

BARTELS CATALOGUE

OF THE

STAMPED ENVELOPES & WRAPPERS

OF THE

UNITED STATES & POSSESSIONS

VOLUME II

ILLUSTRATIONS of the KNIVES

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THE size and shape of an envelope is as important to the envelope collector as is the perforation and watermark to the collector of adhesive stamps. Quite naturally, a small size envelope is different from a large size although both may bear the same stamp embossed in their upper right hand corner. Collecting of envelopes by sizes was probably the first step in collecting entires. One tried to get envelopes bearing the same stamp in as many different sizes as possible; just as the adhesive collector seeks to obtain every perforation variety. The collector of entires had the advantage as he needed no perforation gauge, or other instrument, to see the difference in the items he collected.

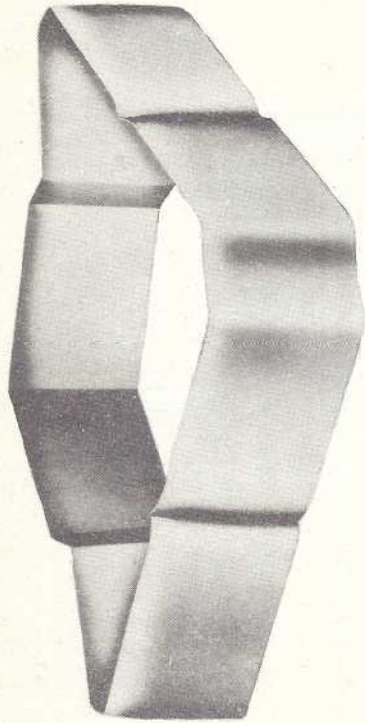
The next step in collecting entire envelopes probably occurred when it was discovered that two envelopes of the same size might be folded from blanks cut in different shapes. One noted "high" backs and "low" backs, or envelopes with rounded or pointed back flaps. And it was soon discovered that these shapes followed definite patterns that could be classified. Thus the collecting of shapes in which the blanks had been cut was added to the collecting of mere sizes. To avoid confusion collectors called these shapes "Knives" after the cutting knife (or die) which was used to produce them. Interest ran high when it was discovered that some shapes and sizes were much scarcer than others and, in some instances great rarities were uncovered. Catalogues were published listing and illustrating all known envelope sizes and knives and the collecting of envelopes became one of the most popular phases of American philately.

All of this took place in the latter part of the 19th Century, and during the early period of the 20th Century collecting of envelopes was firmly established. In 1911 J. Murray Bartels published his famous catalogue of United States Stamped Envelopes and the future looked bright indeed for the envelope collector. However, several events took place which greatly discouraged the further growth of interest in envelopes. First,

through an unfortunate circumstance, not more than 300 of Bartels 1911 catalogue ever reached the hands of collectors. The balance were lost in a fire in the printing establishment. Second, an unfortunate system of listing in Scott's catalogue, made it extremely difficult to identify envelopes. These two conditions combined with our laws which prohibited the illustrating of U. S. stamps did much to smother any further development of interest in stamped envelopes. In recent years Scott has revised its listings so that anyone may identify the various stamps, and the government has allowed the illustrations of our postage stamps.

The reaction was immediate. Interest in U. S. stamped envelopes again became in great popularity and the demand on all sides was for a catalogue which would explain, as well as list, all of the stamps the sizes and the knives.

Fortunately there were collectors who kept alive the collecting of entires during this period of eclipse and who were ready, yes eager, to contribute their knowledge and time toward the publishing of a modern catalogue of stamped envelopes. Among these was Thomas Doane Perry whose study of envelope knives had placed him as the outstanding authority in this field. When it became evident that it would be advisable to re-draw all the envelope knives Mr. Perry volunteered to undertake the supervision of this work provided we could find someone who would have the time to make the actual drawings. Such a person was found in Franklin W. Patterson, II who had volunteered his services in any way possible adding "I'm a bearcat of a draughtsman." Believing that such enthusiasm should be rewarded Mr. Perry and Mr. Patterson were put in touch with each other. Between them they have produced this volume of the catalogue. In accuracy of its illustrations, and in perfection in presenting their subject, the Editor feels that the work accomplished is without parallel in philatelic literature, and is a major contribution to philatelic knowledge.



Courtesy John J. Adams

Figure 1. Typical Envelope Cutting Knife.  
Cutting edge is pointed up.  
Top Flap of envelope is at rear.

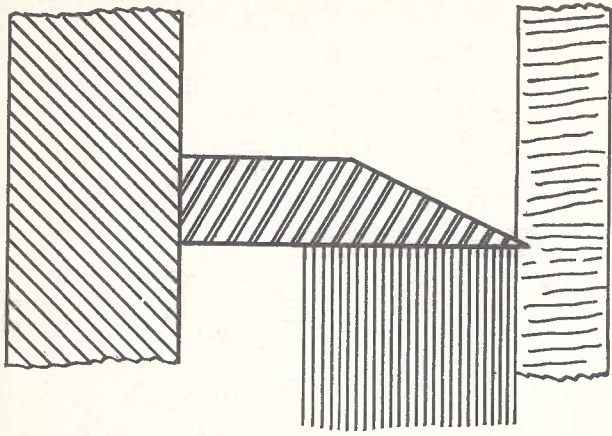


Figure 2. Envelope Knife in Cutting Position.  
Section of Knife as cut is completed.  
Above: Head of press at lowest position.  
Below: End wood cutting block  
Left: Paper envelope blanks for printing

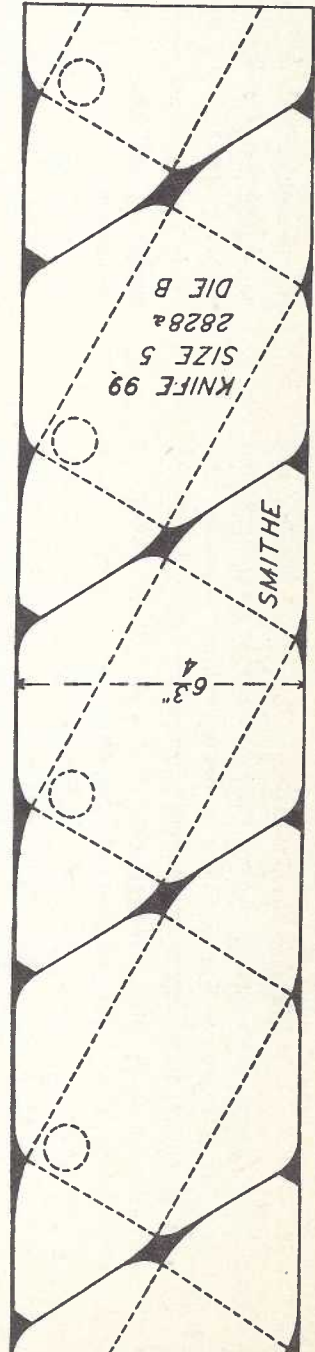
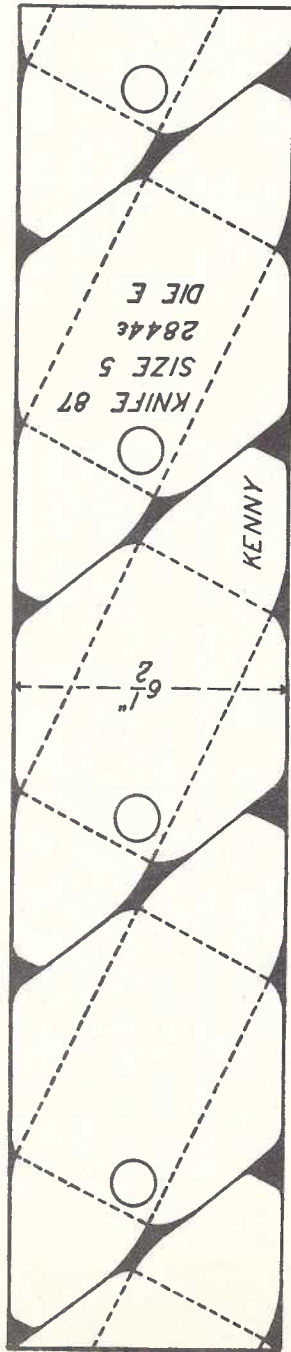


Figure 3. Envelope Blanks from Rotary Cutting Knives  
Upper: Web from Kenny machine, with stamp printed on upper surface of paper, for subsequent folding in separate machine.  
Lower: Web from Smithe machine, where stamp was printed on under surface of paper, for folding in the same automatic machine.

(See American Philatelist, March 1941)

## ENVELOPE CUTTING KNIVES

The process of die cutting envelope blanks, as it is technically called, is an old art. It was in use even before the development of envelopes, about 1845, and is still widely used in other branches of the stationery business for cutting out various odd shapes of gummed labels, such as stars, circles, airmail stickers, and even for stamp hinges. There is an infinite variety to the shapes that can be cut. Since there would be much philatelic confusion between die cut envelope blanks, and embossed printing dies with their minor varieties, it was long ago determined to call the cutting die a *knife*, see Fig. 1, and to reserve the term *die* to describe the printing form or the printed impression of the stamp on the envelope.

The forged steel envelope knife, as illustrated in Fig. 1, is properly located on a pile of paper to avoid waste, with the sharp cutting edge down against the paper. The press head forces the cutting edge of the knife through the pile of paper, and slightly into the end wood of the cutting block. All as shown in Fig. 2. The cut blanks are removed from the inside of the knife, and the process repeated. The method is old, but tested by several generations of workmen, and no more efficient method has as yet been permanently adopted for the manufacture of United States stamped envelopes.

Some of the knife shapes were in use for many years, and successive knives were made to duplicate and replace those that wore out. In forging and tempering these thick steel knives it was difficult to produce exact duplicates. The important features to maintain were the envelope overall size and the contour of the edges that were to be gummed. Slight variations in curves and the ends of side flaps (ungummed) were unimportant. Hence there were inevitable variations, such as the types that are shown on K-50. There are several other groups of closely similar knives that were assigned separate numbers as they appeared, viz.:

K-28, K-29, K-30; K-39, K-40, K-41; K-44, K-45, K-49; Many authorities now feel that it would have been better to combine these as minor knife variations, as in the case of K-50, but it is difficult to alter a standard that has been accepted by collectors for many years, hence the original classification has been preserved. In the case of certain twentieth century knives there appears a tendency, on the part of knife makers, to broaden out and ease off sharply curved corners, as on the ends of the side flaps in the low back series. Here only the early and late shapes have been illustrated, as in K-90, but intermediate shapes are known to exist.

Nearly all United States stamped envelopes have been produced by this standard knife cutting method, and are subsequently printed and folded. The principal exceptions occurred between 1912 and 1925, when a number of web

printing machines were placed in service by the envelope contractor at Dayton. In order to produce envelopes from a web or ribbon of paper (in rolls), the well known low back knife shape was developed and authorized by the Post Office Department about 1912, since the former high back shape was in no way adapted to such a process. The sketches in Fig. 3 show that, in producing envelope blanks from such a web, the only waste was the small irregular pieces that are shaded black. In passing through the continuous web machines, these small irregular chunks were first cut out, then the stamp was printed, and finally the envelope blanks were cut apart. This angling cutting knife revolved somewhat like a lawn mower mechanism, but it did not always register accurately with the chunk cutter, and hence the rotary cut envelopes often show nicks, and almost always have rough edges, that are quite different from the sharp clean cut edge of the regular envelope knife. There were two types of these rotary printing and cutting machines; the Kenny in 1912 and the Smithe in 1915. The Kenny machines were equipped for three sizes, with K-87, K-89 and K-91. The Kenny made size 5 envelopes from a web 6½ inches wide, but did not fold the envelopes. The Smithe machines provided for four sizes, viz.: K-97, K-99, K-101 and K-104, but required a web 6¾ inches wide for size 5 envelopes. This was due to the fact that a longer top flap was required for the automatic folding attachment on the Smithe machine. A comparison of the products from these two machines is shown in Fig. 3. Rotary cutting was applied only to the most popular sizes, 5, 7 (Smithe only), 8 and 13, but the low back shape was authorized and appeared on other sizes, for which standard cutting knives were provided.

So far as known all envelope blanks, except the seven above listed for rotary cutting, were cut on regular knives in piles of 300 to 500 sheets, while the rotary cutting was in single blanks. Since special printing dies were usually made for these rotary web printing machines, they also help in the matter of identification. These web printing machines were not used after about 1925, and all envelope blanks are now cut with regular knives in piles. However the low back shape, originally intended for rotary web machines, has been continued in these same sizes with regular knife cutting methods, and is now standard for all window front envelopes. The high back shape is used exclusively for solid front envelopes.

The numbering of the envelope knives is generally in the order of their discovery by collectors, which is substantially as they were originated, although a few, like K-104, were not noted for several years after they were first made. This numbering is a continuation of that used in the 1911 catalogue of J. M. Bartels, and is widely accepted by collectors of entire envelopes.

STAMPED ENVELOPE SIZE DESIGNATIONS UNITED STATES POST OFFICE DEPARTMENT

Dimensions in Millimeters; 1 to 2mm. Variations not noted

Dates	Issue	Note Sizes						Letter			Official				Baronial		Comm'c'l			
		118	120	134	140	130	139	149	149	160	219	225	191	241	258	118	134	140	171	160
1853-60	1	1	1	1		3					7c									
1860-1	2	1	1	2b		3					7c									
1861-3	3	1	1 <sup>a</sup>	2b		3			5		7c	8d								
1863-70	4	1	1			3			5		7	8e								
1870-4	5		1	2		3-4			5-6		7		8							
1874-6	6		1	2		3-4		4½	5-6		7		8							
1876	6a	Centen'l				3		4½	5-6											
1878	7		1	2		3-4		4½	5-6		7		8							
1879-83	8		1	2		3-4		4½	5-6		7		8							
1883-6	9		1	2		3		4½	5		7		8		10	11f			9	
1886-7	10		1	2		3		4½	5-6		7		8		10	11f			9	
1887-9	11		1	2		3-4		4½	5-6		7		8		10	11f			9	
1890-4	12		L			A-B		C	D-E		G	H	I	I	M	N	R8		F	Q
1893	13	Col'mb'n				A			P		G	H	I		N					
1894-5	14		1			2		3	5-6		7	8	8		10	11			13	14
1895-8	15		1			2		3	5-6		7	8	9		10	11			13	14
1899-'02	16		1			2		3	5-6		7	8	9		10	11			13	14
1903-7	17		1			2		3	5-6		7	8	9		10	11			13	14
1907-11	18		1			2		3	5-6		7	8	9		10	11			13	14
1911-5	19		1			2		3	5-6		7	8	9		10	11			13	14
1915-6	20		1			2		3	5		7	8	9		10	11			13	14
1916-9	21					2		3	5-6		7	8	9		10	11			13	14
1919-20	22					2		3	5-6		7	8	9		10	10			13	14
1921-4	23					2		3	5-6		7	8	9		10	10			13	14
1925-8	24					2		3	5-6		7	8	9		10	10			13	14
1926	24a					2		3	5		7	8	9		10	10			13	14
1929-32	25					2		3	5		7	7½	8	9	10	10			13	14
1932	26					3		3	5		7	7½	8	9	10	10			13	14
1933-6	27					3		3	5		7	7½	8	9	10	10			13	14
1937-40	28					3		3	5		7	7½	8	9	10	10			13	14
1941-4	29					3		3	5		7	7½	8	9	10	10			13	14

When two figures (5-6) are used in one column, the second designates paper quality

- a. Also 122x76
- b. Also 137x77
- c. Size 221x99
- d. Also 241x100
- e. Size 249x104
- f. Size 130x105
- g. Size 143x111
- h. Size 249x104 and 249x104

STAMPED ENVELOPE SIZES

The numbers used as official size designations for United States stamped envelopes have been in effect, without essential changes, since October 1, 1894, and have become well established. Some sizes have been dropped and others added, but the method of size designation has been consistent. They do not agree with the size designations usually employed by commercial stationers and printers, and hence may have been the cause of some confusion among those who are starting envelope collections.

Between 1890 and 1894 the Post Office Department attempted to use letter designations for both envelope sizes and paper grades, but its brief duration would seem to indicate that it was not considered satisfactory. Before 1890 number designations had been the rule, although in the early years of the Nesbitt issues the sizes were named "letter," "note," "official," etc. In the 1870s and 1880s both names and numbers were used. The number designations, before 1890 and after 1894, were not consistent, i.e.; size 3 of the early Nesbitts became size 2; size 4½ and 8 of the Plimpton issue became sizes 3 and 9 respectively; size 9 of the Plimpton & Morgan issues became size 13; and so on.

The accompanying table \* has been arranged to show the "flow" of these size designations from 1873 to date. The older issue numbers have been given, as well as the years of issue, for convenient checking with older references. Each column of the table is limited to the size shown in the heading (± 1 mm), and its official size designation, if current, is given according to dates and issues. Where no figure occurs in the column, that size was not officially available, except perhaps as left-overs from a previous issue. A careful study of this data will enable the collector to understand and classify what might otherwise appear to be contradictory.

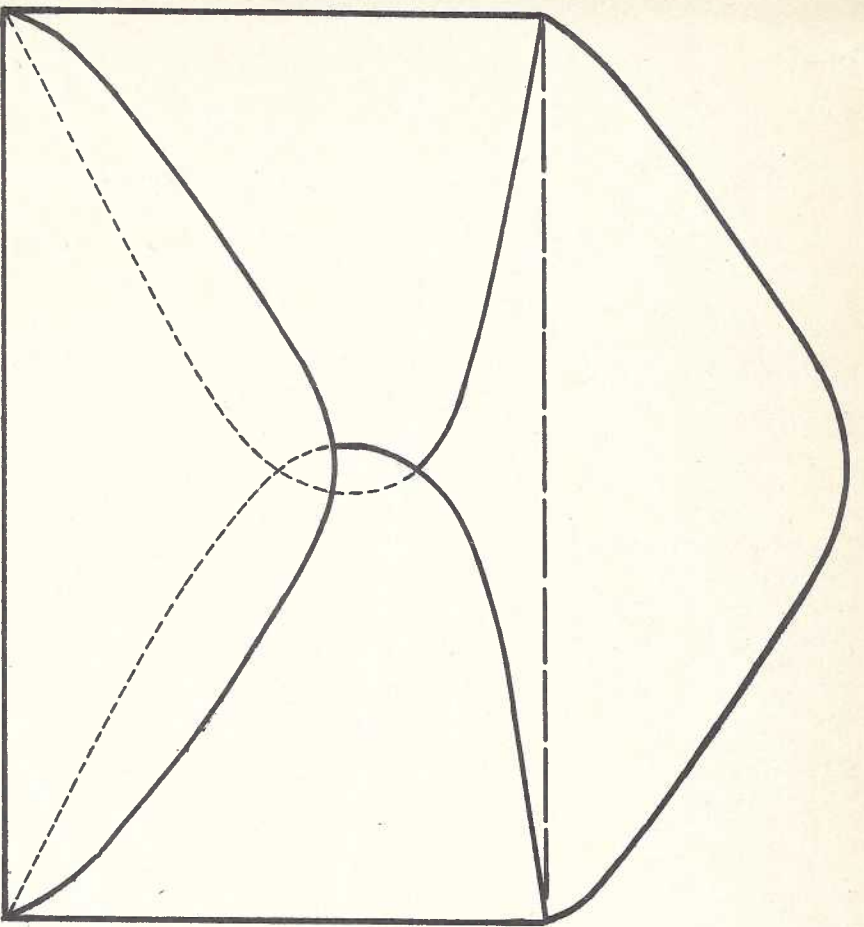
The popular size of the 1850s, size 3 (82 x 139 mm or 3¼ x 5½ in.) is a mere miniature to-day. A size-frequency percentage was recently determined, based on over 11,000 pieces of business mail, with the following results:—

Size 8.....	40.4%	Size 7.....	12.0%
13.....	25.7	9.....	1.6
5.....	20.0	6.....	.3
		100%	

In the illustrations of the knives that follow, the current size designation is always given first. If the same knife was used on a later issue, under a different designation, it is so indicated.

Abbreviations used are given on page 13, and symbols used are explained on page 19.

\* Courtesy of Dietz Press. From "Guide to Stamped Envelopes of the U. S."



**NESBITT KNIVES 1 TO 22**

**KNIFE 1**  
(1853)  
Size 1

**DIMENSIONS**  
73 x 120 mm.  
2 7/8 x 4 3/4 in.

**FLAPS**

Top - Wide curved point.  
Side - Reg. R/L  
Occ. L/R.  
Bottom - Point broadly rounded.

