

No. 764,653.

PATENTED JULY 12, 1904.

H. J. WITTE.
PROTECTIVE SEALING LABEL.

APPLICATION FILED OCT. 26, 1903.

NO MODEL.

Fig. 1.

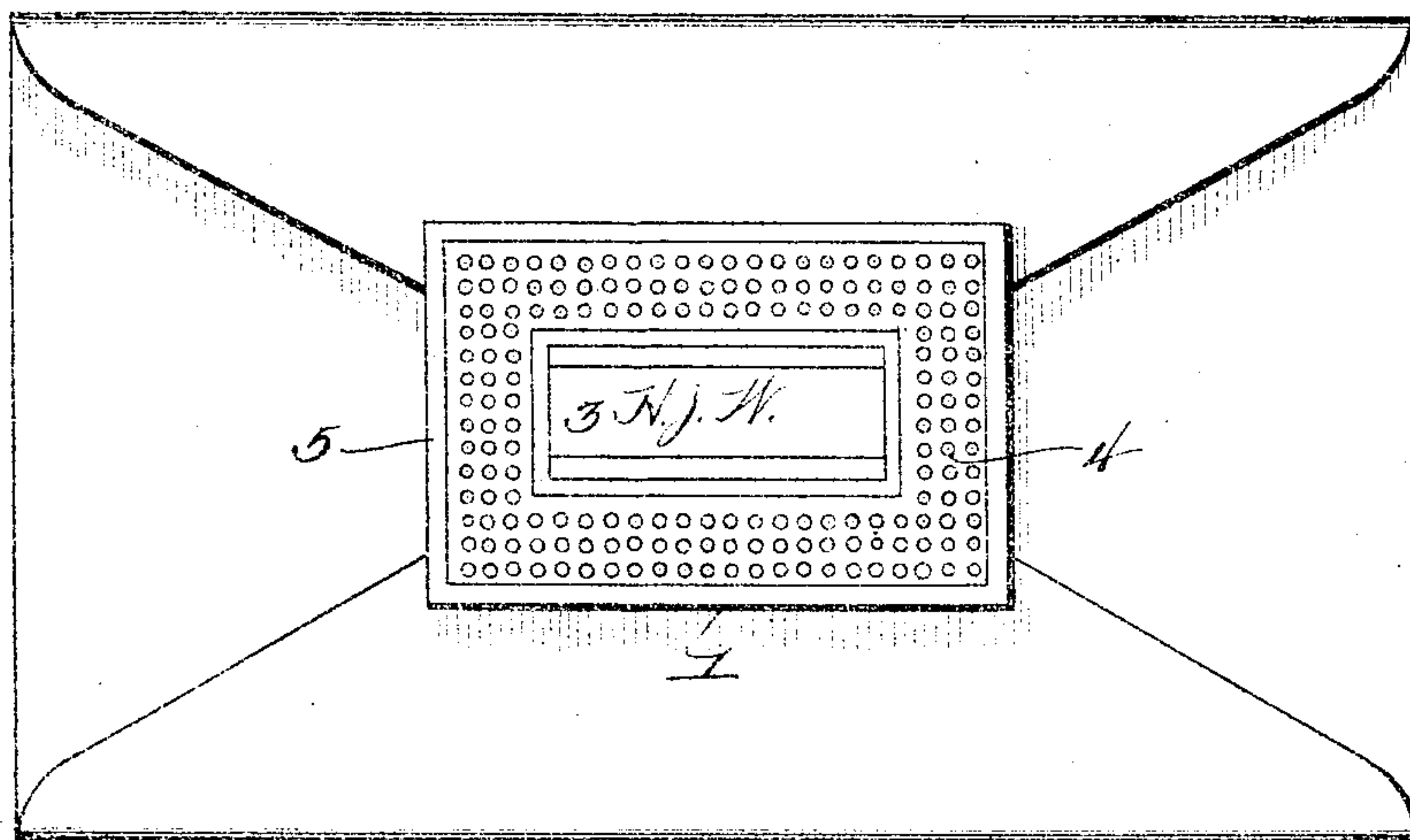


Fig. 2.

