

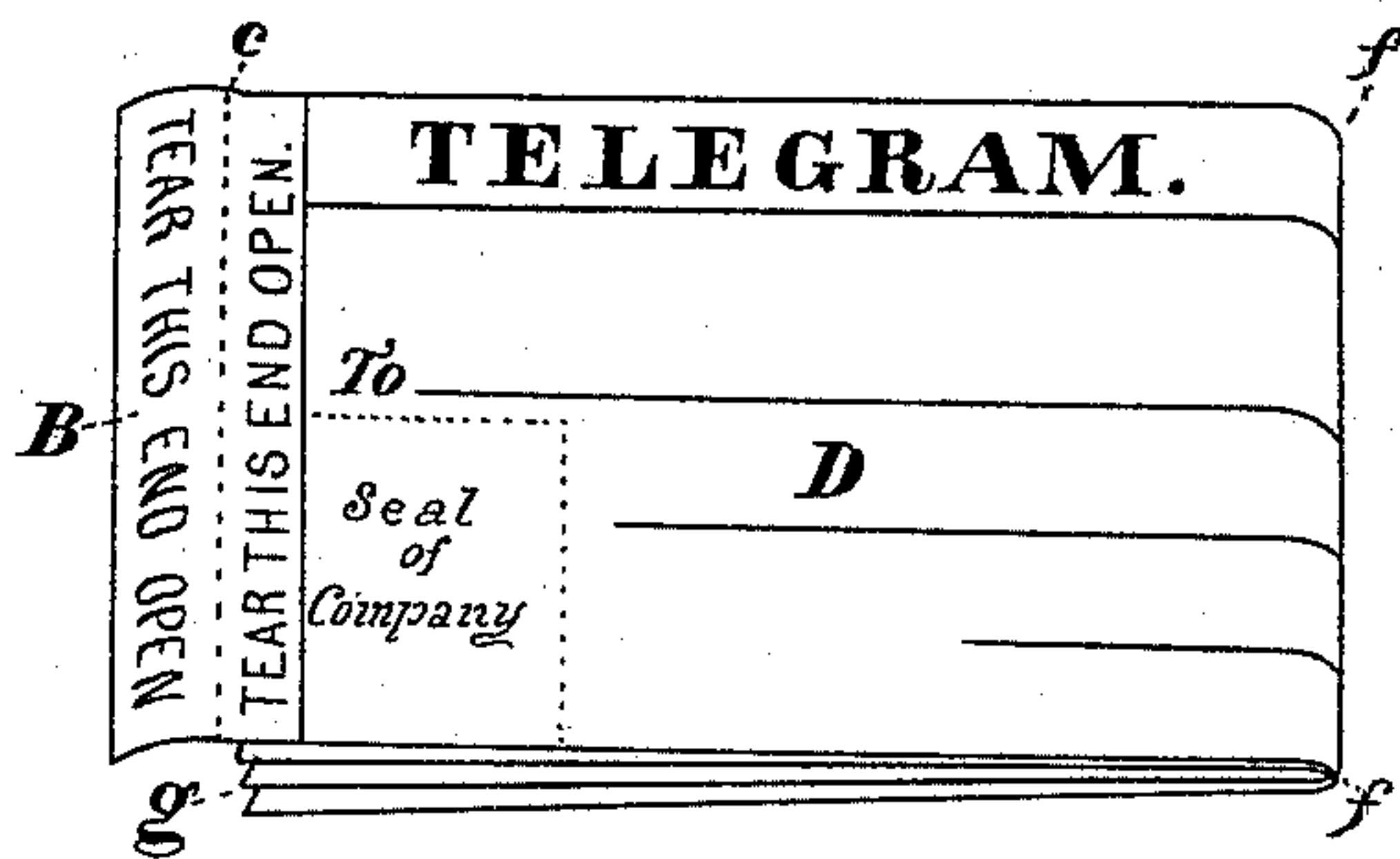