**NOTES**

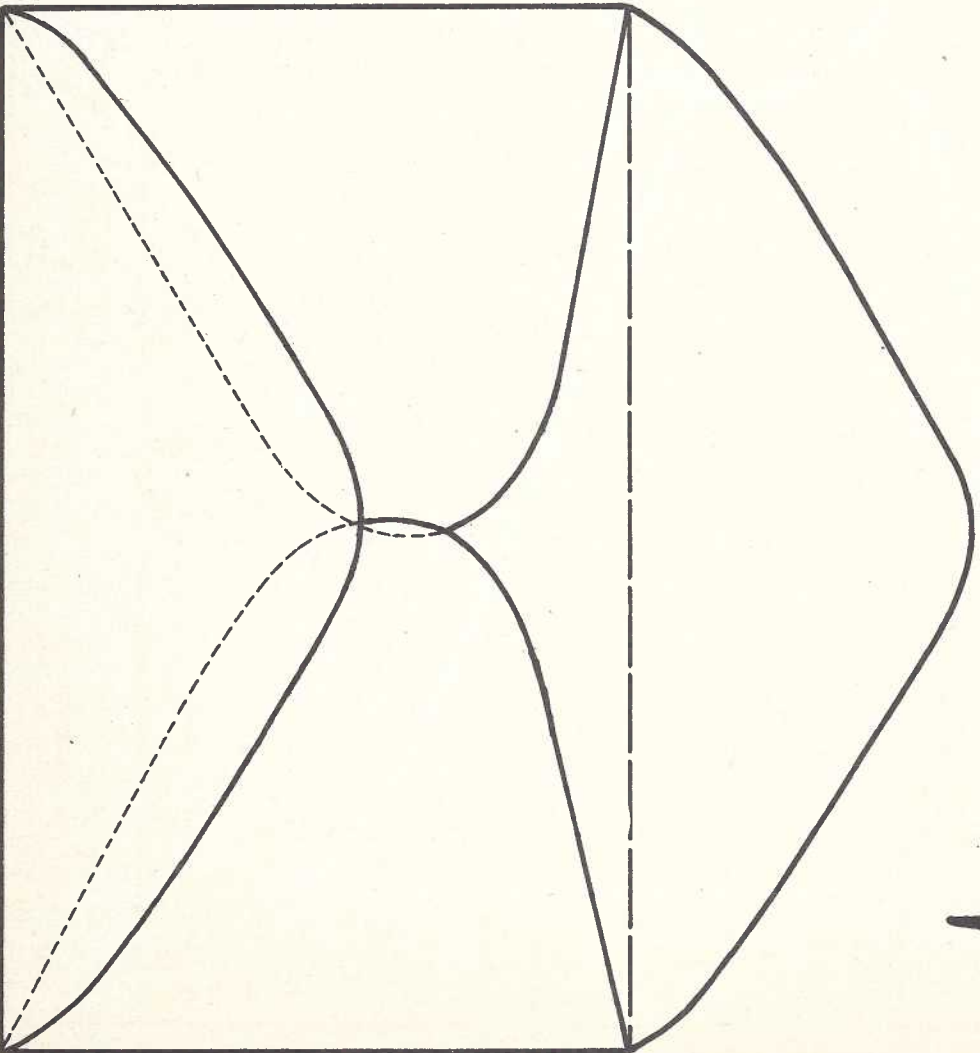
All curves broadly rounded.  
Comp. K-22

**KNIFE 2**  
(1853)  
Size 3

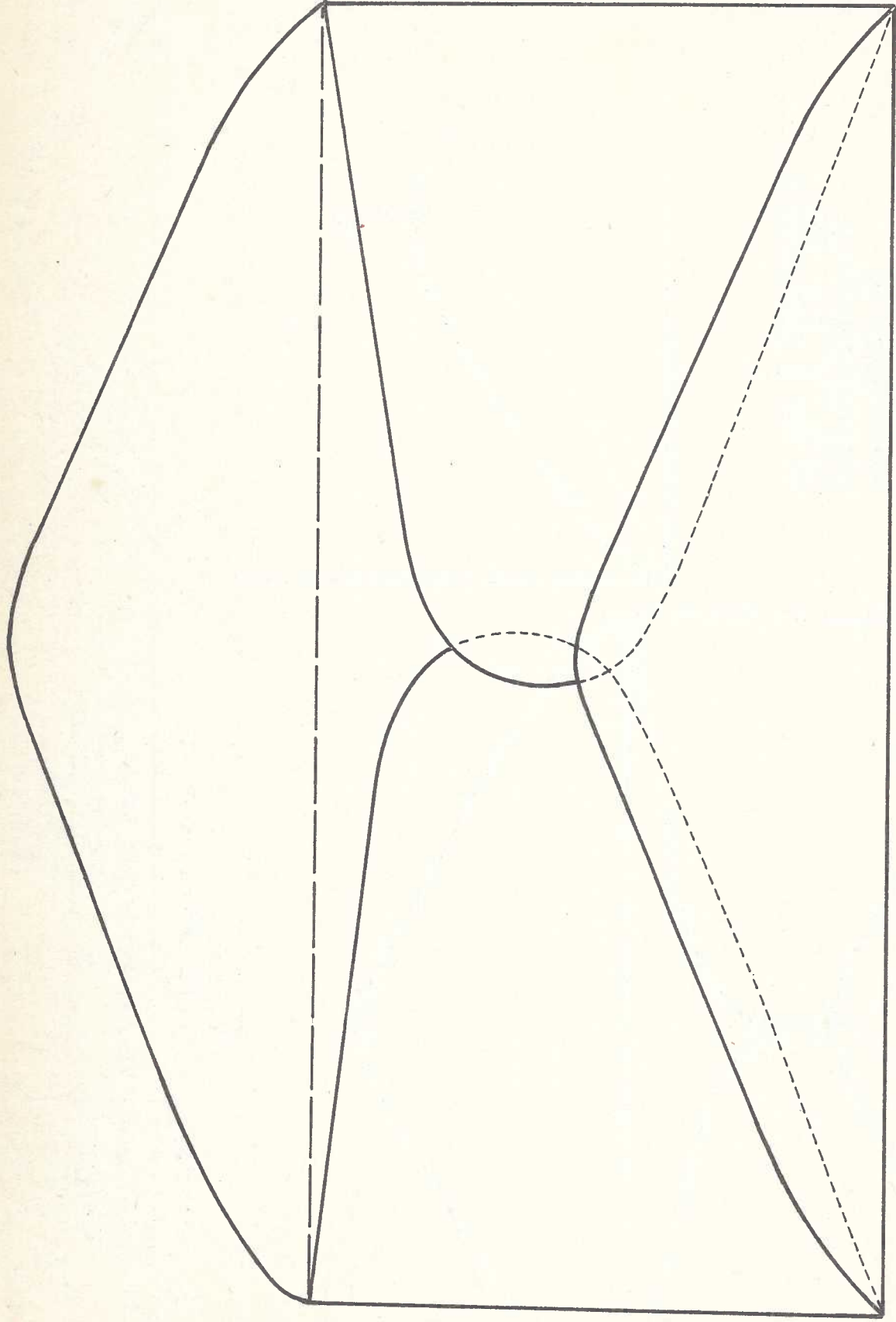
**FLAPS**  
Top - Wide curved point.  
Side - Reg. D/L  
Occ. L/R

**DIMENSIONS**  
83 x 139 mm.  
3 1/4 x 5 1/2 in.

**NOTES**  
All curves broadly rounded.  
Comp. K-11



3



KNIFE 3  
(1853)  
Size 7

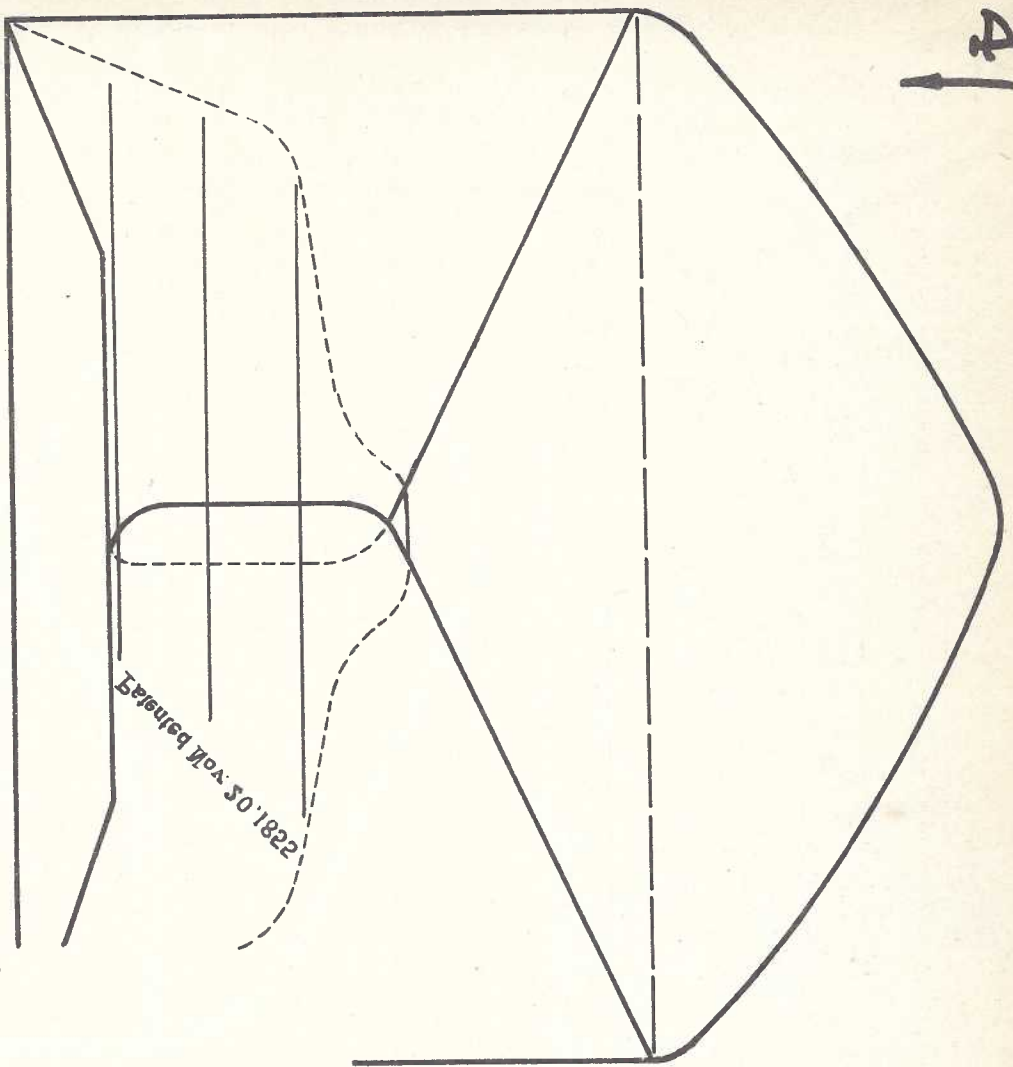
DIMENSIONS  
97-100 x 221-223 mm.  
3 7/8 - 4 x 8 7/8 - 9 in.

FLAPS  
Top-Wide Curved  
point.  
Side-Reg R/L-Occ. L/R

NOTES  
All curves broadly rounded.  
Used only for 6c



4 |



**KNIFE 4**  
(1859 ?)  
Size 3

**FLAPPS**  
Top - Moderate curved point.  
Side - D/L and S/B.  
Bottom - Extended for Patent Lines

**DIMENSIONS**  
82 x 139 mm.  
3 <sup>3</sup>/<sub>8</sub> x 5 <sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> in.

**NOTES**  
First Patent Line type. Wide and deep throat.  
Comp. K-5.  
Not common.

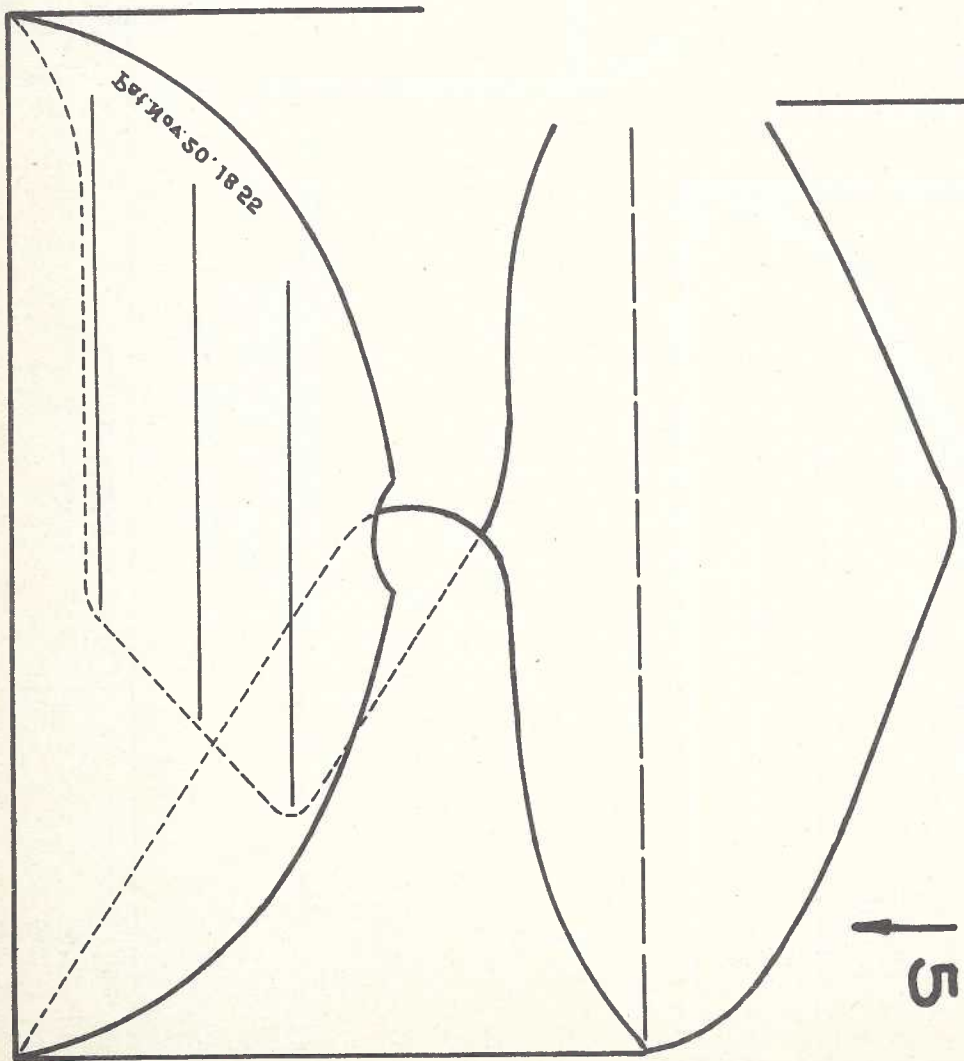
**KNIFE 5**  
(1859 ?)  
Size 3

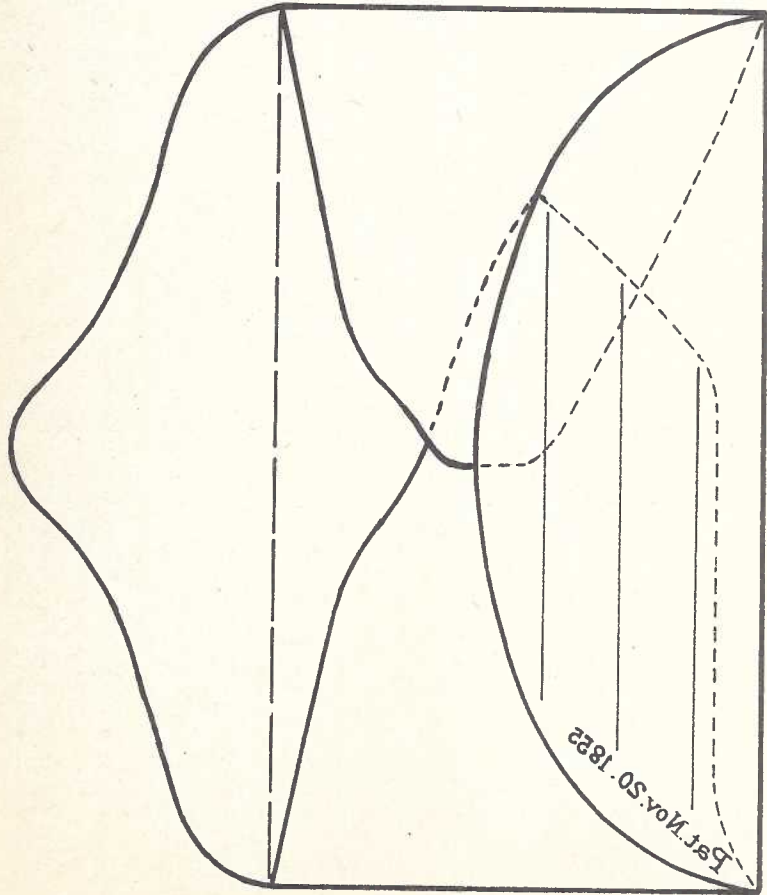
**FLAPPS**  
Top - Close curved point.  
Side - D/L and B/S  
Left S.F. extended for Patent Lines.  
Bottom - Medium notch.

**DIMENSIONS**  
83 x 139 mm.  
3 <sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub> x 5 <sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> in.

**NOTES**  
Wide and deep curved throat.  
Comp. K-4 and K-9.

| 5





6 ↓

KNIFE 6  
(1859)  
Size 1

FLAPS

Top-Tongue shape.  
Side-Lt. extended  
for Patent Lines.  
Bottom-No notch.

DIMENSIONS  
65x118 mm.  
2½ x 4½ in.

NOTES  
Smallest Patent  
Knife.

KNIFE 7  
(1860)  
Size 2

FLAPS

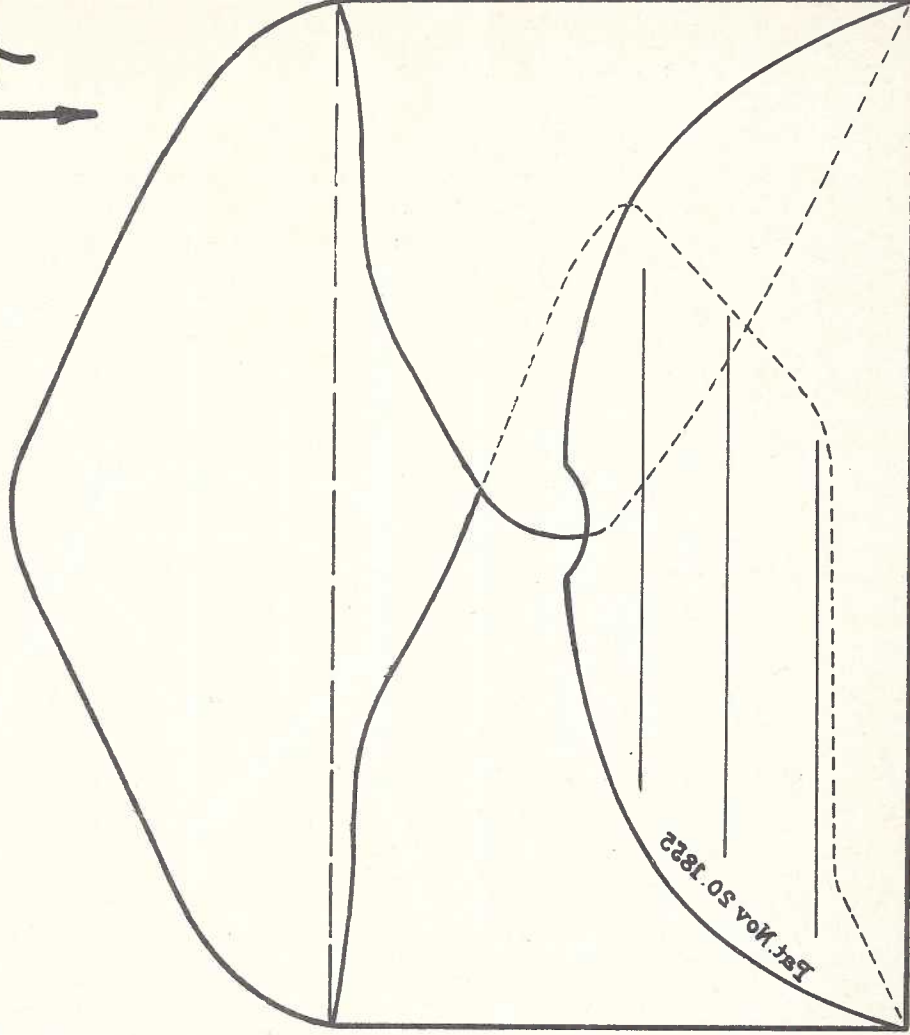
Top-Broad curved  
point.  
Side-Rt. end fully  
curved. Left ex-  
tended for Patent  
Lines.  
Bottom-Medium  
notch.

DIMENSIONS  
77x137 mm  
3½ x 5½ in.

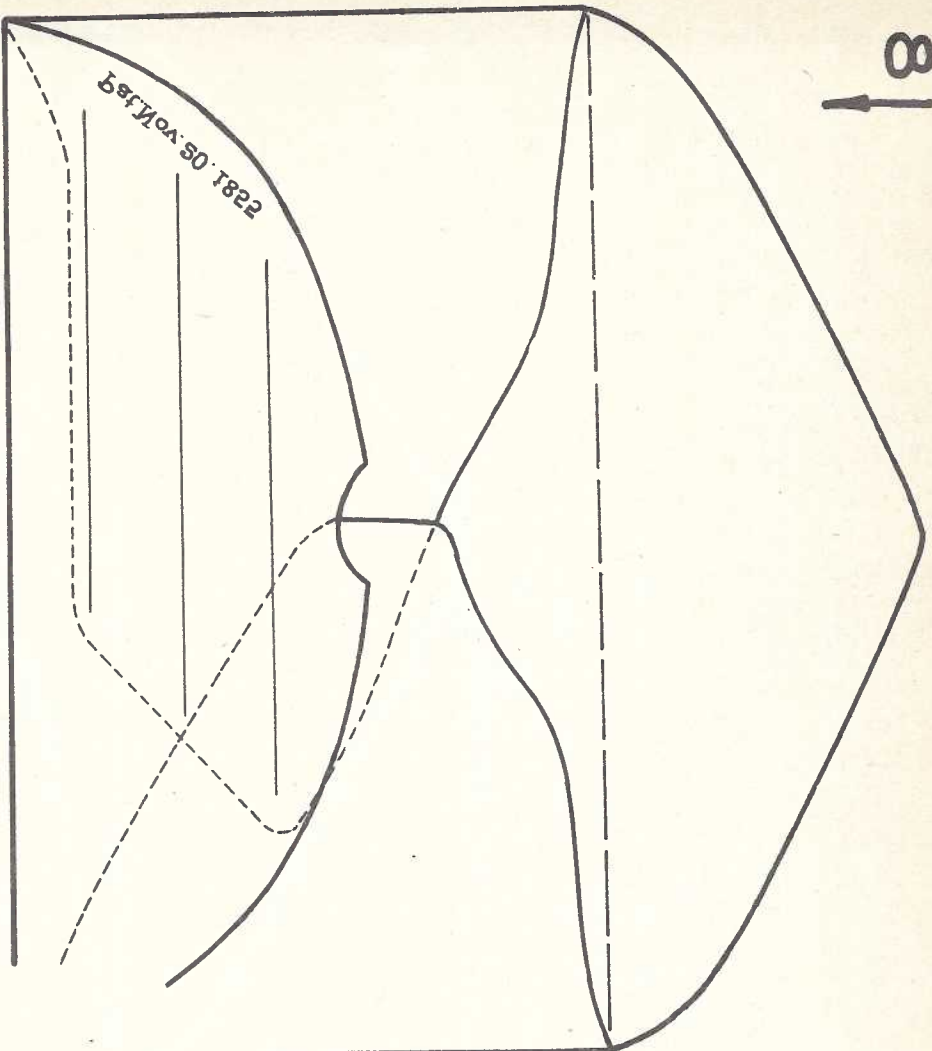
NOTES

Deep pointed  
throat.  
Compare K-8

7 ↓



8



**KNIFE 8**  
(1860)  
Size 2

**FLADS**  
Top - Small round point.

Side - Right upper edge has reverse curve. Right end almost straight. Bottom - Deep notch.

