

No. 646,638.

H. M. CUTLER.
ENVELOP.

Patented Apr. 3, 1900.

(No Model.)

(Application filed Jan. 23, 1900.)

Fig. 1.

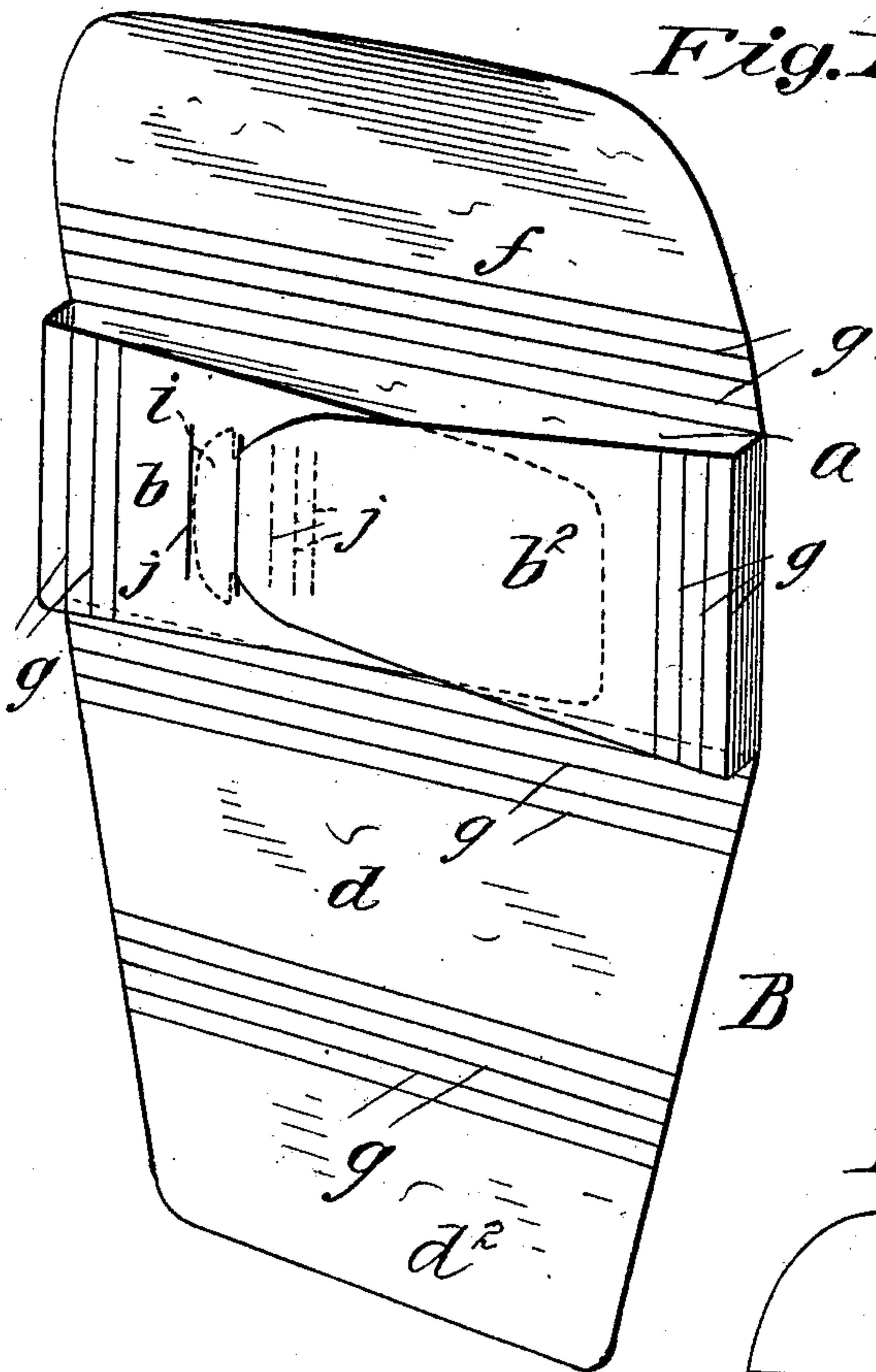


Fig. 2.