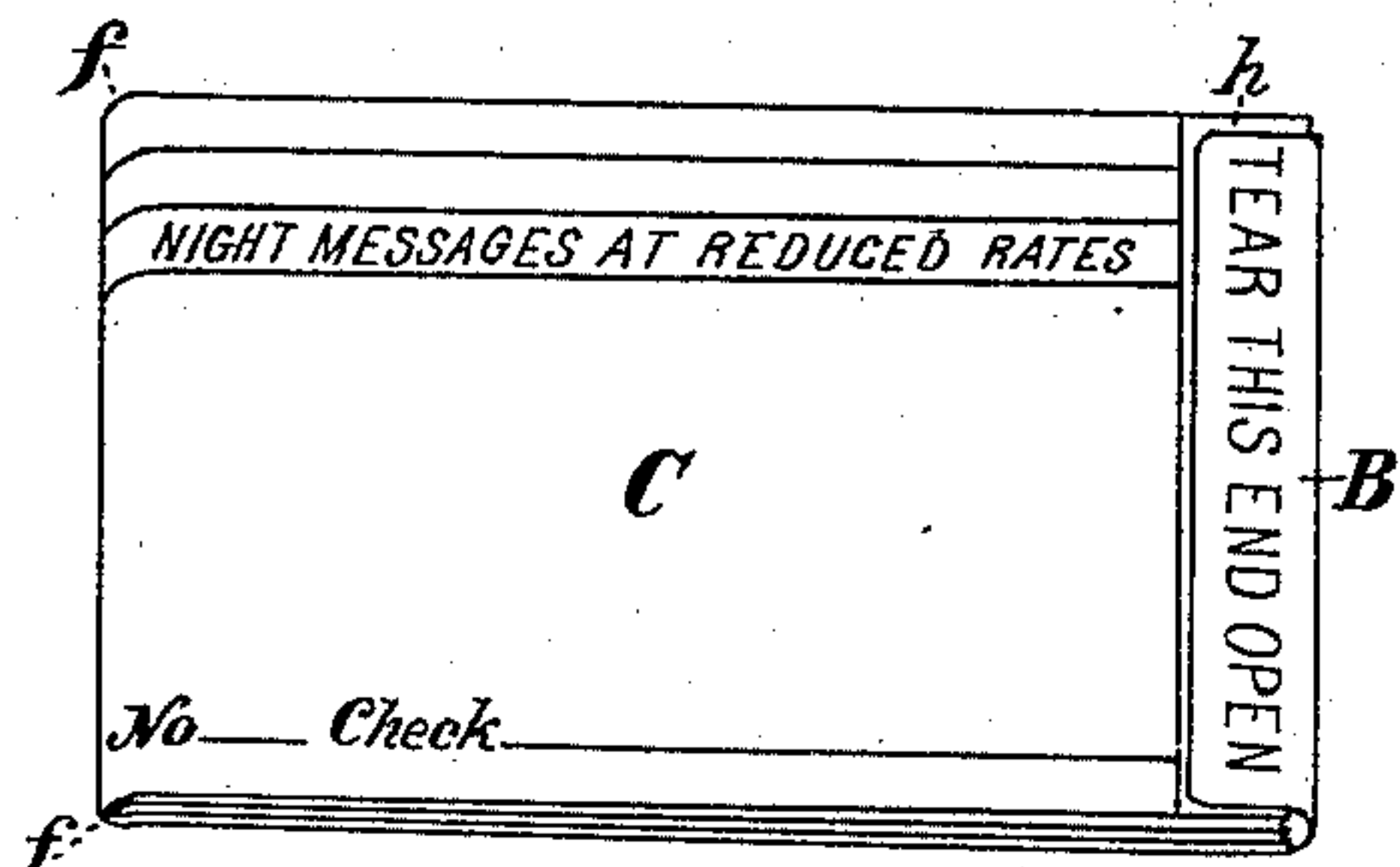