**DIMENSIONS**  
77 x 137 mm.  
3 x 5 3/8 in.

**NOTES**  
Compare K-7

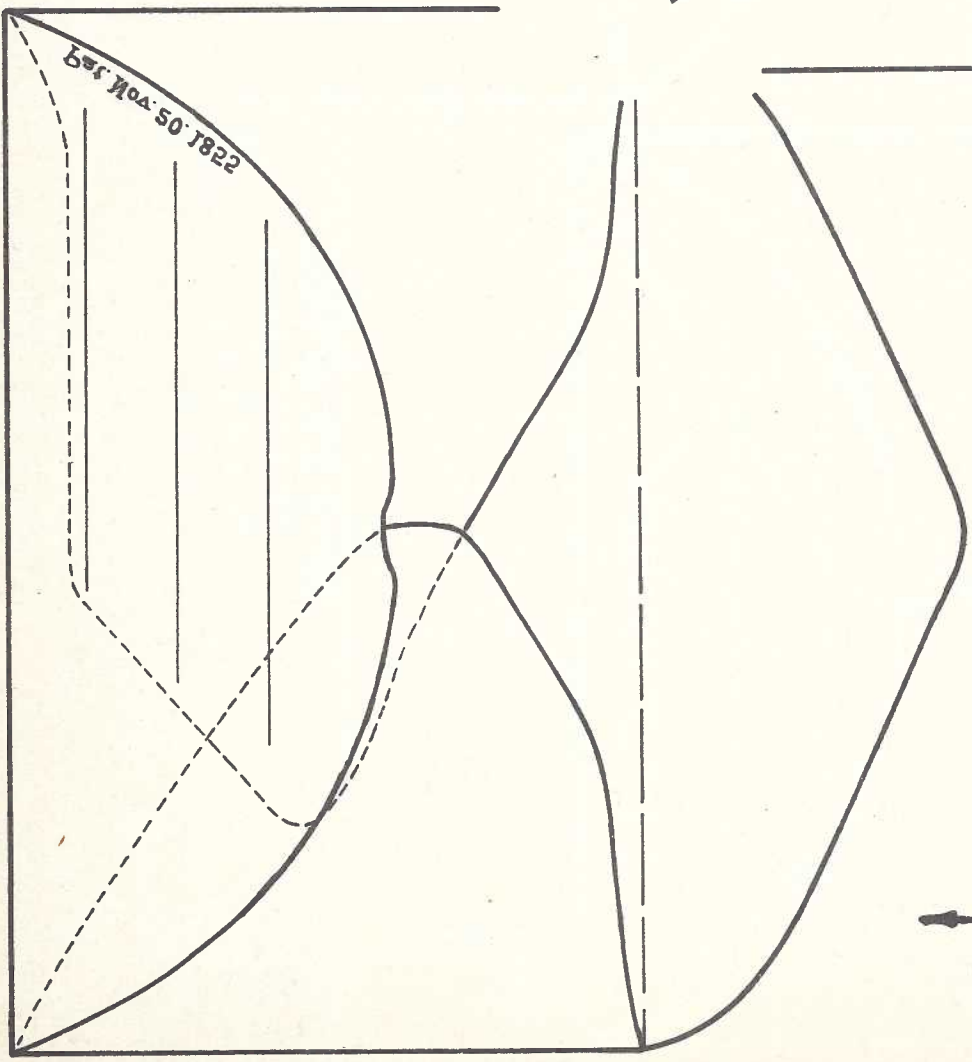
**KNIFE 9**  
(1860)  
Size 3

**FLADS**  
Top - Close curved point.  
Side - Rt. end is flattish.  
Bottom - Shallow notch.

**DIMENSIONS**  
83 x 139 mm.  
3 1/4 x 5 1/2 in.

**NOTES**  
Deep pointed throat.  
Compare K-5

19



KNIFE 11  
(1861)  
Size 3

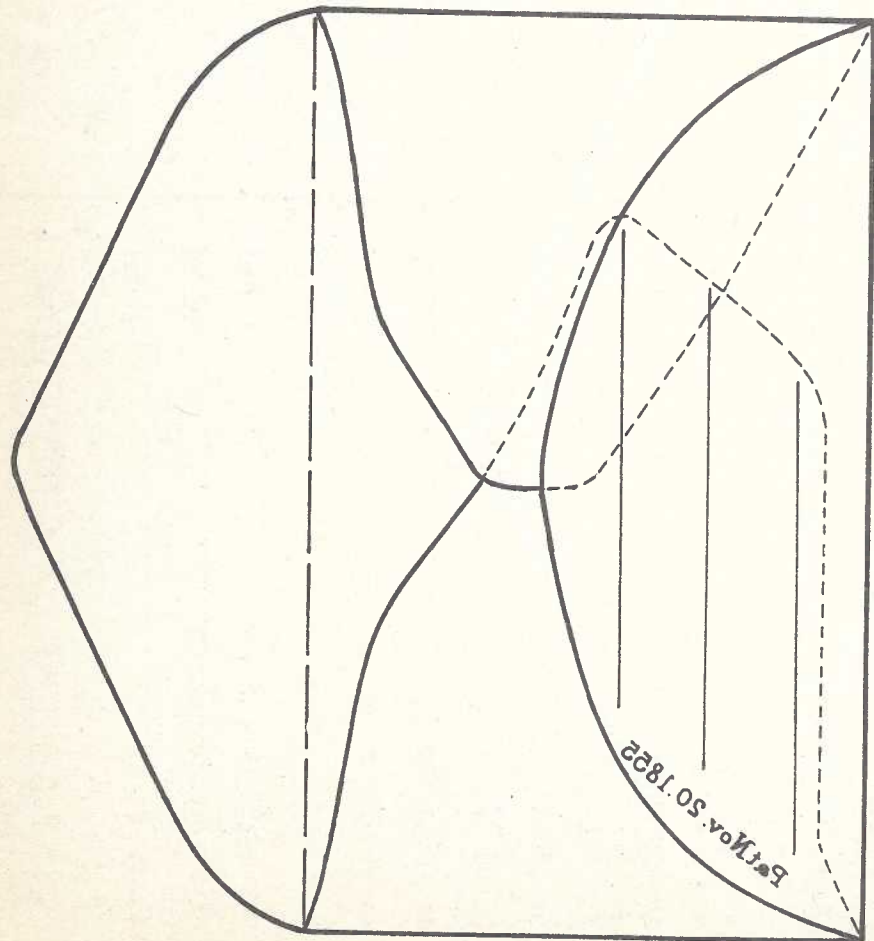
DIMENSIONS  
83 x 139 mm.  
3 1/4 x 5 1/2 in.

FLAPS

Top- Small round point.  
Side- Reg. R/L. Occ. rounded and overtop slightly.  
Bottom- Medium round point.

NOTES

Compare K-2 & K-18



10 ↓

KNIFE 10  
(1861)  
Size 1

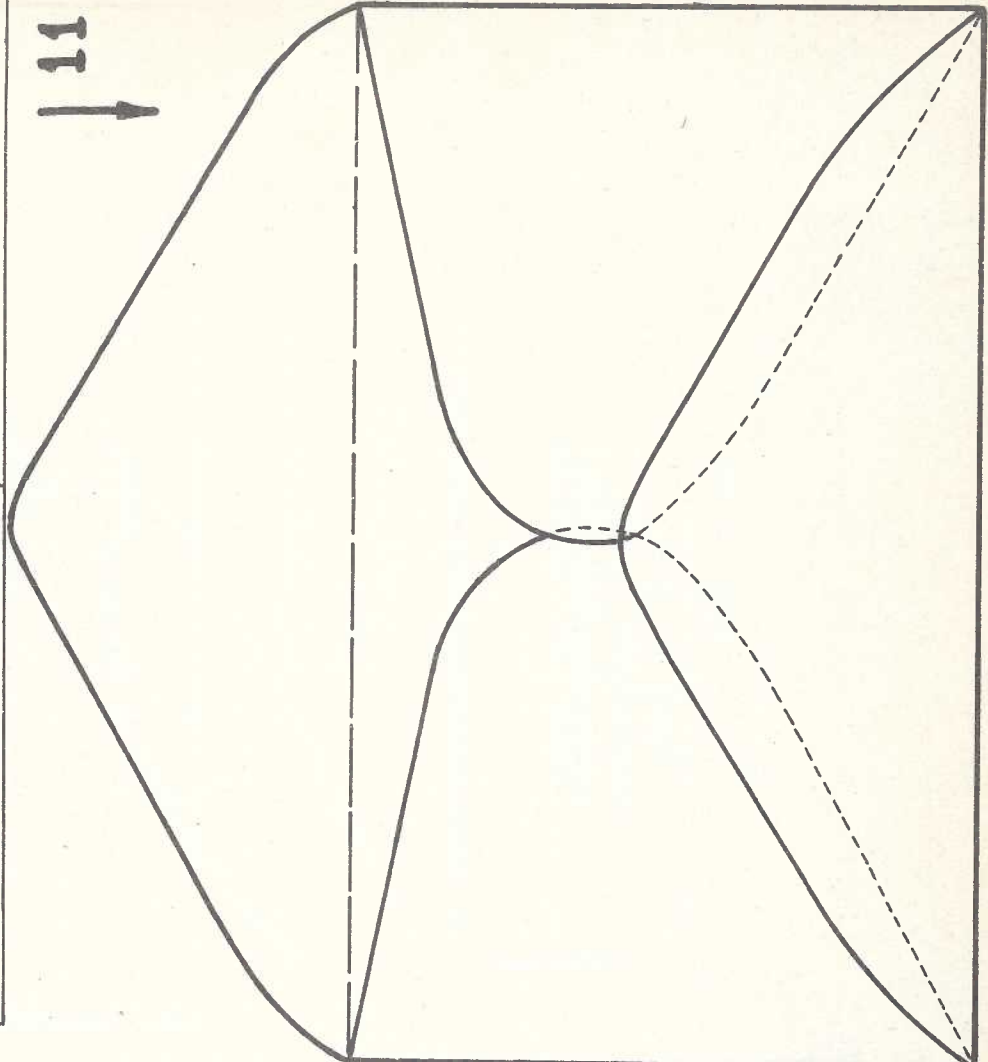
DIMENSIONS  
76 x 122 mm.  
3 x 4 3/4 in.

FLAPS

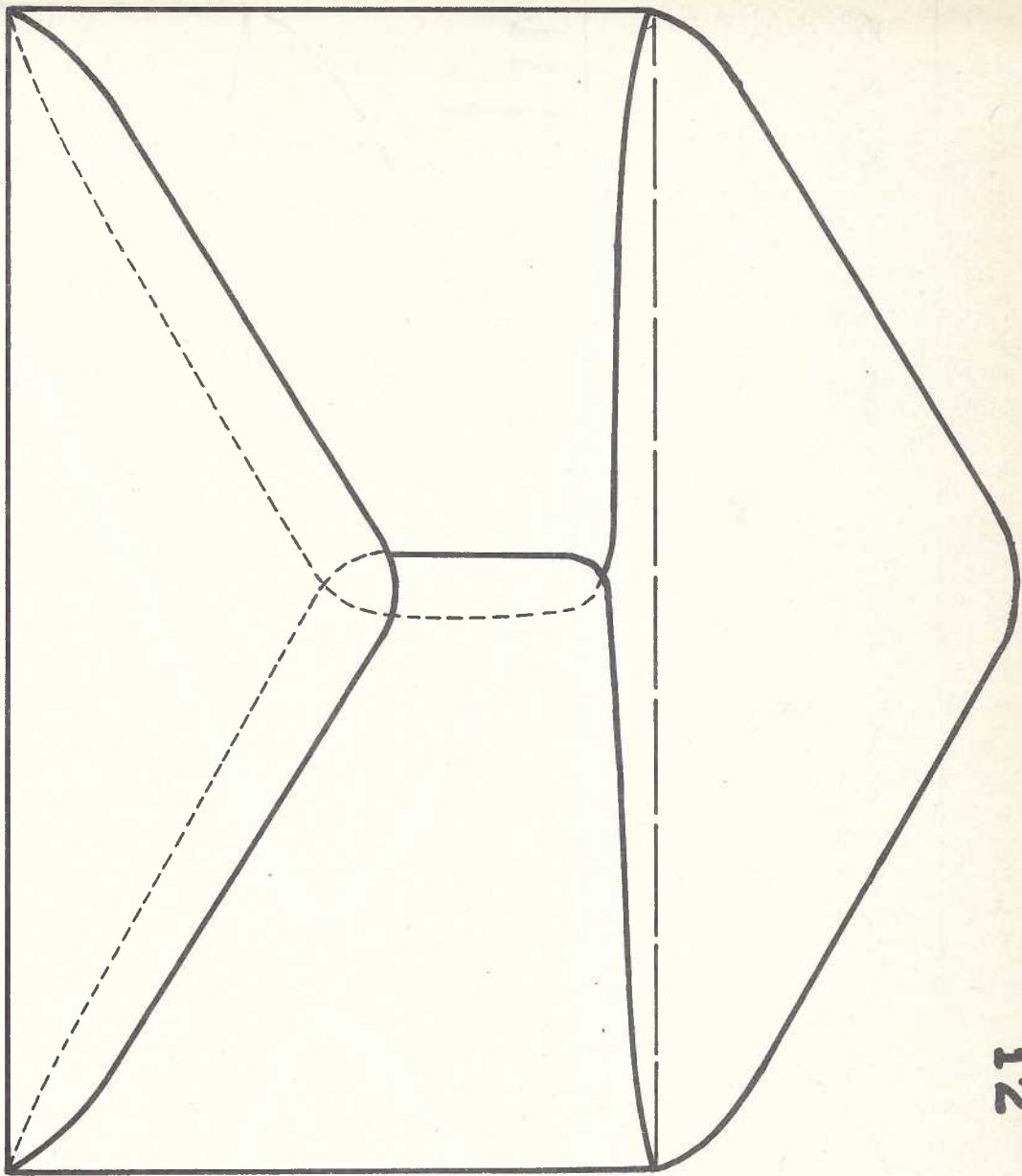
Top- Small round point.  
Side- Right has flattish end.  
Bottom- No notch.

NOTES

Rarest Patent line knife.  
Used only on one 3c Pink envelope.



11 ↓



KNIFE 12  
(1861)  
Size 5

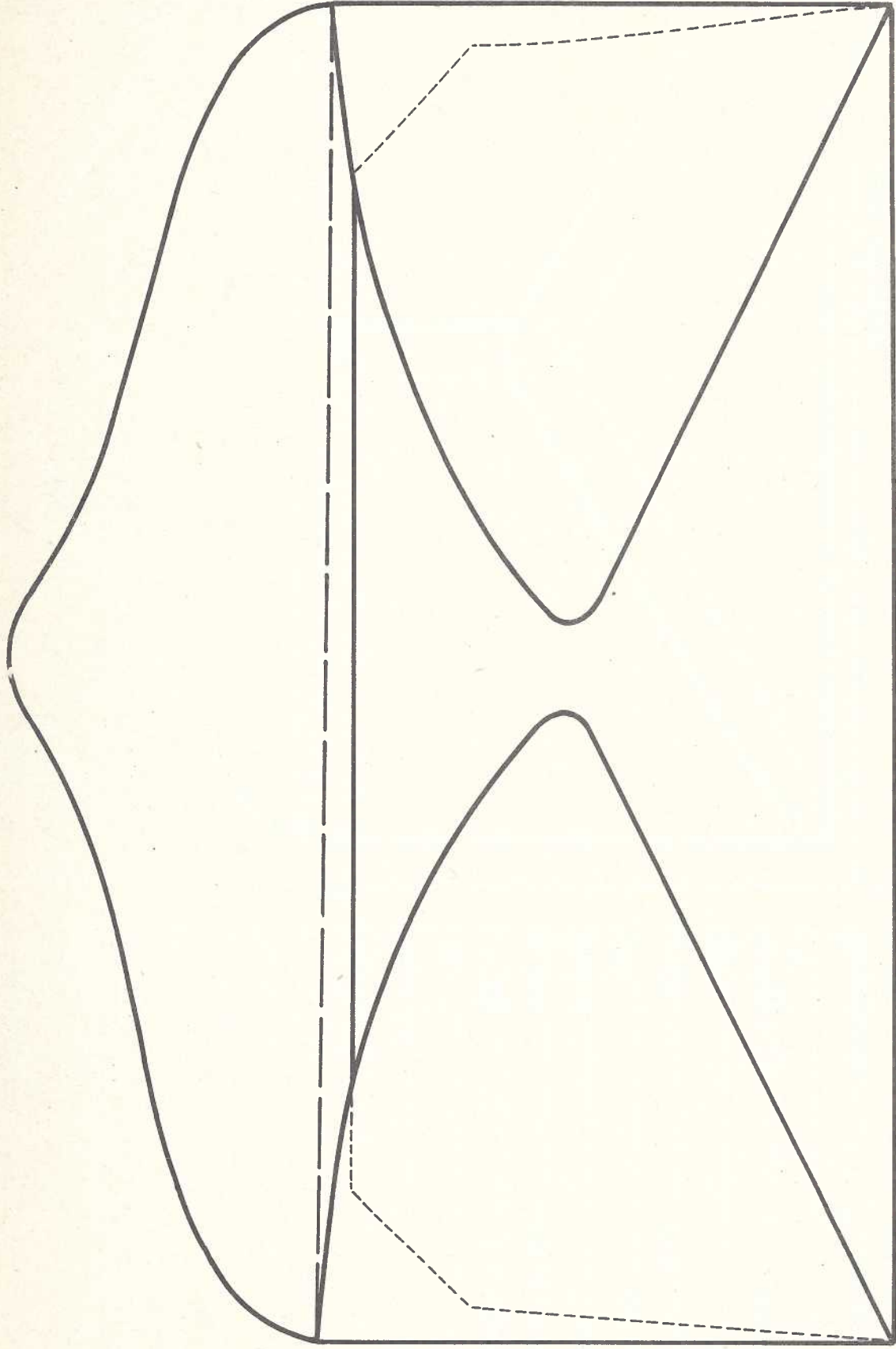
DIMENSIONS  
90x160 mm.  
3 1/2 x 6 1/4 in.

NOTES  
Shallow throat. Almost straight. Large envelope in its day, now smallest available.

FLAPS ~ Top-Medium rounded point.  
Side-Wide straight ends. Reg. R/L. Occ. L/R.  
Bot. - Med. rounded point.

ABBREVIATIONS

- Bot..... Bottom
  - B.F..... Bottom Flap
  - B/S..... Bottom/Side
  - Comp..... Compare
  - Descrip..... Description
  - ° as "90°"..... Degrees
  - in..... inches
  - K..... Knife
  - Lt..... Left
  - L/R..... Left/Right
  - mm..... millimeters
  - Med..... Medium
  - N<sup>o</sup>..... Number
  - Occ..... Occasional
  - Pt..... Point
  - Reg..... Regular
  - Rt..... Right
  - Rounded..... Rounded
  - D/L..... Right/Left
  - S.F..... Side Flap
  - S/B..... Side/Bottom
  - T.F..... Top Flap
  - Vert..... Vertical
- (See illustrations, page 19)

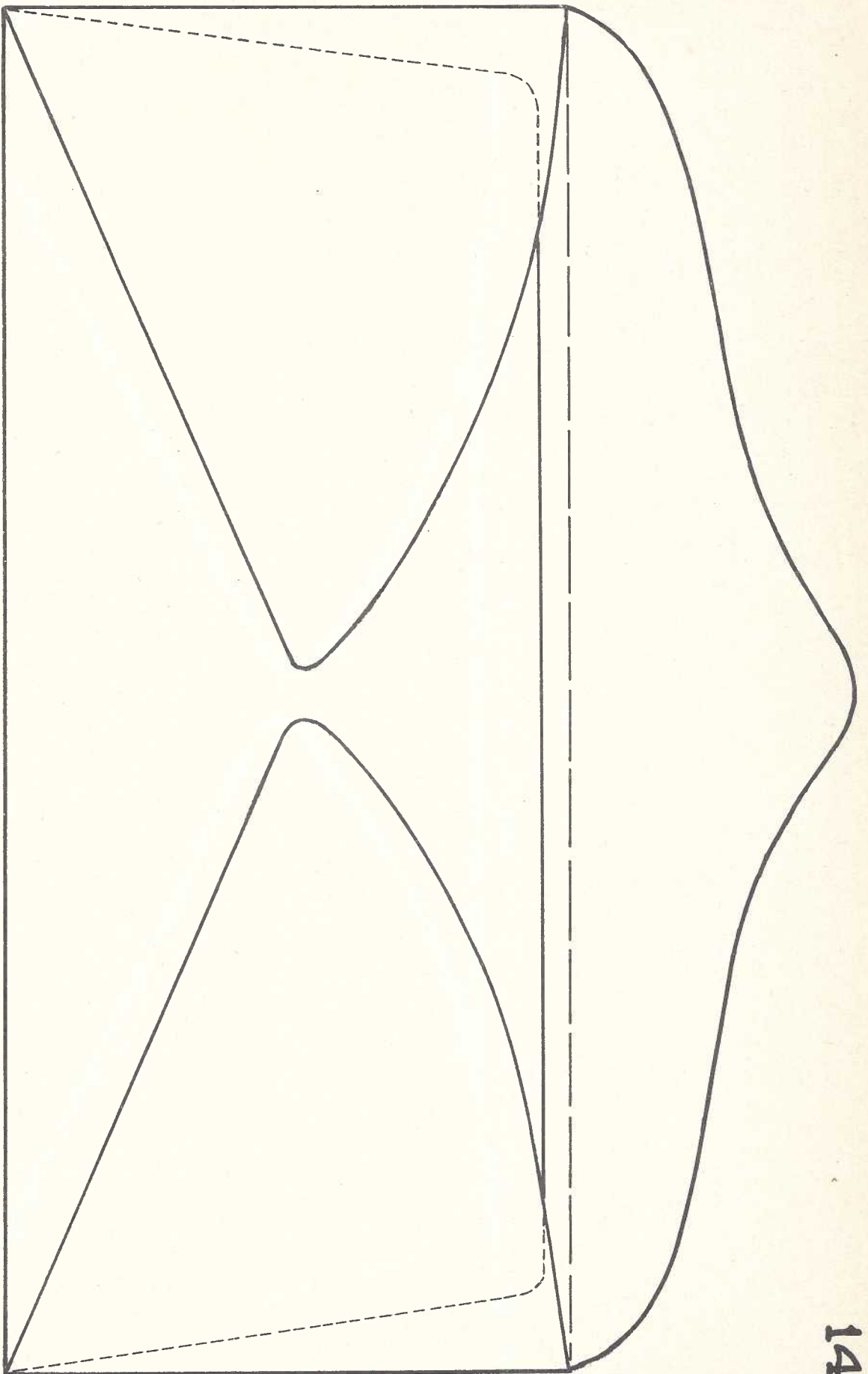


KNIFE 13  
(1861)  
Size 7

DIMENSIONS  
96 x 224 mm.  
3 5/8 x 8 7/8 in.

FLAPS  
Top-Tongue shaped.  
Side-Ends nearly  
pointed and 15  
mm. apart.  
Bottom-Upper cor-  
ners clipped off.

NOTES  
Known only on  
proofs and  
omitted from  
most lists.  
Compare K-19.

