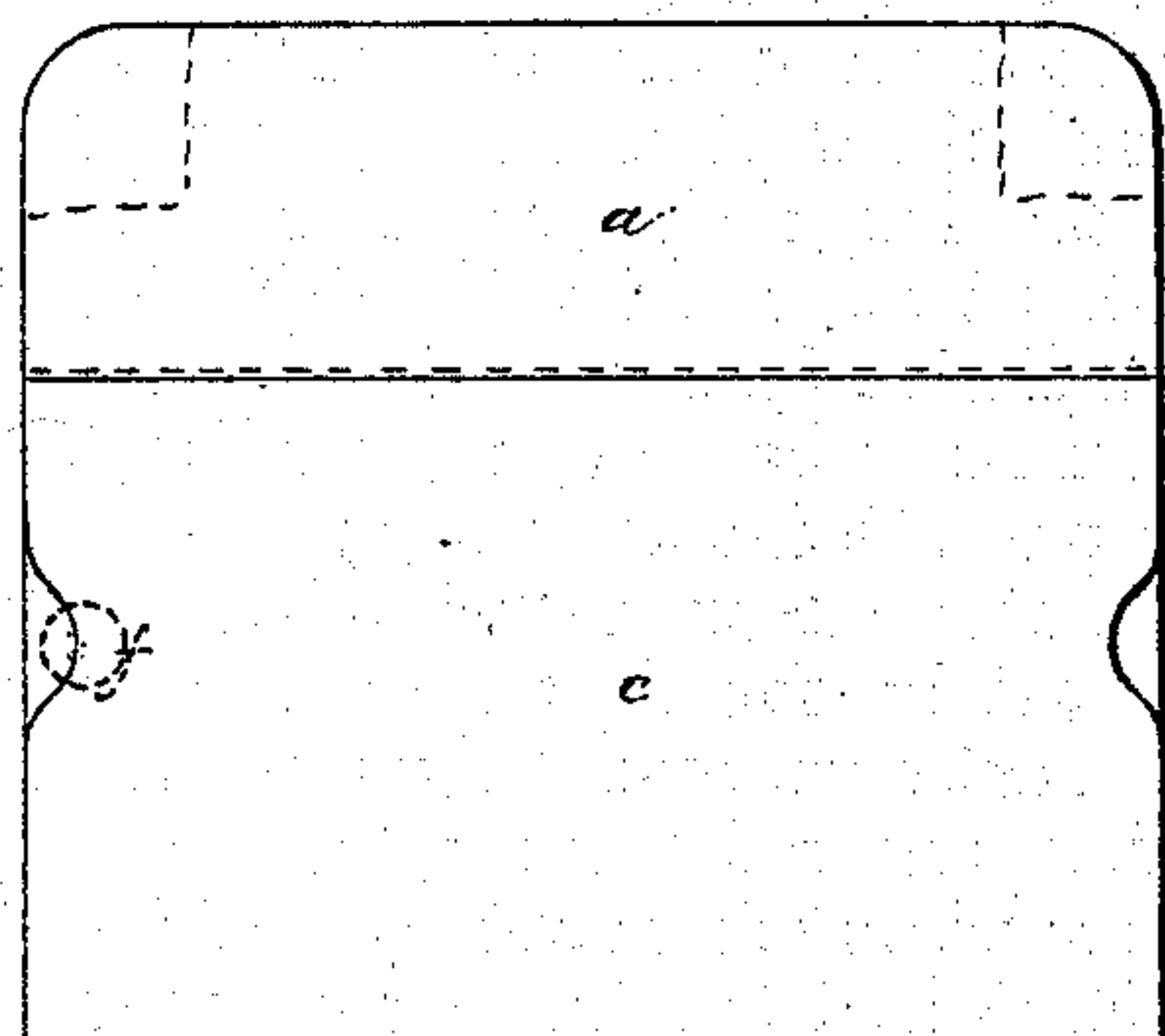
*Fig. 4.*



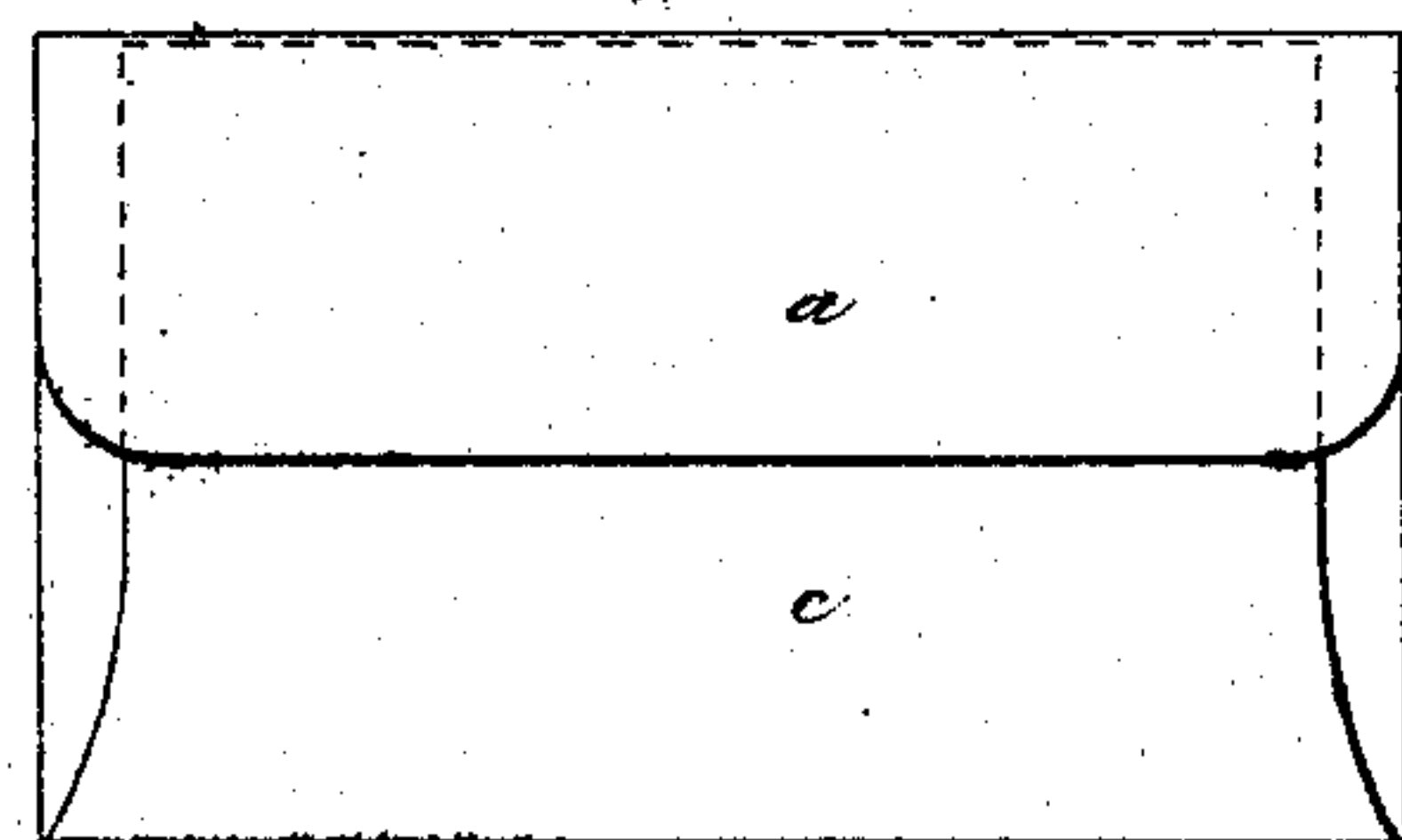
*Fig. 2.*



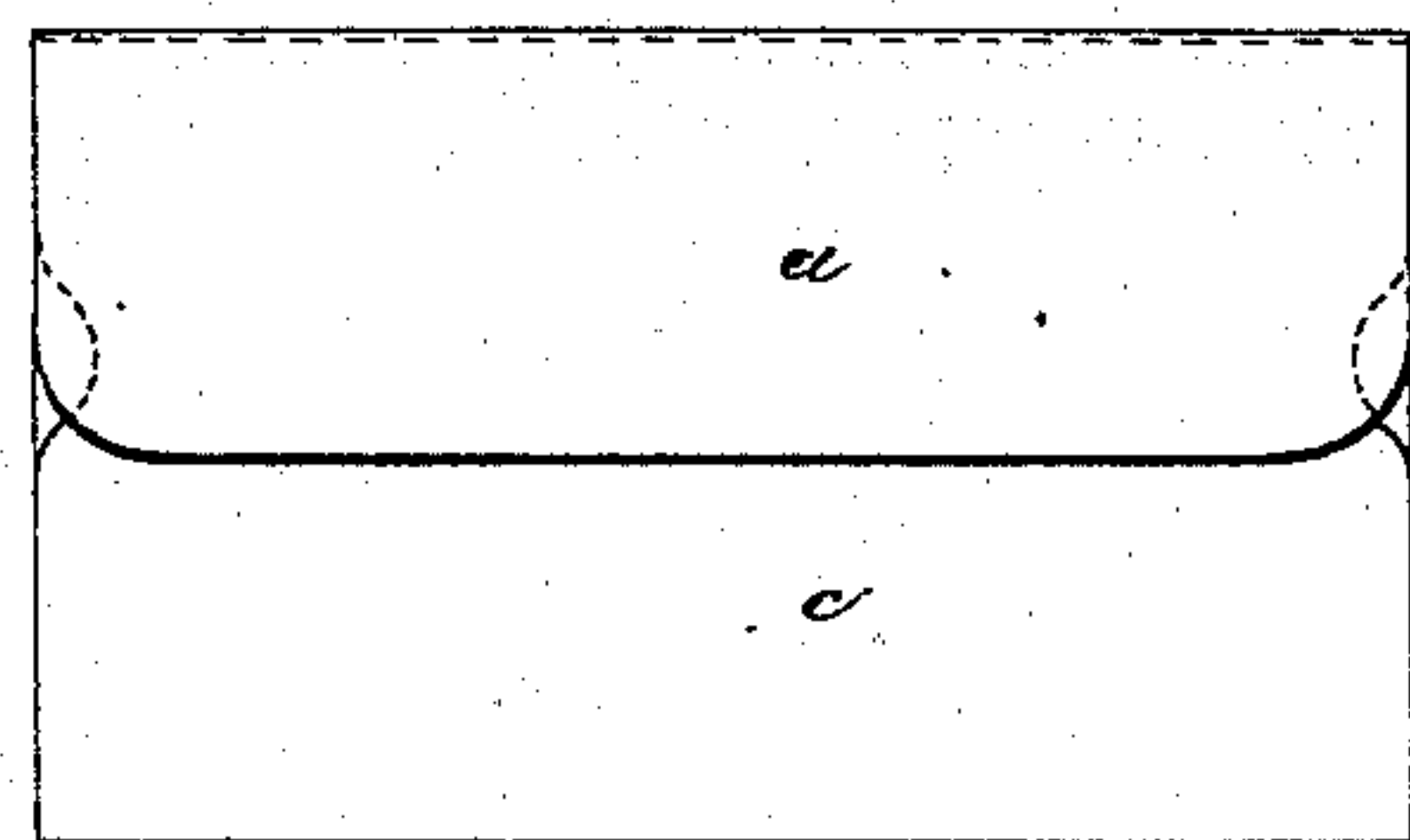
*Fig. 5.*



*Fig. 3.*



*Fig. 6.*



WITNESSES:

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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ADDISON C. FLETCHER, OF NEW YORK, N. Y.

## IMPROVEMENT IN LETTER-SHEET BLANKS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 127,330, dated May 28, 1872.

The following is a specification of an Improvement in Letter-Sheet Blanks, invented by ADDISON C. FLETCHER, of the city, county, and State of New York.

In the accompanying drawing, Figures 1, 2, and 3 represent an envelope of peculiar contour in an open, partly folded, and entirely folded and sealed condition. Figs. 4, 5, and 6 represent a similar article of slightly-different contour in the three several conditions above named.

The same letters occurring in the several figures indicate like parts.

