

(No Model.)

J. J. WILLIAMSON.

POSTAL CARD.

No. 283,841.

Patented Aug. 28, 1883.

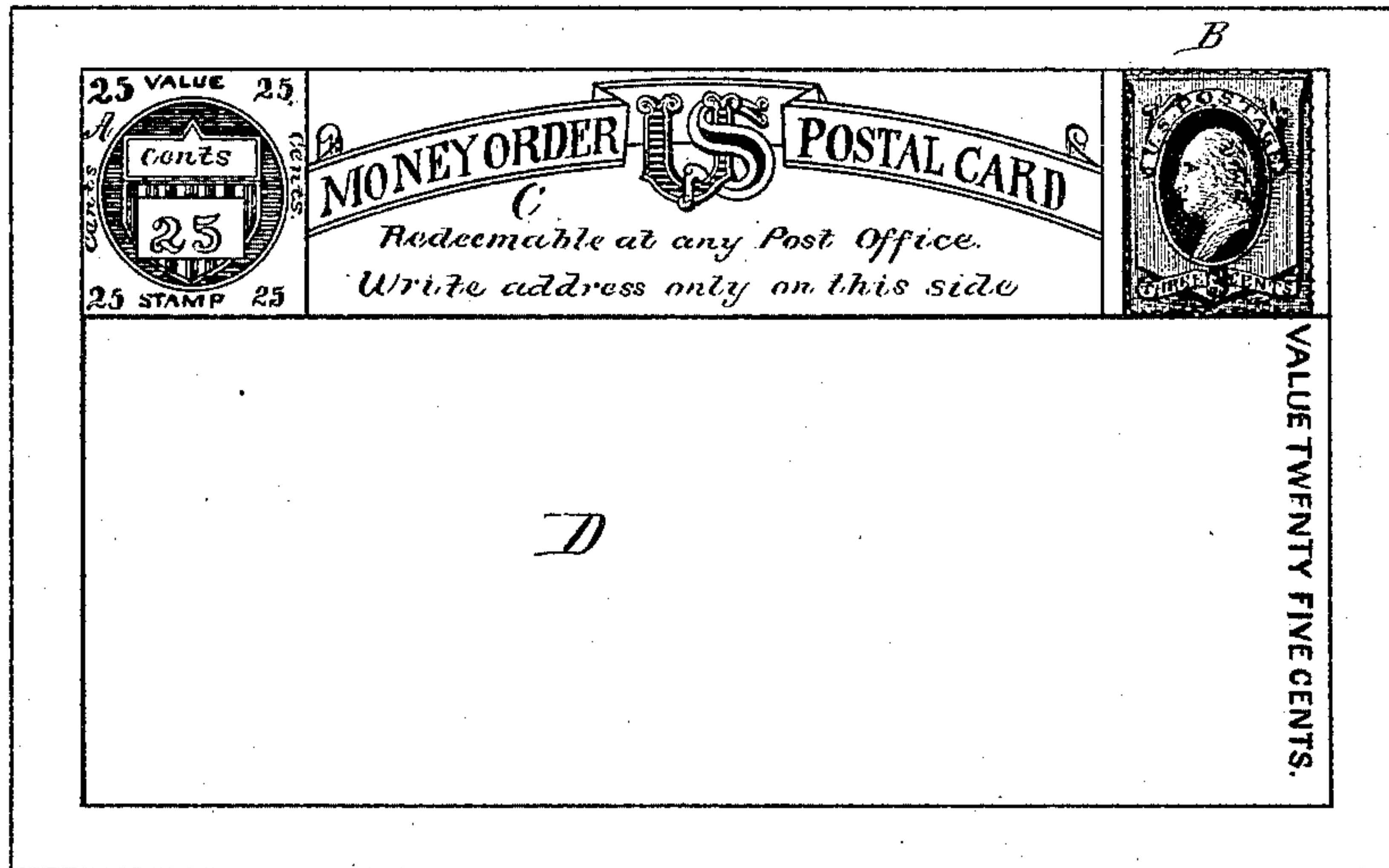


Fig. 1.

