

No. 661,690.

Patented Nov. 13, 1900.


M. N. FORNEY.  
MULTIPLE ADDRESS ENVELOP.

(Application filed May 4, 1900.)

(No Model.)

2 Sheets—Sheet 1.

Fig. 1

	f	e	d	c	b	a
FROM THE COMMON-WEAL LEAGUE.  READ AND REMAIL.  <i>See directions on the back</i>	PLACE FOR SIXTH POSTAGE STAMP	PLACE FOR FIFTH POSTAGE STAMP	PLACE FOR FOURTH POSTAGE STAMP	PLACE FOR THIRD POSTAGE STAMP	PLACE FOR SECOND POSTAGE STAMP	
	PRESERVE THIS ENVELOPE					
	1st Address here <input type="checkbox"/> A <i>John Doe by San Francisco Cal</i>					
	2nd Address here <input type="checkbox"/> B					
	3rd Address here <input type="checkbox"/> C					
<input type="checkbox"/> RETURN NOTICE <i>If not delivered within ten days to the person to whom it is ad- dressed, or if all the addresses on it are erased, return to The Common-Weal League 501 Fifth Ave. New York.</i>	4th Address here <input type="checkbox"/> D					
	5th Address here <input type="checkbox"/> E					

f e d c b a

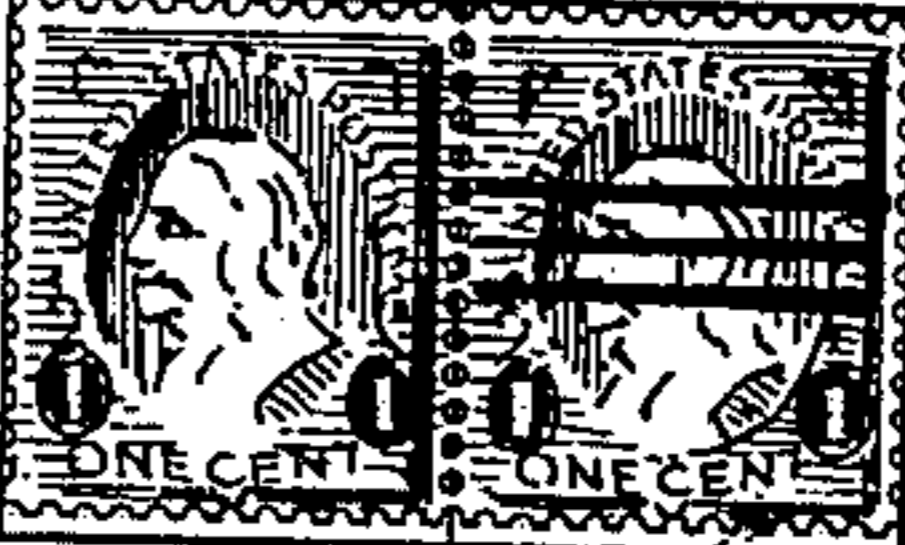
	f	e	d	c	b	a
FROM THE COMMON-WEAL LEAGUE.  READ AND REMAIL.  <i>See directions on the back</i>	PLACE FOR SIXTH POSTAGE STAMP	PLACE FOR FIFTH POSTAGE STAMP	PLACE FOR FOURTH POSTAGE STAMP	PLACE FOR THIRD POSTAGE STAMP		
	PRESERVE THIS ENVELOPE					
	1st Address here <input type="checkbox"/> A <i>John Doe by San Francisco Cal</i>					
	2nd Address here <input type="checkbox"/> B <i>Mr. Richard Roe 401 King Street Washington, D.C.</i>					
	3rd Address here <input type="checkbox"/> C					
<input type="checkbox"/> RETURN NOTICE <i>If not delivered within ten days to the person to whom it is ad- dressed, or if all the addresses on it are erased, return to The Common-Weal League, 501 Fifth Ave. New York.</i>	4th Address here <input type="checkbox"/> D					
	5th Address here <input type="checkbox"/> E					

Fig. 2

WITNESSES:

*C. Oberlander.*  
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INVENTOR

*Matthias N. Forney*  
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ATTORNEY

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2 Sheets—Sheet 2.