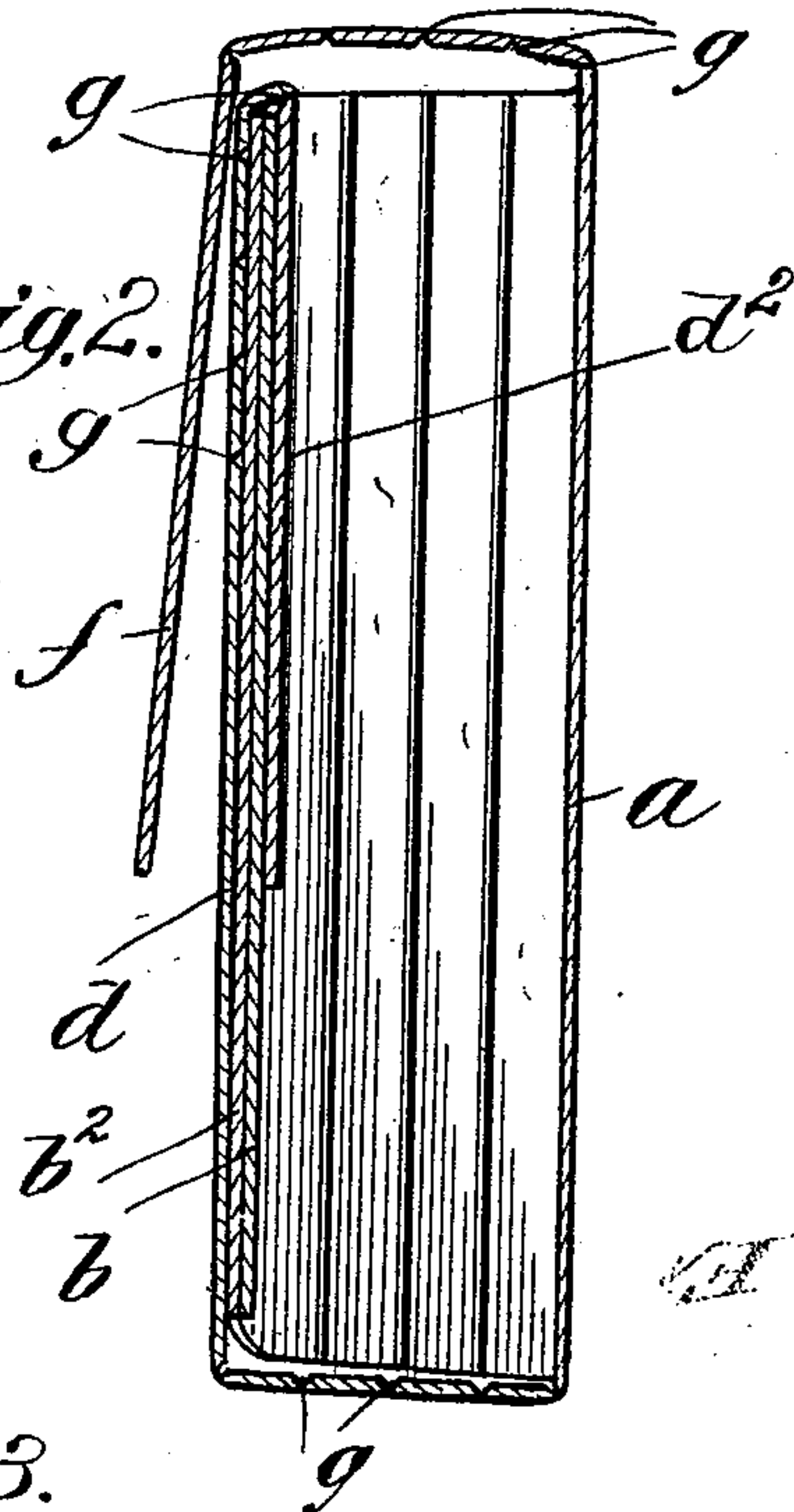


Fig. 3.

