

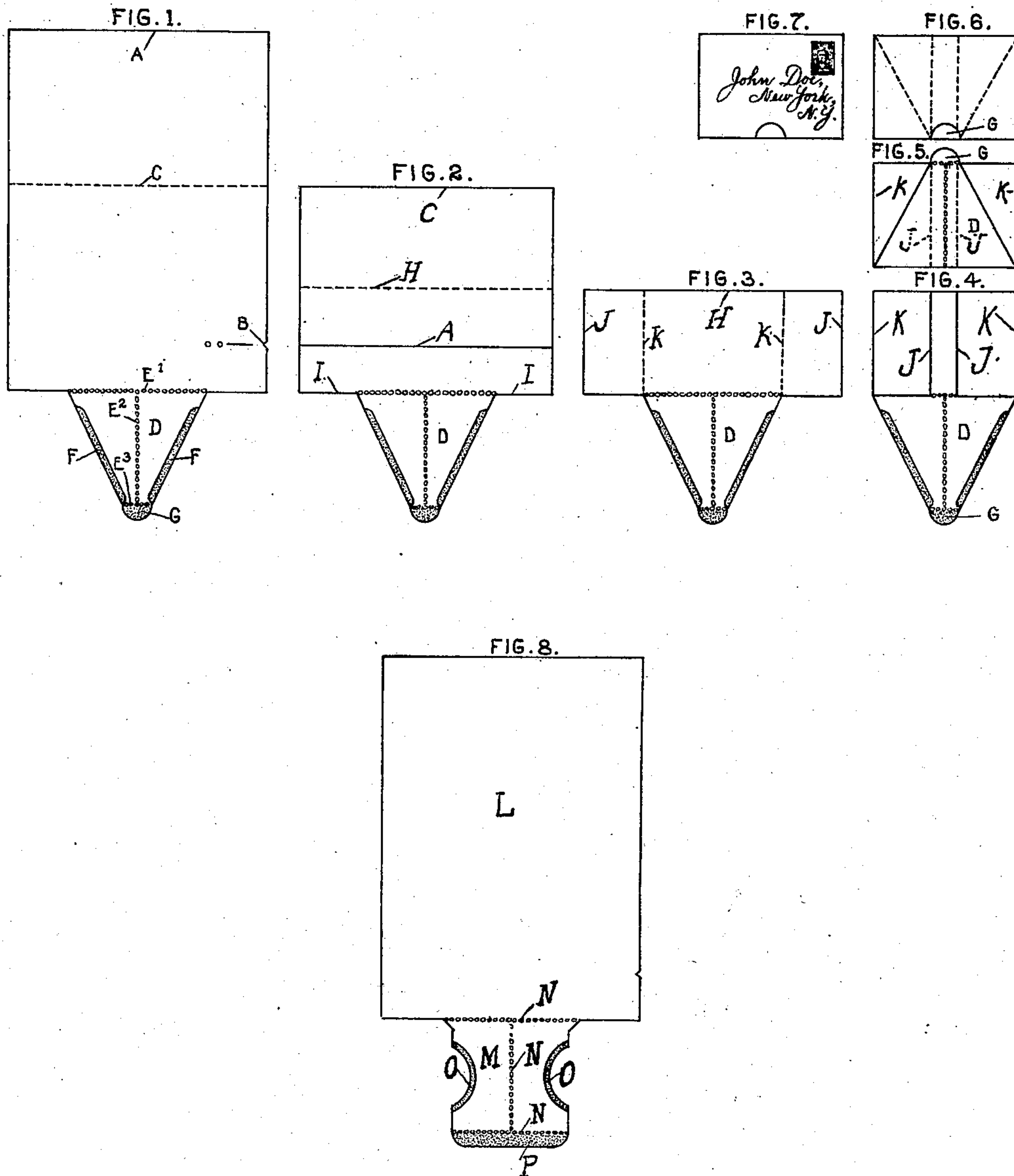
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R. M. KERR.

MEANS FOR CLOSING AND SEALING MAILABLE PAPERS.

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MEANS FOR CLOSING AND SEALING MAILABLE PAPERS.

No. 889,529.

Specification of Letters Patent.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ROBERT M. KERR, a citizen of United States of America, residing at 2820 West Chestnut street, Louisville, Kentucky, have invented new and useful Improvements in Means for Closing and Sealing Mailable Papers, of which the following is a specification.

My improvement relates to a means for closing and sealing letters, notes, circulars, and other mailable papers, and is intended to take the place of the ordinary envelop, thus making it possible to fold and mail a letter or other paper without an envelop, saving both cost and time. Furthermore it will be possible with my device to inclose checks, other papers, etc., and as in the ordinary envelop.

When my letter paper is opened and the flap torn away, the canceled stamp, post mark, and address will be found on one side of paper, and can be used as legal evidence that such paper has been mailed from one place to another.

The device by which, and the manner in which I attain these results is presently to be described.

