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PATENTED MAY 16, 1905.

W. H. BASSINGER.
COMBINATION ENVELOP AND MESSAGE BLANK.
APPLICATION FILED SEPT. 13, 1904.

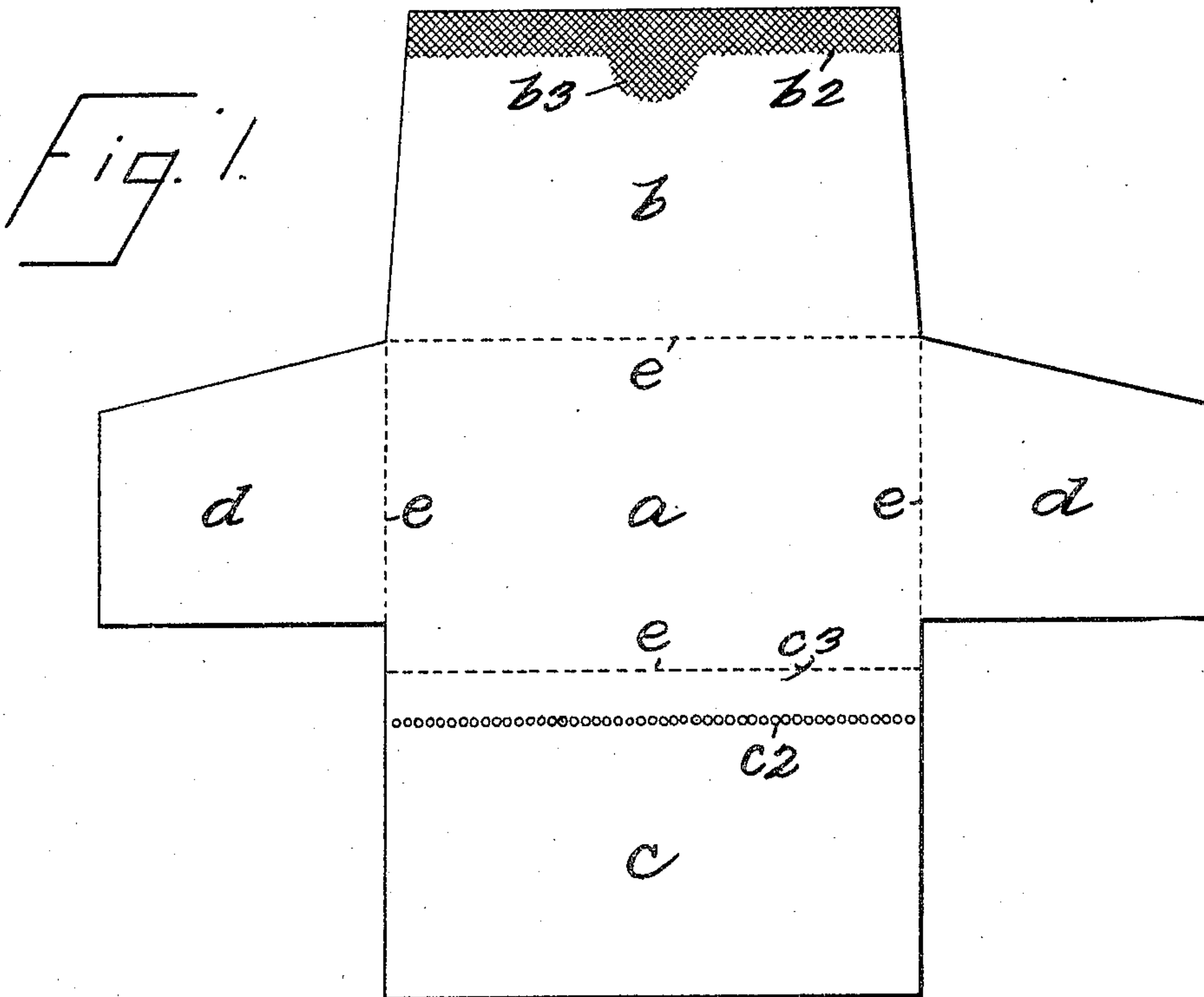
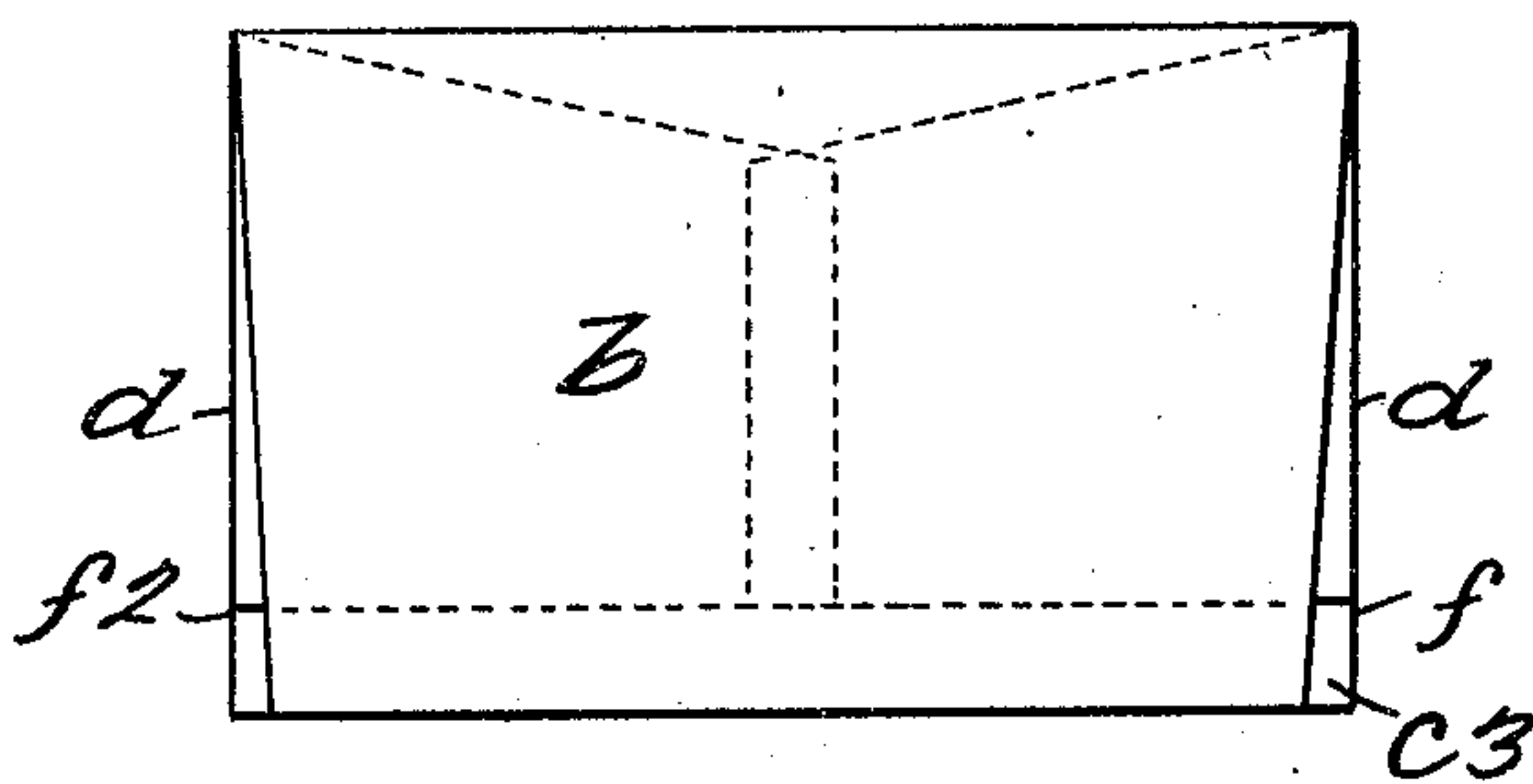