**Fig. 3**

<i>f'</i>	<i>e'</i>	<i>d'</i>	<i>c'</i>	<i>b'</i>	<i>a'</i>
<i>n</i>	<i>n</i>	<i>n</i>	<i>n</i>	<i>n</i>	<i>n</i>
<i>f</i>	<i>e</i>	<i>d</i>	<i>c</i>	<i>b</i>	<i>a</i>
<i>s</i>	<i>s</i>	<i>s</i>	<i>s</i>	<i>s</i>	<i>s</i>
PRESERVE THIS ENVELOPE.					
1st Address here <i>A</i>					
2nd Address here <i>B</i>					
3rd Address here <i>C</i>					
4th Address here <i>D</i>					
5th Address here <i>E</i>					

FROM THE COMMONWEAL LEAGUE.  
READ AND REMAIL.  
See directions on the back.

RETURN NOTICE  
If not used, this envelope may be used for any other purpose, but it must be used for the purpose for which it was designed.

**Fig. 4**

<i>f</i>	<i>e</i>	<i>d</i>	<i>c</i>	<i>b</i>	<i>a</i>
<i>n</i>	<i>n</i>	<i>n</i>	<i>n</i>	<i>n</i>	<i>n</i>
<i>f</i>	<i>e</i>	<i>d</i>	<i>c</i>	<i>b</i>	<i>a</i>
<i>s</i>	<i>s</i>	<i>s</i>	<i>s</i>	<i>s</i>	<i>s</i>
PRESERVE THIS ENVELOPE.					
1st Address here <i>A</i> <i>Mr. Richard Roe</i>					
2nd Address here <i>B</i> <i>Washington DC</i>					
3rd Address here <i>C</i>					
4th Address here <i>D</i>					
5th Address here <i>E</i>					

FROM THE COMMONWEAL LEAGUE.  
READ AND REMAIL.  
See directions on the back.

RETURN NOTICE  
If not used, this envelope may be used for any other purpose, but it must be used for the purpose for which it was designed.

**Fig. 5**

<i>f</i>	<i>e</i>	<i>d</i>	<i>c</i>	<i>b</i>	<i>a</i>
<i>n</i>	<i>n</i>	<i>n</i>	<i>n</i>	<i>n</i>	<i>n</i>
<i>f</i>	<i>e</i>	<i>d</i>	<i>c</i>	<i>b</i>	<i>a</i>
<i>s</i>	<i>s</i>	<i>s</i>	<i>s</i>	<i>s</i>	<i>s</i>
PRESERVE THIS ENVELOPE.					
1st Address here <i>A</i> <i>Mr. Richard Roe</i>					
2nd Address here <i>B</i> <i>John Doe</i>					
3rd Address here <i>C</i> <i>999 Main St. San Francisco Cal.</i>					
4th Address here <i>D</i>					
5th Address here <i>E</i>					

FROM THE COMMONWEAL LEAGUE.  
READ AND REMAIL.  
See directions on the back.

