

No. 877,050.

PATENTED JAN. 21, 1908.

B. A. COLE.  
ENVELOP.

APPLICATION FILED JUNE 8, 1906.

2 SHEETS—SHEET 1.

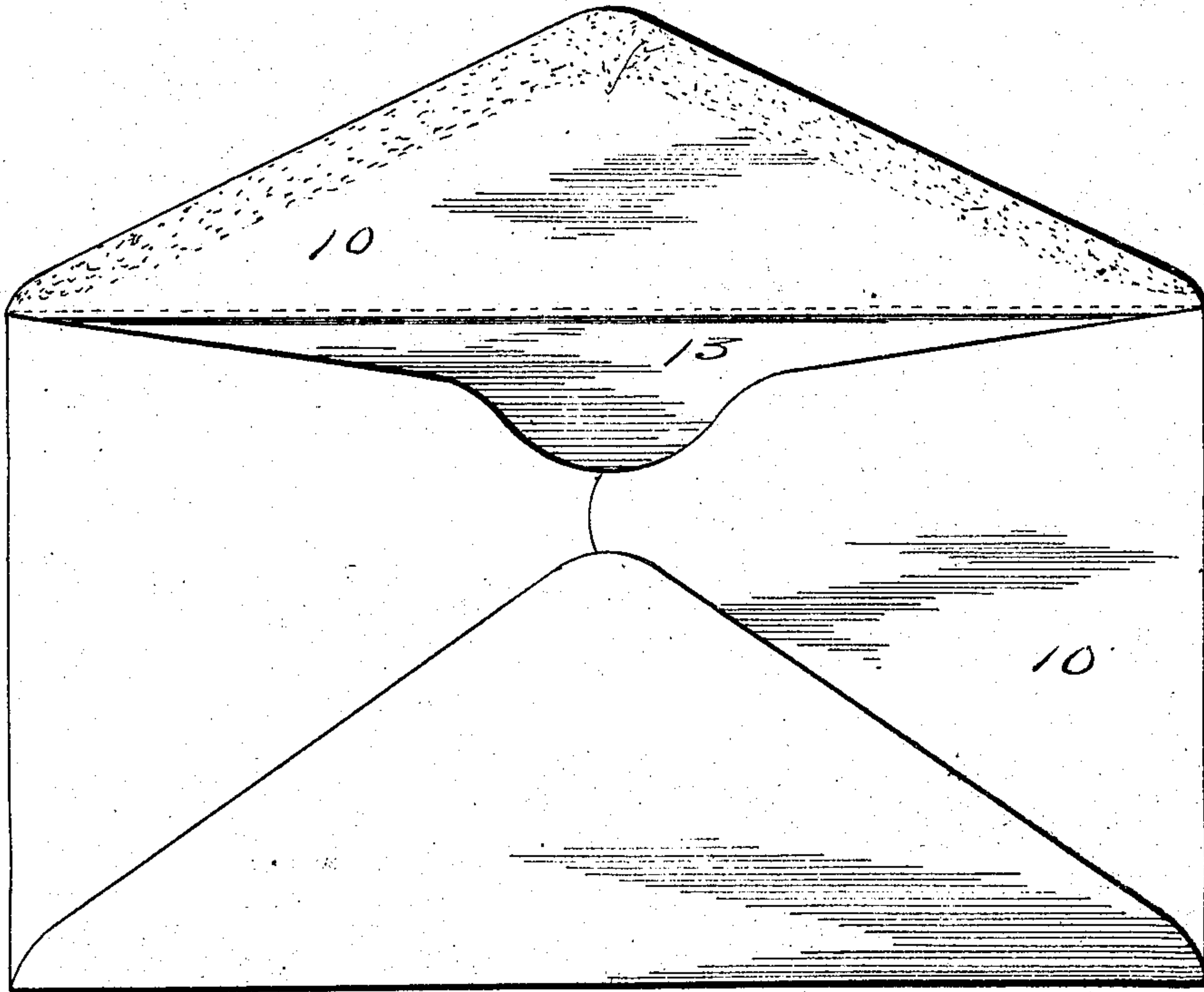


Fig. I.

