

No. 709,805.

Patented Sept. 23, 1902.

F. R. STEARNS & C. R. WEBER.

ENVELOP.

(Application filed Oct. 23, 1901.)

(No Model.)

Fig. 1.

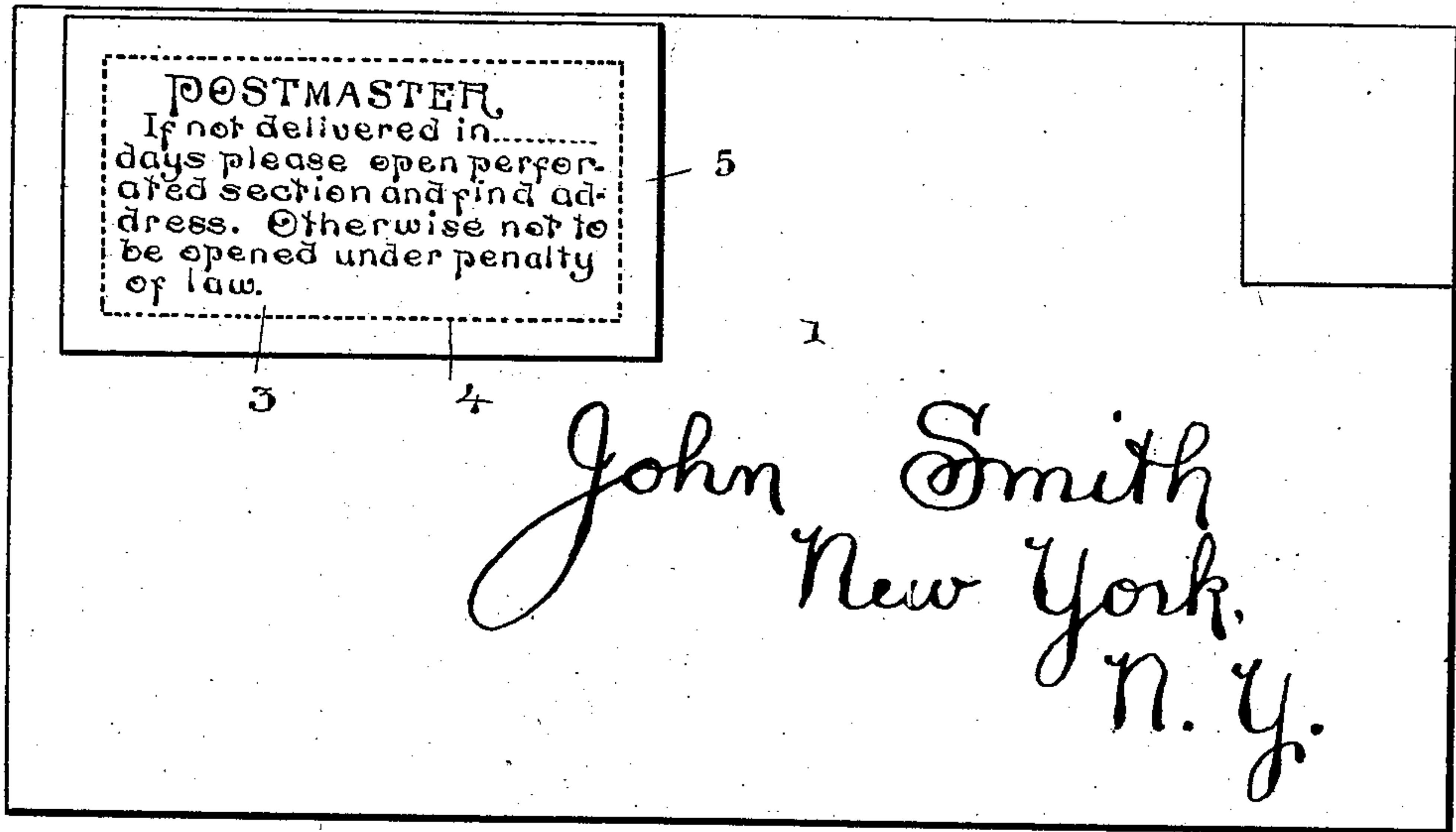


Fig. 2.

