

(No Model.)

E. A. GOODCHILD.  
FASTENING DEVICE FOR ENVELOPS.

No. 585,816.

Patented July 6, 1897.

Fig. 1,

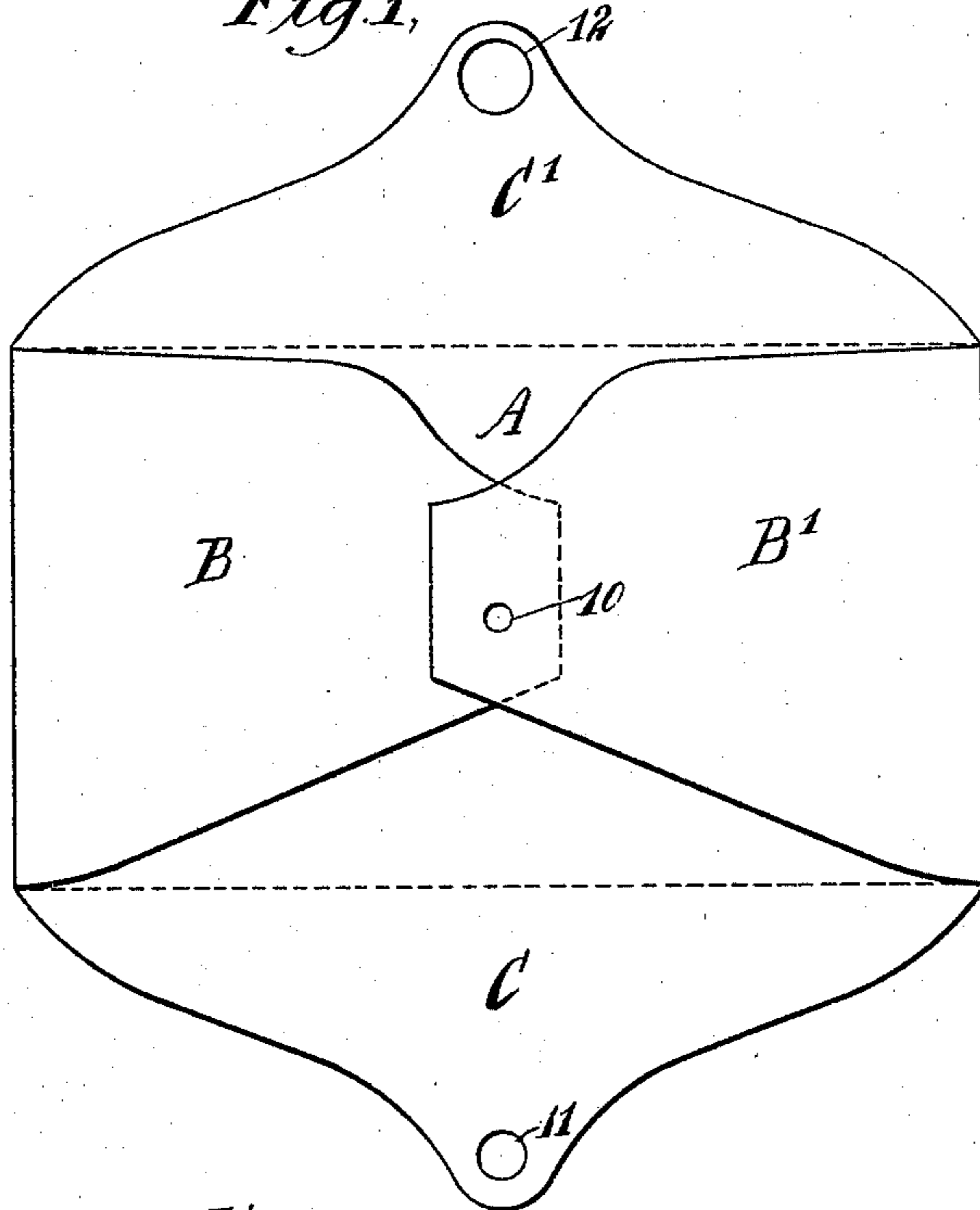


Fig. 2,

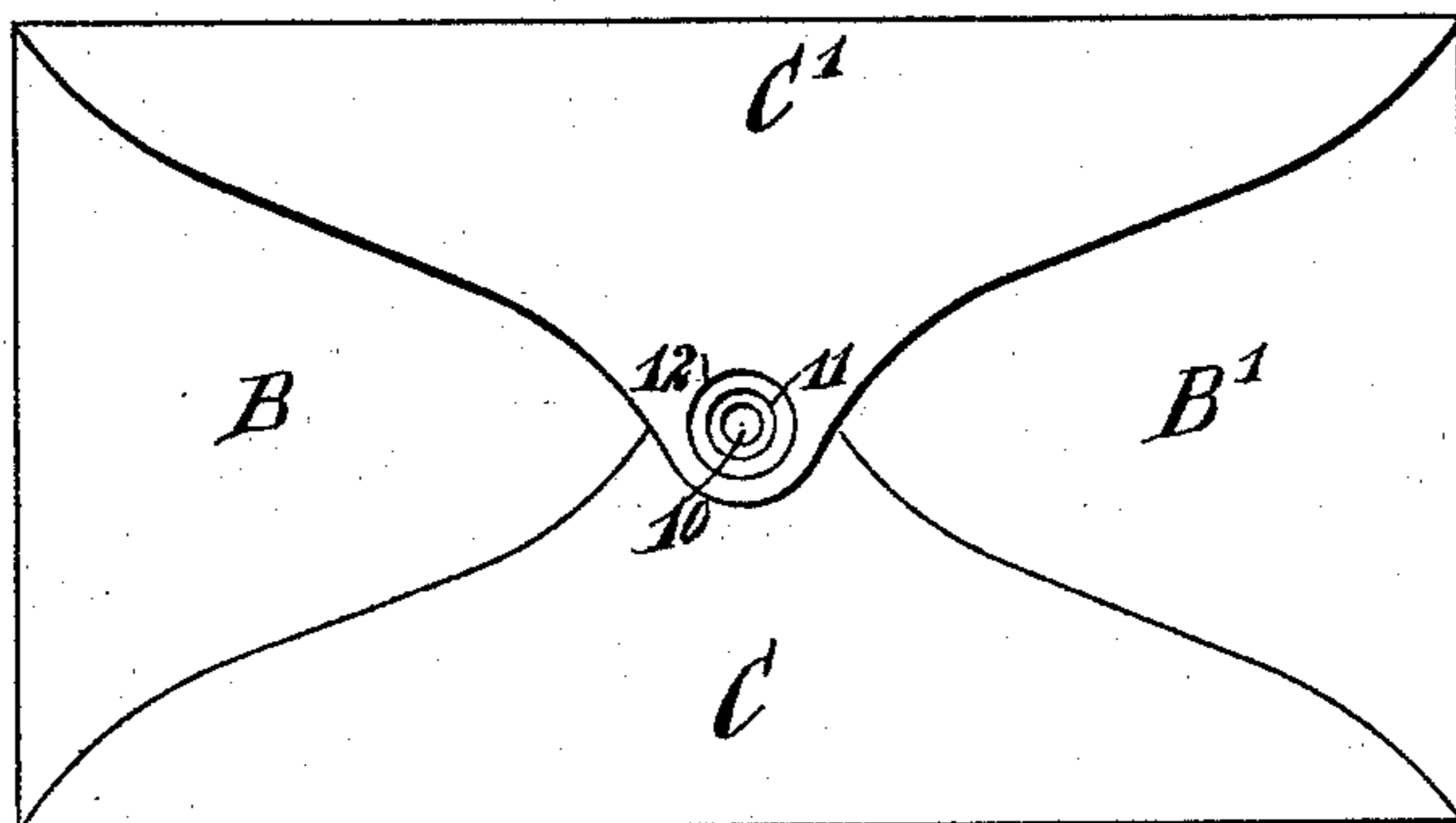
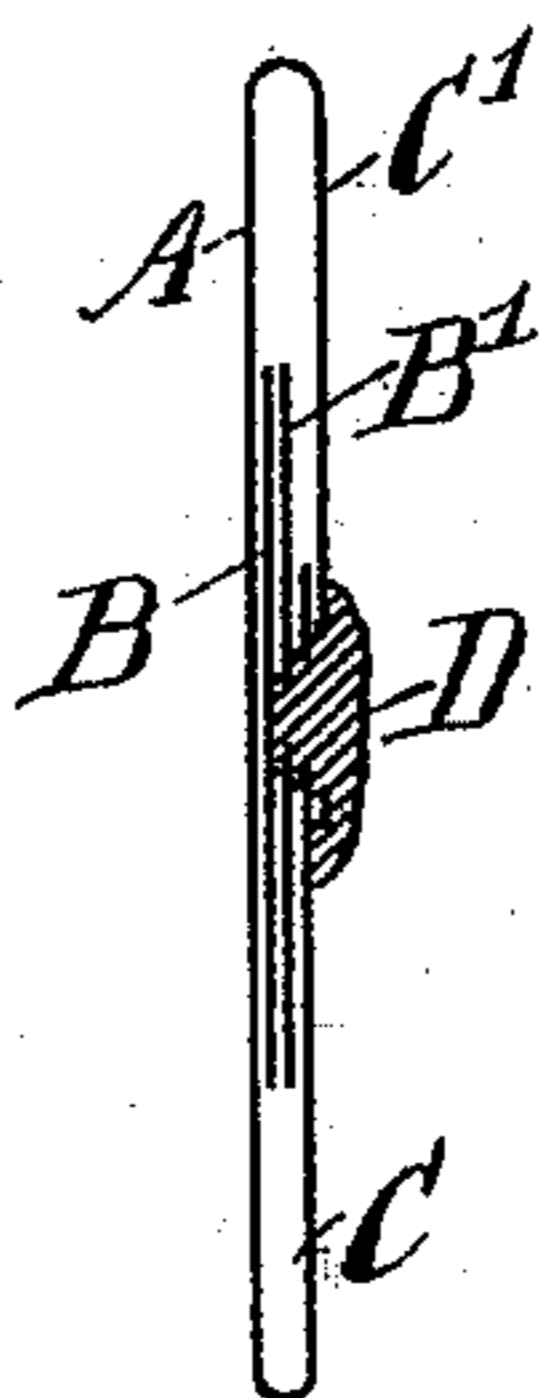