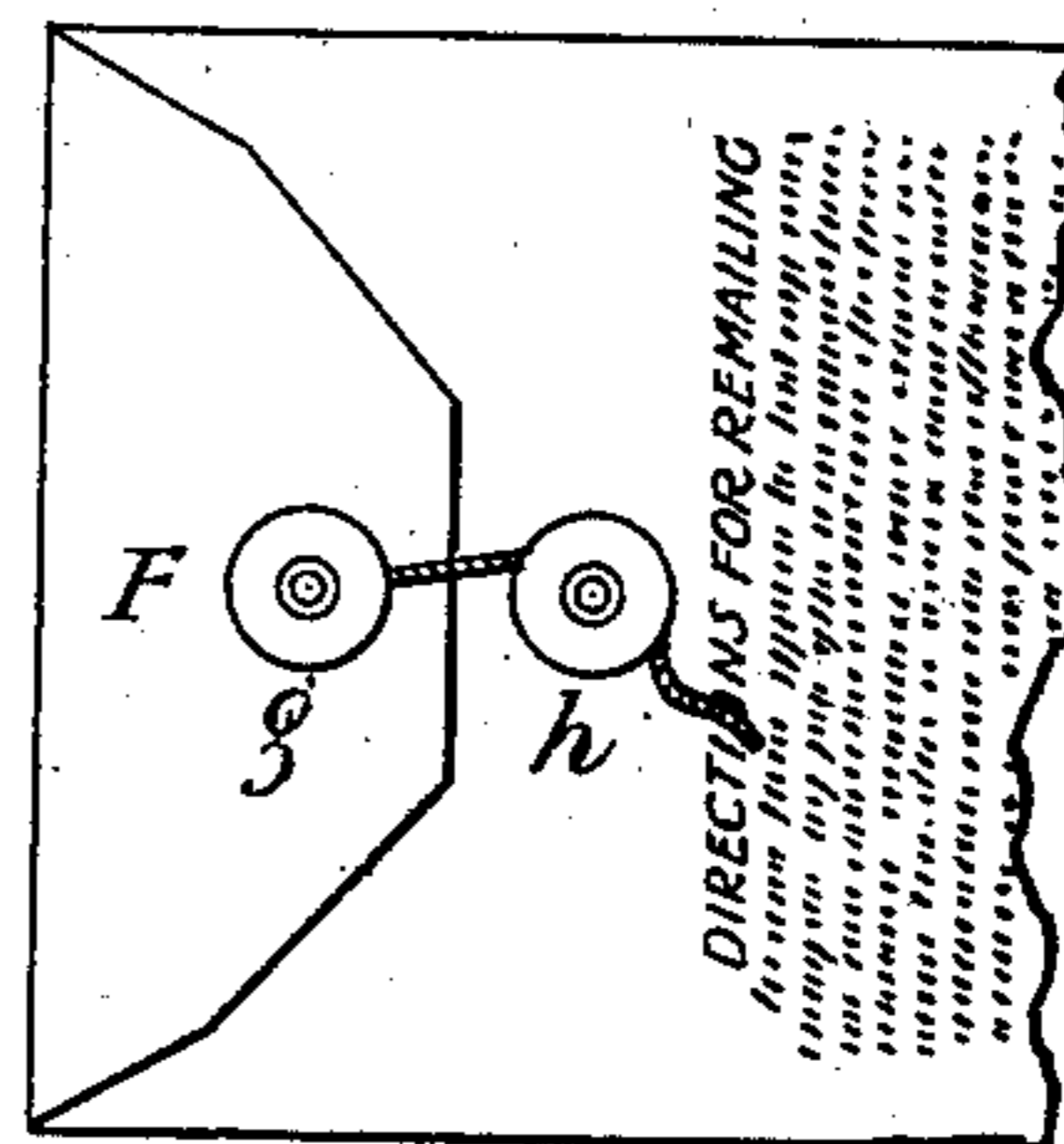
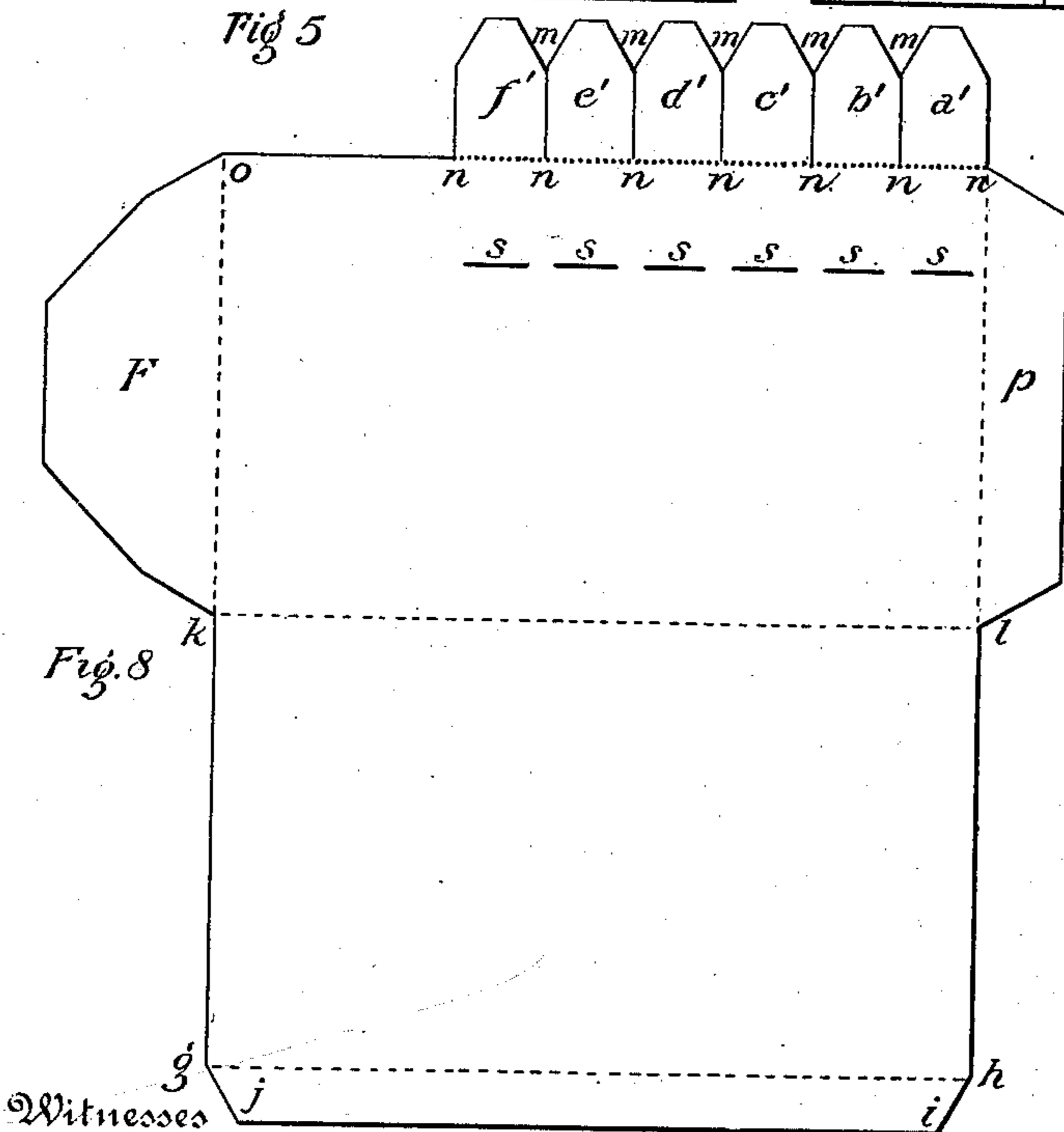
RETURN NOTICE  
If not used, this envelope may be used for any other purpose, but it must be used for the purpose for which it was designed.