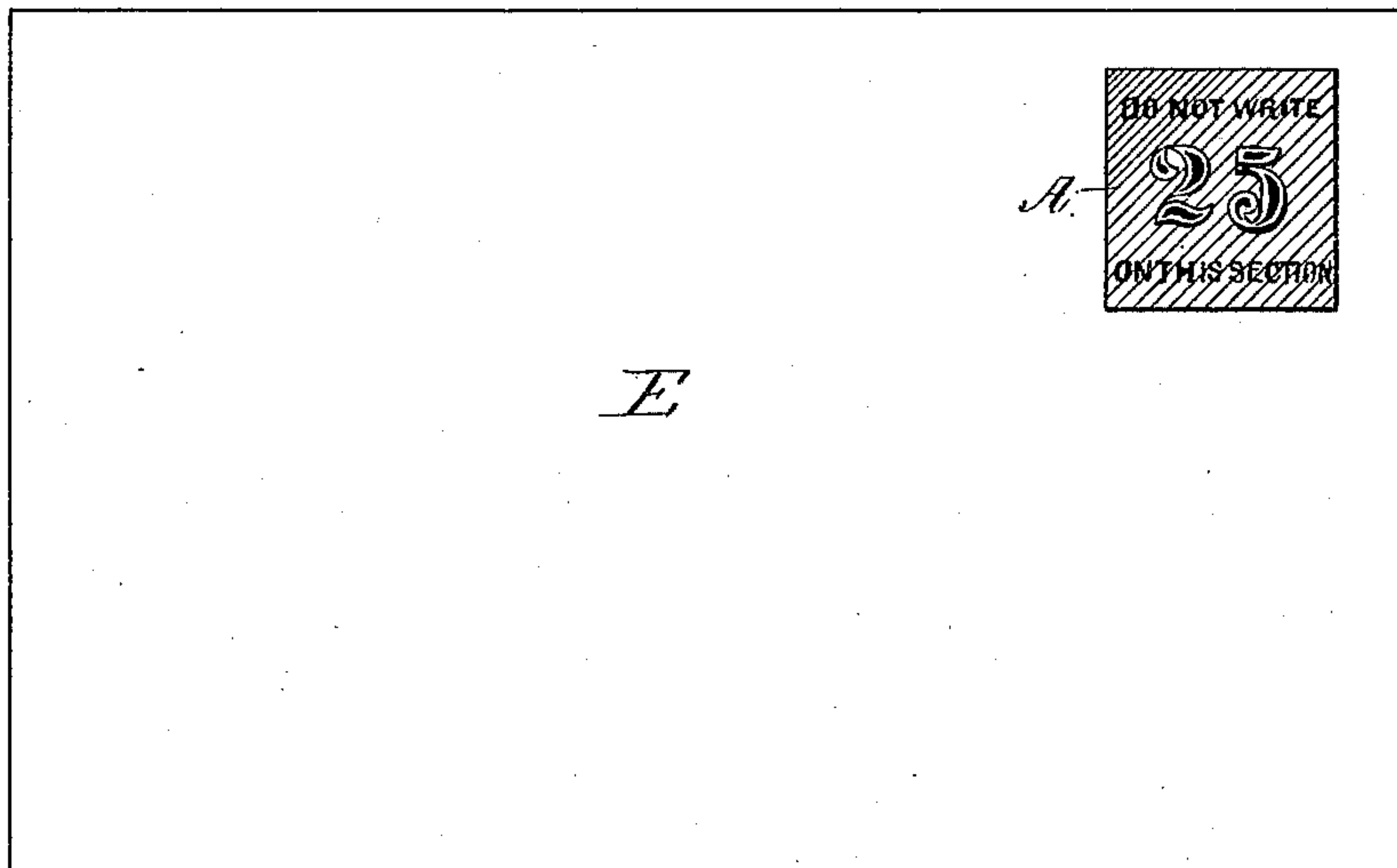


Fig. 2.

WITNESSES

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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOHN J. WILLIAMSON, OF BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS.

## POSTAL-CARD.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 283,841, dated August 28, 1883.

Application filed March 11, 1882 (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, JOHN J. WILLIAMSON, of the city of Boston, county of Suffolk, State of Massachusetts, have invented a new form of Postal-Card, to be known and used as a Money-Order Postal-Card, of which the following is a specification.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 represents a front view or the address side of the card; and Fig. 2 shows the reverse side of the card, upon which the communication is to be written.

Similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts.

