(No Model.)

J. WEST.

ENVELOPE.

No. 442,842. Patented Dec. 16, 1890.

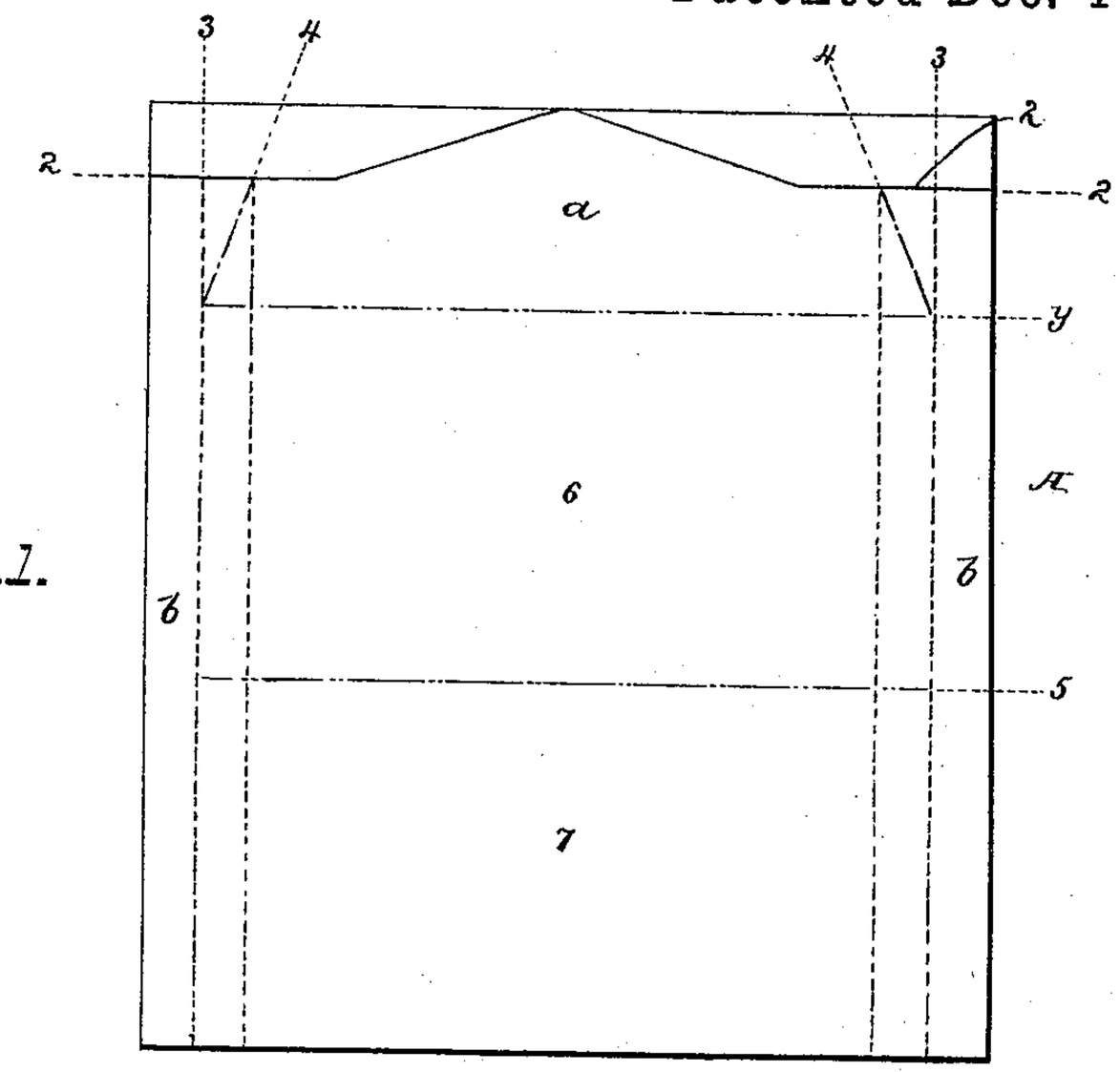

Fig. 1.

