

No. 826,737.

PATENTED JULY 24, 1906.

M. NIEGMANN.  
SAFETY ENVELOP.

APPLICATION FILED JAN. 12, 1905.

Fig: 1.

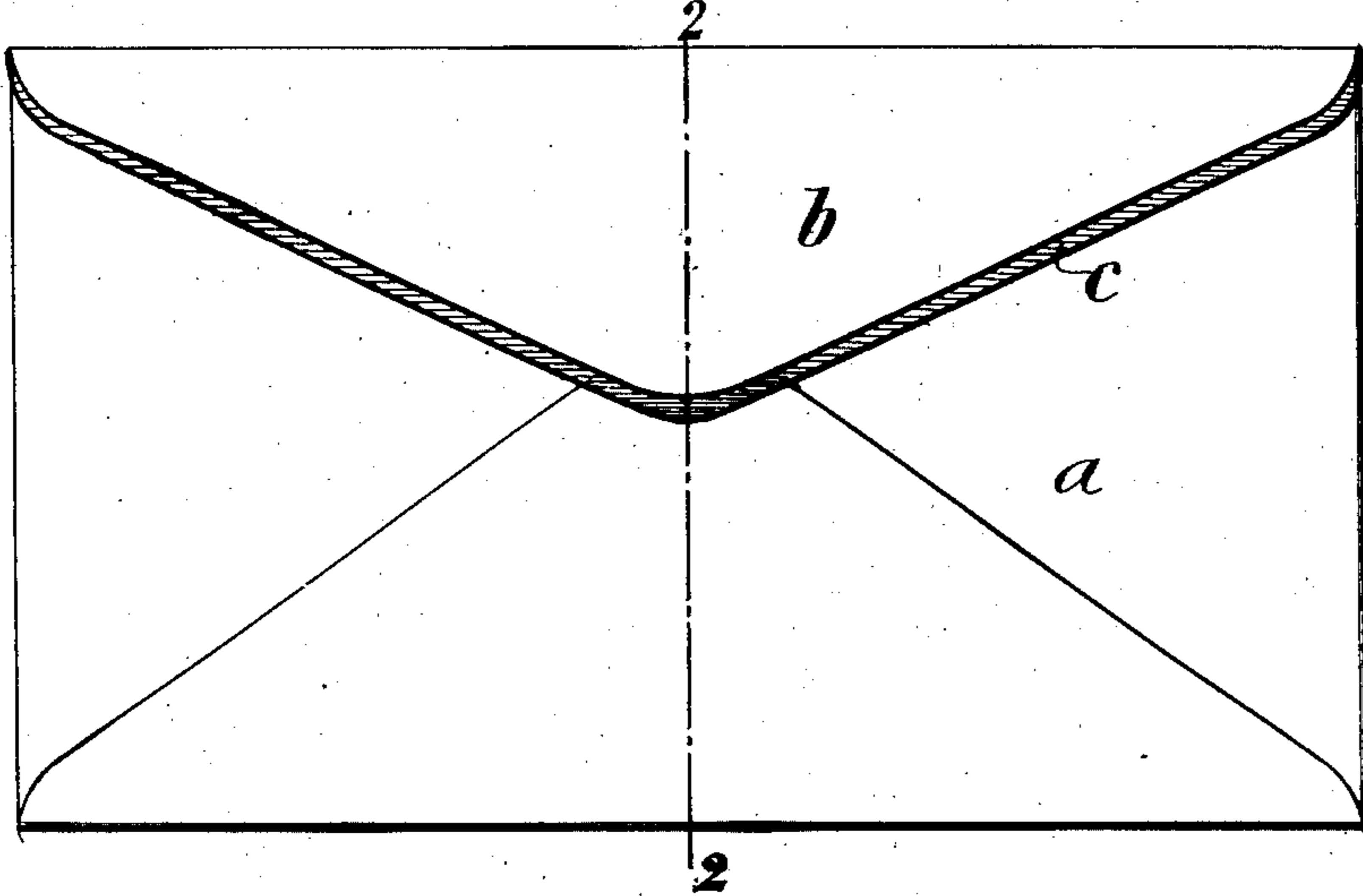


Fig: 2.



Fig: 3.