**Fig. 6**

<i>f</i>	<i>e</i>	<i>d</i>	<i>c</i>	<i>b</i>	<i>a</i>
<i>n</i>	<i>n</i>	<i>n</i>	<i>n</i>	<i>n</i>	<i>n</i>
<i>f</i>	<i>e</i>	<i>d</i>	<i>c</i>	<i>b</i>	<i>a</i>
<i>s</i>	<i>s</i>	<i>s</i>	<i>s</i>	<i>s</i>	<i>s</i>
PRESERVE THIS ENVELOPE.					
1st Address here <i>A</i>					
2nd Address here <i>B</i>					
3rd Address here <i>C</i>					
4th Address here <i>D</i>					
5th Address here <i>E</i>					

FROM THE COMMONWEAL LEAGUE.  
READ AND REMAIL.  
See directions on the back.

RETURN NOTICE  
If not used, this envelope may be used for any other purpose, but it must be used for the purpose for which it was designed.



Witnesses  
*C. Oberlander*  
*J. B. Clautice*

Inventor  
By his Attorney  
*Matthew N. Forney*  
*Thomas S. Sisson*

# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

MATTHIAS N. FORNEY, OF NEW YORK, N. Y.

## MULTIPLE-ADDRESS ENVELOP.



SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 661,690, dated November 13, 1900.

Application filed May 4, 1900. Serial No. 15,437. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, MATTHIAS N. FORNEY, a citizen of the United States, residing in the borough of Manhattan, city of New York, State of New York, have invented a certain new and useful Improvement in Multiple-Address Envelops; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full and exact specification thereof.

10 The object of the invention is to facilitate the remailing of publications or documents of any kind by persons to whom they are sent, thus multiplying the number of people who will receive them and increasing their  
15 circulation and influence.