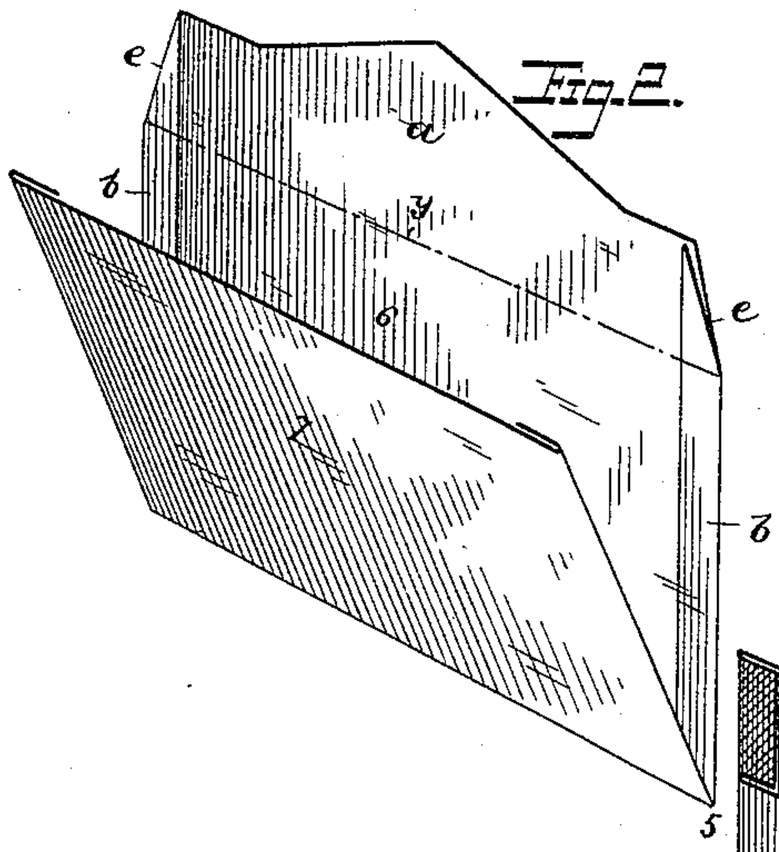

Fig. 2.

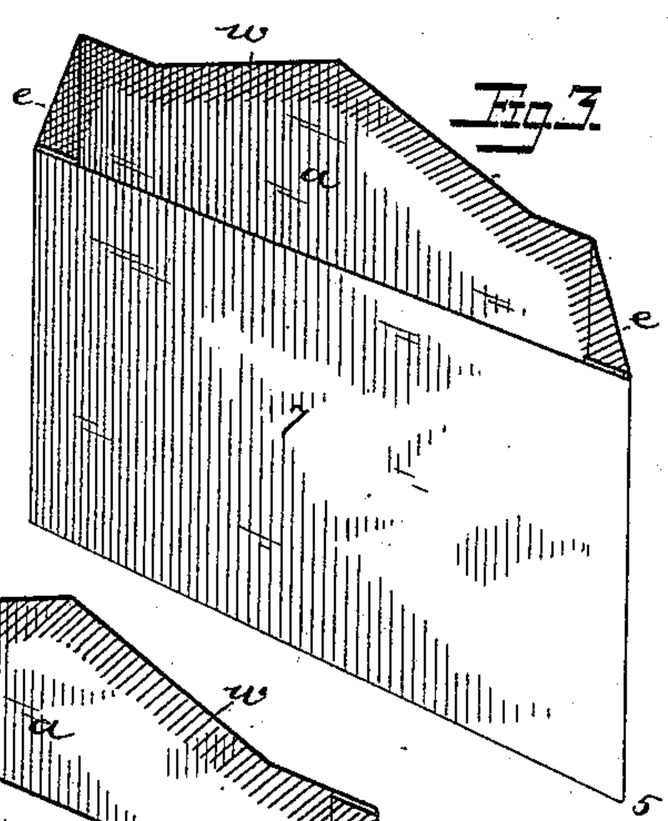

Fig. 3.