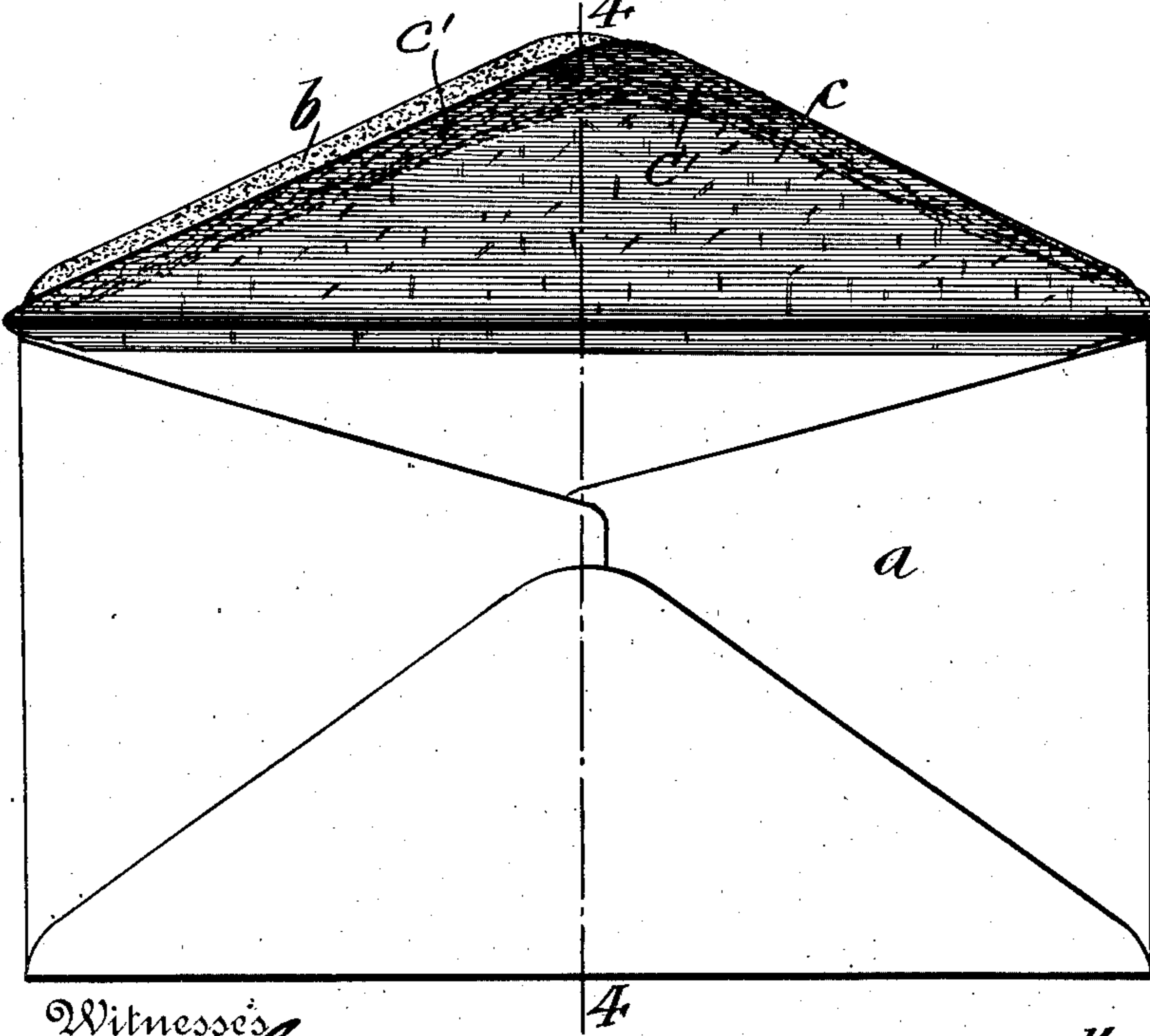
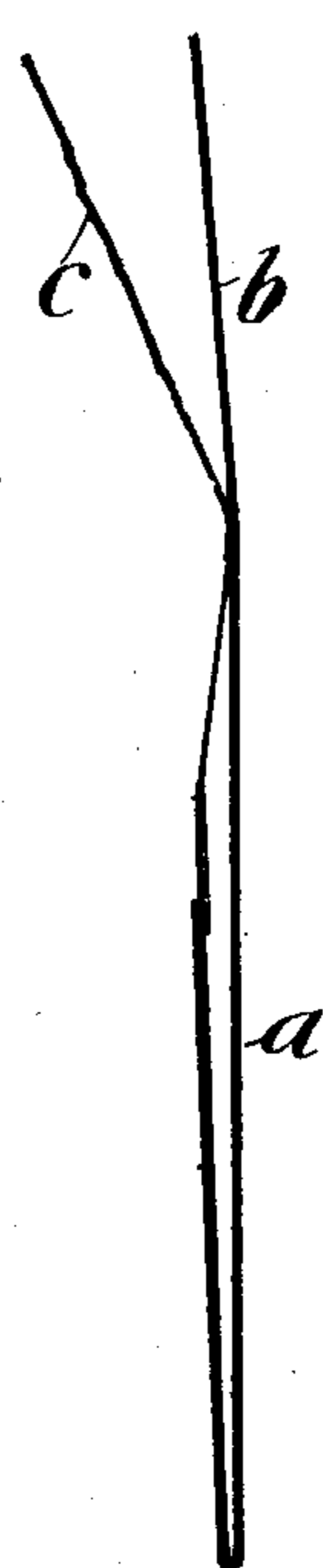


Fig: 4.