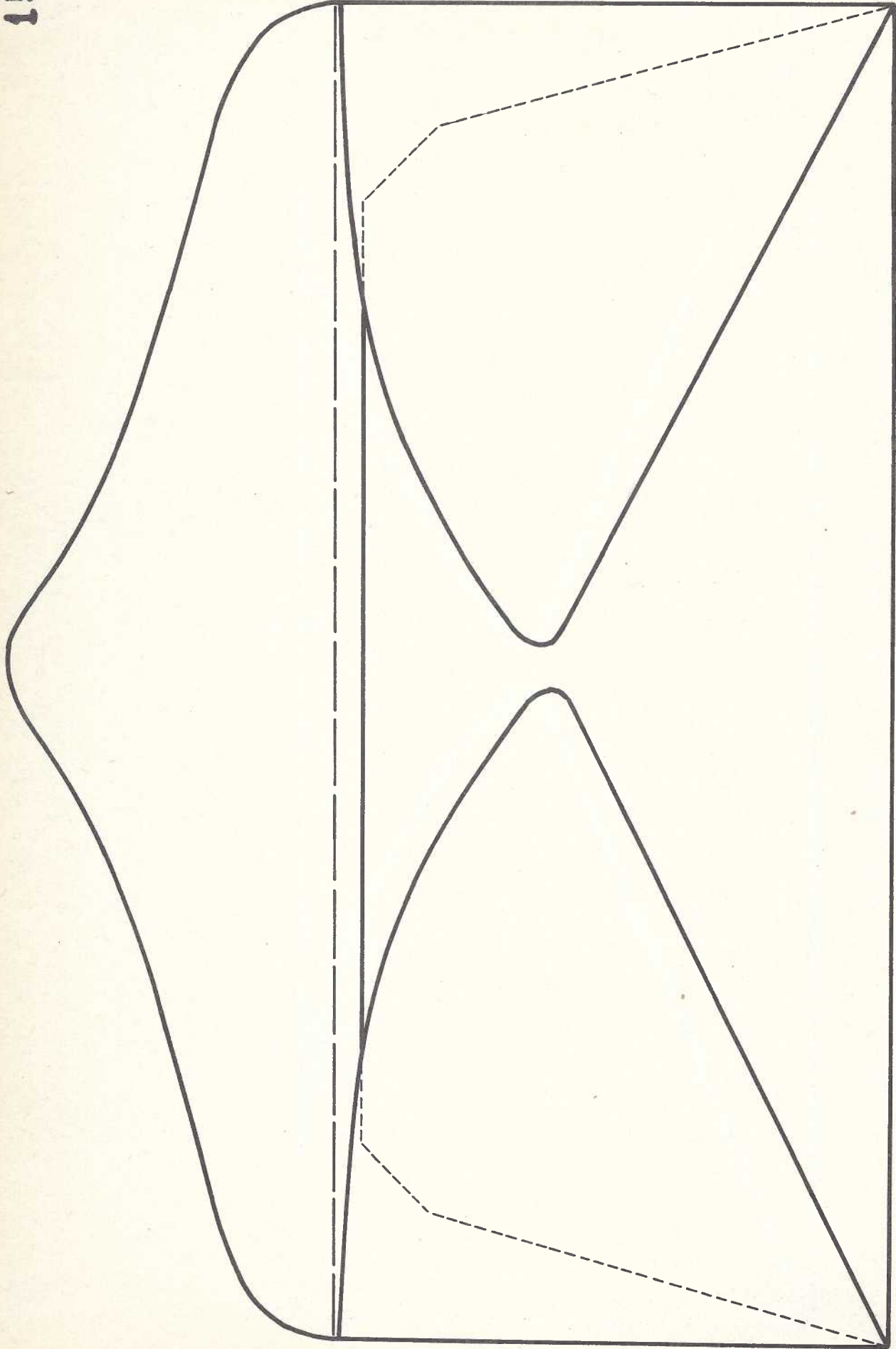


KNIFE 14  
(1861)  
Size 8

DIMENSIONS  
100 x 241 mm.  
 $3\frac{7}{8} \times 9\frac{1}{2}$  in.

FLAPS  
Top- Tongue Shaped.  
Side- Ends nearly  
pointed and 8mm  
apart.  
Bottom- S/B

NOTES  
Used only for 20c  
red and blue.  
Earliest high  
backed envelope.



KNIFE 15  
(1861) ?  
Size 8

DIMENSIONS  
104 x 249 mm.  
4 1/8 x 9 13/16 in.

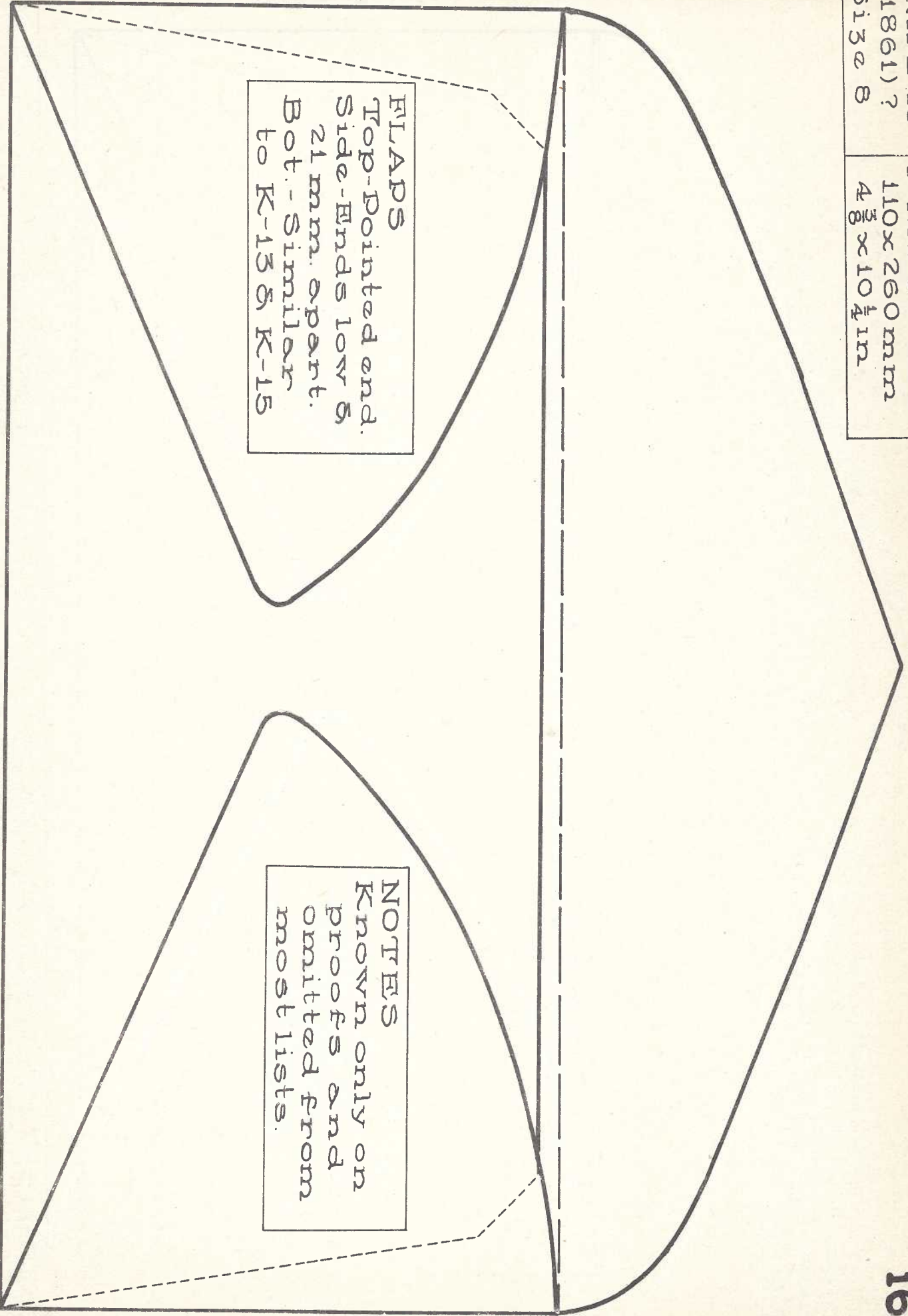
FLAPS  
S.F. ends 8 mm. apart.  
B.F. Tapers more  
than K-13

NOTES  
Known only on  
proofs & omitted  
from most lists.



KNIFE 16  
(1861) ?  
Size 8

DIMENSIONS  
110 x 260 mm  
4  $\frac{3}{8}$  x 10  $\frac{1}{4}$  in



FLAPS  
Top-Pointed end.  
Side-Ends low &  
21 mm. apart.  
Bot. - Similar  
to K-13 & K-15

NOTES  
Known only on  
proofs and  
omitted from  
most lists.

KNIFE 17

(1861) ?

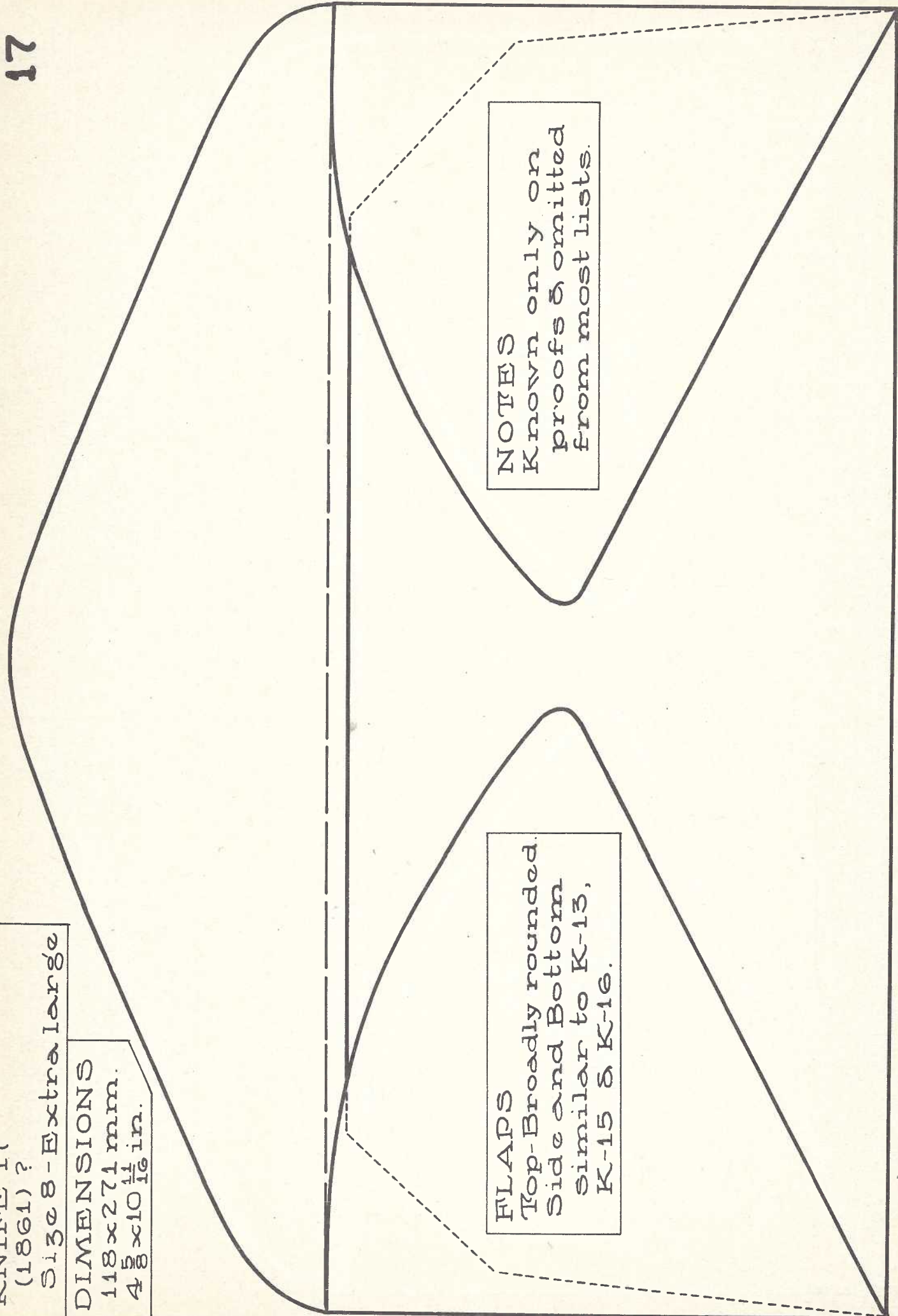
Size 8 - Extra large

DIMENSIONS

118 x 271 mm.

4  $\frac{5}{8}$  x 10  $\frac{11}{16}$  in.

17



FLAPS

Top - Broadly rounded.

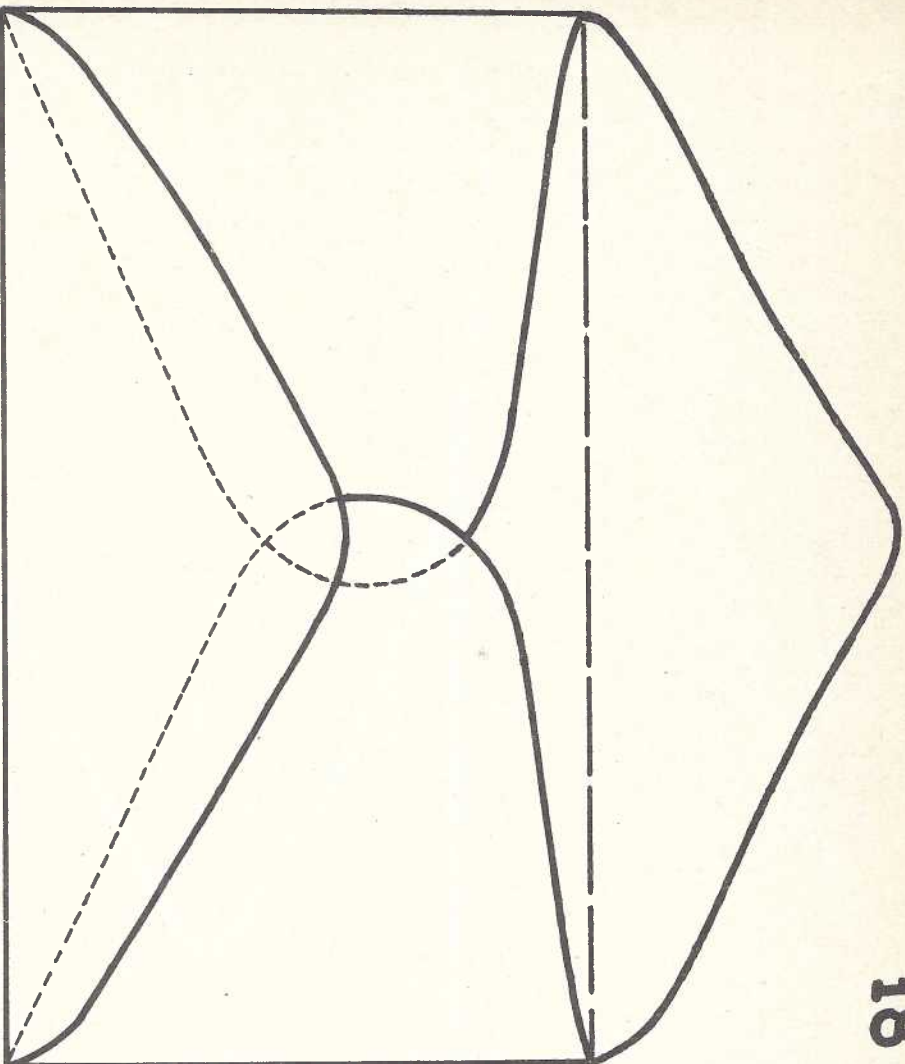
Side and Bottom

similar to K-13,

K-15 & K-16.

NOTES

Known only on  
proofs & omitted  
from most lists.

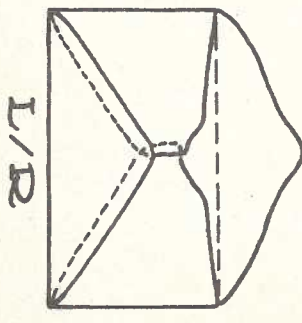
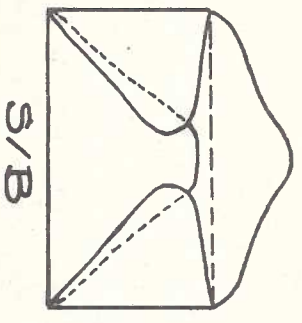
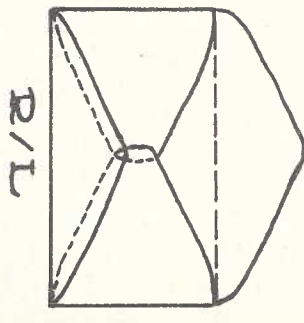
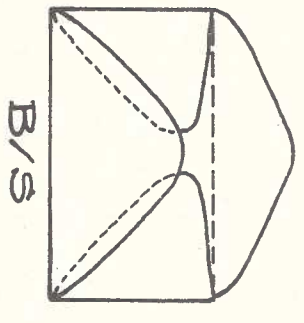
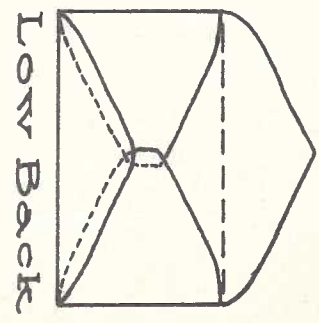
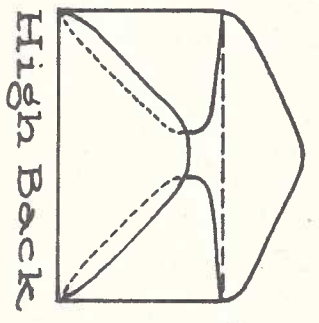
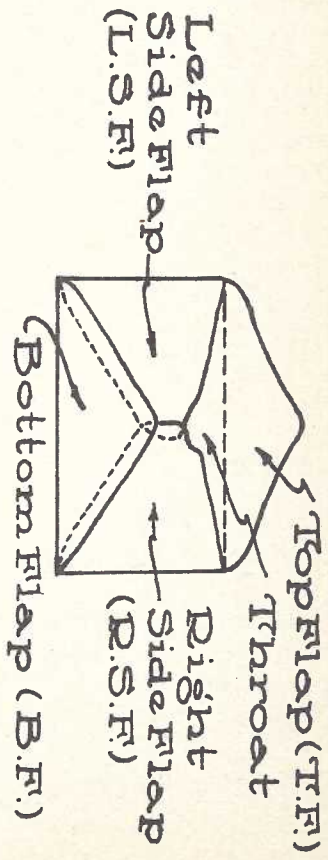


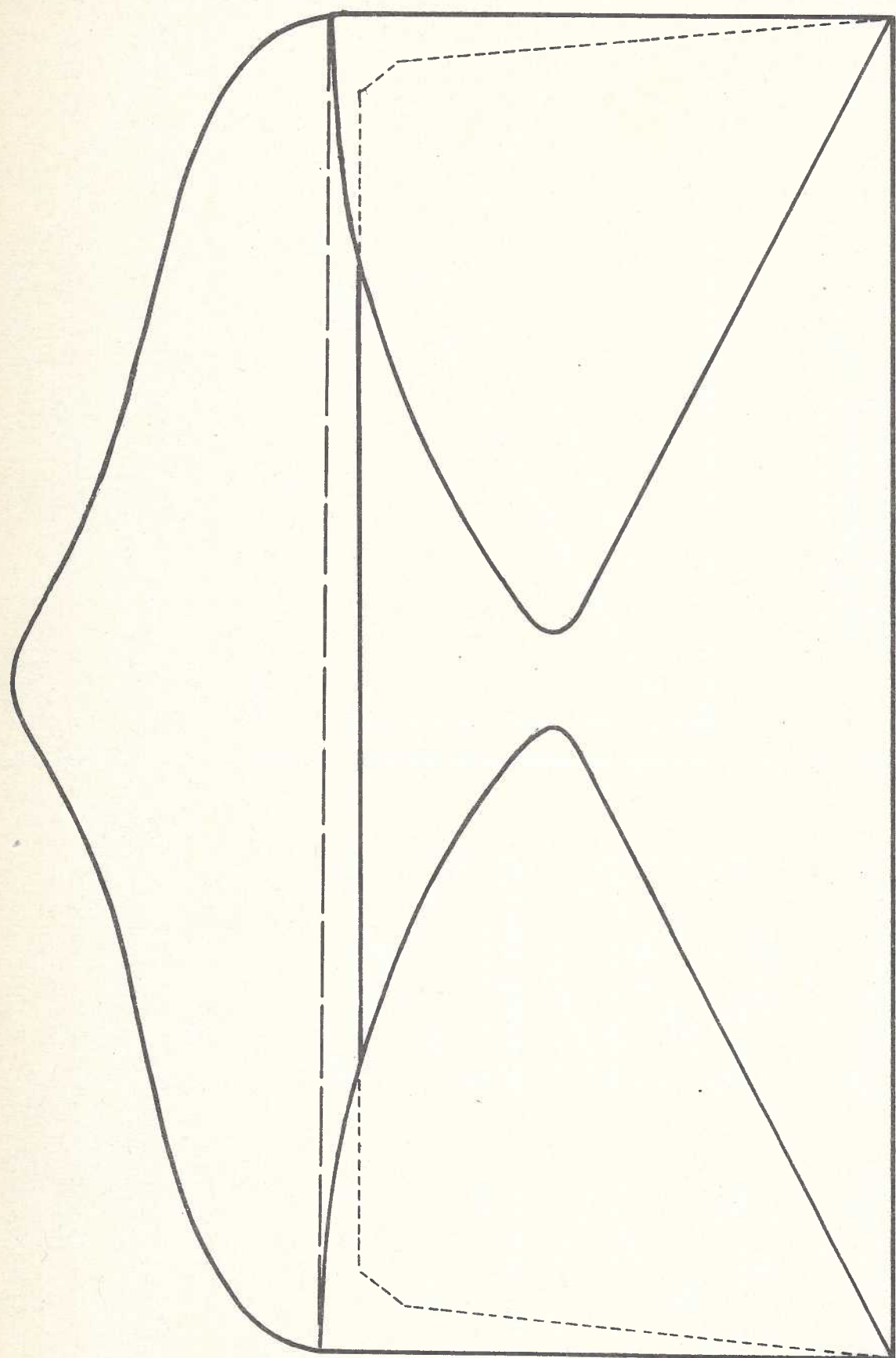
**KNIFE 18**  
(1861) ?  
Size 2

**DIMENSIONS**  
78 x 140 mm.  
3 1/8 x 5 1/2 in.

**FLAPS**  
Top - Slightly tongued  
Side - Ends broadly rounded and overlap 11 mm.  
Bottom - Medium rounded point.

**NOTES**  
Comp. K-2 5 11  
Very rare, embossed after envelope was printed.  
One copy known.





KNIFE 19  
(1861)  
Size 7

DIMENSIONS  
97 x 226 mm.  
3 7/8 x 8 7/8 in.

FLAPS  
Top - Tongue Shaped.  
Side - Ends nearly  
pointed and 16 mm.  
apart.  
Bottom - Upper corners  
clipped off.

NOTES  
Used only for 12c  
brown and red.  
Compare K-13  
and K-21.

