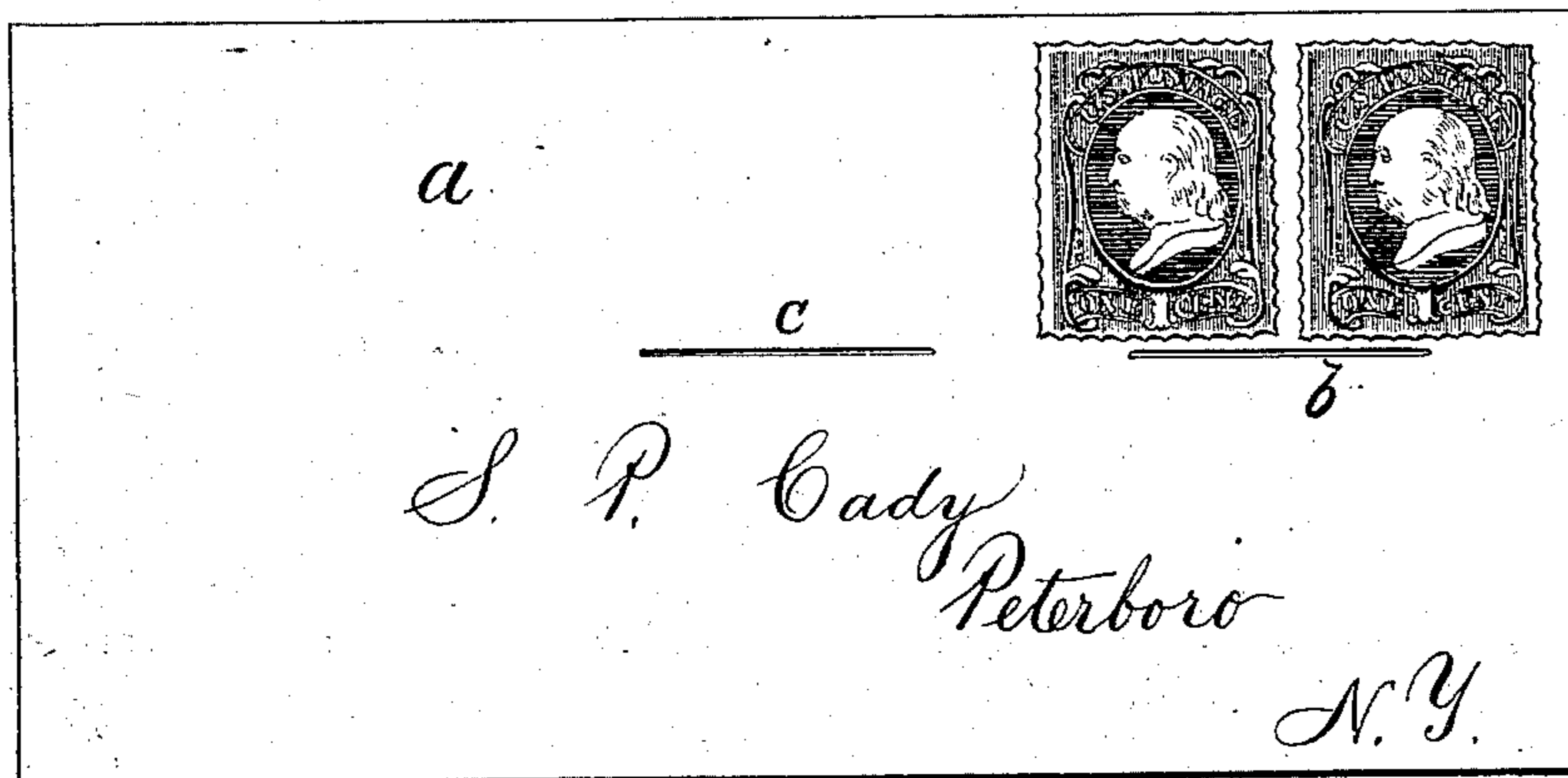


S. P. CADY.
Envelope.

No. 219,444.

Patented Sept. 9, 1879.



WITNESSES:

Henry N. Miller
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INVENTOR:

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

SOLON P. CADY, OF PETERBOROUGH, NEW YORK.

IMPROVEMENT IN ENVELOPES.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **219,444**, dated September 9, 1879; application filed August 27, 1878.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, SOLON P. CADY, of Peterborough, in the county of Madison and State of New York, have invented a new and Improved Envelope for Mail-Matter, of which the following is a specification.

The most effective manner of canceling postage-stamps is to remove a portion of the stamp by a punch; but that has not heretofore been successfully accomplished without cutting the contents of the envelope.

The object of my invention is to furnish an envelope which will permit the stamp to be punched without risk of injury to the contents; and, further, to provide for such cancellation when more than one stamp is used on the envelope.

My invention consists in an envelope having a short slit cut in its face in such position that when a stamp is placed on the envelope the slit will be adjacent to one edge of the stamp, whereby a proper tool may be inserted in the slit beneath the stamp and the contents of the envelope protected while the stamp is being punched.

In the accompanying drawing I have shown a front view of my improved envelope.

The envelope *a* may be of any desired size or shape.

b is a short slit cut in the face of the envelope, in such position that when a stamp is applied, as shown, the slit *b* is adjacent to the lower edge of the stamp. The length of the slit is about the width of a stamp, and I have shown the slit *b* a short distance from the end of the envelope, so that it comes beneath both stamps when two are used.

The slit *b* is to be cut in the material out of which the envelope is made by any desired means before the envelope is folded and pasted.

The slit *b* permits one jaw of a hand-punch to be inserted beneath the stamp and face of the envelope, and then the cutter may be pressed down to perforate or cut a hole in the stamp and envelope.

It will be seen that various forms of tools may be used to punch the hole. I prefer for this purpose, and intend to apply for a patent on the same by a separate application, a punch made similar to a pair of pliers, with the jaw that is to be inserted into the slit flat and pointed somewhat like a knife-blade.

c represents an additional slit cut in a position to come beneath the two other stamps, if four be used.

The two slits *b* and *c* permit the canceling of at least four stamps.

I do not limit myself to the length or position or number of the slits.

It is evident the envelope may be a newspaper-wrapper provided with the cancellation-slit described.

Having described my invention, I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent—

An envelope provided with one or more slits, *b*, arranged in close proximity to the stamp-spaces, as and for the purpose specified.

SOLON PLATO CADY.

Witnesses:

THOS. F. PETRIE,

H. T. HARRINGTON.