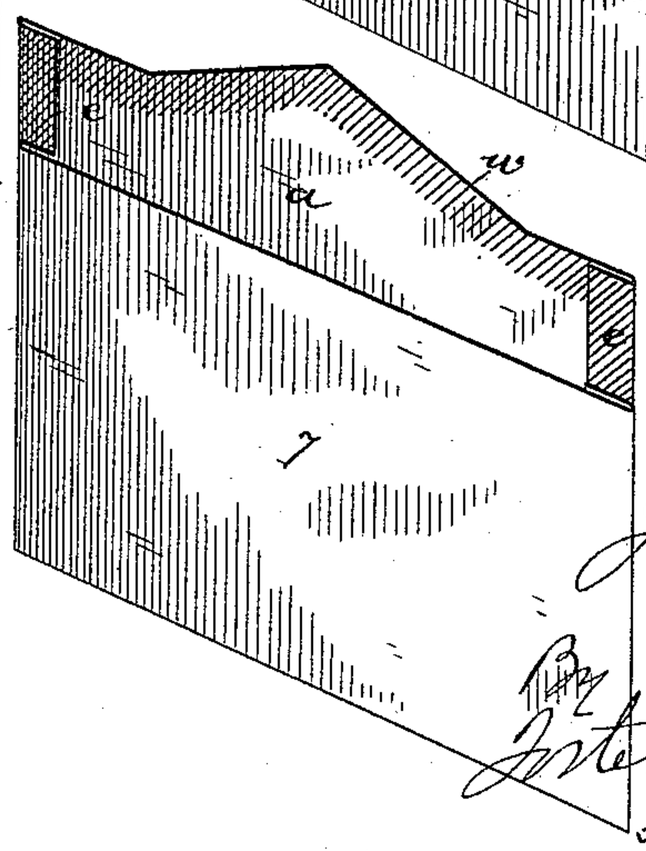

Fig. 4.

Attest:
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Attys

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JAMES WEST, OF ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI, ASSIGNOR OF ONE-HALF TO SAMUEL CUPPLES, OF SAME PLACE.

ENVELOPE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 442,842, dated December 16, 1890.

Application filed March 1, 1888. Serial No. 265,834. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JAMES WEST, a citizen of the United States, and a resident of St. Louis, Missouri, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Envelopes, of which the following is a specification.

In that class of envelopes in which the front and back portions have been united by means of inturned coincident flanges at the edges it has been customary to paste the corresponding faces of such flanges to each other and to paste one of the flanges down against the body of the envelope either at the front or the back. The article thus produced is of a very inferior quality, inasmuch as the line of paste applied to the body portion or between the body portion and the flange detracts from the smoothness of the envelope, causing it to pucker or wrinkle along the edges upon the face, either at the back or front, accordingly as the paste is applied to the inturned flanges between the latter and the back or between them and the front.

In order to secure the advantages of this style of envelope, which is especially adapted for many purposes and is cheap in construction, I make the same as fully set forth hereinafter, and as illustrated in the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a face view of the blank to be used in making my improved envelope. Fig. 2 is a perspective view showing the blank partially folded. Fig. 3 is a perspective view of the completed envelope. Fig. 4 is a view illustrating the improved envelope slightly modified in form.

The sheet A from which the blank is cut is indicated by the outer lines, Fig. 1, and is substantially oblong in shape and is sheared transversely along the line 2 to form the edge of the flap portion *a*. The blank is also folded on parallel lines 3 3 adjacent to each edge, to form inturned flaps or flanges *b b*, and in some instances the flap is then cut along the inclined lines 4 4, after the folds are turned in, to impart a better finish to the flap portion of the envelope. The paste is then applied to the outer faces of the flanges *b b* and the envelope is folded along the transverse line 5, so as to divide the front portion 6 from the back portion 7, as shown in Fig. 2, and these portions are brought together, the faces of the flanges on the back portion being brought against and pasted to the flanges upon the front portion, thus closing the envelope at the edges without the application of paste to either the front or the back portion, which therefore remain smooth and unwrinkled. If the finished envelope were left in this condition, with the inturned flanges loosely between the front and back portions, they would be apt to catch upon papers or other matters in the act of introducing them into the envelope. I therefore paste that portion of each flange *b b* that extends beyond the line *y*, upon which the flap is folded, close against the face of the flap, so that the inturned flanged portions are held close against the front portion of the envelope when the back portion is drawn away, presenting an unobstructed receptacle for the introduction of the matter to be inclosed. When the flap is sheared upon the lines 4 4, the extensions *e e* of the flanges *b b* will be angular in shape, as shown in Fig. 2, but when the flap is not so sheared the said extensions will be oblong, as shown in Fig. 4.

The gum *w* is applied to the flap as usual, and preferably extends along the side edges and over the extensions *e e*, which therefore tend to strengthen the envelope at the corners when the flap is pasted down upon the back in sealing the envelope.

Without limiting myself to the precise construction and arrangement of parts shown,

I claim—

1. As a new article of manufacture, an envelope the front and back portions of which are provided with continuous inturned flanges cemented together, the said flanges extending beyond the back portion and cemented only to the flap portion of the envelope, substantially as set forth.

2. An envelope the front and back por-

tions of which have continuous inturned flanges cemented together, and extensions of said flanges cemented to the flap, and with a layer of gum extending along the edges of the flap and over said extensions, substantially as set forth.

In testimony whereof I have signed my name to this specification in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

JAMES WEST.

Witnesses:
J. HAMILTON,
F. L. WISSMAN.