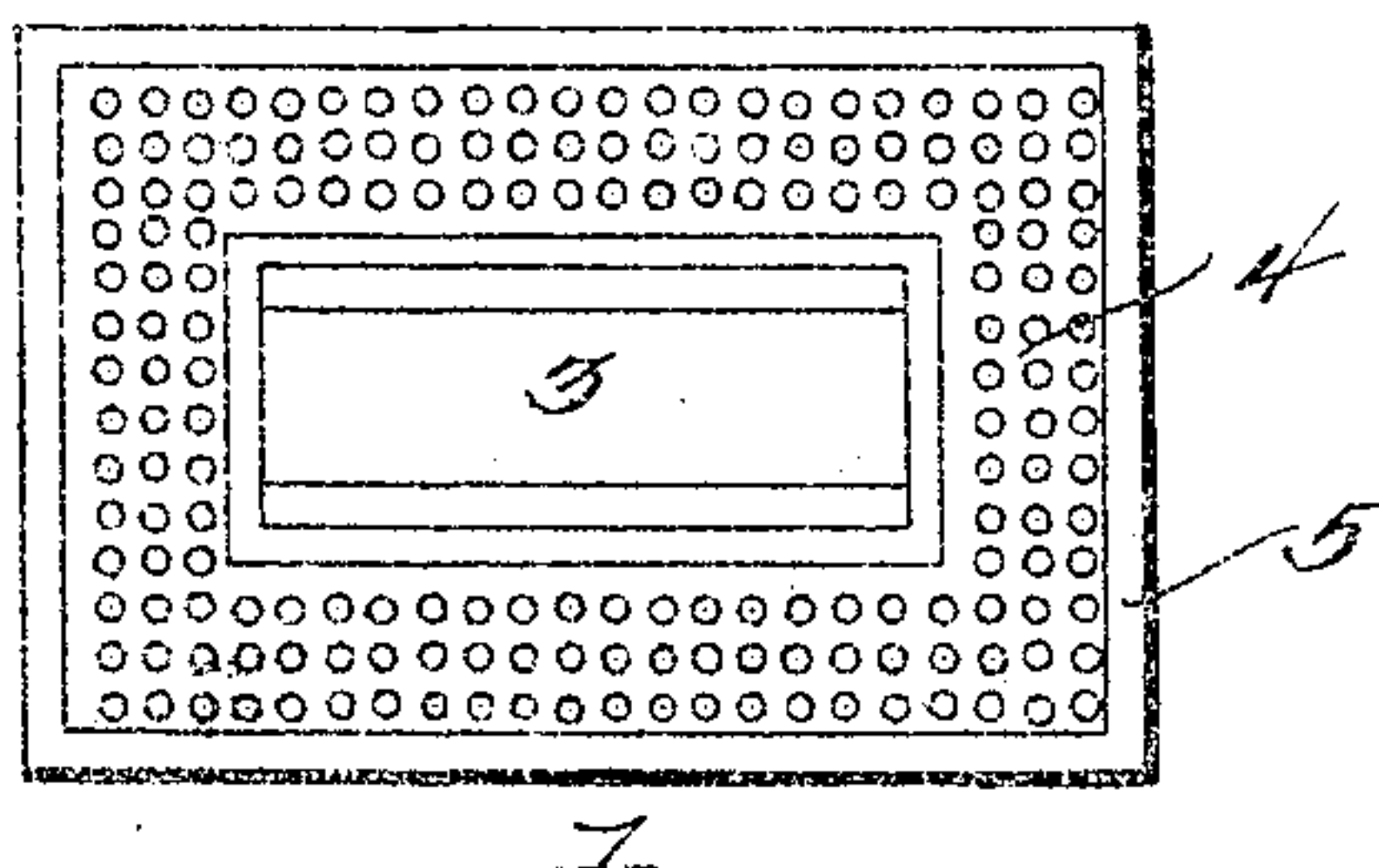