KNIFE, 20

(1861)

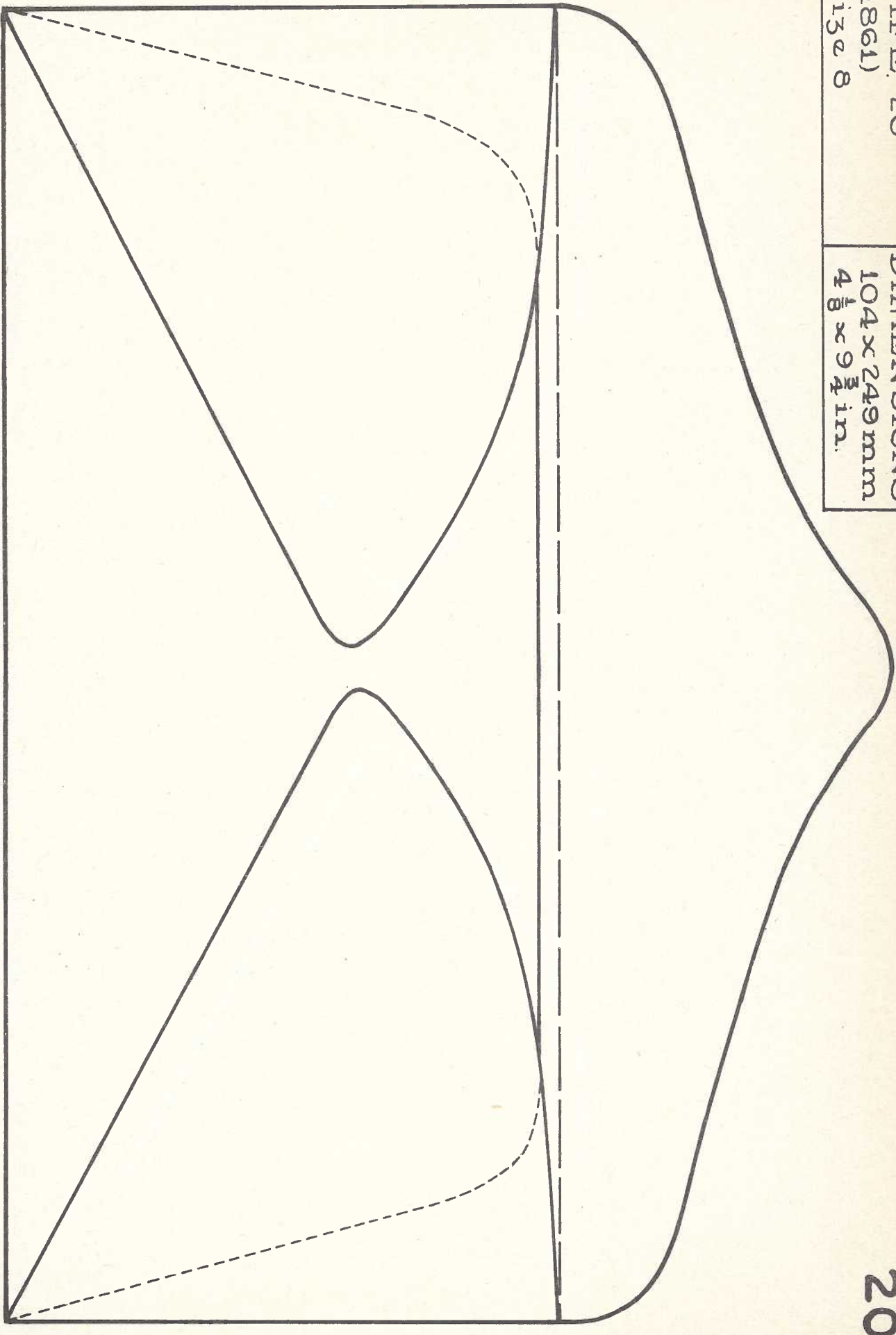
Size 8

DIMENSIONS

104 x 249 mm

4 1/8 x 9 3/4 in.

20



**FLAPS**

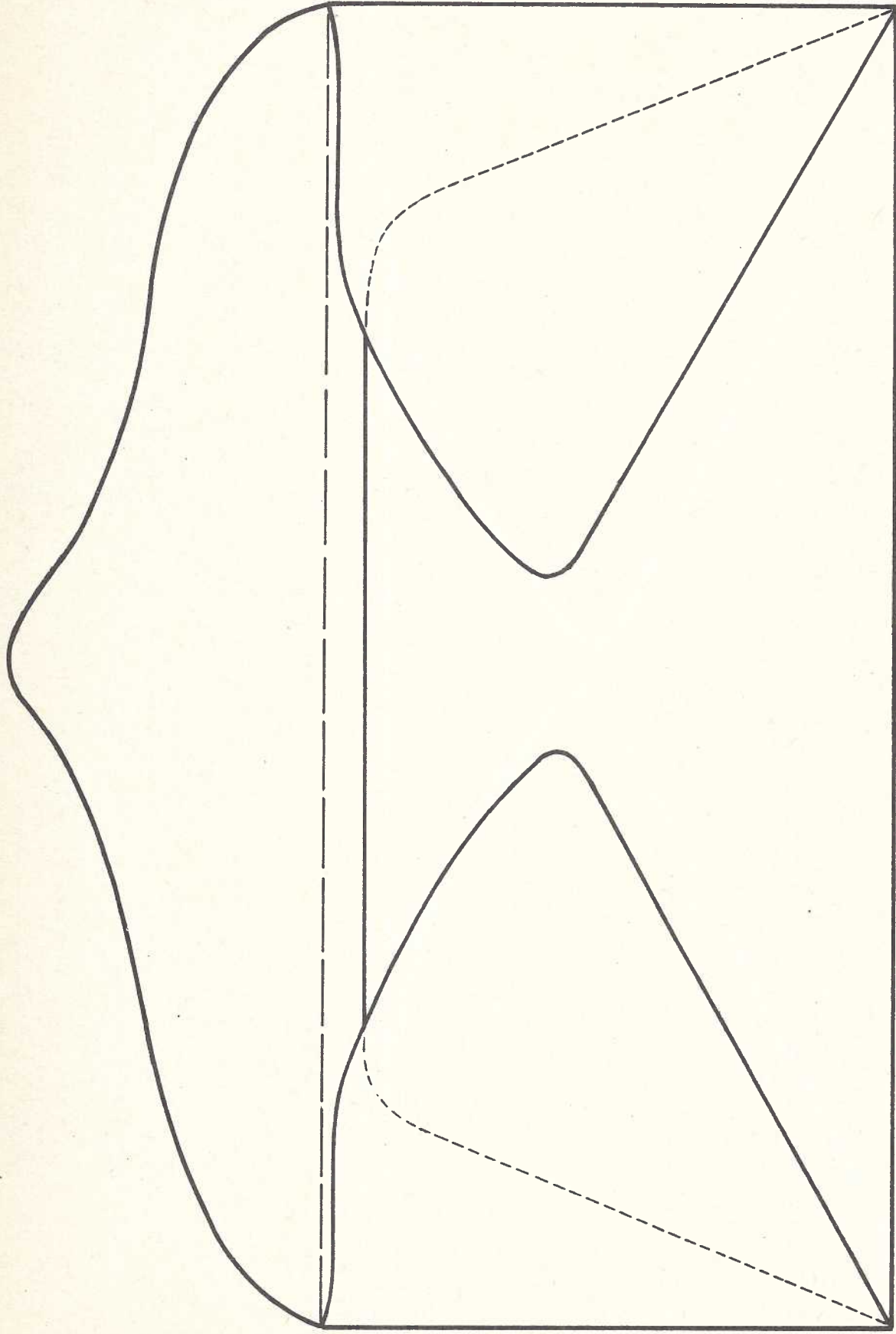
Top-Tongue Shaped.

Side-Ends nearly pointed. 8mm apart.

Bot. - Upper corners broadly rounded.

**NOTES**

The common knife for this size in the higher values of the Nesbitts.



KNIFE 21  
(1864)  
Size 7

DIMENSIONS  
98 x 225 mm.  
3  $\frac{7}{8}$  x 8  $\frac{7}{8}$  in.

FLAPS  
Top- Tongue shaped.  
Side- Points 30 mm.  
apart.  
Bottom- Upper cor-  
ners broadly rinded.

## NOTES

The common knife  
for this size in  
the later Nesbitt  
series.  
Compare K-19

BEAY KNIVES - 23 TO 36

**KNIFE 23**  
(1870)  
Size 1

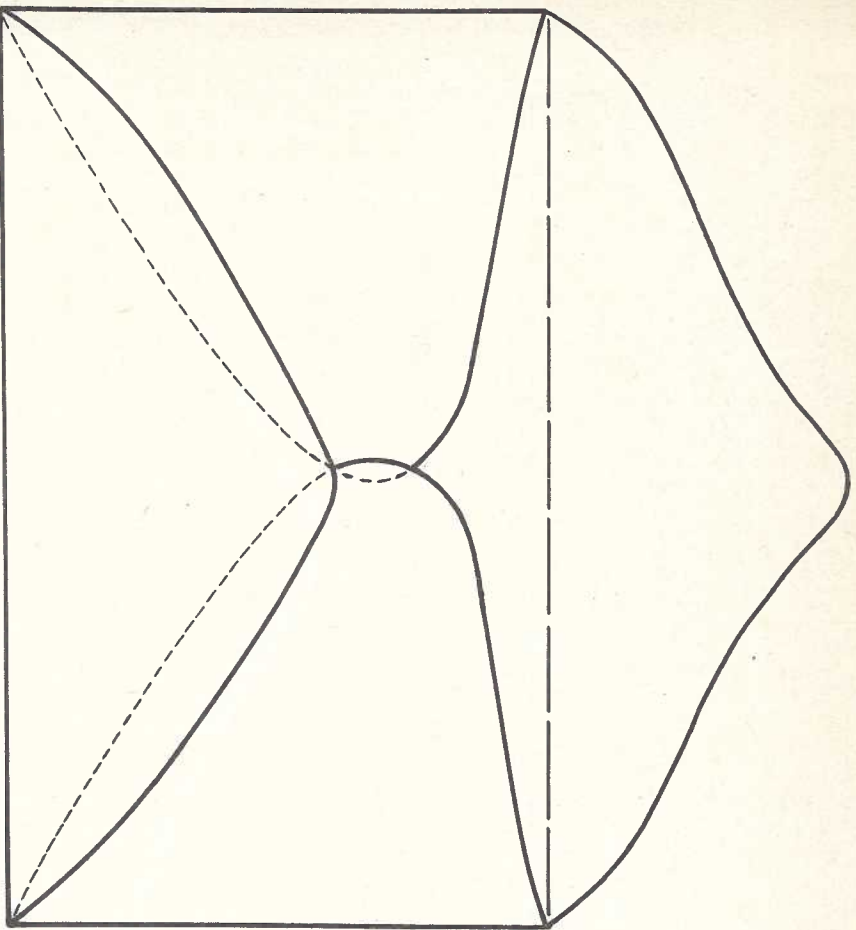
**DIMENSIONS**  
71 x 134 mm.  
2  $\frac{3}{4}$  x 5  $\frac{1}{4}$  in.

**FLAPS**  
Top-Tongue shaped  
Side-Ends flattish.  
Bot. - 36 mm. high.

**NOTES**  
Very deep throat.  
3c on white only &  
all varieties rare.

**KNIFE 23a**  
Same as K-23 but  
side flaps L/R.  
B.F. 36 mm. high.

**KNIFE 23b**  
Resembles K-23, end  
of Lt. S.F. narrow  
and rounded.  
B.F. - 41 mm. high.



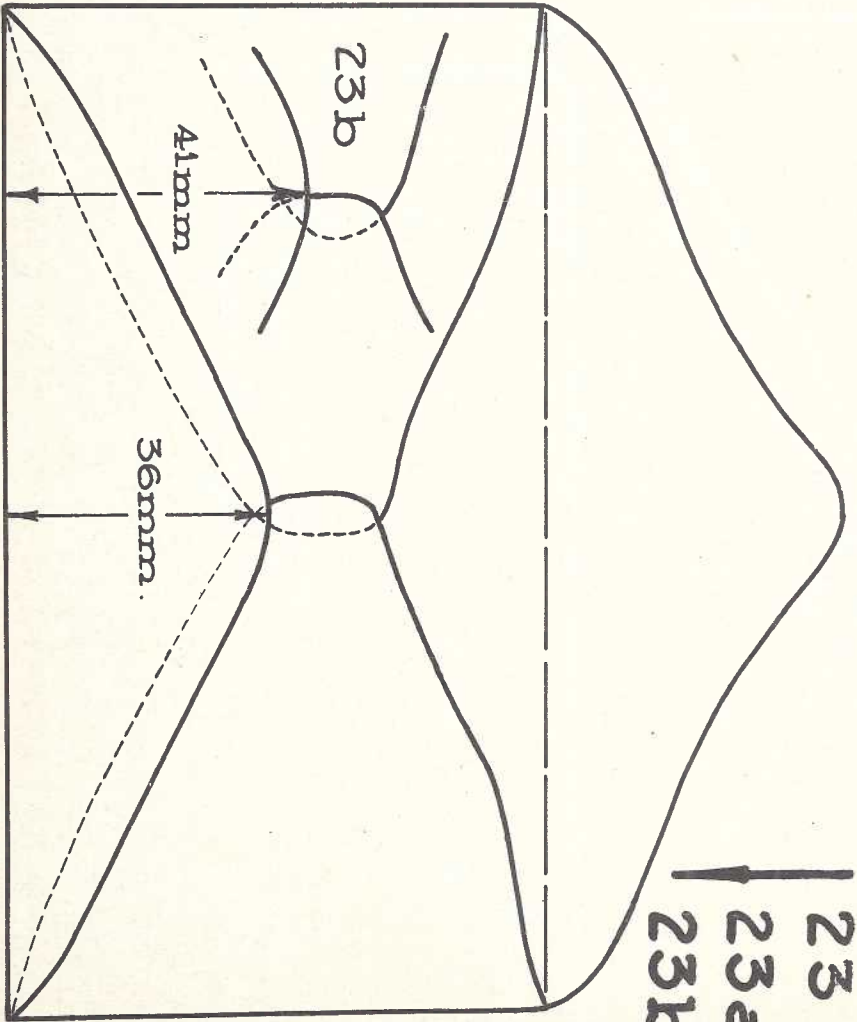
22

**KNIFE 22**  
(1864)  
Size 1

**DIMENSIONS**  
73 x 120 mm.  
2  $\frac{7}{8}$  x 4  $\frac{3}{4}$  in.

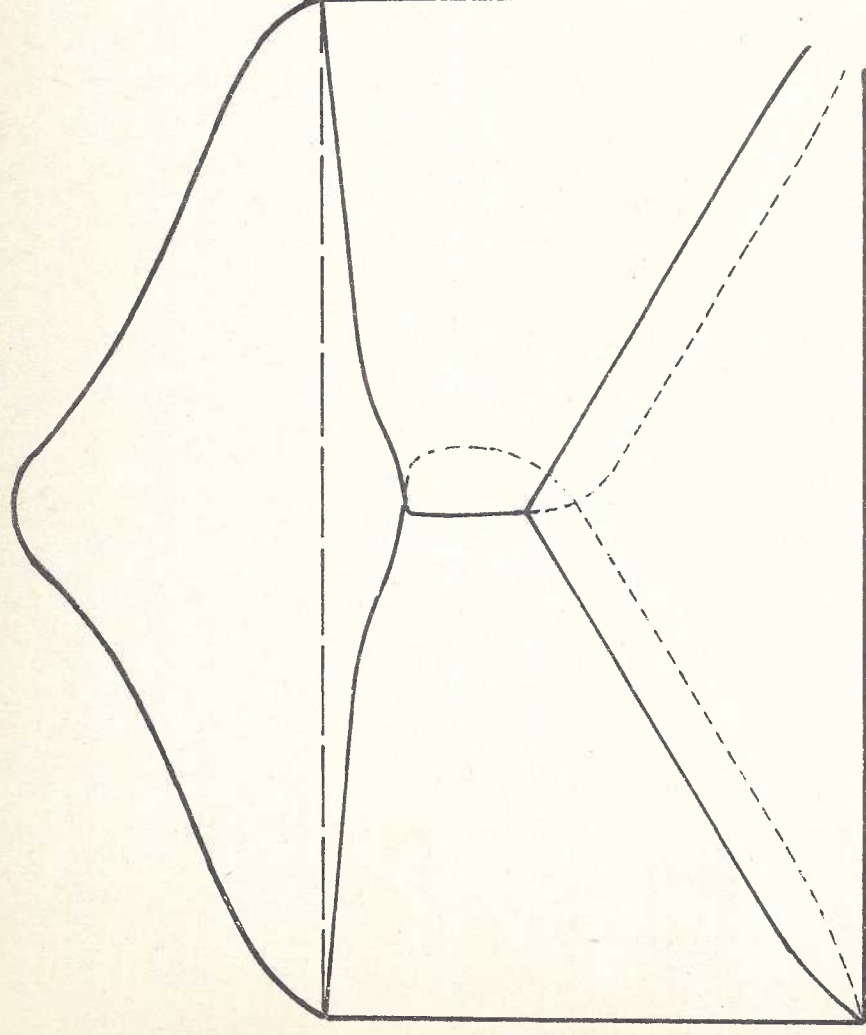
**FLAPS**  
Top-Tongue shaped  
Side-Ends broadly  
rounded.  
Bottom-Medium  
rounded point.

**NOTES**  
Compare K-1



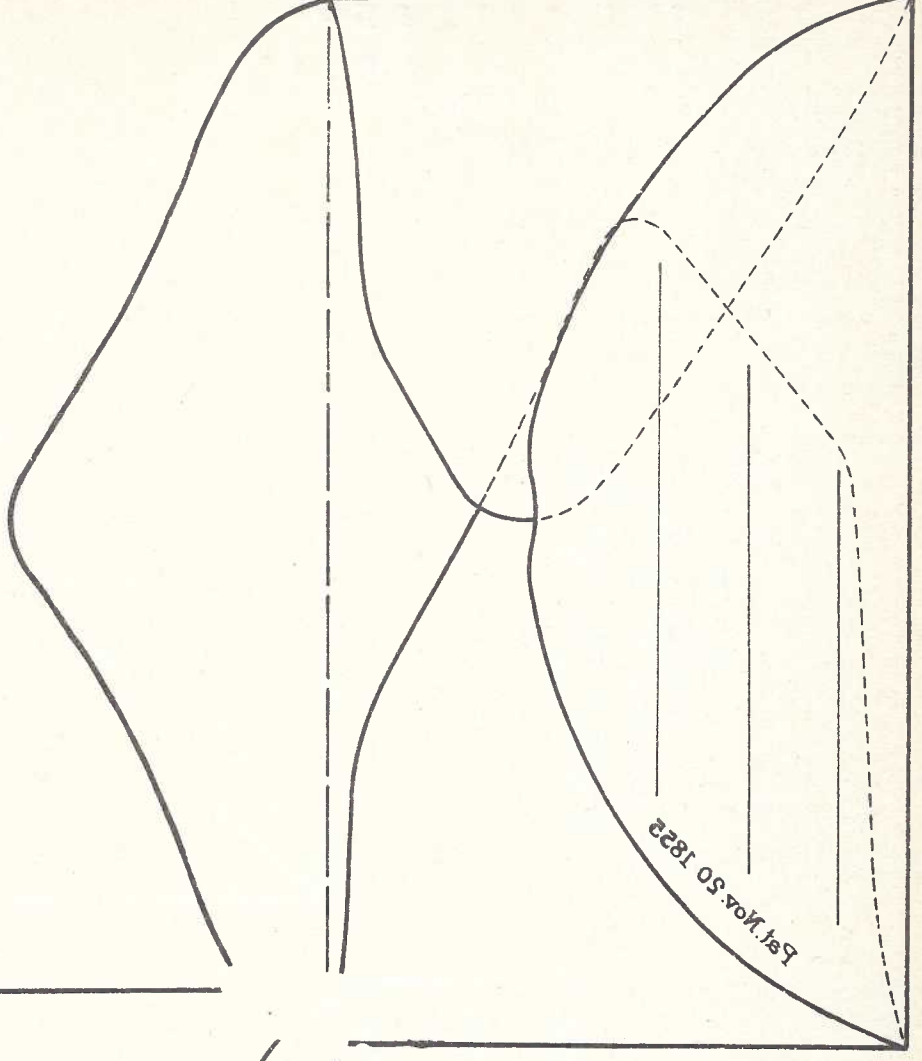
23  
23a  
23b

KNIFE 25 (1870) Size 2	DIMENSIONS 78 x 139 mm. 3 $\frac{1}{8}$ x 5 $\frac{1}{2}$ in.
FLAPS Top-Tongue shaped. Side-Extended for Patent Lines. Bottom- Shallow notch. B/S.	NOTES Similar to K-7



24 ↓

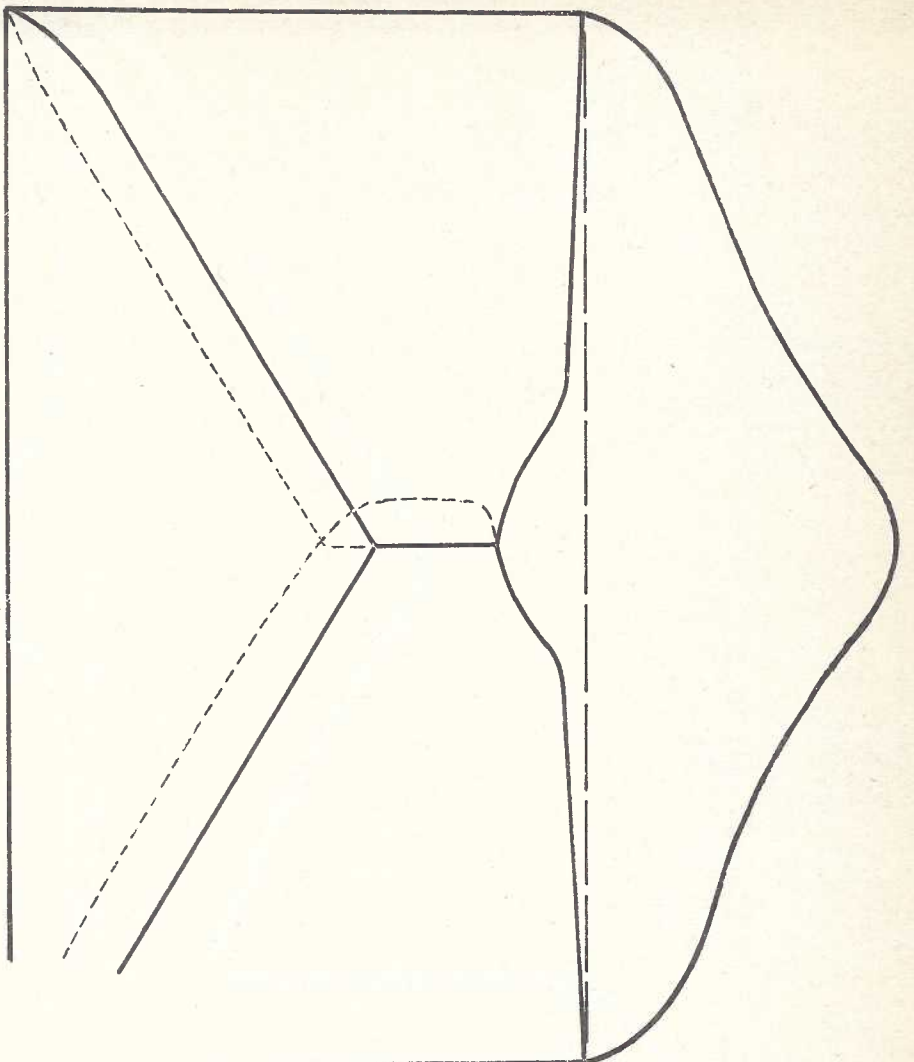
KNIFE 24 (1870) Size 1	DIMENSIONS 71 x 134 mm. 2 $\frac{7}{8}$ x 5 $\frac{1}{4}$ in.
FLAPS Top-Tongue shaped Side-Straight end on right. Bot-Sharp point.	NOTES Shallow throat. Compare K-23 and K-37



