

W. L. GROSS & W. W. KELCHNER.  
Combined Blank and Envelope.

No. 163,185.

Patented May 11, 1875.

Fig. 1

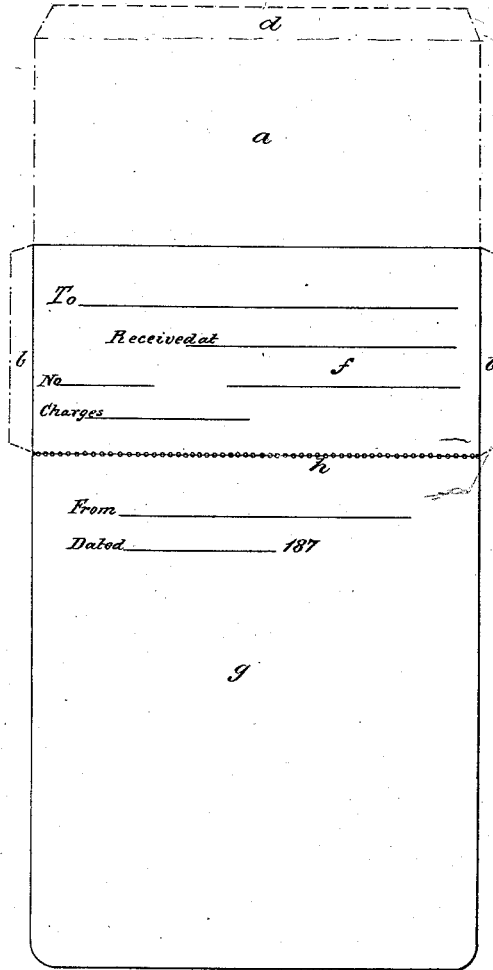
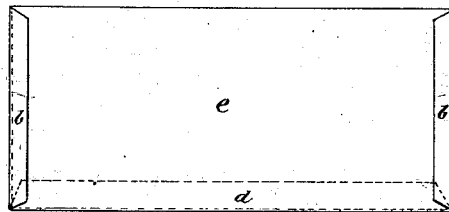


Fig. 2



WITNESSES:

*A. W. Almqvist*  
*P. Hilgwick*

INVENTOR:

*W. L. Gross*  
*W. W. Kelchner*

BY

*Munnell*  
ATTORNEYS.

# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLIAM L. GROSS AND WILLIAM W. KELCHNER, OF SPRINGFIELD,  
ILLINOIS; SAID GROSS ASSIGNOR TO SAID KELCHNER.

## IMPROVEMENT IN COMBINED BLANKS AND ENVELOPES.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 163,185, dated May 11, 1875; application filed  
June 27, 1874.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that we, WILLIAM L. GROSS and WILLIAM W. KELCHNER, of Springfield, in the county of Sangamon and State of Illinois, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Combined Blanks and Envelopes, of which the following is a specification;

The object of our invention is an improvement upon the combined envelope and telegraphic-message blank covered by Letters Patent No. 136,666. To this end, the form or construction, and manner of folding and sealing our blank, are as hereinafter described. It is designed for the use and convenience of banks, insurance companies, merchants, and others, and is especially adapted for the use of telegraph companies.

In the accompanying drawing, Figure 1 is a face view, illustrating the invention; Fig. 2 shows the reverse side of the envelope.

Similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts.

In Fig. 1, the form of the paper before it is folded, at all is seen. The part *a* (seen in dotted lines) is first folded back to form the envelope, and the flaps *b b* (being covered on one side with paste) are folded down onto it, thus making a pocket or envelope. The edge *d*, of the part *a*, is provided with paste, and forms a flap by which the envelope is closed. The envelope being thus formed, the combined blank and envelope is ready for use. *e* is the reverse or back side of the envelope, and *f* the obverse or front side, and this side is ruled, with specific directions for the address, in the usual manner. *g* is the blank for the telegraphic message, attached to the envelope by the perforated line *h*. In using the envelope and blank thus combined, the writer will, in the first place, write the address on the envelope and then write the message on the blank in the usual manner, and then tear the two asunder through the perforated line *h*; and having thus folded the message he incloses it in the envelope. The flap *d* is folded

over the edge, and, being pasted, the envelope is closed and ready for delivery. After the address and message have been written a facsimile may be preserved, before the two have been torn apart, by means of the hand copy-press.

It will be noted the address or superscription portion *f* is on the same face side of the sheet with the message portion *g*, and hence, not only may the address be written on a surface which has no obstructing edge, or flap, to come in contact with the hand or sleeve of the writer, but a smooth surface is likewise presented to the copy-press roller. As soon as the writing has been completed, the message part *g* is quickly torn off, folded once, inserted in the envelope, whose flap *d* is then sealed down.

As compared with other inventions of its class, ours secures important advantages, of which the following are the chief: economy of paper, the side flaps being narrow; saving of time in sealing the envelope, which is done by turning down and securing the upper edge *d*; the telegraphic-message sheet is less liable to be torn in opening the envelope, since it is detached from the envelope before sealing the latter; complete secrecy of contents of the envelope, it being sealed and entirely closed.

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

The combined telegraphic-message and envelope blank, having the address portion *f* on the same side of the sheet with the face of the message portion *g*, the two being separated or divided by the perforations *h*, the folding envelope-flap *a d* above the address-surface, and the side sealing-flaps *d*, all as shown and set forth.

WILLIAM L. GROSS.  
WILLIAM W. KELCHNER.

Witnesses:

F. B. SMITH,  
W. GUY LIVINGSTON.