I will describe the invention as applied to the circulation of papers for promoting or advocating a reform or other measure or cause about which it is intended to disseminate information by means of printed or written publications. Such publications may be mailed in my improved envelop to a party to whose notice it may be thought desirable that such publications should be brought, and in order  
25 that it may be remailed to one or more parties a conspicuous notice is printed on the envelop requesting the recipient to "Preserve the envelop" and another notice to "Read and remail" its contents. To facilitate remailing, a number of spaces are provided on the face of the envelop for the names and addresses of parties to whom it may be successively sent, each space with a printed notice on its margin similar to the following: "1st  
30 address here , 2d address here , &c." It being essential that postage should be paid each time the envelop is mailed, other spaces are provided on the face of the envelop suited to receive successive postage-stamps. Each  
40 of these has a notice printed on it similar to the following: "Place for first stamp," "Place for second stamp," &c.

In advocating any cause or reform or in disseminating information with reference to  
45 any subject, party, or principle it is often desirable to have the names and addresses of as many people as possible who are or are likely to be interested in the measures which are advocated or in the cause to be promoted.  
50 With this object in view means are provided for the return of the envelop to the address from which it originated after it has been

sent to a number of persons successively, as described. To effect the purpose of having it returned to the original sender, an ordinary  
55 return notice is printed on the envelop, with the addition "if all the addresses on the envelops are erased return to ——" (giving address from which it originated.) As postage must be prepaid for the return of what is  
60 denominated "third-class matter," an additional space is provided for a stamp—that is, there is one more space for stamps than for addresses.

In order that the purpose of the envelop  
65 and the method of remailing it may be readily and thoroughly understood, explicit directions explaining both may be printed on its back. The envelop provided with a fastening which can readily be opened or closed. 70

There may be only one paper, pamphlet, or other document or an aggregation of them sent in each envelop. In some cases a number of different publications may be sent in each envelop to be read by each person receiving it. In such instances each recipient would be requested by the notice on the envelop or by a notice inside, or by both these means, to remail all the documents contained in the envelop. Under other circumstances  
80 it might be desirable to send a number of similar documents—such as circulars, &c.—in each envelop, with instructions that each recipient of it shall retain one or more copies and remail the remainder to some other person he may know of who will be likely to be  
85 influenced by them and who may be sufficiently interested therein to again forward the remainder in his turn. There may be other cases, as in the sale of merchandise, in  
90 which it will be expedient or desirable for the original sender to prepay all the postages for the successive remailings of the envelop. Should he undertake to do this by affixing stamps in each of the places provided  
95 for their reception, some or all of them would be liable to be canceled at too early a period in the series of remailings. To guard against this and provide facilities for the prepayment of all the postages by the original sender, I  
100 have provided protective flaps which cover each one of the stamps. These coverings are made so that at each successive mailing one of them can readily be removed from a stamp

and detached from the envelop. Suitable directions for the removal of these flaps are inscribed on them. The first-described plan, which requires each of the several recipients of the envelop to be at the labor and expense of procuring and affixing a stamp to prepay postage to its next destination, is only one form of my invention. This will be described first, and then a description will be given of an envelop having devices for the protection of the stamps in cases when all the postages are paid by the original sender.

The accompanying drawings form a part of this specification and represent what I consider the best means of carrying out the invention.

Figure 1 is a front or face view of the first-described form of envelop ready for mailing the first time and embodying a portion of my invention. Fig. 2 is a front or face view of the envelop shown in Fig. 1 ready to be mailed the second time. The remaining figures are on a smaller scale and represent an envelop to be used when all the postages are prepaid at the time it is first mailed and having protective flaps for the postage-stamps to protect them from being canceled prematurely. Fig. 3 is a face view of this form of envelop ready to receive the first address and the postage-stamps, but with the protective flaps open. Fig. 4 shows a similar view of an envelop after the first address has been written on it, the postage-stamps have been attached to it, and the protective flaps, all excepting the first one, have been folded over the stamps and tucked into the slits provided to secure them. Fig. 5 shows a similar view of the same envelop after it has been mailed the first time, the first stamp has been canceled, the original address has been erased or lined out, a second address has been written in the appropriate place, and the covering-flap over the second stamp has been removed, and it is ready to mail the second time. Fig. 6 is a face view of an envelop having covering-flaps of a different form from those shown in the preceding three figures. Fig. 7 is a view of a portion of the back of an envelop, showing one form of a fastening for the main flap and the position of the directions for remailing. Fig. 8 shows the form of the blank sheet of paper from which the envelop and protective flaps shown in Figs. 3, 4, and 5 are made, the lines on which it is subsequently folded being indicated by dotted lines.

Similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts in all the figures where they appear.

Referring now to Figs. 1 and 2, A, B, C, D, and E are spaces arranged, respectively, adjacent, on which the proper succession of addresses are to be written and on or adjoining each of which spaces instructions to that effect are plainly printed. Another series of spaces *a*, *b*, *c*, *d*, *e*, and *f*, each of a proper size for a postage-stamp, are arranged also

on the front of the envelop and marked correspondingly to receive and carry stamps, the first stamp-place *a* corresponding to the first address A, and so on.

In the use of the envelop the original sender writes one address in the space A, puts a proper postage-stamp on the stamp-space *a*, as shown in Fig. 1, and mails the parcel.

It is important that the envelop shall be adapted to retain the contents for transportation in the mails and on reaching its first destination that it may be opened without destroying it, but, on the contrary, preserving it in the condition for reuse and remailing. Ordinary envelops with the flaps ungummed, or, if gummed, unwetted, will serve; but I employ such fastening means as are set forth in the expired patent to W. D. Smith, dated March 13, 1883, No. 274,044, shown in Fig. 7, and will describe it as thus equipped, with the string permanently attached at one end *g* and an eyeleted fastening and button *h* for securing the other end of the string by winding it around this button and allowing its release and resealing when required. Such a fastening will endure many successive uses.

In order to make the purpose of the envelop obvious to its recipients, the most prominent notice on it is "Preserve this envelop." Then as it is intended that the same envelop should be remailed a number of times another prominent notice on it is "Read and remail."

The spaces A, B, C, D, and E are provided on the face of the envelop for different names and addresses of persons or parties to whom it may be successively sent. These spaces may be designated, preferably, by printed lines, as shown in the drawings; but other means, as different colors, water-marks in the paper, stamped lines or surfaces, &c., which would serve to indicate that the unoccupied spaces are to be reserved for different addresses, may be employed. Adjacent to these spaces are inserted the notices indicating where the successive names and addresses are to be written. To facilitate the prepayment of postage each time the envelop is mailed, the other spaces *a*, *b*, *c*, *d*, *e*, and *f* are provided to receive successive postage-stamps. The spaces have suitable notices thereon indicating where these stamps should be placed. There is also a conspicuous reference on the face of the envelop to directions for remailing on the back of the envelop or within it, or both. The latter are intended to be very full and specific, so that all persons may understand them. One form of such directions is as follows: "The inclosed publications of the Commonwealth League are sent to the person to whom this envelop will be mailed with the hope that they will be read by the recipient and that he or she will be sufficiently interested therein and in the objects of the League to be disposed to cooperate with it and aid in extending the circulation of its

publications by contributing a one-cent stamp, readdressing this envelop to some other person, and then remailing it. To do this requires simply that the person receiving the envelop, who is willing to give such aid, should draw a pen through his or her address, then write the new one in the space provided next below the old one, affix the new postage-stamp in the place indicated for it, replace the publications in the envelop, fasten it with its string and button, and then remail it. The second and succeeding persons receiving it are requested to 'Read and remail' in the same way, and when addresses have been written in all the five spaces provided for them and the envelop has been mailed that often the last person who has received it is requested to return it to the Commonwealth League of New York. A 'Return Notice' is provided on the envelop for that purpose, and no additional address will therefore be needed; but the return postage must be prepaid by the addition of a one-cent stamp in the sixth space provided. The publications thus returned to the League may in some cases be started on a new career of usefulness. The old envelop will also give the League the names and addresses of persons interested in its objects, to whom other publications may thereafter be sent."

On receiving one of these envelops a person's attention will first be attracted by the conspicuous notices to "Read and remail" and to "Preserve this envelop," which of themselves might explain the purpose of the spaces for successive addresses and stamps; but to make this quite obvious it is still more definitely stated by other notices inscribed in these spaces or adjacent thereto, and if the receiver of the envelop has then any doubt about its purposes he or she is given a full explanation of it on the back. Naturally, then, a person interested in the contents of such envelop on receiving one of them and getting a comprehension of its object will take out its contents and preserve the envelop for further use. After reading what it contains or giving it the attention which his or her interest in the subject to which it relates prompts it may not unreasonably be expected that the original contents will be replaced in the envelop and that it will be remailed to some other person likely to be interested therein or be influenced thereby. If a number of copies of the same documents or publications are inclosed in the envelop, each recipient can retain one and then redeposit the remainder in the envelop and refasten the flap.