25 ↓

Pat. No. 50 1822





26 ↓

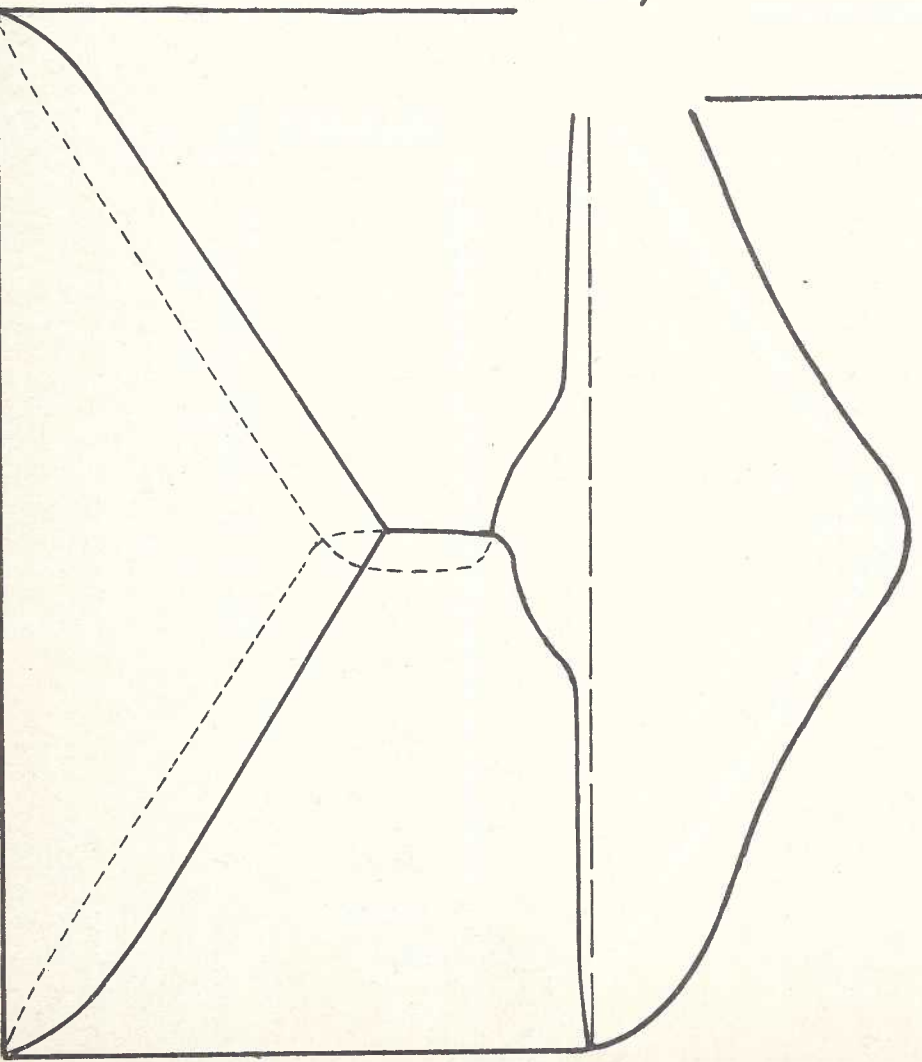
**KNIFE 26**  
(1870)  
Size 2

**DIMENSIONS**  
78 x 139 mm.  
3 1/8 x 5 1/2 in.

**NOTES**  
Compare K-27

**FLAPS**  
Top-Tongue shaped.  
Side-Left end vertical without rounded corners.  
L/R only.  
Bot-Sharp point.

<b>KNIFE 27</b> (1870) Size 2	<b>DIMENSIONS</b> 78 x 139 mm. 3 1/8 x 5 1/2 in.
<b>FLAPS</b> Top-Tongue shape. Side-Rt. end vertical. R/L only. Bot-Sharp point.	<b>NOTES</b> Common knife of this size in this series. Compare K-26



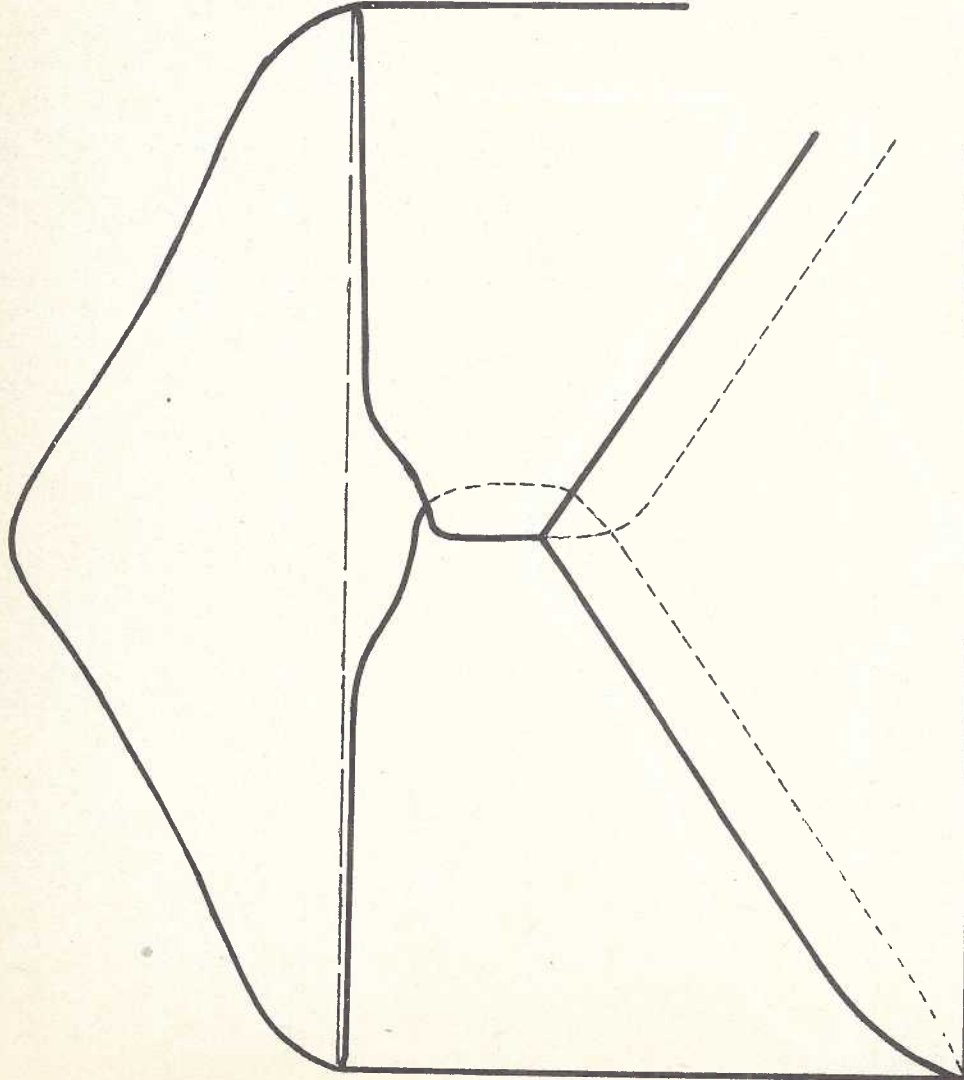
↓ 27

KNIFE 29  
(1870)  
Size 3

FLAPS  
Top- 43-44 mm.  
Side- R/L  
Bot.-Sharp point.

DIMENSIONS  
83 x 139 mm.  
3 1/4 x 5 1/2 in.

NOTES  
Shallow throat.  
Compare K-28  
and K-30.



28 ↓

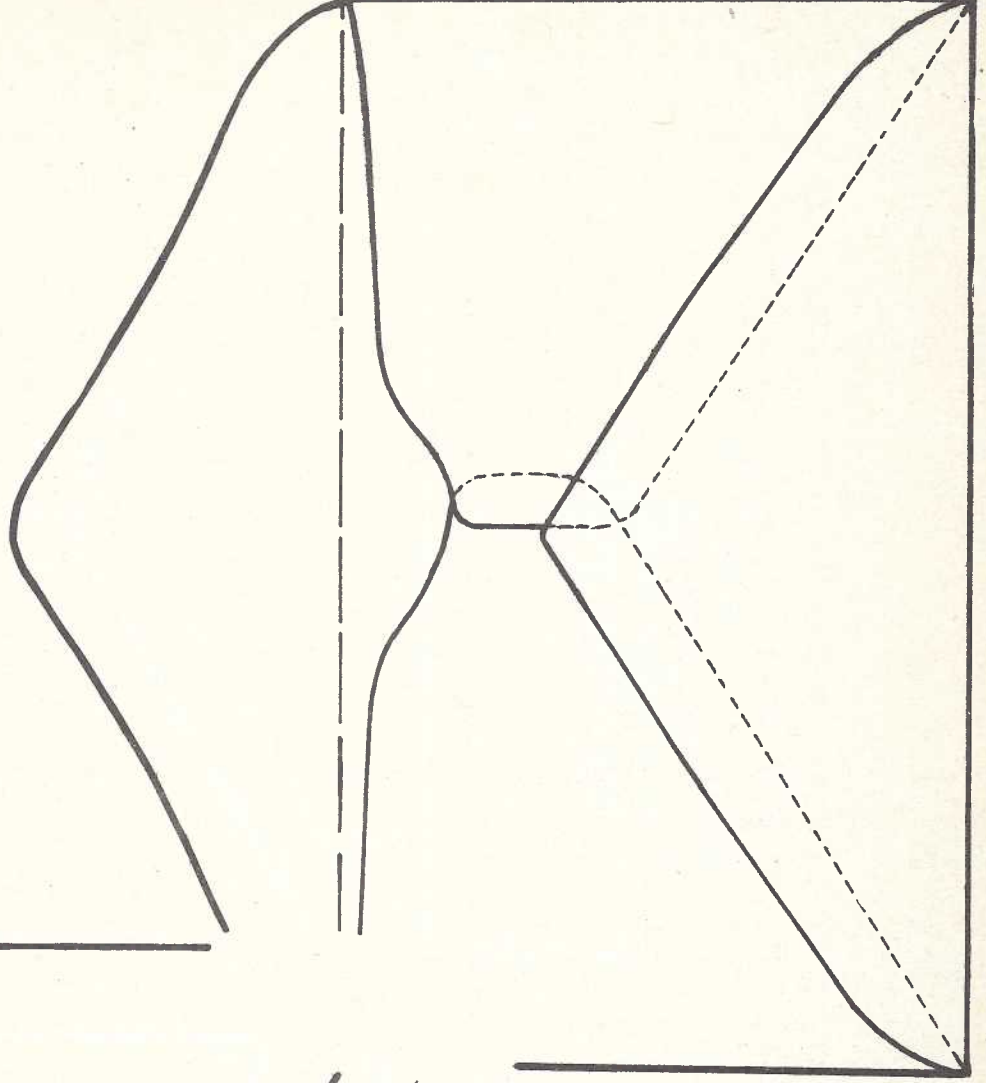
KNIFE 28  
(1870)  
Size 3

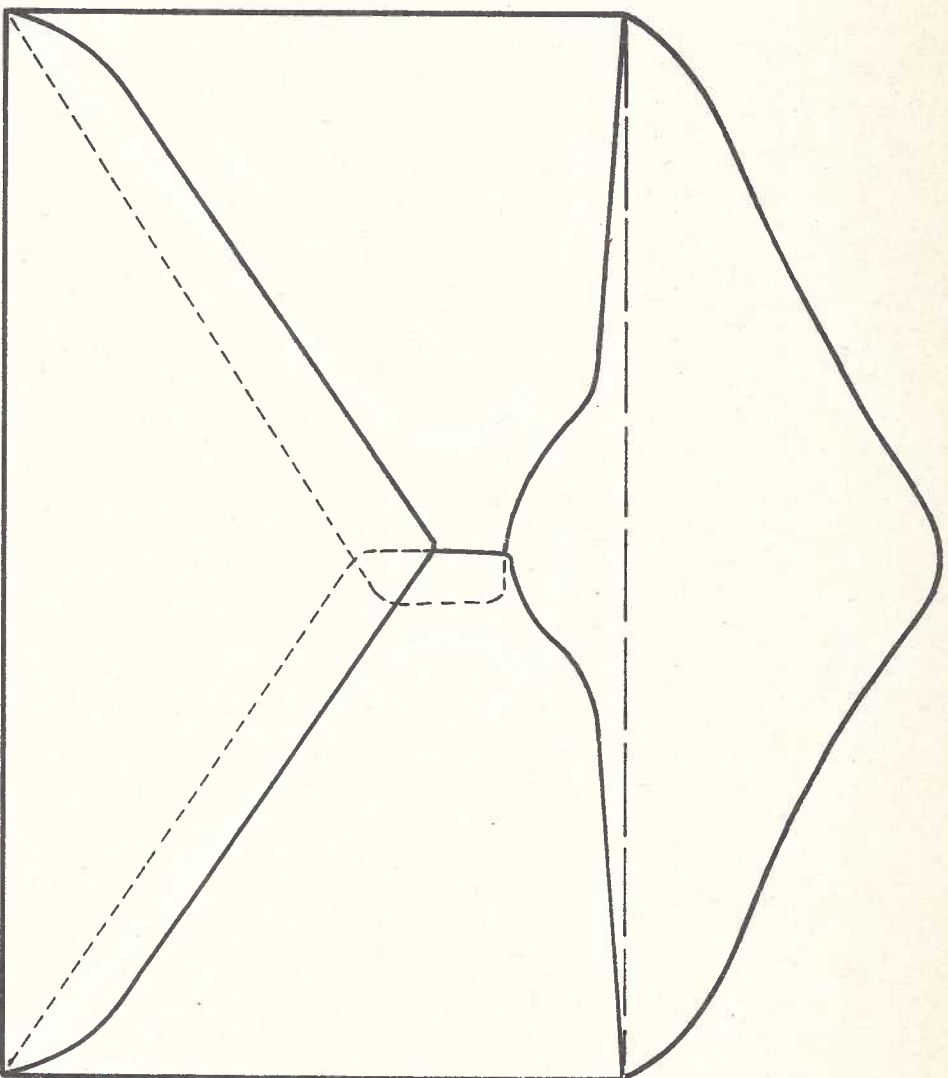
FLAPS  
Top- 43-44 mm.  
Side- R/L  
Bot.-Sharp point.

DIMENSIONS  
83 x 139 mm.  
3 1/4 x 5 1/2 in.

NOTES  
Almost no throat.  
Compare K-29  
and K-30

29 ↓





**KNIFE 30**  
(1870)  
Size 3

**DIMENSIONS**  
83 x 139 mm.  
3¼ x 5½ in.

**FLAPDS**

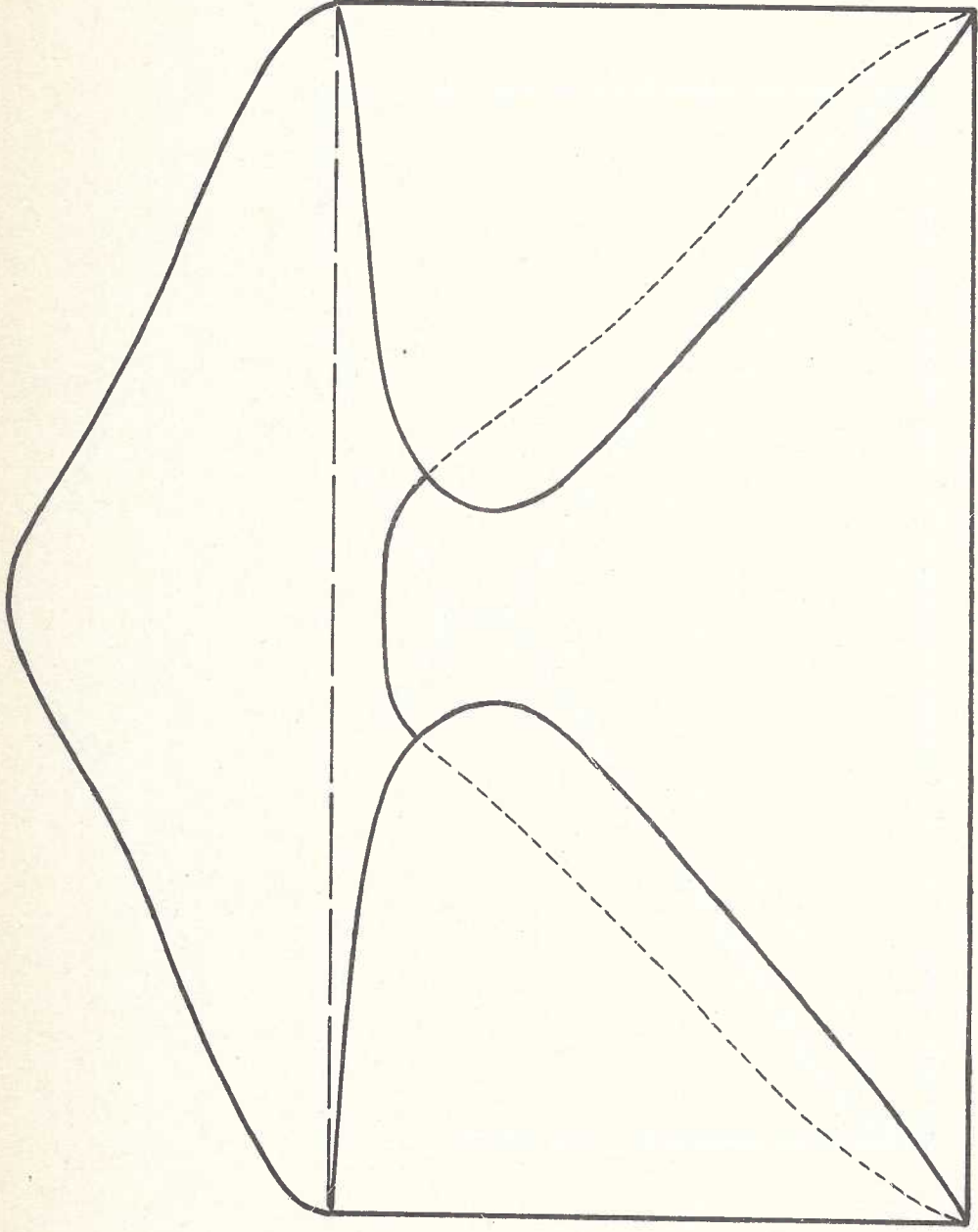
Top- 41 mm.  
Side- Reg. R/L. Occ.  
L/R. Ends nearly  
square.  
Bottom- Sharp  
point.

**NOTES**

Compare K-28  
and K-29

**NOTE:~**

Knives 28, 29, and 30 closely resemble each other and possibly should be combined as minor variations of one knife shape. They are included for historical and reference value.



KNIFE 31  
(1870)

Size 5

FLAPS

Top-Slightly tongued.  
Side-Broadly rounded.  
Bottom-Narrower  
than K-31a

DIMENSIONS

87 x 161 mm.

$3\frac{3}{8}$  x  $6\frac{3}{8}$  in.

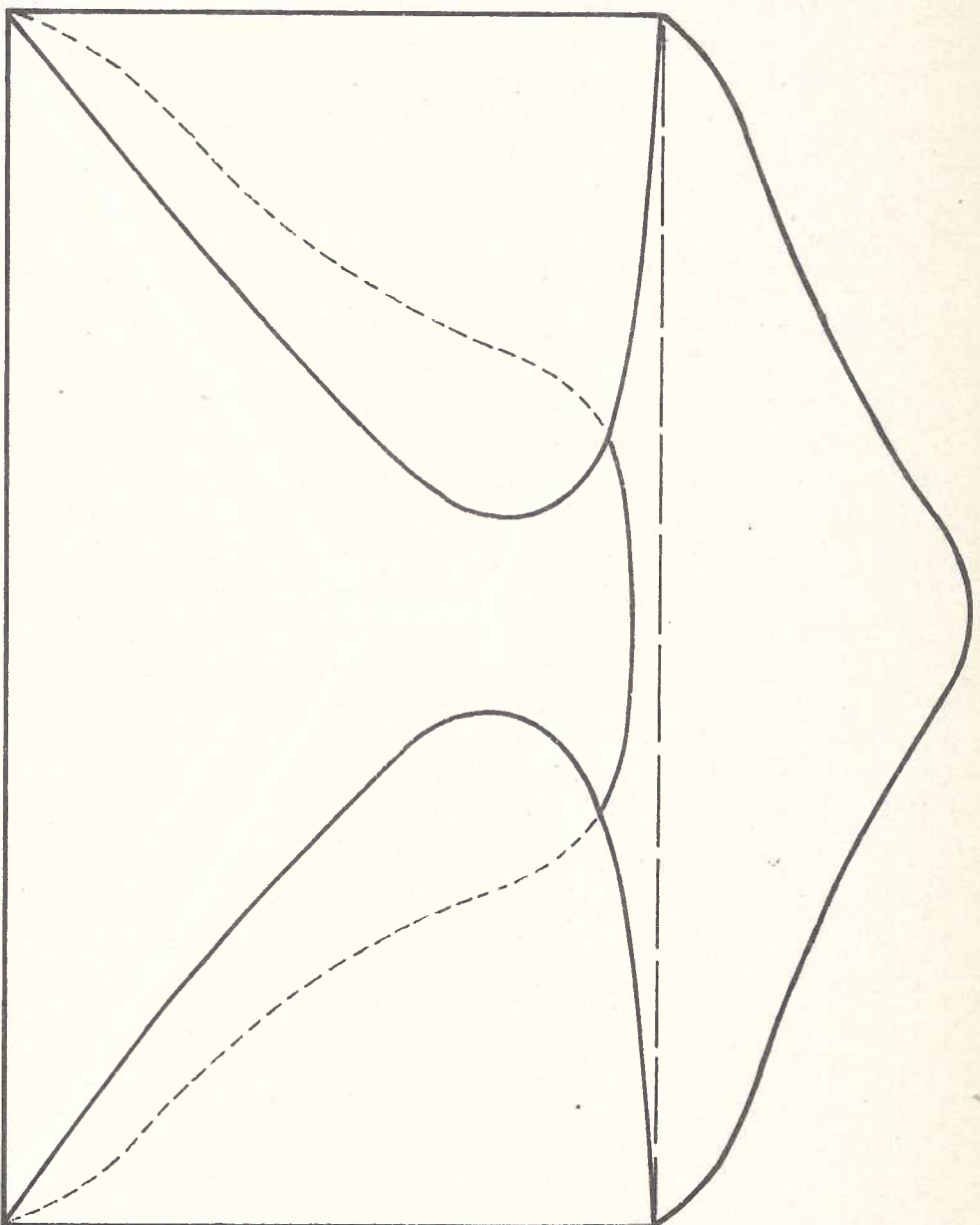
NOTES

Compare K-31a

NOTE

Both this knife and K-31a were made for use on unstamped government envelopes and were inadvertently used on the 2c and 3c Reay. It is rarely found. It is the earliest example of a high back in this size.