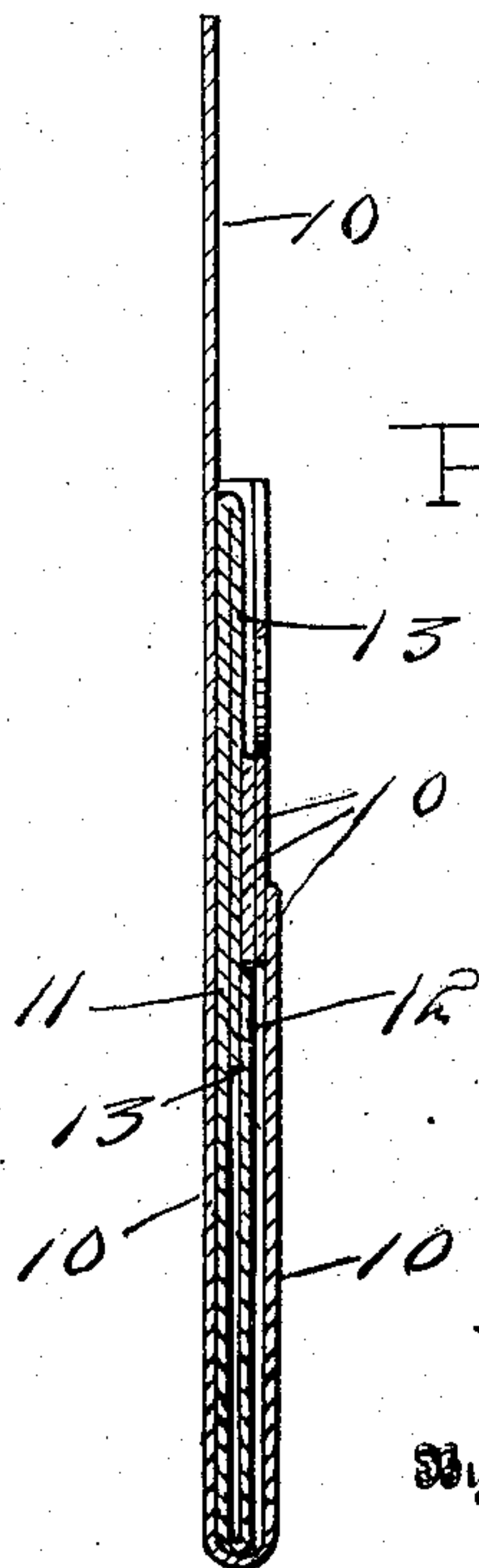


Fig. 2.

Witnesses  
J. C. Simpson.  
J. B. MacNeil.

Inventor  
Benjamin A. Cole.

By *Charles Chandler*

Attorney S.