Fig. 2.



WITNESSES

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COMBINATION ENVELOP AND MESSAGE-BLANK.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 789,957, dated May 16, 1905.

Application filed September 13, 1904. Serial No. 224,245.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM H. BASSINGER, a citizen of the United States, residing at Passaic, in the county of Passaic and State of New Jersey, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in a Combination Envelop and Message-Blank, of which the following is a specification, such as will enable those skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same.

The object of this invention is to provide an improved combination envelop and message-blank designed particularly for use by insurance companies in sending out premium notices, by telegraph companies, and by business men or houses in sending out announcements of various kinds or classes.

The invention is fully disclosed in the following specification, of which the accompanying drawings form a part, in which the separate parts of my improvement are designated by suitable reference characters in each of the views, and in which—

Figure 1 is a plan view of the blank which I employ, and Fig. 2 a back view showing the blank folded into envelop form, so as to be sent through the mails.

In the practice of my invention I provide a blank (shown in Fig. 1,) which is cut from any suitable paper or other material and which comprises a body portion *a*, provided at one side with a sealing-flap *b*, at the opposite side with a folding flap *c*, and at each end with an end flap *d*. The separate parts *a*, *b*, *c*, and *d* in the accompanying drawings are separated by folding-lines *e*, and the end flaps *d* are of less width than the body portion, but extend to the base of the sealing-flap *b*, as clearly shown, and do not extend to the folding-line *e*, which separates the folding side member *c* from the body portion *a*.