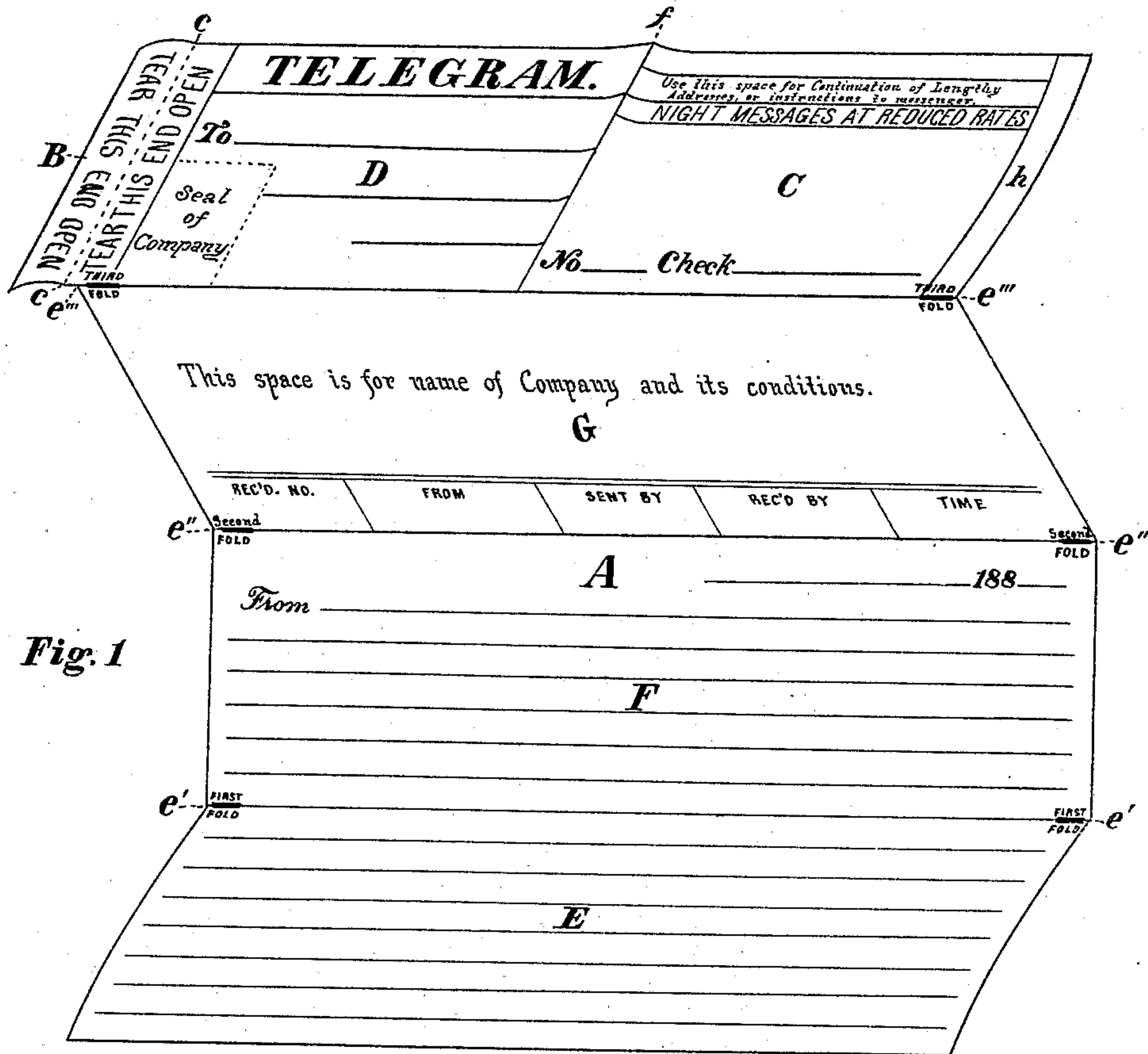
(No Model.)