Witnesses  
*Henry J. Kuhner.*  
*[Signature]*

Inventor  
*Mary Niegmann*  
By her Attorneys *James Niles*

# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

MARY NIEGMANN, OF NEW YORK, N. Y.

## SAFETY-ENVELOP.

No. 826,737.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented July 24, 1906.

Application filed January 12, 1905. Serial No. 240,749.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, MARY NIEGMANN, a citizen of the Kingdom of Hungary, residing in New York, borough of Manhattan, in the State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Safety-Envelops, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to an improved envelop which is so constructed that it cannot be opened for getting at the contents and reclosed for mailing, so as to form a so-called "safety-envelop."

It is a well-known fact that letters are often opened by unauthorized parties or even by post-office employees who open envelops, remove the valuables contained therein, and then close the same by applying moisture thereto. Various devices have been proposed to prevent this opening and reclosing of letters without finding favor with the public.

The object of my invention is to furnish an improved safety-envelop which cannot be reclosed after it has been opened without instantly showing that the envelop has been tampered with; and for this purpose the invention consists in an envelop embodying the novel features to be hereinafter described, and finally pointed out in the claims.

In the accompanying drawings, illustrative of one embodiment of the invention, Figure 1 is a rear elevation of my improved envelop, showing the same in closed position. Fig. 2 is a vertical transverse section on line 2 2, Fig. 1. Fig. 3 is also a rear elevation showing the envelop with the auxiliary and main flaps in open position; and Fig. 4 is a vertical transverse section on line 4 4, Fig. 3.

Similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts.

Referring to the drawings, *a* denotes an envelop of any suitable size, style, and material, and *b* the closing-flap of the same. This closing-flap is gummed at the under side along its edge in the usual manner.

*c* is an auxiliary flap, which is preferably made of tissue-paper of slightly larger size than the closing-flap *b*, the longer edge of the auxiliary flap *c* being folded over and pasted to the inside of the main portion of the envelop along the folding between it and the closing-flap, as shown clearly in Fig. 3. The auxiliary flap is also gummed at the edge portion of its under side, as shown at *c'*, so that when the contents are inserted into the en-

velop the auxiliary flap is first sealed on the body of the envelop and then the closing-flap sealed over the auxiliary flap, as shown in Fig. 1. As the auxiliary flap is slightly larger than the closing-flap, it projects beyond the closing-flap throughout its gummed edge, which narrow edge portion of the auxiliary flap imparts a certain ornamental appearance to the envelop, especially when the auxiliary flap is made of a suitably-colored material. The color of the auxiliary flap may be red or blue, while for mourning-envelops the auxiliary flap is made of black paper or other material, so as to be in keeping with the black front border of the envelop. The different coloring of the closing and auxiliary or safety flap also serves to call the attention of the addressee to the fact that the envelop is of the type described.

When both the auxiliary and closing flaps are sealed, the envelop cannot be opened by moisture, as it would be impossible to reseal the auxiliary flap, which by moistening or handling is practically destroyed, so that it forms an effective protection for the envelop.

While the closing-flap, being made of the same stiff paper as the envelop, can readily be opened by applying steam or warm water along the edge, it is impossible to open the auxiliary flap, as the same will lose its cohesion by the moisture and can neither be severed from the body of the envelop nor replaced thereon in its former finished and ornamental condition. An envelop is thereby supplied to people who desire to have the extra protection afforded by the auxiliary protecting-flap and who desire to protect their letters against being tampered with either for the sake of curiosity or for removing money or other valuable contents from the same.

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

1. A safety-envelop having a flap of tissue-paper or similar material arranged beneath the closing-flap thereof and attached to the upper edge of the envelop-body, said tissue-paper flap being extended beyond the edge of said closing-flap and provided with a gummed edge portion for permitting the attachment thereof to the body of the envelop.

2. The combination, with an envelop having a closing-flap provided at its edge with a gummed under surface, of a flap of tissue-paper or other material of less thickness than

the closing-flap, arranged beneath the latter,  
and extending beyond the gummed edge  
thereof throughout the length of said edge,  
said tissue-paper flap being of a different color  
5 from said closing-flap and provided with a  
gummed under surface for attachment to the  
body of the envelop.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing as  
my invention I have signed my name in pres-  
ence of two subscribing witnesses.

MARY NIEGMANN.

Witnesses:

JOHN DAUBE, Jr.,

PAUL GOEPEL.