The invention consists in the conformation of a letter-sheet in such manner that when folded, the flap, by the use of mucilage, or having been previously gummed, is made to adhere to both the inner fold and back portion of the folded sheet, so that while the script on the inner side could not be deciphered without much difficulty, the folded sheet could be sufficiently bowed to show that no additional matter was illegally inclosed.

Referring to the drawing, the sheet or letter envelope is divided or folded in three parts, as represented by the dotted lines in Figs. 1 and 4, the part *a* representing the flap, *b* the back portion, and *c* the inner fold. This latter portion is narrowed or cut away at its sides, as represented at *d* in Fig. 1, or simply a piece notched out of the sides, as represented at *e* in Fig. 4, or it may have a perforation, *f*, in each side, as represented in dotted outline in Fig. 5. The flaps *a* are then heavily gummed at their corners, about as represented in Figs. 1 and 4,

in such manner that, on sealing the envelope, the gum will attach the flap at its corners to the back portion *b* at each end, and to the outer side of the flap *c*. Whether formed of either of these contours, the corners of the flap *a* extend to overlap the points *d*, *e*, or *f*, at about midway of the end of the envelope when folded; and the ends of the envelope will be sufficiently secured without the use of end flaps, which, if added, would require two additional gummed portions and cause double the labor in sealing when used. There is also perfect economy in paper, as the whole inner side may be written upon, the only loss of space being the cut-away portions of the flap *c*. The three parts are thus secured together, by one sealing at each end, in such a manner that the envelope can be opened sufficiently for the examination of its contents without breaking the seal or seals, but not sufficiently to allow the writing within to be read.

What is here claimed, and desired to be secured by Letters Patent, is—

A letter-sheet blank having its inner fold cut away or punctured at its end so that mucilage or other adhesive material applied to the corners of the outer fold or flap will seal both folds and the back together at one operation, as shown and described.

ADDISON C. FLETCHER.

Witnesses:

SYDNEY E. SMITH,  
R. T. CAMPBELL.