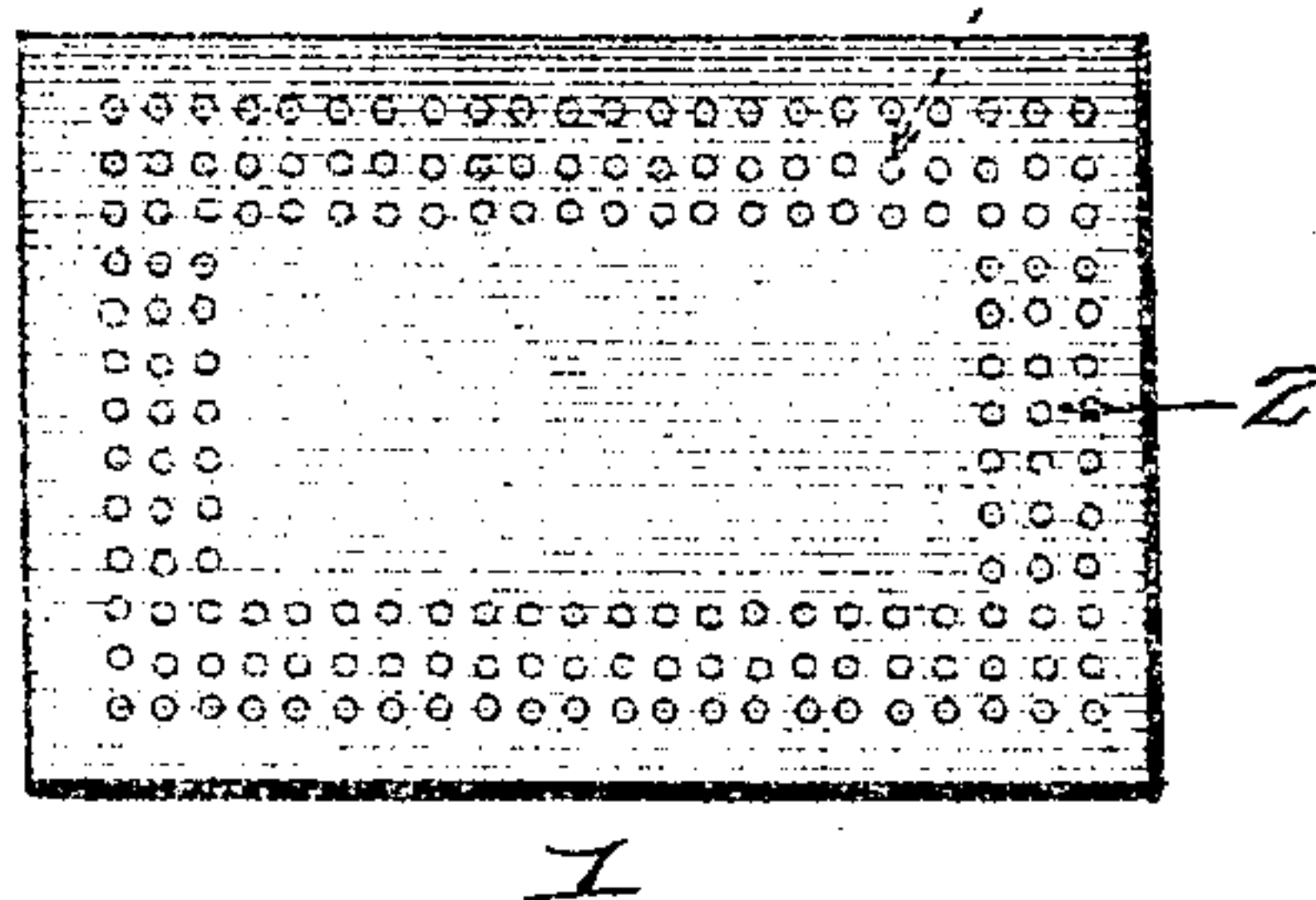