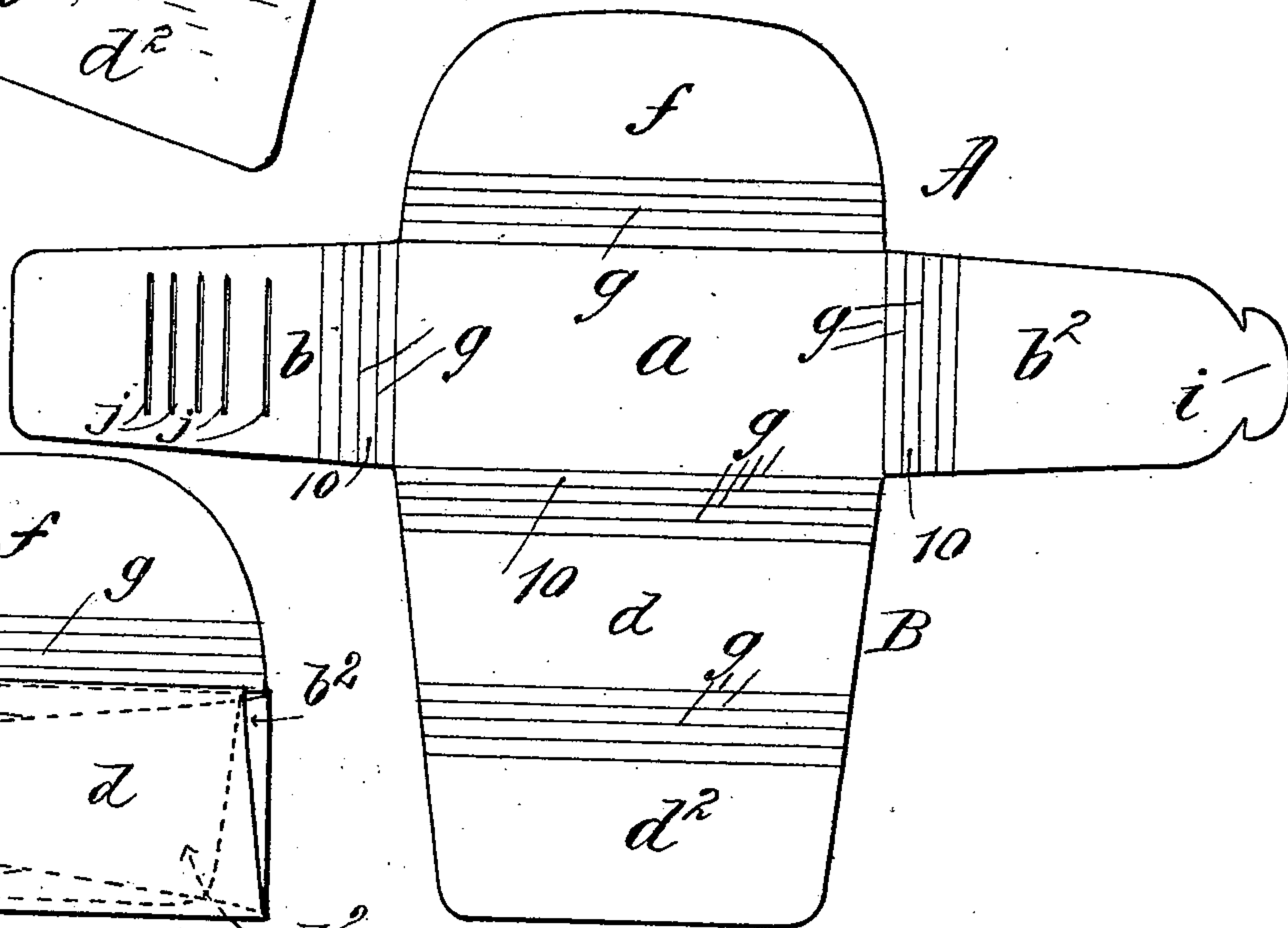
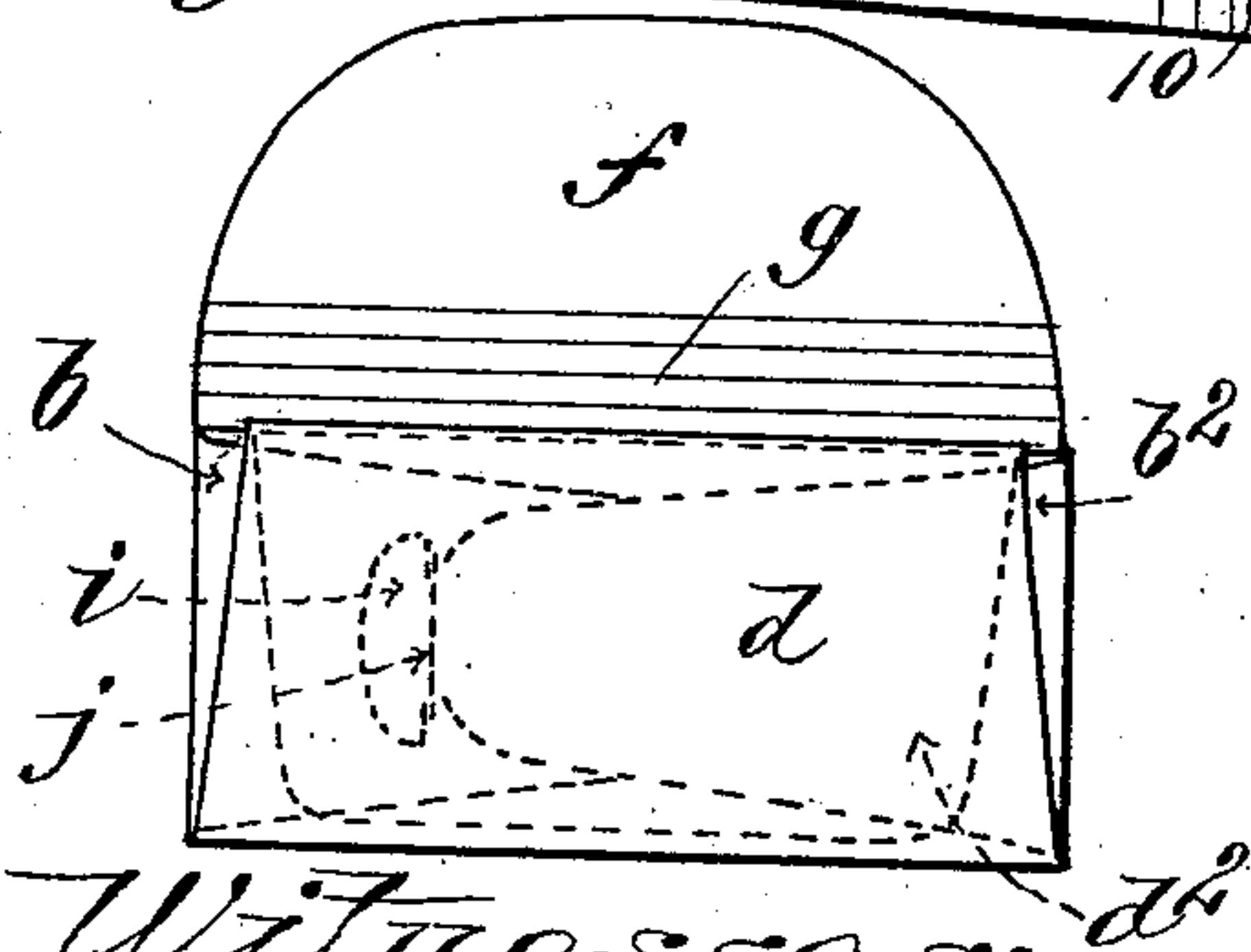