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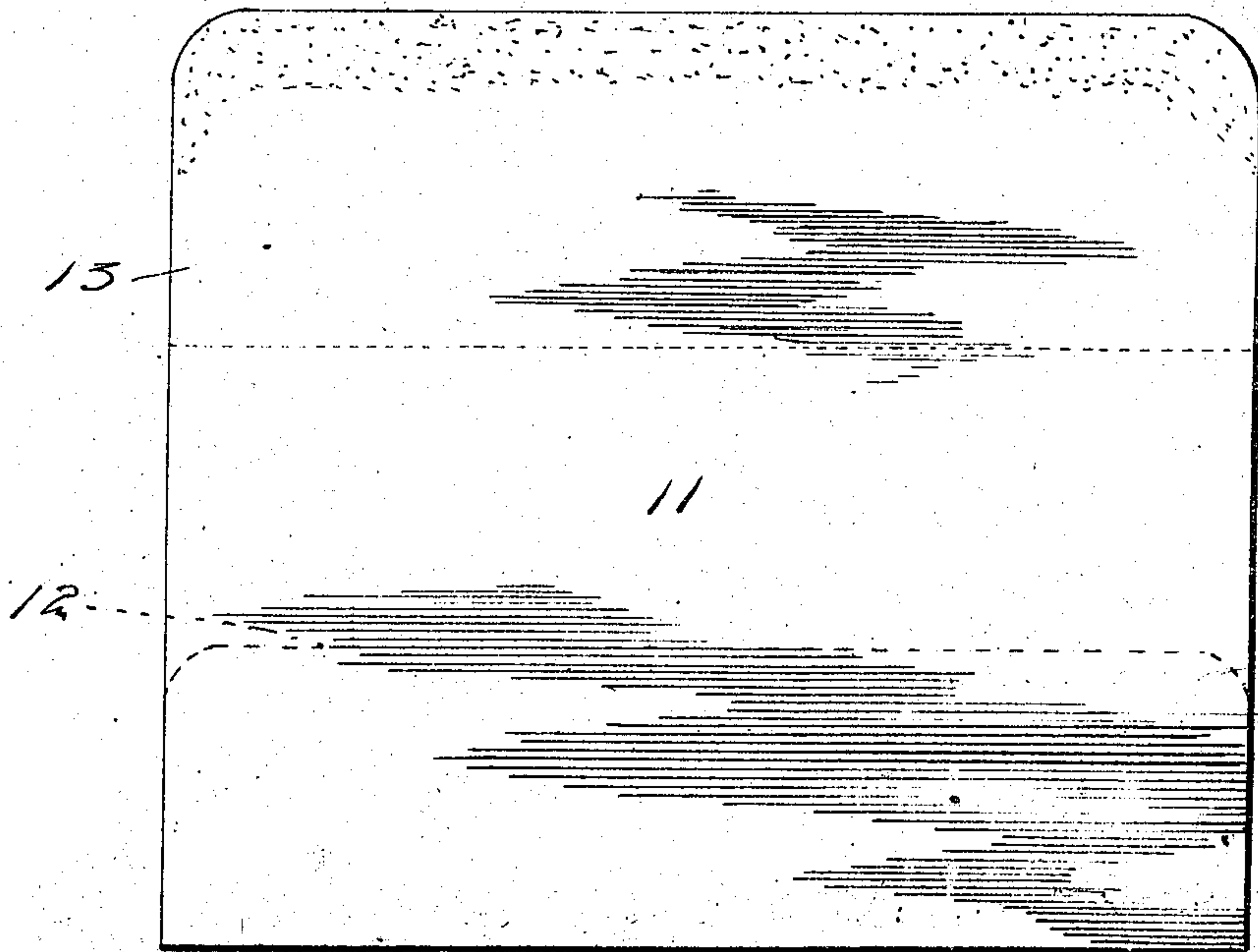