C. L. CHURCH.

COMBINED ENVELOPE AND LETTER SHEET.

No. 396,985.

Patented Jan. 29, 1889.



Witnesses,
M. H. Haddock
J. W. Tibbets

Inventor,
Charles L. Church,
By his Attorney
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

CHARLES L. CHURCH, OF BANGOR, MAINE.

COMBINED ENVELOPE AND LETTER-SHEET.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 396,985, dated January 29, 1889.

Application filed October 18, 1887. Serial No. 252,700. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, CHARLES L. CHURCH, a citizen of the United States, residing at Bangor, in the county of Penobscot and State of Maine, have invented a new and useful Combined Envelope and Letter Sheet; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, which will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same.

My invention consists of an improved combined envelope and letter-sheet. Its construction is such that it may be used either for correspondence or telegraph-messages.

The object of my invention is to provide a combined envelope and letter-sheet that will fold in the simplest and most natural way; that will have the address and communication all on the same side of the sheet, obviating the necessity of turning the sheet over to address the same, and that seals by simply sticking down a projecting wing over the end of the folded sheet, securely protecting the written message from prying and inquisitive carriers. In the description reference is made to the accompanying drawings, in which Figure 1 shows the construction and interior view of my combined envelope and letter-sheet. Fig. 2 is a view of the letter-sheet folded, but not sealed, showing the gummed wing projecting from one end. Fig. 3 is a view of the letter-sheet folded and sealed ready for delivery.

Similar letters of reference refer to corresponding parts throughout the different figures.

The construction of my combined envelope and letter-sheet is as follows: A sheet of paper, A, is cut either to the form of a square or rectangle, with the exception of a small wing, B, projecting from the upper left-hand corner and edge. This wing B is about one-half of an inch wide and extends down the edge of the sheet from the upper left-hand corner for about one-quarter of the distance of the length of the sheet. A perforation, *c*, extends longitudinally through the wing B parallel with its edge and about one-sixteenth of an inch from the left-hand edge of the sheet A. The wing B is gummed on its under or back side and forms the flap that seals the letter-sheet A when folded. The perforation *c* in said

wing is the only place that is severed in opening the letter-sheet to read its contents.

The sheet A, which forms the main letter-sheet, when used for ordinary correspondence, may either be ruled or left blank, as the consumer may desire. The letter or message is written upon only one side of the sheet, and the upper quarter of the same, C and D, left blank, except that the left-hand half, D, is reserved for the address and stamp. The right-hand half, C, forms the opposite side of the envelope when the letter-sheet is folded.

The folding of the combined envelope and letter-sheet is as follows: Commencing at the bottom of the sheet, the lower quarter, E, is creased at the letter *e'*, folded from the operator covering the second quarter, F. Both are now folded at *e''* in the same direction—that is, from the bottom and away from the operator—over the third quarter, G. At *e'''* the direction of folding is reversed—the upper quarter (marked C and D) is folded back toward the operator and under the already-folded parts. The letter thus far folded is now doubled upon itself at *f*, the wing B turned over the open end *g*, Figs. 2 and 3, and fastened to the now opposite side C by moistening the gum on the under side of the wing B, confining the same in the space *h*, perfectly sealing the inclosed letter.

In opening the sealed letter-sheet I simply insert a finger between the folds, tearing the wing B at the perforation *c* without injuring any part of the letter.

One of the principal advantages of my combined envelope and letter-sheet is its adaptability for telegraph-messages, the lower half of the sheet, F and E, being ruled, as shown in the drawings, Fig. 1, for the message; the quarter G used for the company's name and conditions—"Rec'd," "No.," "From," "Sent by," "Time," &c.; the upper quarter, C and D, divided as follows: the left-hand half, D, ruled for the address, "Telegram" printed at the top, and the space in the left lower corner used for the seal or emblem of the company; the right-hand half, C, of this upper quarter used for the continuation of lengthy addresses, instructions to messenger, and a line near its lower part for the "No.," and "Check."

Having thus described my invention, what I

claim, and desire to secure by Letters Patent,
is—

The herein-described combined envelope
and letter-sheet, consisting of the four longi-
5 tudinal portions, the bottom portions, E and F,
being, when folded upon line e' , face to face, the
second portion, G, being folded upon line e'' ,
with its face upon the back of part E, the top
portion being folded upon line e'' , with its
10 face outward and back to back with part G and

the folded sheet being then transversely folded
upon line f , with the front face of said top
portion outside, the latter portion having at
one end the flap B, said sheet having spaces
for the address and communication upon the 15
same side, substantially as described.

CHARLES L. CHURCH.

Witnesses:

M. H. WARDWELL,
I. W. TIBBETTS.