31a



KNIFE 31a

(1870)  
Size 5

DIMENSIONS

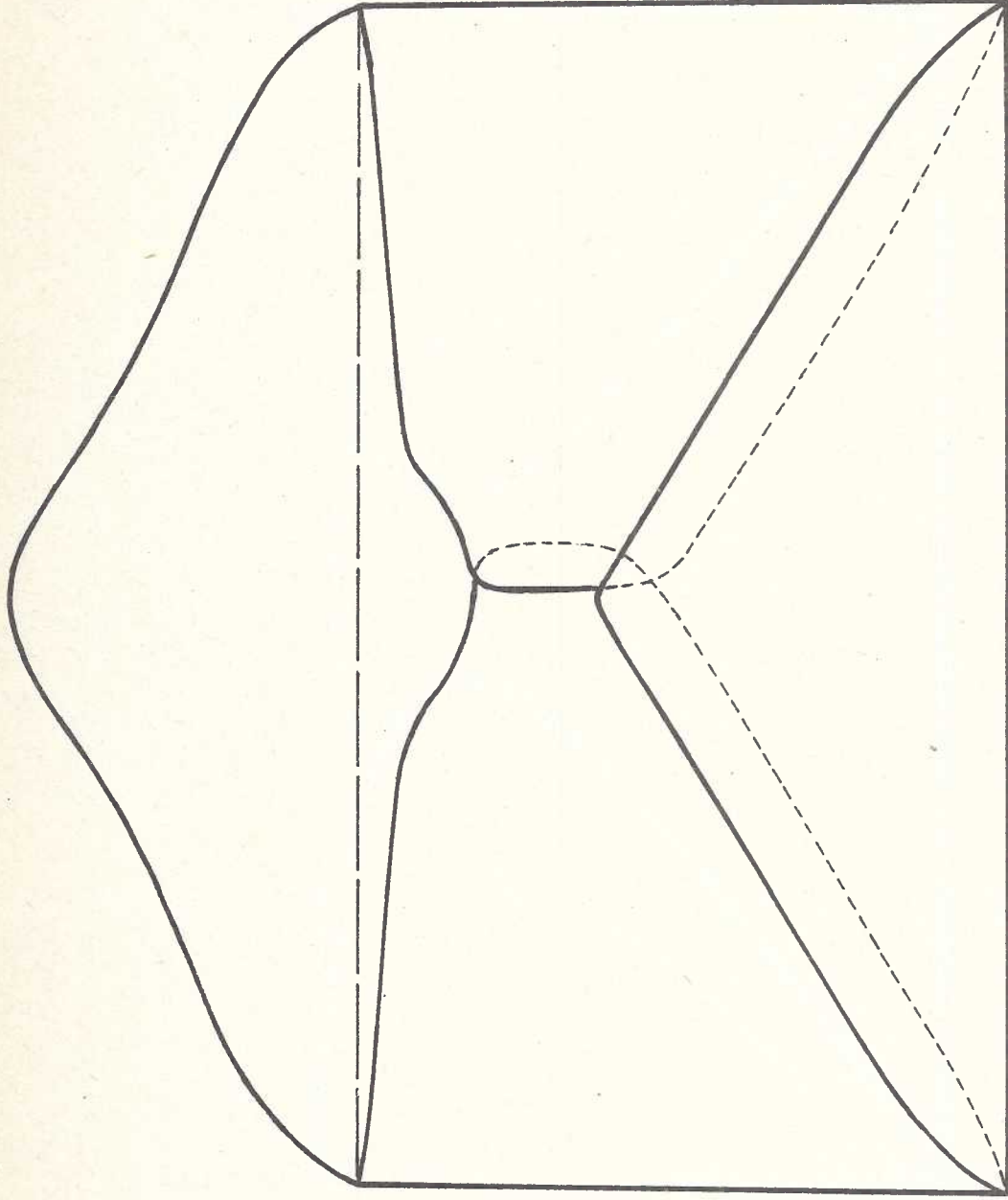
87 x 161 mm.  
3  $\frac{3}{8}$  x 6  $\frac{3}{8}$  in.

FLAPS

Differs from K-31  
in having a wider  
and higher  
bottom flap.

NOTES

Compare K-31.  
A great rarity.

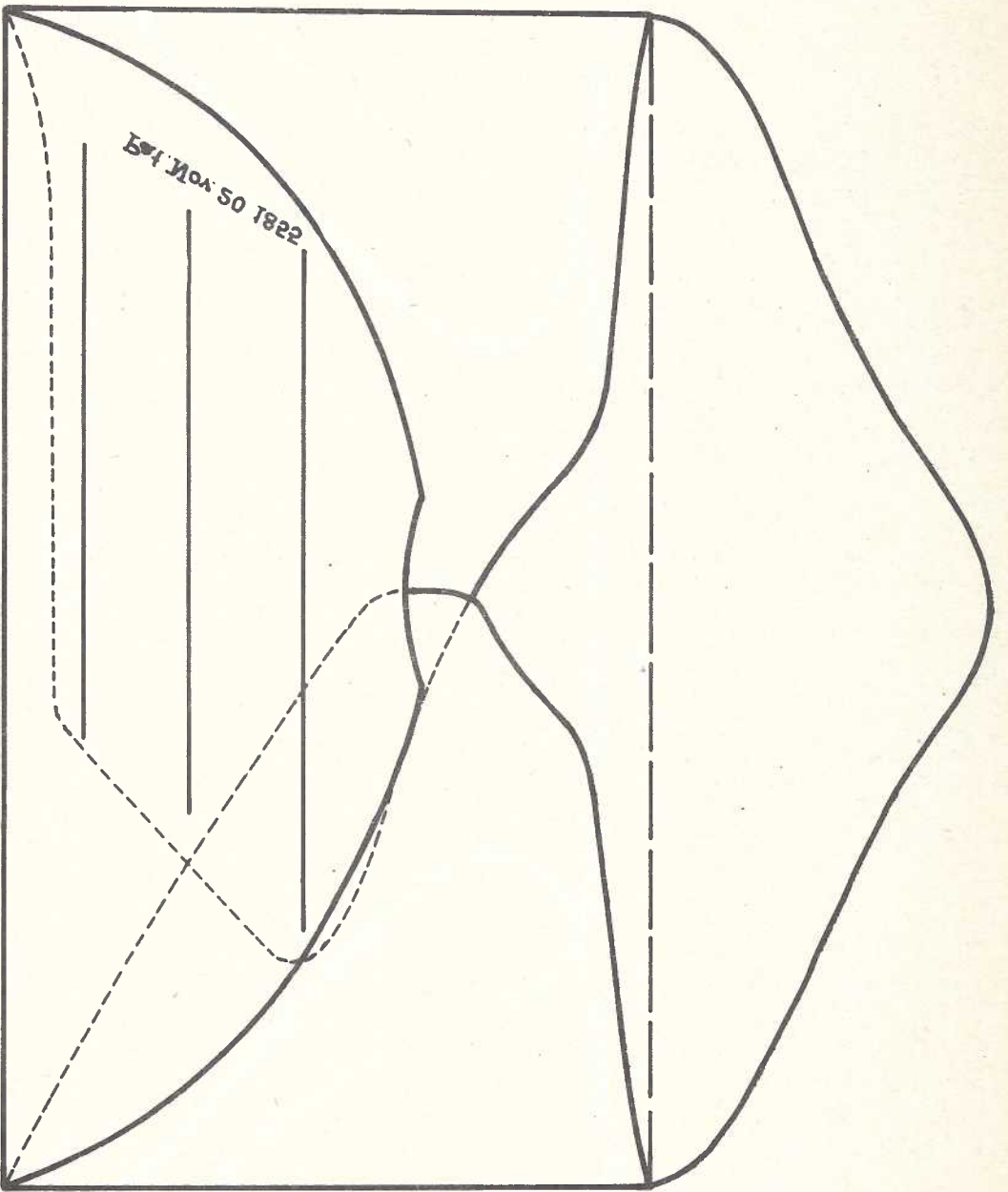


KNIFE 32  
(1870)  
Size 5

DIMENSIONS  
89 x 161 mm.  
3½ x 6⅜ in.

FLAPS  
Top- 48- 50 mm.  
Bottom- Almost  
pointed.

NOTES  
Compare K- 43.  
The common knife  
of this size in  
the Ready Issue.

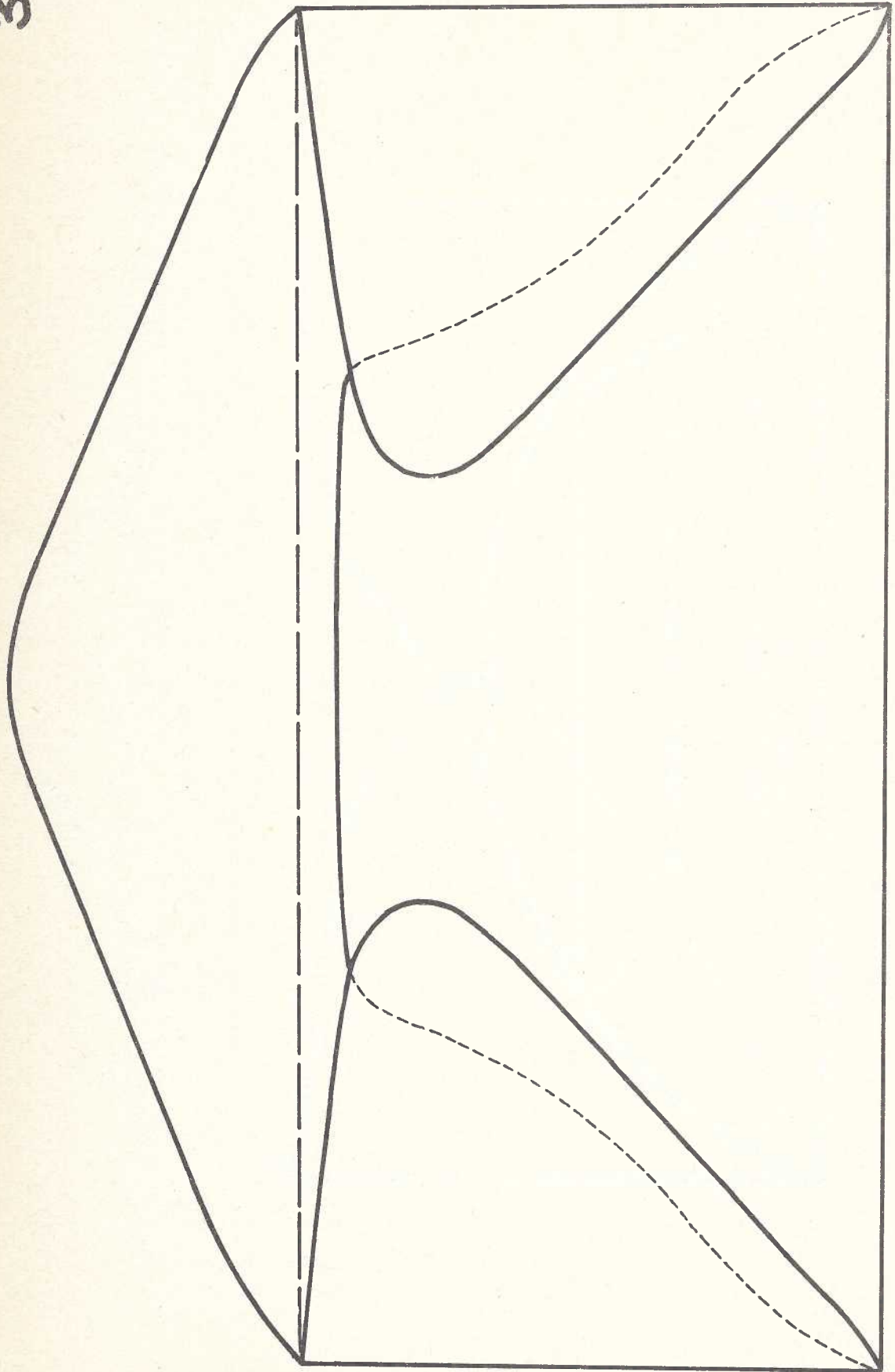


**KNIFFER 33**  
 (1870)  
 Size 5

**DIMENSIONS**  
 89 x 161 mm.  
 3 1/2 x 6 3/8 in.

**FLAPPS**  
 Top-Tongued & broad  
 point.  
 Side-Left extended for  
 Patent Lines.  
 Bottom-Wide notch.

**NOTES**  
 Only Patent Line  
 envelope of  
 this size.



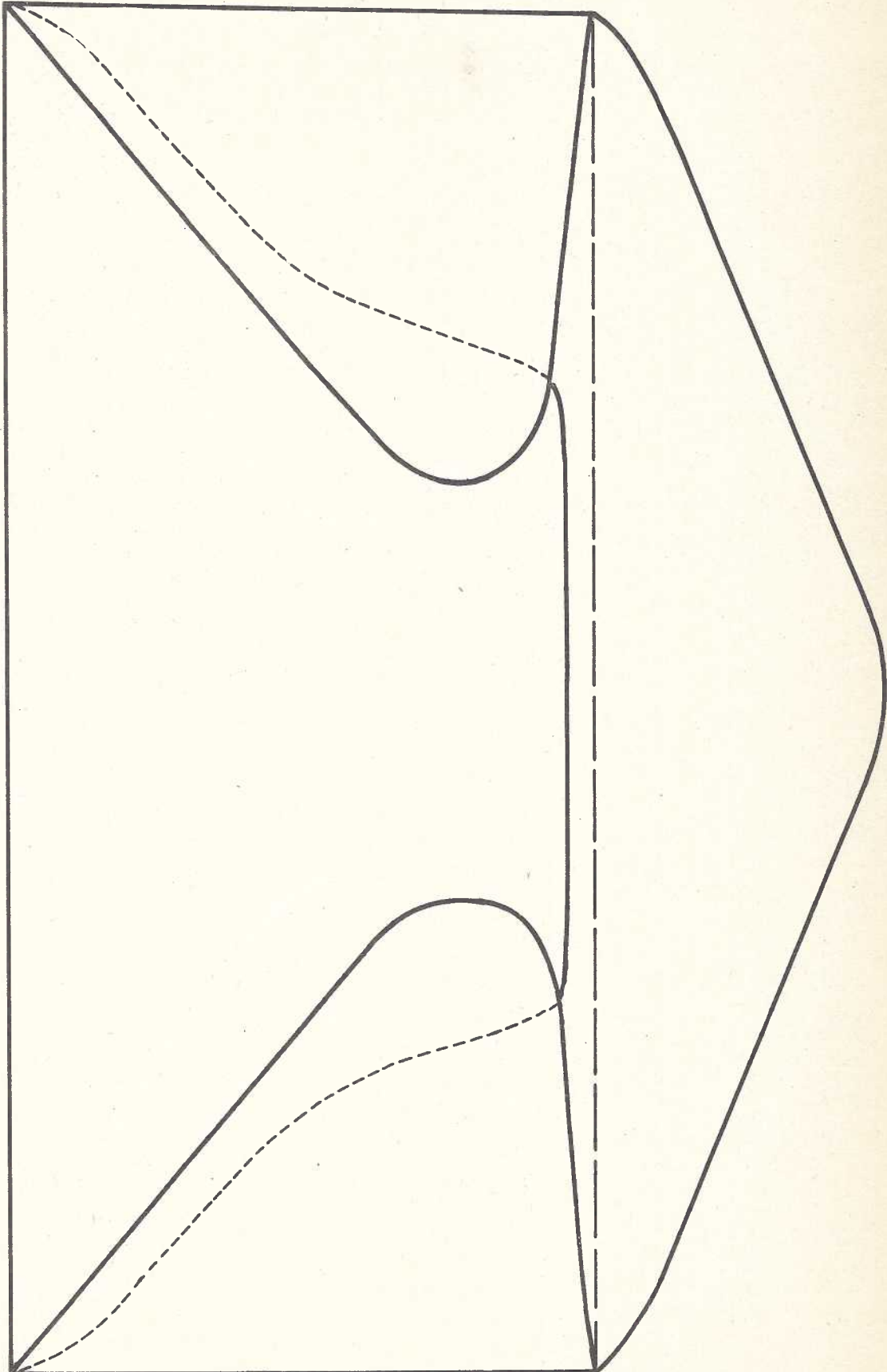
KNIFE 34  
(1870)  
Size 7

DIMENSIONS  
100 x 225 mm  
3 7/8 x 8 7/8 in.

FLAPS  
Top-Broad curve.  
Side-Narrower curve than K35  
Bottom-S/B

NOTES  
Comp. K-35



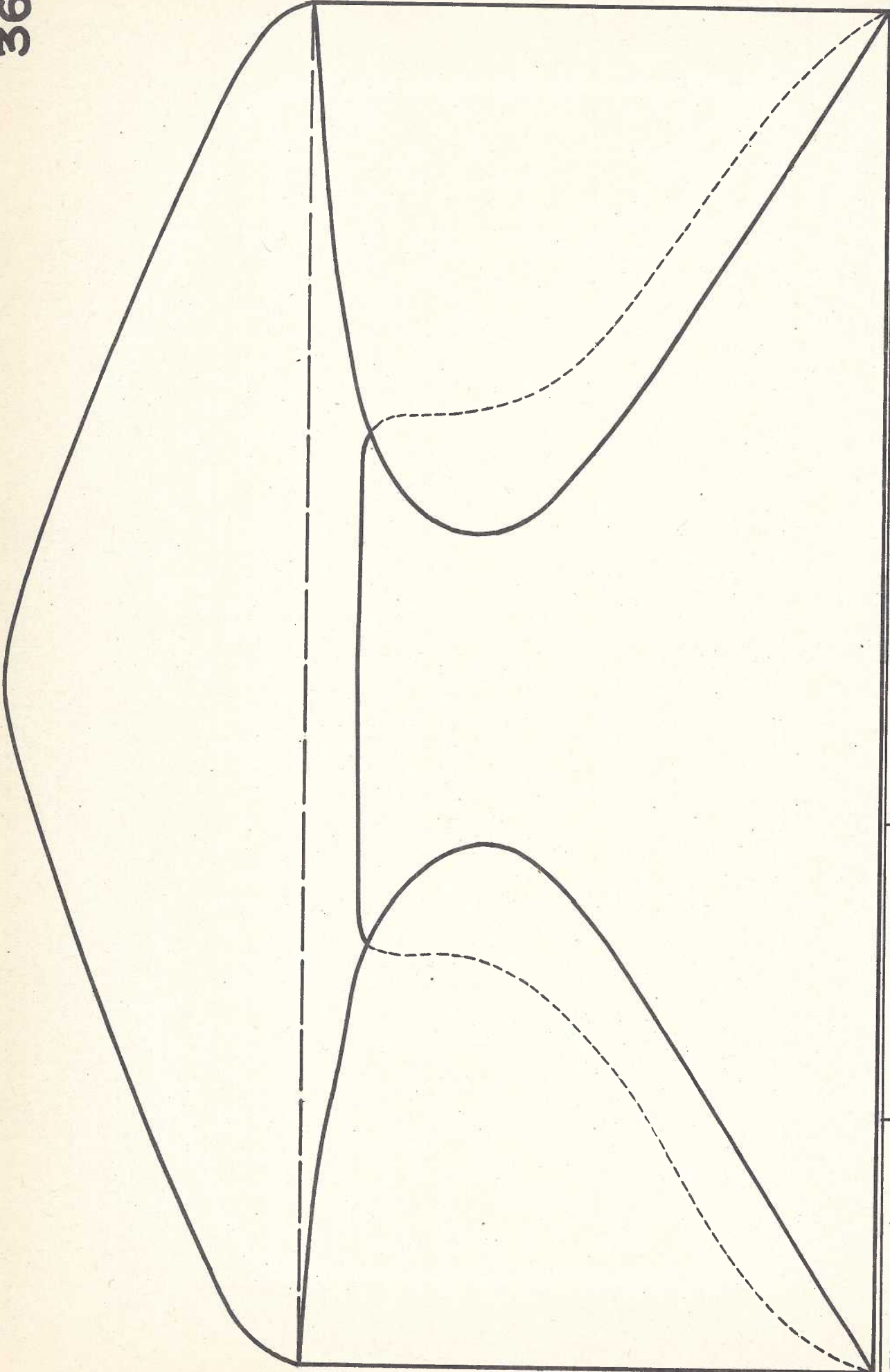


**KNIFE 35**  
(1870)  
Size 7

**DIMENSIONS**  
100 x 225 mm.  
3 7/8 x 8 7/8 in.

**FLAPDS**  
Top - Broad curve.  
Side - Broader curve than K-34  
Bottom - S/B

**NOTES**  
Comp. K-34

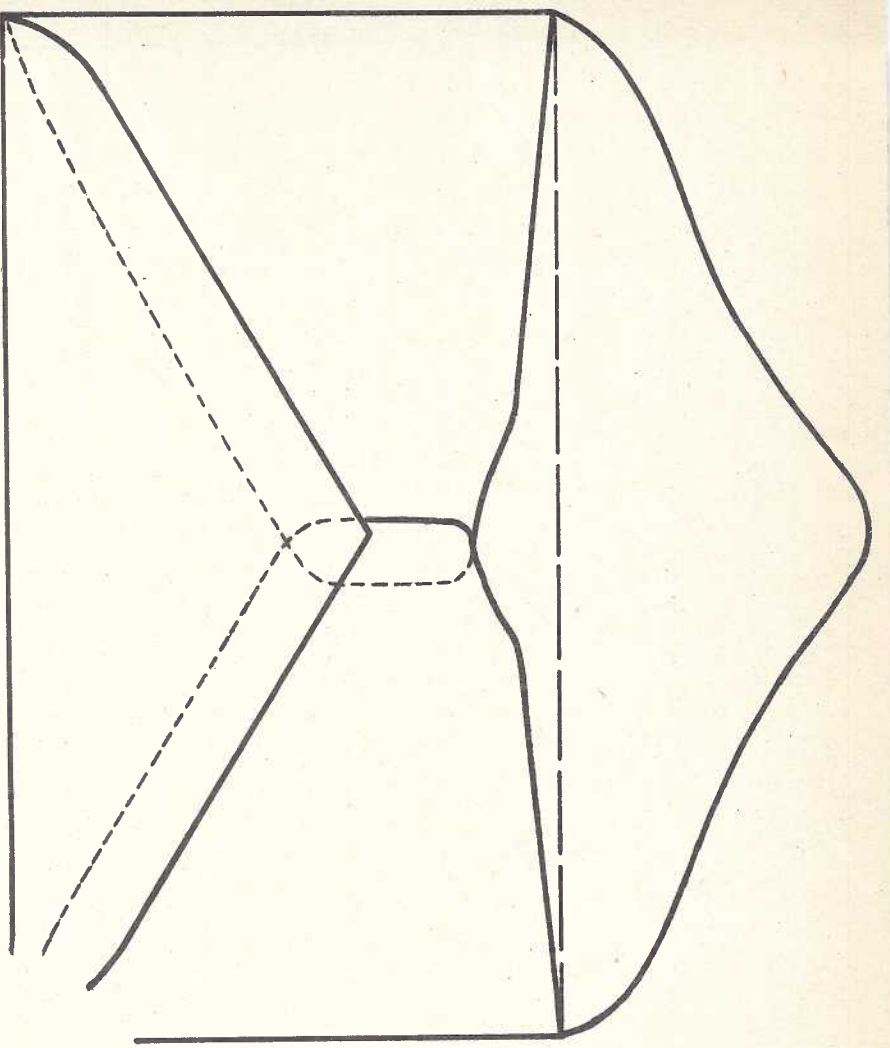


KNIFE 36  
(1870)  
Size 8

DIMENSIONS  
110 x 258 mm.  
4  $\frac{3}{8}$  x 10  $\frac{1}{4}$  in.