The process of remailing is as follows: First, the address of the just receiver is marked out by drawing a pen through it; second, the new address is written in the place provided for it, and, third, a new stamp is affixed in the space designated for it. The envelop is then ready to remail, the canceled addresses and

stamps remaining on it. Thus it will be mailed successively from one person to another. When all the spaces provided for addresses are filled, if the last recipient complies with the return notice on the envelop he or she will remail it to the original sender, whose address is given in the return notice referred to.

One object in having the envelop finally remailed to the original sender is to be assured of the success of the enterprise; but another important end, as has been explained, is attained in giving the person or persons from whom it originated the addresses, if they remain legible, of those who are likely to be interested in the subject to which the contents of the envelop relate or who may be influenced thereby, whereas otherwise it would be difficult and often impossible to obtain such addresses. The canceled names may also serve to introduce or commend to the later recipients the reform, measure, cause, or business to which the documents mailed may relate, and the fact that those whose names are on the envelop were interested in its contents will often secure the attention of others who receive it who without such approval would give no attention to what is sent them.

Figs. 3 to 6, inclusive, represent the fuller development of my invention, the purpose of which is to provide a multiple-mailing envelop adapted for receiving a sufficient number of postage-stamps when it is first mailed to cover the postage for each successive mailing and which is provided with means for the protection of these stamps and prevent their cancellation before the payment of the postage which they represent is required. With these objects in view spaces are provided, as in the envelop already described, for as many stamps as will be needed for the successive mailings of the envelop. Instead of requiring that one stamp shall be attached to the envelop by each recipient when he remails it all the stamps are put on the envelop in their appropriate places by the first party who sends it out. To prevent the premature cancellation of more than one stamp at a time, they are each covered or protected by a strip or flap of paper or other material which can easily be removed and detached at the proper time. Such strips or flaps are shown by *a'*, *b'*, *c'*, *d'*, *e'*, and *f'* in Figs. 3, 4, 5, and 8.

In the manufacture of these envelops the sheets of which they are made are cut or stamped out of the form represented by Fig. 8. The protective flaps *a'* *b'* *c'*, &c., for covering the stamps are formed on the upper edge of the sheet, as shown. They are cut apart or separated on the lines *m n*, *m n*, &c., and to facilitate their detachment from the envelop the sheet is perforated on the lines *n n*, *n n*, &c., where they are united to it. The outer ends *m m* of the flaps are narrowed, so that they can be readily inserted in slits

*s s s*, &c., cut in the part of the sheet which forms the face of the envelop when it is folded, as will be explained farther on.

To form the envelop after the sheet is cut, as shown in Fig. 8, the lower margin *g h i j* is first folded over on the line *g h*, and the sheet is also folded on the line *k l*, and the margin *g h i j* is then pasted below the line *o n*, &c. The slits *s s s* are then immediately below the protective flaps *a' b' f'* and in a position to receive their ends, as will presently be described. The part *p* is afterward folded on the line *n l* and pasted to the back, and the loose main flap *F* is also folded back on the line *o k*, but is not pasted, but left free, so that it can be opened and closed at each remailing and the contents of the envelop may be inserted and removed each time it is sent and received. The flap of the envelop is provided with a string and button, as shown in Fig. 7. The face of the envelop then has the appearance shown by Fig. 3, the spaces for addresses and stamps and the directions for remailing, &c., having been printed on the sheet before it was folded. The stamps may then be attached in their appropriate places, and afterward the protective flaps are folded down and their narrowed ends inserted in the slits *s s* to hold the flaps in place. In Fig. 4 all the flaps are so shown excepting the first one, *a'*, which has not been folded over, and the stamp is shown underneath it.