Fig. 3.



Witnesses
J. L. Mocham
G. S. Roy.

Inventor
Herman J. Witte,
By *S. P. Wolhaupter*
Attorney

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

HERMAN J. WITTE, OF NEW YORK, N. Y.

PROTECTIVE SEALING-LABEL.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 764,653, dated July 12, 1904.

Application filed October 26, 1903. Serial No. 178,575. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, HERMAN J. WITTE, a citizen of the United States, residing at New York, in the county of New York and State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Protective Sealing-Labels, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to closures for paper and other receptacles or packages, and more especially to that type of seals designed as a fraud preventive to protect sealed letters, messages, packages, or other inclosed receptacles from being tampered with by unauthorized agencies without detection.

To this end the invention has primarily in view the provision of a simple, practical, and effective sealing-label designed to be readily affixed over the closure of the envelop, receptacle, or package and serving as protection against opening or tampering therewith. In carrying out this object the invention contemplates a form of protective sealing-label of an exceedingly simple and light construction, which possesses special utility as a paster for application over the sealed flap of an envelop or like receptacle. In this use of the invention the label lies perfectly flat upon the surface of the receptacle and does not appreciably add to the weight thereof, while at the same time being so constructed as to prevent the removal thereof by any of the known ways of removing gummed paper without leaving some trace of being tampered with or entirely removed. In this connection the invention also contemplates a novel construction of label which in addition to being readily torn is also provided with means for bearing secret or other identifying marks or names to reduce to a minimum the possibility of unauthorized tampering without detection.

With these and many other objects in view, which will more readily appear as the nature of the invention is better understood, the same consists in the novel construction, combination, and arrangement of parts, which will be hereinafter more fully described, illustrated, and claimed.

In the drawings, Figure 1 is a plan view of the reverse or sealed side of an ordinary envelop having applied thereto a protective seal-

ing-label embodying the present invention. Fig. 2 is a detail plan view of one of the labels, showing the obverse side thereof. Fig. 3 is a similar view showing the adhesive or reverse face thereof.

Like reference-numerals designate corresponding parts throughout the several figures of the drawings.

In carrying out the invention the label is constructed in any suitable manner from a blank of paper or equivalent flexible material. It essentially consists of a paster-body (designated in the drawings by the numeral 1) of rectangular or other form. This paster-body is provided upon one side thereof with an adhesive face 2, consisting of a coating of suitable adhesive material and providing attaching means for securely and permanently affixing the label over the closure of the envelop, receptacle, or package in connection with which it may be employed for fraud-preventive purposes. The distinctive feature of the invention resides in the peculiar construction thereof to guard against the removal or substitution without detection. This distinctive feature resides in providing the paster-body with a central identification-space 3 of rectangular or other shape and entirely surrounded by a perforate field 4. This field 4 provides a readily-tearable section and to this end is of a closely-perforated formation throughout. In the preferable rectangular form of the label the perforate field 4 necessarily assumes a rectangular form, and at the outer edge of the said field the paster body or blank is provided with a peripheral marginal sealing and reinforcing border 5. This peripheral marginal border is entirely imperforate throughout and is of a width usually not less than one-sixteenth of an inch. It will thus be seen that the continuous perforate field 4 lies in the interval between imperforate portions or sections 3 and 5 of the body or blank, whereby such portions provide for a strong attachment of the paster body or blank to the envelop or other receptacle. In connection with the central blank or identification space 3 it is to be observed that this portion of the body or blank provides a space for receiving a serial number, private ini-

tials, name, or other identifying matter which could not readily be forged without detection, and thus rendering a substitution of the entire label almost impossible without some indication being exhibited of such substitution. It also constitutes the main sealing portion of the label.

The minor details, such as ornamentation of the label and relative size of the different portions thereof, may obviously be changed without affecting the essential feature pointed out, as in all embodiments of the invention the objects already indicated are accomplished. In connection with the specific construction described it will be obvious that it would be almost impossible to remove the label as an entirety without leaving some trace of the same being tampered with. An attempt in that direction would in nearly every case cause the perforate field or section 4 to tear or give way on account of the closely-perforated formation thereof; but, on the other hand, if the label were entirely removed without damage thereto an attempt to replace the same would leave apparent indications of the removal and replacing. Also on account of the peculiar construction of the label if another of the same character were substituted for the one removed the absence of the identifying data or characters upon the central space 3 would indicate the attempt at substitution, and even if the identifying data or

characters were forged a proof of the forgery could usually be made, thereby indicating a substitution of a forged label for the one removed.

The variety of uses to which the label can be placed are many; but it is obvious from the foregoing that the same possesses special utility as a protective seal for the sealed flaps of an envelop, message, or like receptacle.

Having thus described the invention, what is claimed, and desired to be secured by Letters Patent, is—

As a new article of manufacture, a sealing-label comprising a flexible paster-body having an adhesive coating throughout the entire area of one face, and provided with a central extended imperforate portion constituting the main sealing part to cover the parts to be sealed, and also forming an identification-space; said body being further provided with a wide field of closely-perforated formation and entirely surrounding said imperforate portion, and a narrow marginal imperforate strip constituting a reinforcing-border for the perforated field and also providing an extra sealing part for the paster-body.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature in presence of two witnesses.

HERMAN J. WITTE.

Witnesses:

MAURICE GOODMAN,
R. B. ITTELSON.