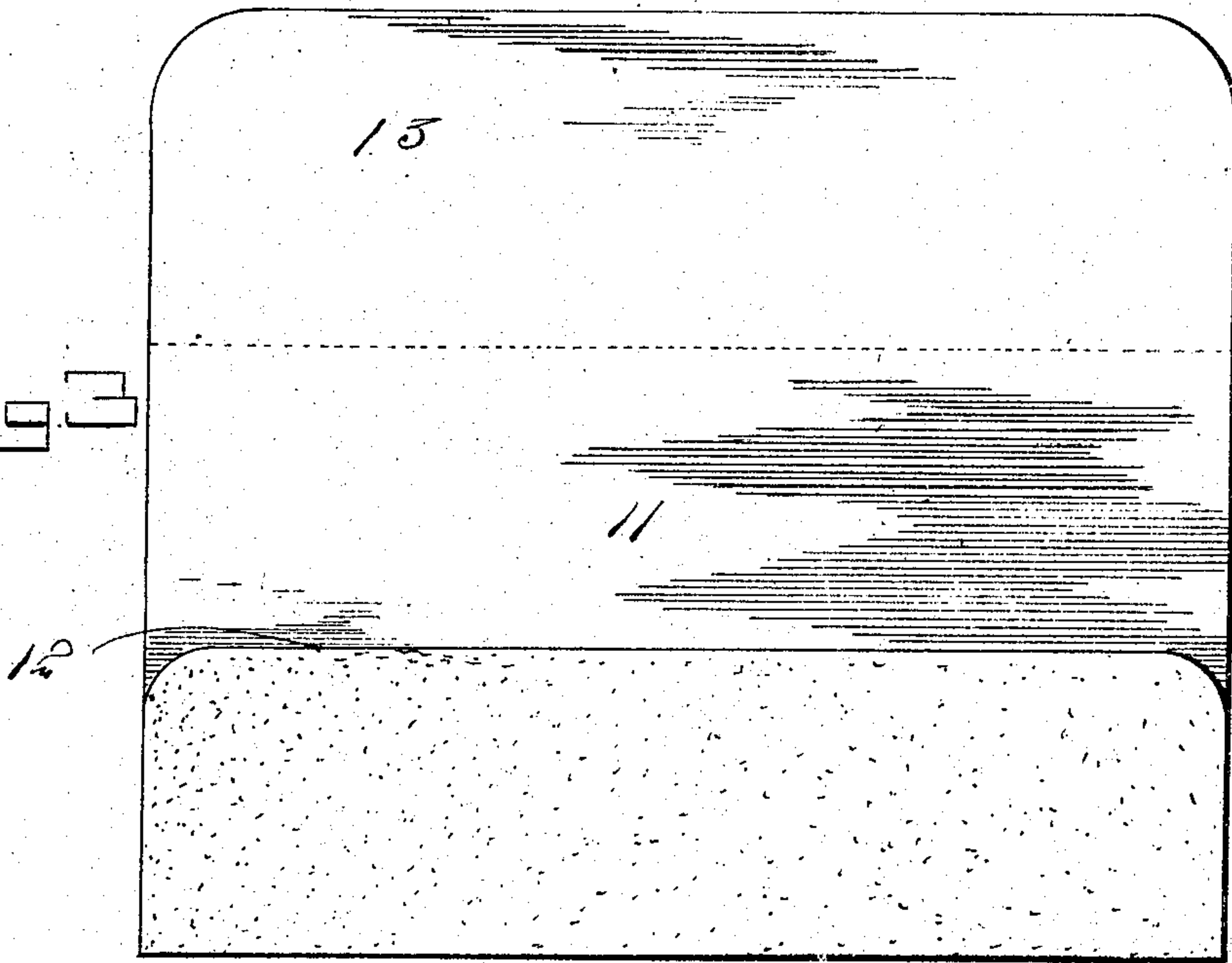
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2 SHEETS—SHEET 2.