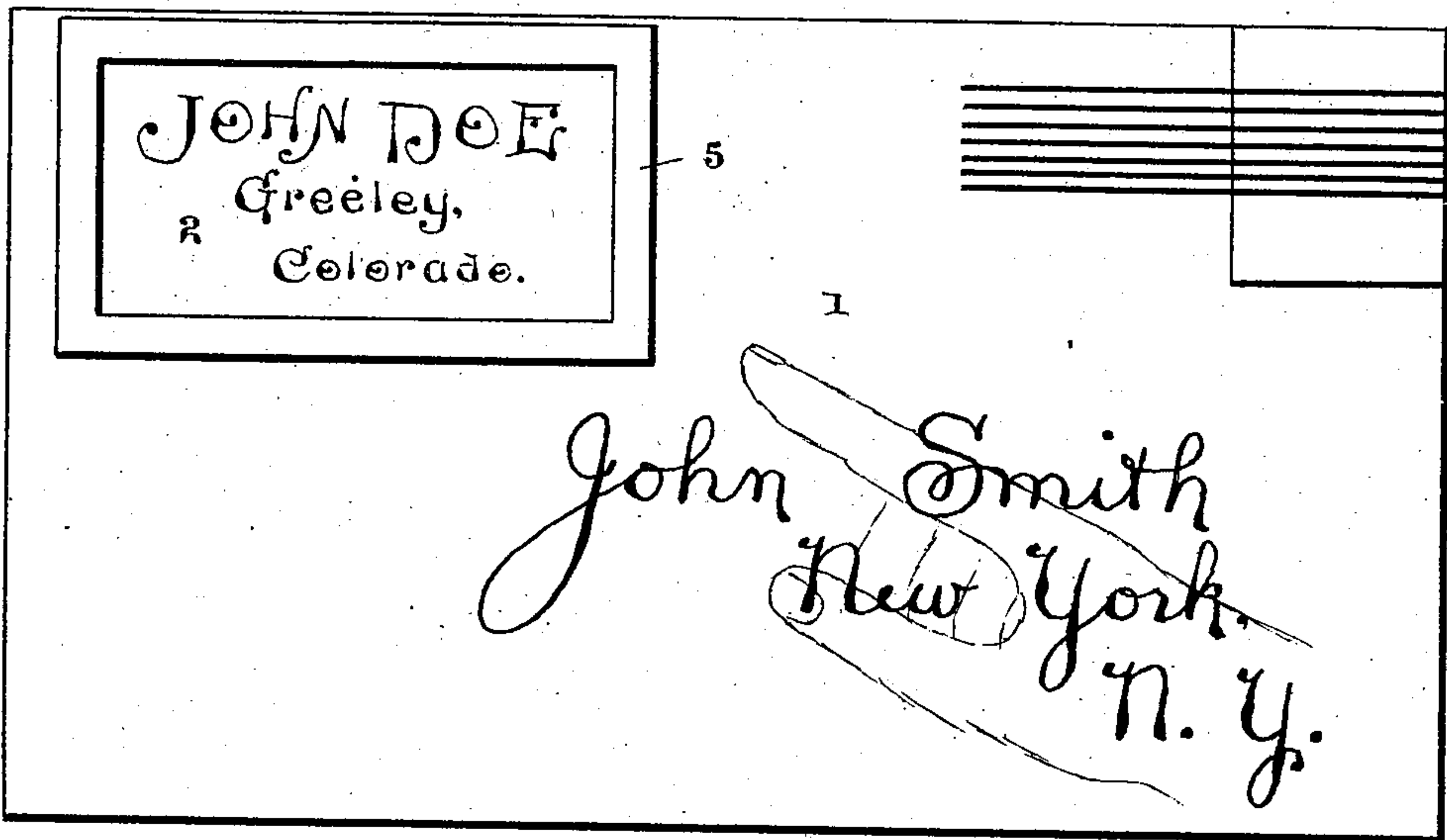


Fig. 3. Frank R. Stearns.,
Clyde R. Weber,

Inventors

Witnesses

W. W. Riley,

John K. Korch

By

Victor J. Evans.

Attorney

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

FRANK R. STEARNS AND CLYDE R. WEBER, OF GREELEY, COLORADO; SAID
WEBER ASSIGNOR TO SAID STEARNS.

ENVELOP.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 709,805, dated September 23, 1902.

Application filed October 23, 1901. Serial No. 79,729. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that we, FRANK R. STEARNS and CLYDE R. WEBER, citizens of the United States, residing at Greeley, in the county of Weld and State of Colorado, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Envelops; and we do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same.

Our invention relates to envelops; and its object is to provide an envelop especially adapted for correspondence which it is desired should be strictly private.

It is often desirable that recipients of letters desire to keep secret the name and address of the sender, and while this might be accomplished if the sender used a plain unprinted envelop, this course is not regarded as safe, for in the event of the non-delivery of the letter for any reason it could not be returned to the writer by the receiving post-office.

The present invention aims to provide an ordinary envelop which if duly delivered to the addressee will contain no disclosure of the name of the sender, but if not delivered to the addressee may be returned to the writer by the receiving post-office.

The invention consists in the construction hereinafter fully described, and illustrated in the accompanying drawings and defined in the appended claim.

In the drawings, Figure 1 is a front elevation of an envelop of our invention as it appears when ready for mailing. Fig. 2 is a similar view of the same as it appears when ready for return to the writer in case of failure of delivery to the addressee, and Fig. 3 is a sectional view of the gummed perforated strip constituting the essential feature of the invention.

The numeral 1 designates the front of an ordinary envelop having printed at the upper left-hand corner the name and address of the face portion of the writer, as at 2.

3 designates a strip of paper slightly larger than the space occupied by the return-card

and perforated, as at 4, on all four under sides. 50
The continuous inner surface of the margin 5 of the strip outside of the perforations is gummed, so that it may be attached to the envelop in such a manner as to entirely conceal the printed address of the writer on the above-described portion of the envelop. The outer surface of the perforated strip bears printed instructions to the postmaster to the effect that in the event of the non-delivery of the letter within any specified time the strip 3 is to be detached along the lines of perforations to disclose the address of the sender. It will thus be seen that in case the latter reaches the addressee the name of the sender will be concealed from those handling the mail; but the feature of the "return-to-writer" envelop is preserved. 65

The utility and advantage of the improvement will be obvious and readily appreciated, as the name of the writer is as effectively concealed as if an imprinted envelop were used, but without the danger of loss incident to the use of a blank envelop. 70

We claim—

The combination with an ordinary envelop having directly marked on the upper left-hand corner of the face thereof the name and address of the writer, of a rectangular strip of paper having on one portion printed instructions provided with perforations surrounding the same, and a continuous surrounding gummed marginal edge whereby to secure the strip over and around the name and address of the writer so as to conceal the same from view, and the said printed instructions adapted to be detachably disconnected from the said gummed marginal edge by means of said perforations thereby exposing the said name and address of the writer, substantially as specified. 85

In testimony whereof we affix our signatures in presence of two witnesses. 90

FRANK R. STEARNS.
CLYDE R. WEBER.

Witnesses:

A. J. ALLEN,
M. C. ALLEN.