The sealing-flap *b* and the folding side member *c* are each of the same transverse width and are each of the same transverse width as the body portion *a*, and the folding side member *c* is provided at a predetermined distance from the folding-line *e* with a longitudinal row of perforations or scorings *c*² parallel with the folding-line *e* and at from a half-inch to three-quarters of an inch therefrom. The

sealing-flap is gummed on the inner side thereof, adjacent to the outer edge thereof, as shown at *b*², and this gumming extends inwardly toward the center of the sealing-flap at the transverse central portion of said flap, as shown at *b*³.

In practice, supposing this device to be intended for the use of an insurance company in sending out premium notices, the said notices are printed or written on either or both sides of the body portion of the folding member *c*, and if the device is intended for use by a telegraph company the blank-message is printed on the body portion of the folding member *c* in the usual manner, and if the device is intended for use by business men, houses, or concerns in sending out announcements of any kind or class the announcement is similarly printed on the body portion of the folding member *c*. It will be understood, of course, that the address is printed or written on the body portion *a* in the usual manner, and in folding and sealing the blank into the form of an envelop the folding member *c* is first folded over the body portion *a*, the end flaps *d* are then folded over the member *c*, as shown in Fig. 2, and the sealing-flap *b* is then folded over the end flaps *d* and sealed to part *c*³ of the folding member *c*, between the folding-line *e* and the perforated line *c*². In opening the envelop a knife or similar device is inserted at *f*, Fig. 2, under one of the folding end flaps *d* and passed entirely around the envelop to the point *f*², at the opposite end thereof, and this detaches the parts *d* and *b* from the body portion *a*, and the body part of the folding member *c* is then torn off along the perforated line *c*² and forms a card which may be conveniently carried in the pocket or in a pocket-book.

It will be observed that when the blank is folded, as shown in Fig. 2, it forms a strong and compact envelop which may be securely sealed in the manner described, and in the operation of sealing the part *b*³ of the gum on the sealing-flap *b* is sealed to the overlapping ends of the end flaps *d* and securely holds the same, while the transversely-arranged portion *b*² of the gummed surface of the sealing-

flap *b* is sealed to the back of the transverse strip or part *c*³ of the folding side members *c*, as hereinbefore described. It will also be observed that the ends of the folding flap *b* are slightly tapered, and when sealed in the manner described this arrangement facilitates the insertion of a knife or other instrument in order to open or cut around the envelop, so as to open the same.

Any suitable directions as to folding, sealing, and opening the envelop may be printed on the back of the folding flap *b*, and in this way I provide a device of the class and for the purpose specified which is simple in construction, convenient in use, and comparatively inexpensive.

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

1. A combination envelop and message-blank, comprising a body portion, a sealing side flap, a folding side member opposite the sealing-flap, and end flaps, said sealing-flap and said folding side member being of the same transverse width as the body portion, and the end flaps being cut away adjacent to the folding side member and made narrower than the body portion, and said folding side member being provided at a predetermined distance from the body portion with a longitudinal row of perforations or scorings parallel with the body portion, substantially as shown and described.

2. A combination envelop and message-blank, comprising a body portion, a sealing side flap, a folding side member opposite the sealing-flap, and end flaps, said sealing-flap and said folding side member being of the same transverse width as the body portion, and the end flaps being cut away adjacent to the folding side member and made narrower than the body portion, and said folding side member being provided at a predetermined distance

from the body portion with a longitudinal row of perforations or scorings parallel with the body portion, the free edge of the sealing-flap being gummed longitudinally thereof, substantially as shown and described.

3. A combination envelop and message-blank, comprising a body portion, a sealing side flap, a folding side member opposite the sealing-flap, and end flaps, said sealing-flap and said folding side member being of the same transverse width as the body portion, and the end flaps being cut away adjacent to the folding side member and made narrower than the body portion, and said folding side member being provided at a predetermined distance from the body portion with a longitudinal row of perforations or scorings parallel with the body portion, the free edge of the sealing-flap being gummed longitudinally thereof, and the gummed portion extending inwardly toward the center of said flap, substantially as shown and described.

4. A combination envelop and message-blank, comprising a body portion, a sealing side flap, a folding side member opposite the sealing-flap, and end flaps, said sealing-flap being of the same width as the body portion, and the end flaps being cut away adjacent to the folding side member and made narrower than the body portion, and said folding side member being provided at a predetermined distance from the body portion with a longitudinal row of perforations or scorings, substantially as shown and described.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing as my invention I have signed my name, in presence of the subscribing witnesses, this 12th day of September, 1904.

WILLIAM H. BASSINGER.

Witnesses:

F. A. STEWART,
C. E. MULREANY