Fig. 4.



Witnesses:

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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ENVELOP.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 646,638, dated April 3, 1900.

Application filed January 23, 1900. Serial No. 2,496. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, HARRY M. CUTLER, a citizen of the United States of America, and a resident of Montpelier, in the county of Washington and State of Vermont, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Envelops, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description.

This invention relates to an improved expansible document or file envelop or wrapper.

The object of the invention is to produce a single blank which has an arrangement of flaps or wings, scorings, slits, and an interlocking tongue and which when properly folded constitutes an envelop for closely adhering to and containing the papers and for permitting most readily the expansion of the envelop to accord with the increased bulk of its contents, especial provision being made for the maintenance of the packet with quite sharply defined square edges and also with the portions of the blank which are brought into adjoining relations at the corners of the packet so closely disposed as to produce a more nearly completely-closed envelop than has heretofore been usual in expanding envelops of the same general class.

The purpose under this invention is to provide blanks which may be delivered in flat or sheet form and which are susceptible of having the various members thereof readily folded the one relatively to the other to inclose the documents, whether of slight or considerable thickness, it being understood that no adhesive, cords, or tapes, or fastening devices of any character aside from those created by formations of the blank are required.

The invention consists in the expansible envelop or wrapper constituted by the single blank having the form and features of construction hereinafter fully described, and shown in the accompanying drawings and specified in the claim.

In the drawings, Figure 1 is a perspective view of the envelop or file-wrapper, shown as partially folded for the reception of the papers therewithin and in readiness thereafter to be further folded for the complete inclosure of the contents. Fig. 2 is a cross-sectional view on a somewhat-larger scale of the envelop in its expanded and completed folded

and closed form. Fig. 3 is a plan view of the blank, which in its entirety constitutes and may be made up into the inclosing file-wrapper. Fig. 4 is a rear view of the device shown as in its folded-up and non-expanded condition in readiness for the reception of papers therein.

Similar characters of reference indicate corresponding parts in all of the views.

In the drawings, A represents the blank, of which *a* represents the rectangular portion or section which constitutes the front of the envelop, said portion *a* having continued from the opposite ends thereof the comparatively-long flaps or wings *b b*², and from its lower edge it has the portion B, which comprises the section *d*, to be folded over the adjoined and interlocked end flaps *b b*², and the section *b*², to be, when bent or folded on the proper scoring-line, disposed upon and within the section *a*, which constitutes the front, and at the opposite or upper edge of the section *a* is the flap or wing *f*.

