E. W. THOMAS.

ENVELOPES.

No. 176,451. Patented April 25, 1876.

Fig 2.

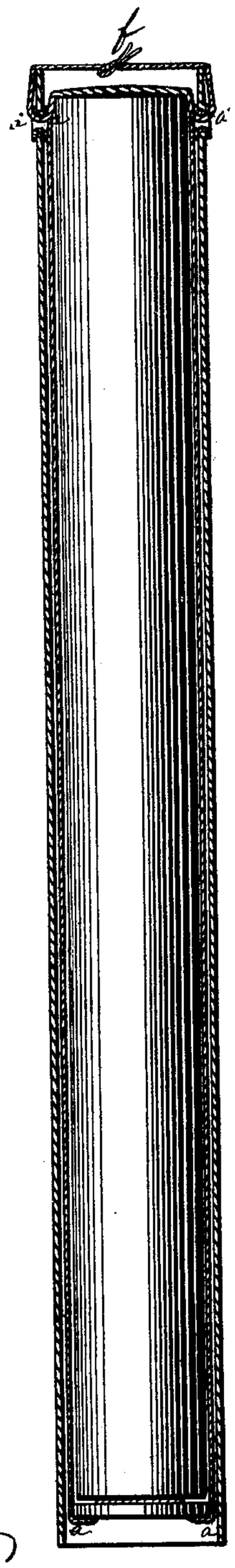


Fig. 1.

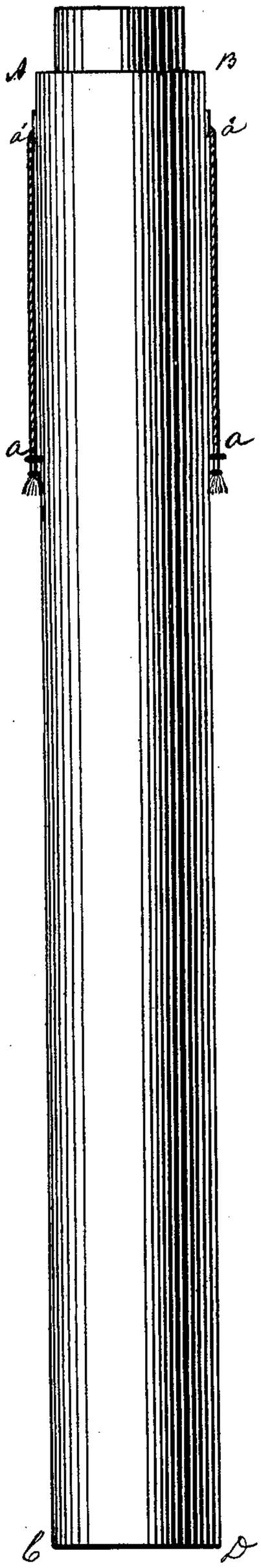
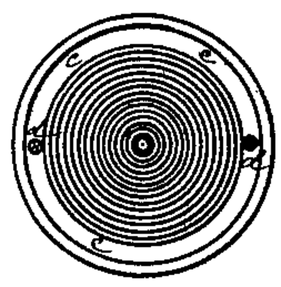


Fig 3.



WITNESSES

W. C. Thomas

C. L. Thomas

Eugene W. Thomas,

INVENTOR

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

EUGENE W. THOMAS, OF GEORGETOWN, ASSIGNOR OF ONE-HALF HIS RIGHT TO GEORGE C. THOMAS, JR., OF WASHINGTON, D. C.

IMPROVEMENT IN ENVELOPES.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **176,451**, dated April 25, 1876; application filed October 12, 1875.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, EUGENE W. THOMAS, of Georgetown, in the county of Washington and District of Columbia, have invented a new and valuable improvement in an article of manufacture for the transmission, by mail or otherwise, without injury, of drawings, engravings, &c.; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description of the construction and operation of the same, reference being had to the annexed drawings, making a part of this specification, and to the letters and figures marked thereon.

Figure 1 of the drawings is a representation of the cylindrical envelope or roller, with the drawing therein inclosed projecting from the upper end, and the ends of the cord, by which the drawing or inclosure is withdrawn from the inner side of the roller, hanging down on each side. Fig. 2 is a view of the roller or envelope, and of the rolled engraving within the same, and also of the cord by which the latter is fastened within or removed from the envelope, the figure being a longitudinal section of all these parts. Fig. 3 is a horizontal sectional view of the roller and inclosed drawing, and of the cord.

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

A cylindrical or other shaped envelope of stiff material is prepared. The drawing to be inclosed therein is carefully rolled, and a cord, *a*, Figs. 1 and 2, passed around it longitudinally. A card, *c*, Fig. 3, of a diameter slightly less than that of the interior of the envelope, A B C D, Fig. 1, is perforated with two circular holes, *d*, Fig. 3, opposite each other and near the rim of the card, and through these holes the cord *a*, Figs. 1 and 2, is passed. The drawing being tightly rolled, one end is placed on the card, and the cord is then extended and drawn tight along the outer surface to the opposite end of the roll, and the drawing then inserted or pushed lengthwise, with card at the bottom of the roll, into the roller or envelope until the upper end thereof is below the upper end of the roller, as seen in Fig. 2; and the cord is then tied or crossed over the end of the drawing, and the ends passed through two holes in the side and near the top of the envelope, as seen at *a'*, Figs. 1 and 2, each opposite the other. The drawing having been inserted endwise into the envelope, the ends of the cord are tied or crossed over the end of the drawing, and then passed through the holes *a'*, Figs. 1 and 2, and up over the upper end of the envelope and drawing, and then tied or sealed at *f*, Fig. 2, the article being now ready for transmission.

In order to withdraw the inclosure from its envelope, the ends of the string or cord, at *f*, Fig. 2, are united and each end drawn back through the holes *a'*, Figs. 1 and 2, into the inside of the envelope. These ends are now grasped by the hand, and by pulling them the inclosure is drawn out without injury either to it or to the envelope.

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

As a new article of manufacture, the cylindrical envelope, having the holes *a'*, and provided with the cord *a* and disk *c*, arranged and operating as and for the purpose described.

In testimony that I claim the above I have hereunto subscribed my name in the presence of two witnesses.

EUGENE W. THOMAS.

Witnesses:

G. C. THOMAS,

C. E. THOMAS.