In mailing the envelop the first time the address is written in the appropriate place, as shown in Fig. 4, and the protection-flap which covers the first stamp is torn off. It is then ready to mail. When it gets into the office, the postmaster cancels the first stamp which is exposed, but the others are protected by the flaps. When it is mailed the second time, the first address is erased and a new one written in the second space, as shown in Fig. 5, and the end of the flap over the second stamp is pulled out of the slip, and it is torn off in the perforated line which exposes the stamp below it. When it reaches the post-office the second time, another stamp is canceled, the remainder being protected by the flaps. This process is repeated at each successive mailing, and when the last one is reached all the flaps will be removed.

The main flap *F* is arranged in the ordinary way with two buttons and a string for fastening it, as shown in Fig. 7; but various other forms of fastening may be used. The mailing otherwise is the same as has already been described.

Another form of protective flaps is shown in Fig. 6. These consist simply of strips of paper perforated on the lines *t u* and *w v*, the distance between the lines of perforation being equal to the height or width of a postage-stamp. These strips are pasted to the envelop above and below the lines of perfora-

tions and the stamps, the parts of the strips which cover the stamps being unpasted. Vertical slits are cut between the lines of perforation whose distance apart is just equal to the width of a stamp.

At each successive mailing one of the strips which covers a stamp is torn off on the lines of perforation, the other operations being the same as described.

No protective strip is required for the first stamp; but it is thought best to provide one and to remove it, so that the fact that it has been removed will guide the succeeding mailer.

From Figs. 4, 5, and 6 it will be seen that directions are printed on each protective strip for its removal at the proper time.

Other modifications may be made without departing from the principle or sacrificing the advantages of the invention. I can provide a less number or possibly a larger number of properly-marked spaces for the addresses and the stamps. Their positions may be changed or they may be arranged in a different order; but I prefer that shown in Figs. 1 and 2, the succession of stamps commencing at the right hand and extending along the top toward the left, because it is customary in canceling in the post-office to strike the stamp in the upper right-hand corner. The arrangement proposed agrees with this practice of cancellation and allows the operator to run his eye to the left until he finds the fresh one to be canceled. I also prefer the arrangement of the addresses, as shown, one under another, the uppermost next to the several places for the stamps, because the successive cancelings of the stamps will be likely to more or less obscure this portion at the late stages in the progress of the envelop.

The return notice, which, being printed, will occupy less space than the several others, may be arranged in the series lying directly under the last written; but I esteem it preferable to have it in another convenient point and allow the whole vertical depth not occupied by the stamps for the successive directions.

Further modifications may be made without departing from the principle or sacrificing the advantages of the invention. The number of spaces for addresses may be varied. Parts of the invention may be used without the whole. I can, as people become accustomed to it, omit much of the instructions. Other means of closing and securing the envelop may serve, or the envelop may be used without fastening. An ordinary envelop may be used.

I claim as my invention—

1. An envelop having a number of designated spaces adapted to receive successive addresses to different parties, a corresponding number of designated spaces adapted to receive successive postage-stamps, all on the

front face of the envelop, and means for securing its contents while preserving the envelop, all substantially as herein described.

2. An envelop having a number of designated spaces for successive addresses; a corresponding number of designated spaces for postage-stamps, all on the front face of the envelop; another space carrying instructions inscribed on the envelop for redirecting and remailing it and a readily attachable and detachable fastening for securing the contents within the envelop, substantially as herein described.

3. An envelop having a number of designated spaces for successive addresses, and a corresponding number of designated spaces for postage-stamps and covering-flaps adapted to serve for the protection of the stamps in the first portion of a series of successive mailings.

4. An envelop having a number of designated spaces for successive addresses, and a corresponding number of designated spaces for postage-stamps, covering-flaps for the

stamps, and instructions inscribed on the envelop for redirecting and remailing it, substantially as herein specified.

5. An envelop having a number of designated spaces for successive addresses, and a corresponding number of designated spaces for postage-stamps, and covering-flaps for the protection of the stamps and a readily attachable and detachable fastening for securing the contents within the envelop, substantially as herein described.

6. An envelop having a number of designated spaces for successive addresses, a corresponding number of spaces for postage-stamps and covering-flaps for the protection of the stamps, the whole formed of one sheet of paper, substantially as herein specified.

In testimony that I claim the invention above set forth I affix my signature in presence of two witnesses.

MATTHIAS N. FORNEY.

Witnesses:

THOMAS DREW STETSON,  
J. B. CLAUTICE.