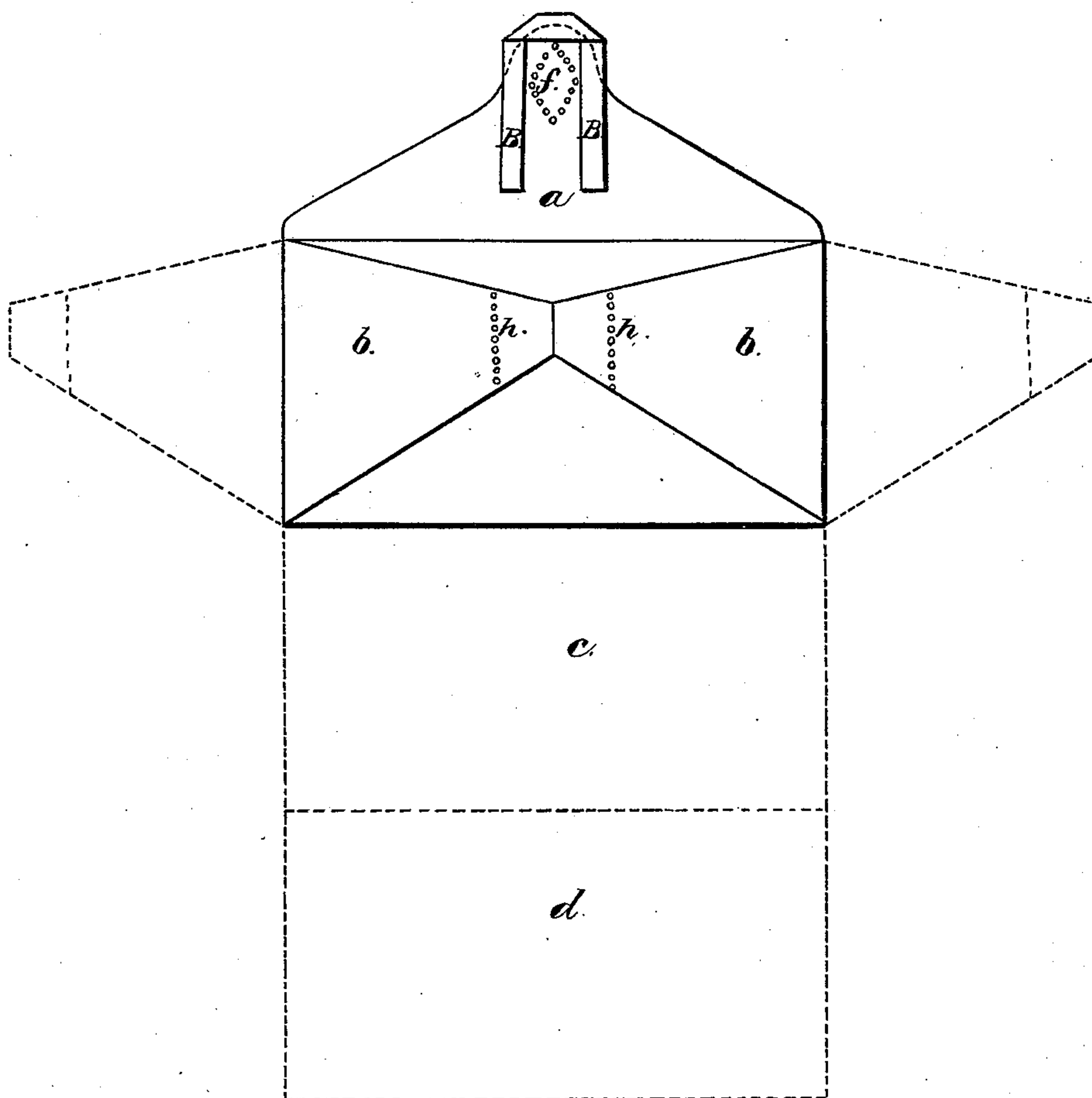


W. R. ROSS.
Letter-Sheet and Envelope.

No. 202,377.

Patented April 16, 1878.



Witnesses;
Chas. M. Peck
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Inventor;
William R. Ross
by his Atty:
Peck & Co.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLIAM R. ROSS, OF DAYTON, OHIO.

IMPROVEMENT IN LETTER-SHEET AND ENVELOPE.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **202,377**, dated April 16, 1878; application filed January 26, 1878.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM R. ROSS, of Dayton, in the county of Montgomery and State of Ohio, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Combined Letter-Sheets and Envelopes; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the same.

The object of this invention is to provide a combined letter-sheet and envelope for business purposes, with a simple and cheap arrangement for opening it, and which, when received and opened, shall bear upon one side the written communication, and upon the other the name of the person addressed, together with the postmark.

It is the habit of many business men to destroy the envelopes inclosing letters received, and frequently the sender forgets or neglects to give the date of writing or the name of the place from which he writes—an omission which might materially lessen or effectually destroy the value of the letter, whether as a memorandum for business purposes or as matter of evidence in law.

My improvement consists in providing a letter-sheet at one end of which are two side flaps and an end flap, which, when the sheet is folded, can be turned down and sealed, forming the whole into a securely-sealed package, with peculiarly-arranged perforations and a loop of tape or thicker paper than composes the envelope, by taking hold of which the package may be opened without injury to the paper or writing, as will be herewith set forth, and the invention distinctly pointed out in the claim.

To enable others skilled in the art to which my invention appertains to make and use the same, I would thus proceed to describe it, referring to the accompanying drawing, in which the figure represents my improved letter-sheet and envelope.

I use a sheet of paper at the top of which is a flap, *a*, and at each side the flaps *b*. The rest of the sheet is rectangular in form, and consists of two or more folds, *c d*, indicated by dotted lines.

The top of the sheet is printed upon, as an ordinary letter-head, and the reverse side contains the usual or any other printed card. The top flap *a* has perforations *f* in the shape of a diamond at its center, near the edge. A loop, *B*, of tape or strong paper, folded as represented, is made to adhere to the flap on each side of the perforated portion *f*, and having its top projecting a little beyond the edge of the flap, which is represented by dotted lines. The side flaps are perforated at *h*, as represented. The adhesive material is only upon the perforated portion *f*, and upon that portion of the tape *B* which, when the flap is turned down, rests upon the ends of the side flaps.

When the envelope is sealed the only points of adhesion are the perforated part *f* of the flap, the tape, and the side flaps.

To open the letter it is only necessary to take hold of the projecting portion of the tape with the thumb and finger and give a quick pull, when, the perforated parts yielding, the package will be opened. When thus opened, a triangular aperture will be formed by the removal of the portion *f*, which, bounded by the tape, will furnish a ready means for filing the letter upon a hook or wire.

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

The herein-described combined letter-sheet and envelope, consisting of the rectangular folds *c*, *d*, and *e*, the latter provided with the top flap *a*, having a perforated portion, *f*, and a surrounding loop, *B*, of tape or strong paper, and also the side flaps *b*, perforated near their ends, the whole constructed and arranged substantially as and for the purpose specified.

Witness my hand this 3d day of June, A. D. 1876.

WILLIAM R. ROSS.

Witnesses:

CHAS. M. PECK,
WM. RITCHIE.