Fig. 3.



WITNESSES:

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EDWARD A. GOODCHILD, OF THOMPSON FALLS, MONTANA.

## FASTENING DEVICE FOR ENVELOPS.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 585,816, dated July 6, 1897.

Application filed March 31, 1896. Serial No. 585,584. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, EDWARD A. GOODCHILD, of Thompson Falls, in the county of Missoula and State of Montana, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Fastening Devices for Envelops and other Packages, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description.

The object of the invention is to provide a means whereby envelops and like packages may be closed through the medium of a seal of wax or a like material, the parts of the envelop or package at which the seal is located being so formed and constructed that the seal will have clinging and locking action upon the various folds or layers of material that may be beneath the seal, thus avoiding the possibility of an inner flap or fold being opened to gain access to the contents of the package while the package is yet sealed and without disturbing the seal.

The invention consists of an envelop or package having graduated registering openings in its flaps or folds.

Reference is to be had to the accompanying drawings, forming a part of this specification, in which similar characters of reference indicate corresponding parts in all the figures.

Figure 1 is a plan view of an envelop constructed in accordance with my invention and illustrating the top and bottom flaps opened, the side flaps being folded upon one another. Fig. 2 is a rear elevation of the envelop shown in Fig. 1, having all of its flaps folded so as to completely close the package; and Fig. 3 is a transverse central section through the envelop or package, illustrating the seal applied thereto and showing the manner in which each and every flap is attached to the aforesaid seal.

In carrying out the invention the envelop shown in the drawings comprises the several parts necessary to such an article—namely, the front or body A, the side flaps B and B', and the bottom and top flaps C and C'. One of the side flaps, the side flap B', folds over the opposing side flap B and has an opening 10 made therein near its inner end, ordinarily

about centrally placed. The lower flap C is provided at its apex with an opening 11 larger than the opening 10 and adapted when the said lower flap is closed over the side flaps to register with the opening 10 in the side flap B'. The upper or sealing flap C' at its apex has an opening 12 made therein larger than the opening 11 and adapted when the aforesaid upper or sealing flap is closed over the back of the envelop to register with the other openings 10 and 11, as shown in Fig. 2. Thus it will be observed that the openings in the various flaps are graduated in diameter, the smallest opening being the bottom one. A seal D, of wax or other material, is applied to the back, where the aforesaid openings occur, and will fill these openings, extending considerably beyond the margin of the largest one. Therefore the sealing material will be brought to an engagement with the undermost side flap and each of the other flaps of the envelop that are placed over the same, as shown in Fig. 3, rendering it impossible for any one of the flaps to be opened while the seal is in place without tearing the flap thus operated upon. It will be observed that this seal and method of application may be employed in closing any package where a seal or seals is to be placed at the meeting of any number of members or over any desired number of folds, it being understood that the envelop or package may be sealed in one or several places, according to the manner in which it is folded and the number of flaps it may contain.

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

An envelop or package having its folds or flaps provided with graduated openings, adapted to register in the folded condition of the package or envelop, substantially as shown and described.

EDWARD A. GOODCHILD.

Witnesses:

EDWIN KRATZER,  
H. E. FINDENBORN.