The flaps or sections *f* and *d* and *b b*² have the scores *g* extending on the marginal lines of said section *a* and also in parallelism with each other and with the side or end, as the case may be, of the said section *a*, said scores being for facilitating the folding of the several flaps on any of such folding-lines in the expansion of the envelop to make it conform to the increasing bulk of the contents, and between the portion *d* and the portion *d*² the flap B is provided with several of the similar scoring-lines *g*.

The end flap *b* has outwardly beyond its scoring-lines *g* the several slits *j*, parallel with said scoring-lines and which terminate suitably within the edges of said flap, and the opposite end flap *b*² has its extremity formed with the outwardly-rounded and inwardly-shouldered tongue *i*, to be interlocked through one or another of said slits.

In preparing the blank for use to inclose at first a comparatively few thicknesses of papers, parts *f*, *b*, *b*², *d*, and *f* are folded on the marginal lines of front section *a* and superimposed, the tongue of *b*² being interlocked through that slit *j* on part *b* which is innermost, the flap *d*² being folded on the inner scoring-line of the outer series between *d* and *d*², and the papers being placed under the in-

terlocked end flaps b b^2 the flap d has its position on said interlocked end flap, parts d^2 being inserted within the envelop, and the cover-flap f overlies the back. The said end portion d^2 of the long flap B in being carried within the envelop has its position next inside of and against the interlocked end wings b and b^2 , as shown in Fig. 2 and in a manner indicated in Fig. 4. This portion d^2 serves two purposes. First, it serves as a protector or guard to the parts interlocked by the tongue and slit, and thereby prevents any of the contents of the packet becoming caught in or engaged with the said parts b b^2 or the locking devices thereof, and, secondly, it entirely locks the envelop, fitting nicely over the said wings b b^2 in any condition to which the envelop is expanded.

As the envelop requires to be expanded to give therewithin increased space for occupancy of the accumulating papers, the flaps b b^2 are disengaged, bent at substantially right angles to the long narrow sections between the scores g , and again interlocked, and flaps d and d^2 and f are then bent on correspondingly-proper scoring-lines to produce by the narrow areas between the scoring-lines clearly-defined squared end walls to the packet.

Fig. 2 indicates the cross-sectional aspect of the envelop expanded to about its maximum extent.

The end wings or flaps having the provision whereby the one may be interlocked with the other constitute, in effect, a binder for confining the inclosed papers in closely-disposed relations and serve most efficiently to prevent the distortion or undue loosening apart of the packet.

The outer section d^2 of flap B, by its insertion and engagement within the envelop, holds the parts comprised in said wing in the proper closed relations, and the overlap by the outside or back flap f insures the complete closure of the packet at its upper edge.

Inasmuch as the several wings or flaps are tapered or convergent outwardly as and for the same purpose that is commonly carried out in respect to the flaps of various descriptions of knockdown envelops and folding boxes, there would be as the envelop expands the leaving of openings at the corners of the packet. I have therefore constructed the outermost several slits j j somewhat closer together than the space between the innermost two slits, so that after the envelop has been partially expanded in the further distention of the contents the tongue and slit inter-

locked end flaps b and b^2 become by reason of the spacing between the slits, which is somewhat less than double the width of the spaces between the scoring-lines g g , held with such firmness and closeness at the ends as to decrease the liability thereof of openings being formed, especially at the rear corners of the packet, and thus dust is the more effectually excluded.

One of the leading and important characteristics of this invention consists in the capability which the envelop has of allowing expansion by degrees as the contents increase, confining all such expansion to the sides and back of the envelop, thus leaving the entire front a square-faced with no detracting from the top, bottom, or sides, as is the case with other expansion envelops not constructed with the features and provisions embodied in the envelop herein described.

I am aware that there are several existing patented constructions showing that it is not at this time new to construct an envelop having the capability of expansion because of scorings on folding-lines and that it is not new to produce a receptacle produced by a blank having portions or sections extending from the four sides of the portion which constitutes the main wall of the device, and I wish it understood that I desire to make no claim so broad as to cover constructions and appliances known to be old; but

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

An expansible document-envelop or file-wrapper composed of the single blank integrally formed and comprising the rectangular section a , constituting the front, the opposite end wings b and b^2 , the one being provided with a series of parallel slits j j , and the other with a shouldered locking-tongue i , the flap B comprising the section d , and the section d^2 extended from the lower edge of the front section, and the flap f extended from the upper edge of said section, all of the said flaps having the series of scored folding-lines g , on, and parallel with their junction with the section a , and a similar series of scoring-lines on the flap B between the sections d and d^2 , the whole arranged to be brought to the form of the packet-inclosure, substantially as described and shown.

Signed by me this 18th day of January, 1900.

H. M. CUTLER.

Witnesses:

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