

C. L. RIKER.
Letter-Sheet and Envelope.

No. 203,855.

Patented May 21, 1878.

Fig. 1.

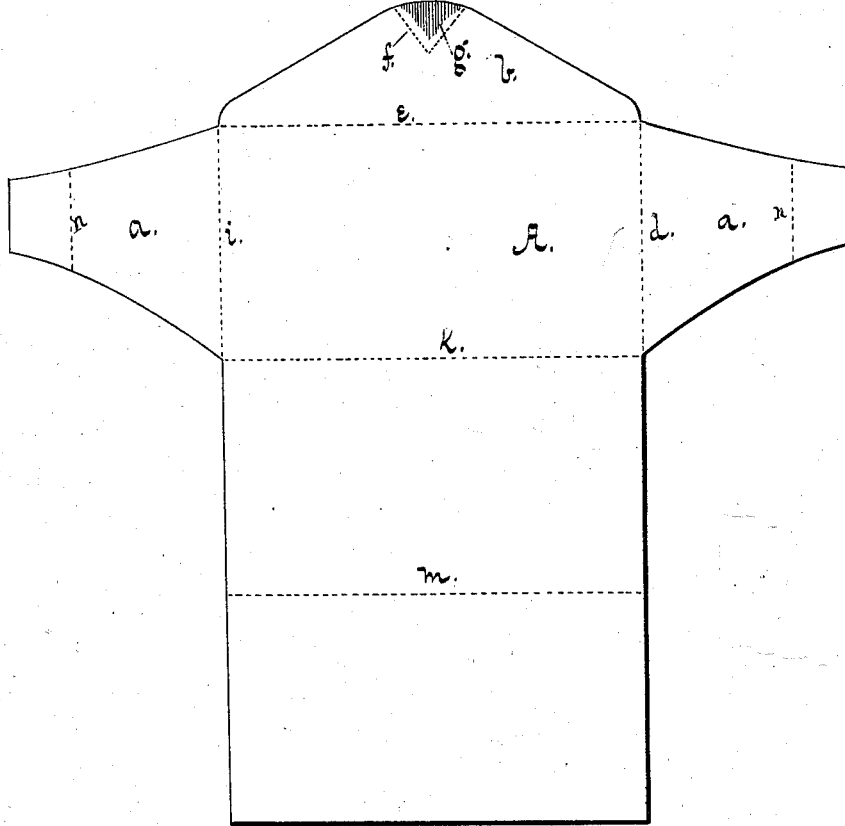
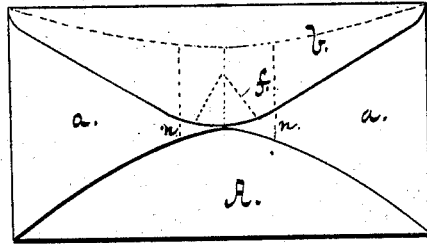


Fig. 2.



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IMPROVEMENT IN LETTER-SHEET AND ENVELOPE.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **203,855**, dated May 21, 1878; application filed April 10, 1878.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, CARROLL L. RIKER, of the city, county, and State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Circular or Letter Sheet and Envelope; and I hereby declare the same to be fully, clearly, and exactly described as follows, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 represents a plan view of the letter or circular sheet open; Fig. 2, a similar view of the same closed.

This invention relates to that class of devices known as combined letter or circular sheets and envelopes; and has for its object to furnish such an article possessing certain advantages over those heretofore constructed, as will be apparent from the following description.

In Fig. 1 is represented a letter or circular sheet and envelope embodying my invention, consisting of a sheet of letter or writing paper of the form shown in the drawings, and of any suitable or desired size.

The main portion A is furnished with a flap, *b*, similar to an ordinary envelope-flap, and with side flaps *a a*. The sheet proper is arranged to fold on the lines *k* and *m*, and the flaps *a a* and *b* on the lines *d*, *i*, and *e*, the paper being perforated on any or all of these lines, for a purpose that will be presently apparent. The flap *b* is gummed, as shown in fine lines at *g*, and is also perforated on a line, *f*, parallel to the edge of the gummed portion.

In closing the sheet it is first folded on the lines *m* and *k*, and the flaps *a a* are turned over upon it. Finally, the flap *b* is folded down upon the flaps *a a*, and is sealed in the usual manner.

In order to open the sealed sheet, it is only necessary to detach the flap *b*, which is done by tearing on the perforated line *f*. The effect of perforating the flap, as shown, is to afford immunity against the accidental tearing of the body of the sheet or side flaps in opening it.

The object of perforating the sheet on the lines *k* and *m* is twofold: first, to facilitate the folding of the sheet; and, second, to make

it lie flat while being written upon. The advantage in this latter respect is evident. The blanks, when used for letter-sheets, may be folded to be carried in the pocket, and readily opened out flat when it is desired to use them. The folding-lines of the side and end flaps may also be perforated, in order to enable the recipient of the letter-sheet to readily detach the flaps for filing the sheet.

The side flaps are also preferably perforated on lines *n n* near their extremities, for the sake of facility in separating them after detaching the end flap.

It will be observed that the described construction admits of the withdrawal of the sheet for inspection without breaking the seal—an indispensable requisite when used as a circular-sheet.

The folded circular-sheet presents exactly the appearance of an ordinary circular-envelope having its flap tucked in instead of being gummed to the body of the envelope.

While I have described the sheet as perforated, I may obviously adopt equivalent expedients—such as “perforating-rule” or cuts partly through the paper—for accomplishing the same end.

When perforating-rule is used, the impression is made upon the face of the paper.

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

1. A circular-sheet arranged to fold upon the portion constituting the envelope, the latter being provided with side flaps, which meet when closed, and an end flap adapted to be gummed to the side flaps, as set forth.

2. A circular-sheet arranged to fold upon the portion constituting the envelope, the latter being provided with side flaps perforated near their ends, and an end flap adapted to be gummed thereto, thereby admitting of the withdrawal of the sheet without breaking the seal, substantially as described.

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