Reference is now to be had to the drawing filed herewith, which drawing is to be considered a part of this specification.

In the drawing, Figure 1 represents an ordinary sheet of paper, such as is used as a business letter head, with an extended portion gummed and perforated. Fig. 2, is a view of letter head after first folding. Fig. 3, represents the sheet after the second folding. Fig. 4, shows third and fourth or transverse foldings. Fig. 5, letter fully folded and main flap D, bent or folded against letter. Fig. 6, shows letter fully folded, main flap affixed, and secondary or semi-circular flap G bent over, and affixed to reverse side of letter. Fig. 7, shows letter as folded, closed, sealed, stamped and addressed. Fig. 8 shows letter sheet with an equivalent form of flap.

Like letters and figures of reference indicate different parts and features in the drawings.

In the drawing, reference is now to be had to Fig. 1, in which A represents the upper margin, C the line upon which the first fold is creased, B a notch, a printed line, or perforations indicating the point where margin

A must touch on first folding. D the main flap, E¹, E², E³, lines of perforations, F, F, portions of main flap intended to be gummed, and G secondary or supplementary flap, fully gummed.

Fig. 2, represents the sheet as first folded: A the upper margin, folded over, C first creasing, I, I, lower margin, D main flap, and H the line on which the next creasing is to be made.

Fig. 3 shows the sheet as twice folded, H being the last creasing, J, J, the side margins of the folds, K, K, lines upon which transverse creasings are to be made, and D, main flap. Fig. 4, K, K, outer margins of transverse folds, J, J, inner margins of the same. Fig. 5, K, K, outer side margins, J, J, inner margins, now under main flap D, E², perpendicular line of perforation, E³ line of perforations separating main flap D and secondary flap G.

Fig. 6, shows reverse side of letter to Fig. 5, G being secondary flap bent over and affixed. Fig. 7, letter as folded addressed and ready for mailing.

Fig. 8 shows letter with an equivalent form of flap in which L is the body or letter portion, M the main flap, N, N, N, the several lines of perforations, O, O, the gummed portions of main flap, P representing the fully gummed supplementary flap.

The manner of folding the paper will now be obvious. In Fig. 1, the upper margin A is brought over to touch the notch B, creasing the paper along the broken line C, which now becomes the creased or upper margin C in Fig. 2. The upper margin, C, Fig. 2, is now bent over, and touches the lower margins I, I, creasing along the broken line H.

In Fig. 3, the lengthwise foldings are now complete, and the letter is now folded transversely, the outer side margins J, J, creasing along the broken lines K, K, and the letter assumes the shape shown in Fig. 4, the creasings K, K, in Fig. 3, becoming the outer side margins, K, K, in Fig. 4 leaving the foldings now flat neat and regular, with the flaps still extending downward. Now the main flap D, Fig. 4, is bent upward and creased along the line of perforations E¹, Fig. 1, and the gummed portions of said flap as shown in F, F, Fig. 1, are moistened and struck along the folds K, J, K, J, Fig. 4, fastening them down securely, as shown in position of flap

D, Fig. 5. The secondary semi-circular flap G, Fig. 5, still extends upward and is now ready to be bent over and gummed to the other side, as shown on the reverse or address side of letter, Fig. 6.

In Fig. 1 the main flap D, extends from the letter sheet along the line of perforations E^1 ; and another line of perforations E^2 , bisects said flap at a right angle to the first line of perforations. A fully gummed secondary and semi-circular flap G extends downward from the first or main flap D, and is separated from said main flap by the line of perforations E^3 . The lines of perforations described above are used to prevent mutilation of the letter sheet and facilitate its opening. When the letter is to be opened all that is necessary to do, is to tear away the flap along the line of perforations E^1 , beginning at the upper margin of the folded letter or at the line E^3 , separating the flaps and tearing along the upright line of perforations E^2 , when the letter is opened and the flap detached.

While the form embodied in the foregoing description is the preferable form of my invention, I do not desire to be confined to the single form of folding, or size, or form of paper, or flap, but to any other form or forms of both, within the spirit of my invention.

Having thus described my invention so

that one skilled in the art appertaining thereto may make and use it, I claim:

The combination of a mailable paper with an extended portion of the same, said extended portion comprising a two part flap adapted to close and seal said mailable paper for mailing when said paper is folded; said two part flap having thereon lines of perforations, said two part flap consisting of a partly gummed main flap integral at its base along a first line of perforations with said mailable paper, said main flap having a further extended portion comprising a fully gummed supplementary flap integral with said main flap along a second line of perforations parallel to the first line, said main flap being bisected perpendicularly through its center by a third line of perforations at a right angle to the first and second lines, all of said lines adapting said flaps to be easily torn away when said mailable paper so folded, closed, and sealed, is to be opened, substantially as described.

In testimony whereof, I have hereunto set my hand in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

ROBERT M. KERR. [L. s.]

Signed in the presence of

M. E. BENTHER, [L. s.]

AULYN E. KANSTON. [L. s.]