My invention relates to the use of a postal-card for postal money-order purposes, to be of such value or denomination of value as the Government and its officers may determine, but preferably of sums not to exceed one dollar—say of the value, in addition to the postal value, of five cents, ten cents, twenty-five cents, fifty cents, seventy-five cents, and one dollar—the value-stamp to be an imprint upon a corner or section of the card, in such position as to interfere the least with the space for addressing the same, and upon the reverse side of the card a space, embossed or otherwise stamped, immediately opposite to the section upon the face of the card bearing the value-stamp, so that no part or portion of the message may be written thereupon. When the card is presented to a post-office for the payment or redemption of the value-stamp, such value-stamp is to be removed entirely from the card by any suitable appliance, and held by the office as a voucher for the disbursement or payment.

In the drawings, Fig. 1 shows the face or address side of the card, and represented in the upper right-hand corner is the space for the postal-stamp, which is as usual in the ordinary postal-card. In the upper left-hand corner is shown the value-stamp, so situated that in the process of removing it upon its redemption or payment the card will not be mutilated beyond the value-stamp itself, so that with this exception the whole rear face of the card may be used for writing the message without fear of its obliteration. I do not confine myself to the placing of the value-stamp in any distinct position upon the card, but

suggest the upper left-hand corner because it would not be liable to be effaced, either wholly or partially, by the operators when canceling the postage-stamp; besides, in that position it would reduce the message-space quite as little as any position on the card. It would also permit of a symmetrical heading of the card with a stamp upon either corner, the Government imprint between them and above the space necessary for addressing the card properly. The vignette of the value-stamp should be round, preferably, because the punch used for the removal and cancellation of the value-stamp is more readily made and fitted of that form than any other, and can be more readily sharpened or kept in condition for use. Yet I do not confine myself to any form, shape, or color for the vignette of the value-stamp upon a postal-card, or whether it be stamped, engraved, or otherwise made upon the card, or whether it be a simple stamp by itself and placed thereon by any mode of attachment—gum, or otherwise. The form of the card is immaterial to my invention, whether it be the postal-card now in use by the Government of the United States, or whether it be any other form or forms which may be hereafter adopted by the Government.

Fig. 2 represents the reverse or message side of the card, on one corner of which is shown the reverse of the value-stamp, so covered or protected by embossing, engraving, or other suitable means that the user of the card will not write upon that section, that section being removed whenever the card or the value-stamp thereof is paid or redeemed. I further represent, in connection with the value-stamp, the printing, stamping, or otherwise placing upon the address-face of the card, at any suitable point or position, the value of the value-stamp in words—such as if the value-stamp calls for twenty-five cents there shall be imprinted upon the face of the card, as above described, the words "Value, twenty-five cents," or "Twenty-five cents," or the same in numerals—its purpose being to secure the owner or presenter of the card for redemption from being deprived, by accident or design, of a portion or whole of the value of the stamp.

In the drawings, A is the value-stamp. B represents a postage-stamp, which may be



printed thereon, as represented in the drawings, or affixed thereto. C is the space for indicating by whom the card is issued, and for such other information in relation thereto as may be necessary. D is the address-space, and E is the back of the card, upon which the message is written.

I claim—

1. As a new article of manufacture, a money-order postal-card having upon its face a postage-stamp and a separate value-stamp affixed thereto or printed thereon and a space for the address of the card, and upon its back a space for the message, all substantially as and for the purposes described.

2. A money-order postal-card having a postage-stamp and a value-stamp affixed thereto or impressed thereon, the value-stamp being adapted to be punched or otherwise removed from the card to serve as a voucher for the person upon whom the order is presented, while the remainder of the card is adapted to be retained by the person presenting the order, all substantially as and for the purposes described.

3. A money-order postal-card having at one end or corner a value-stamp, and upon some other portion of the card words or letters indicating its value, and having also upon its front a space for the address of the card, and having the back, upon the reverse side of the value-stamp, bearing an indication in effect that the value-stamp part of the card is not to be written on, whereby the value-stamp may be removed from the card without disturbing or removing any portion of the communication written thereon, all substantially as described.

4. A money-order postal-card having upon its face a value-stamp, a postage-stamp, a statement indicating by whom the card is issued and where redeemed, and a space for writing the address, all substantially as and for the purposes described.

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Witnesses:

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