Fig 3



Witnesses

C. Simpson.  
J. B. MacFar.

Fig 4

By

*Charles Chandler*

Inventor

Benjamin A. Cole.

Attorney



# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

BENJAMIN A. COLE, OF FERGUS FALLS, MINNESOTA, ASSIGNOR OF ONE-HALF TO FRANK H. GRAY, OF FERGUS FALLS, MINNESOTA.

## ENVELOP.

No. 877,050.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Jan. 21, 1908.

Application filed June 8, 1906. Serial No. 320,772.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, BENJAMIN A. COLE, a citizen of the United States, residing at Fergus Falls, in the county of Ottertail, State of Minnesota, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Envelops; and I 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.

This invention has relation to that class of envelops that are constructed with a view to making them proof against being opened without detection.

It is the object of my invention to provide an envelop of the kind mentioned that shall comprise a dual structure, namely, an outside and an inside envelop, the outside envelop being of substantially common form and construction, while the inner envelop is of different form and sealed with a mucilaginous substance, substantially insoluble in water, or resisting solubility in water to an extent that aqueous steam can not be successfully employed to soften or loosen the lines of sealing, so that the envelop can not be opened without the fact that it has been tampered with becoming apparent.

The nature of the invention has been so far disclosed in the foregoing statement as to warrant me in proceeding at once with a description of the invention *in extenso*, in view of the annexed drawings, forming a part of this specification, and finally pointing out, with distinctness and particularity, the part or improvement constituting the invention in the subjoined claims.

Of the said drawings, Figure 1 is a view of the back side of the envelop, the upper flap of the outside envelop being open and standing up, and the like flap of the inside envelop being folded down, both in unsealed position. Fig. 2 is a transverse vertical section with the parts in the position in which they are represented in Fig. 1. Fig. 3 is a back view of the inside envelop with the top flap folded up. Fig. 4 is a view of the reverse side of the inside envelop, as it is shown in Fig. 3.

Similar figures of reference designate similar parts or features, as the case may be, wherever they occur.

In carrying out my invention, I may employ as the outside wrapper, an envelop 10 of

common form, excepting that I use a mucilaginous substance as a sealing agent for the parts to close them, that is not soluble in water or that resists solubility to an extent that aqueous steam will not readily soften the gum through a single thickness of paper so that the envelop cannot be opened. In an envelop so constructed, I secure the wrapper 11 consisting of a sheet of paper a little narrower than the length of the envelop 10 in which it is placed, and I fold the lower flap 12 up and the upper flap 13 down, the latter flap overlapping the former to a slight extent and making the inner wrapper 11 somewhat narrower than the outside envelop 10. With the latter envelop ready for sealing, I gum the upper outside margin of the lower flap 12 with a mucilaginous substance not readily soluble in water and then introduce the bottom portion of the inside wrapper 11 into the outside envelop 10 with the result of sealing the outer surface of the lower inside flap to the inside surface of the lower and end flaps of the outside envelop 10. The lower outside margin of the upper flap 13 of the inside wrapper is then gummed with the same mucilaginous substance as that hereinbefore mentioned as applied to the lower flap, in which condition the envelop is considered as finished and offered for sale.

In use, the matter to be transmitted by the envelop is placed in the pocket inside of the inside wrapper, and the upper flap of the same has the gummed surface moistened with a solvent solution and it is turned in and pasted or sealed to the upper inside margin of the lower flap of the inside wrapper and a portion of the inside surface of the outer envelop above said lower inside flap, and the upper outside flap is sealed down as usual or after application to the gummed surface of a solvent solution, as before stated. Under these circumstances the sealed parts cannot be separated by aqueous steam or other means, so far as known to me, without detection.

With this construction a reinforced envelop is provided that is well adapted for the transmission of small articles through the mails, and as the envelop cannot be unsealed without detection it is comparatively safe from being tampered with or purloined.

The invention is adapted to be used in connection with either large or small envelops; and it is obvious that changes may be made



in the form and arrangement of parts without departing from the nature and spirit of the invention.

It is to be noted that the difficulties of loosening the sealing of the inside envelop are added to by the fact that the aqueous steam will have to act through one thickness of paper beside that bearing the sealing gum before it can affect the latter. It is also to be noted that no sealing gum is applied to the surfaces of the body portion of either wrapper so as to in any way interfere with or impair the quality of the superscription-receiving surface.

What is claimed as the invention, is:—

A safety envelop comprising an outside and an inside wrapper, the outside wrapper being of usual form, and the inside wrapper consisting of a sheet of paper having upper and lower flaps, the outside surface of the lower flap of the inside wrapper being sealed

to the inner surface of the lower flap of the outside wrapper; the upper flap of the inside wrapper being gummed on the outer surface and adapted to be turned down and folded into the inside wrapper and to be sealed on the inner surface of the lower flap thereof; the upper flap of the outside wrapper being adapted to be folded down and sealed on the outside surface of the upper portion of the upper flap of the inside wrapper and like surfaces of the lower and side flaps of the outside wrapper the surfaces of the body portion of each wrapper being free from sealing gum.

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

BENJAMIN A. COLE.

Witnesses:

G. H. GARD,  
F. H. GRAY.