FLAPS  
Top - Broadly curved.  
Side - S/B  
Bottom - Reverse  
curve in edges.

NOTES  
Largest size made  
up to this time.

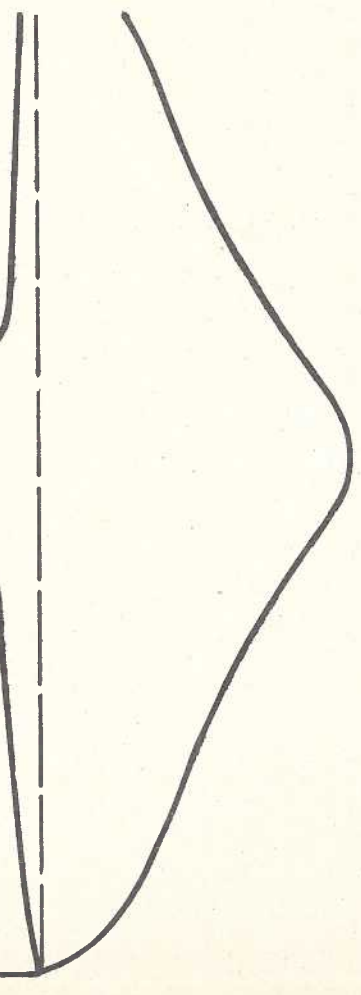


371 ↓

DUMPTON KNIVES 37 TO 45

KNIFE 37 (1874) Size 1	DIMENSIONS 72 x 134 mm. 2 7/8 x 5 1/4 in.
FLAPDS Top-Tongue Shaped. 42 mm. Side-Overlap 9mm. Bottom-Pointed.	NOTES Shallow throat. Comp. K-46

KNIFE 38 (1874) Size 2	DIMENSIONS 78 x 139 mm. 3 1/8 x 5 1/2 in.
FLAPDS Top-Tongue Shaped Side-Vertical end on right. Bottom-Pointed.	NOTES Shallow throat. Comp. K-47



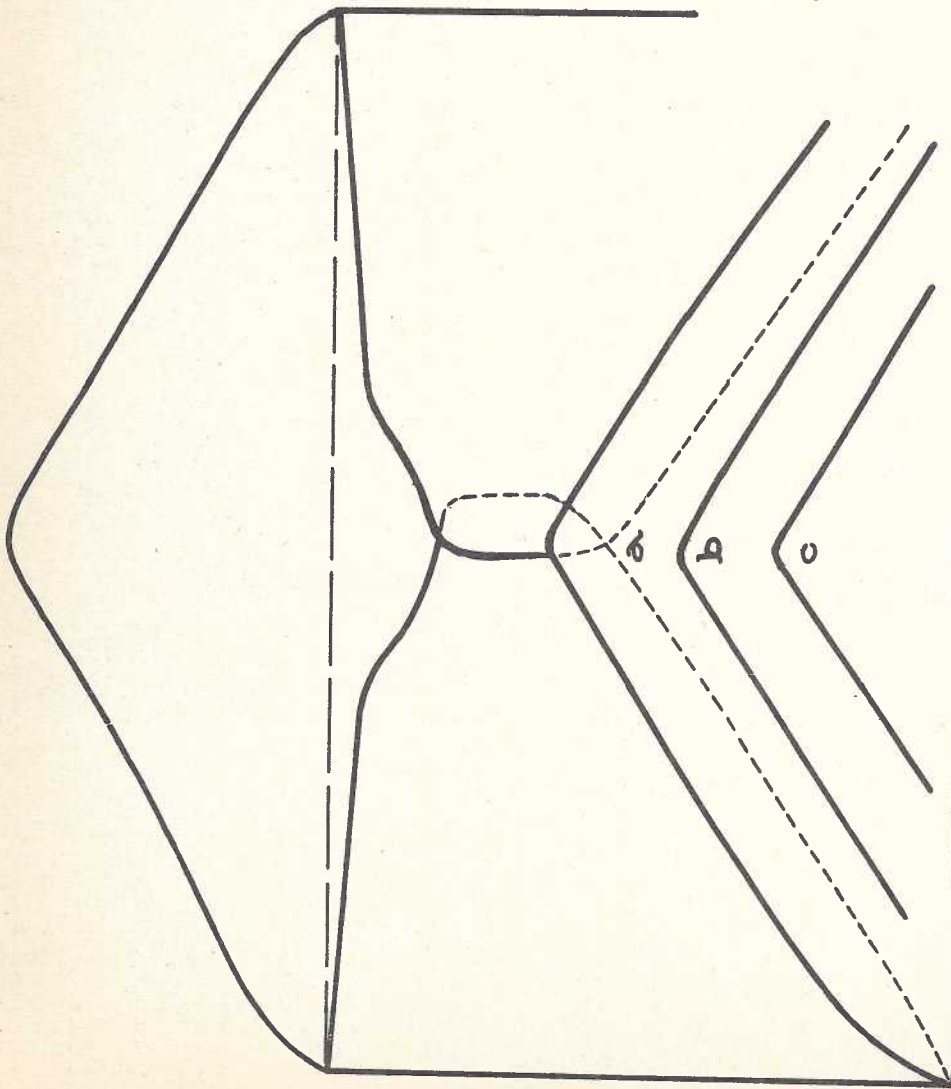
↓ 138

KNIFE 40  
(1874)  
Size 3

DIMENSIONS  
83 x 138 mm.  
3 1/4 x 5 1/2 in.

FLAPS  
Top-43 mm.  
Side-Rt. end is  
vertical.  
Bottom-Pointed.

NOTES  
Shallow throat.  
Comp. K-39 and  
K-41.



39

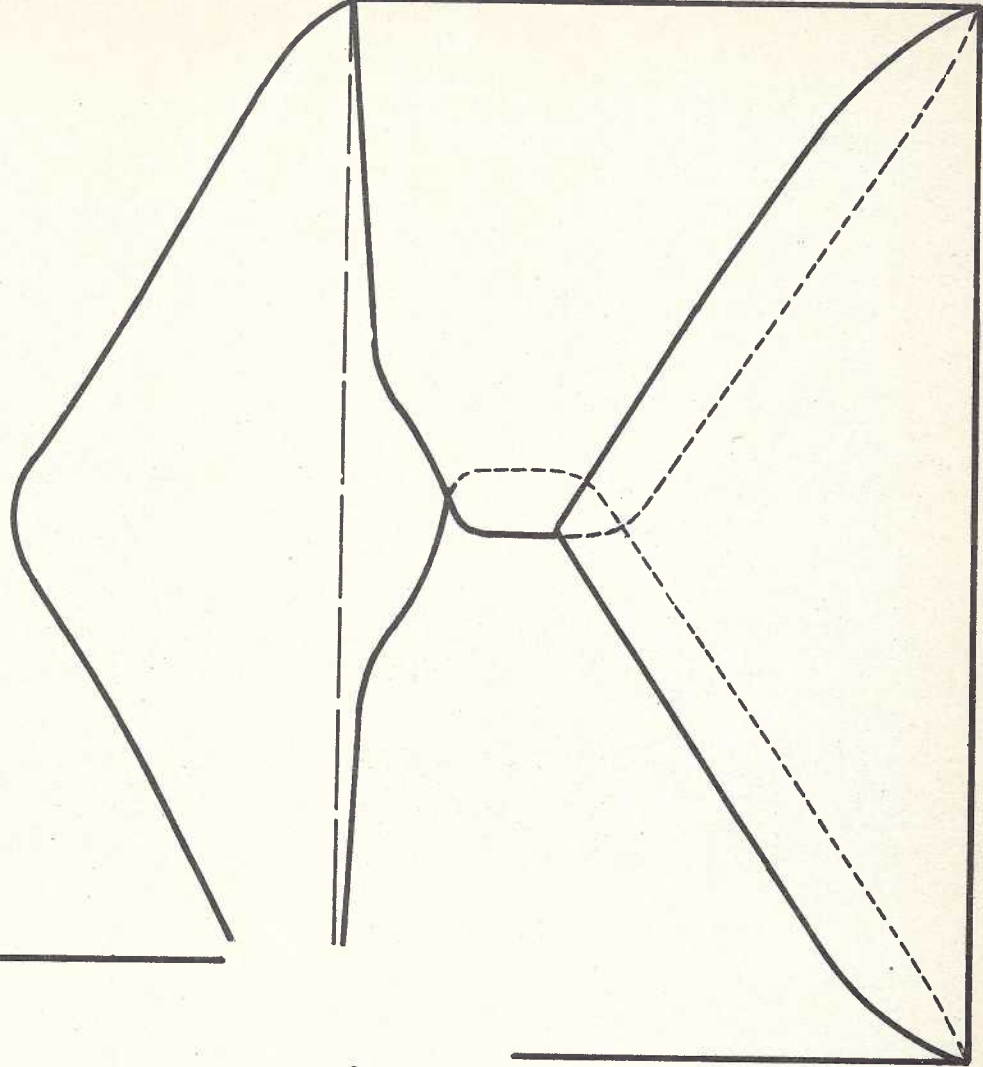
KNIFE 39  
(1874)  
Size 3

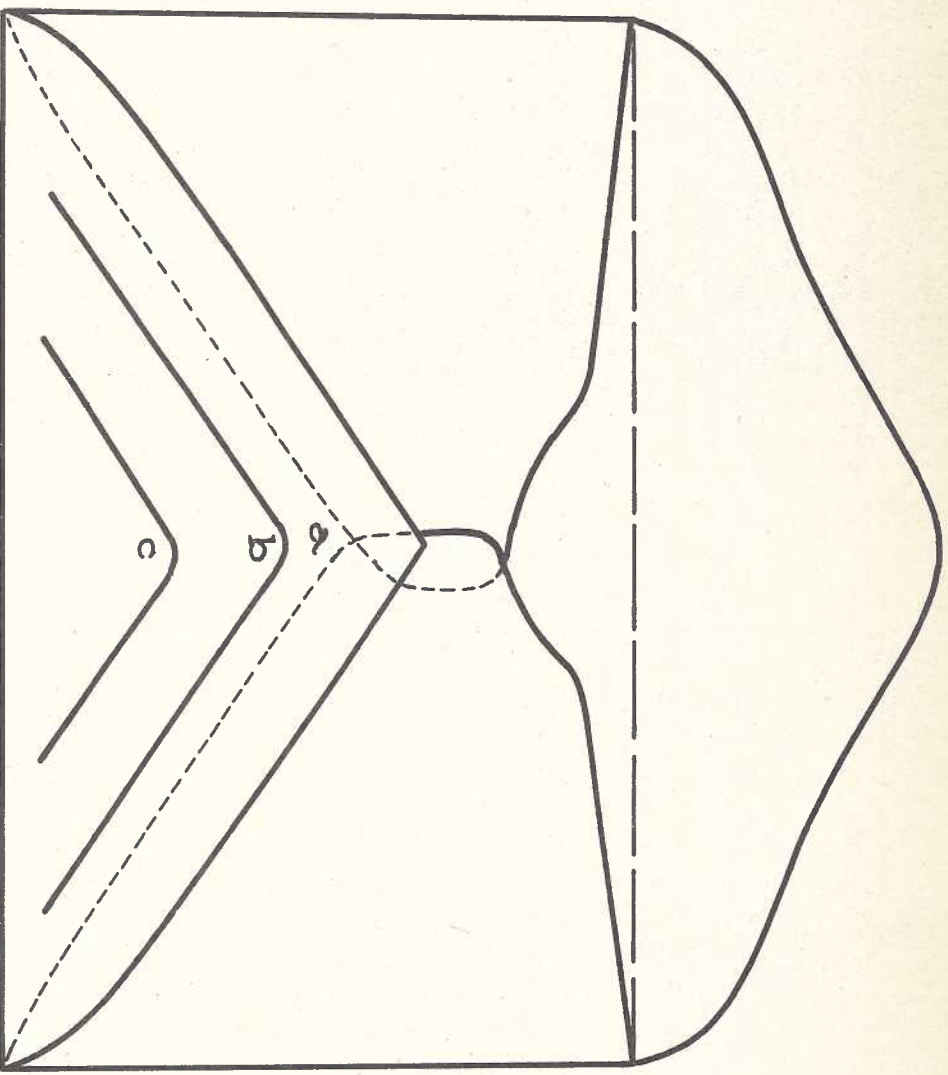
DIMENSIONS  
82 x 138 mm.  
3 1/4 x 5 1/2 in.

FLAPS  
Top-43 mm.  
Side-Both rounded.  
Bot.-Pointedness  
varies slightly.

NOTES  
Shallow throat.  
Comp. K-40 and  
K-41.  
Similar to K-29  
in Reay series.

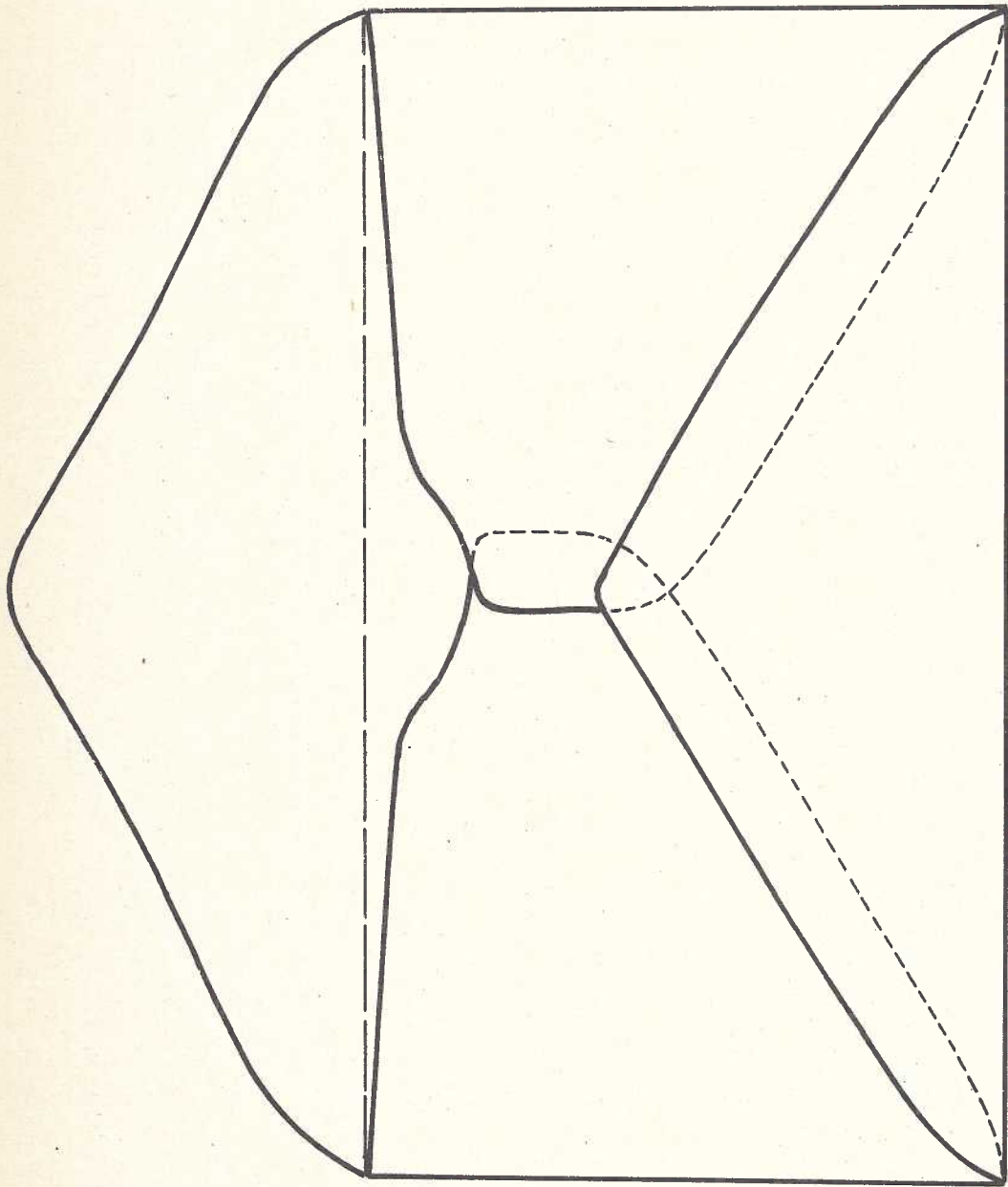
40





**NOTE**  
 Knives 39, 40, and 41 closely resemble each other and possibly should be combined as minor variations of one knife shape. They are included for historical and reference value.

<p><b>KNIFE 41</b>                  (1874)                  Size 3</p>	<p><b>DIMENSIONS</b>                  83 x 138 mm.                  3 1/4 x 5 1/2 in.</p>	<p><b>FLAPPS</b>                  Top-40mm. All curves broad.                  Side- Right end is flatish.                  Bot.-Pointedness varies.</p>	<p><b>NOTES</b>                  Medium deep throat.                  Comp. K-39, K-40,                  and K-48.</p>
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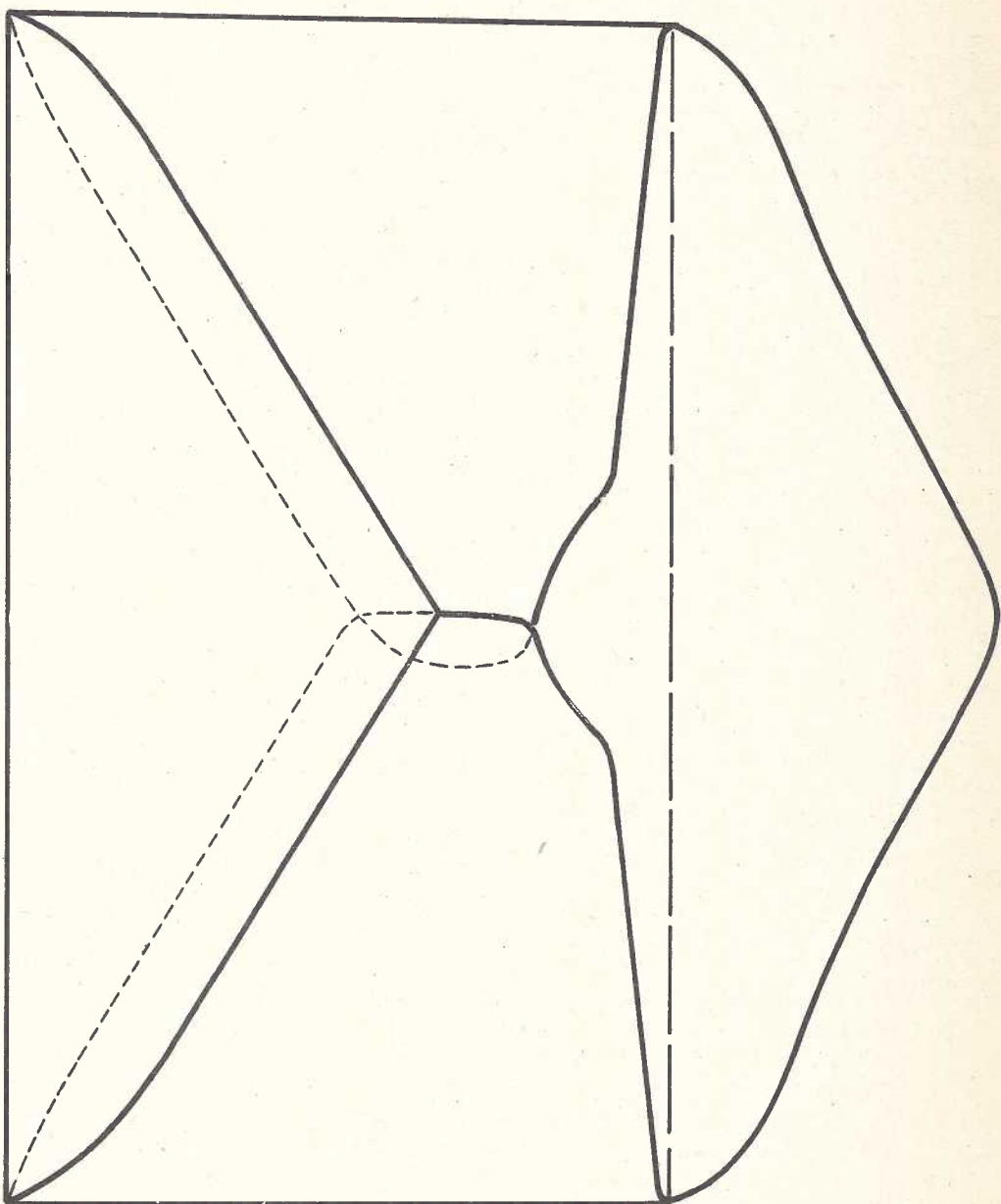


KNIFE 42  
(1874)  
Size 5

DIMENSIONS  
89 x 160 mm.  
3 1/2 x 6 1/4 in.

FLAPS  
Top- 50 mm.  
Side- Large overlap  
11 mm.  
Bottom- Pointed.

NOTES  
Shallow throat.  
Compare K-43  
and K-50.

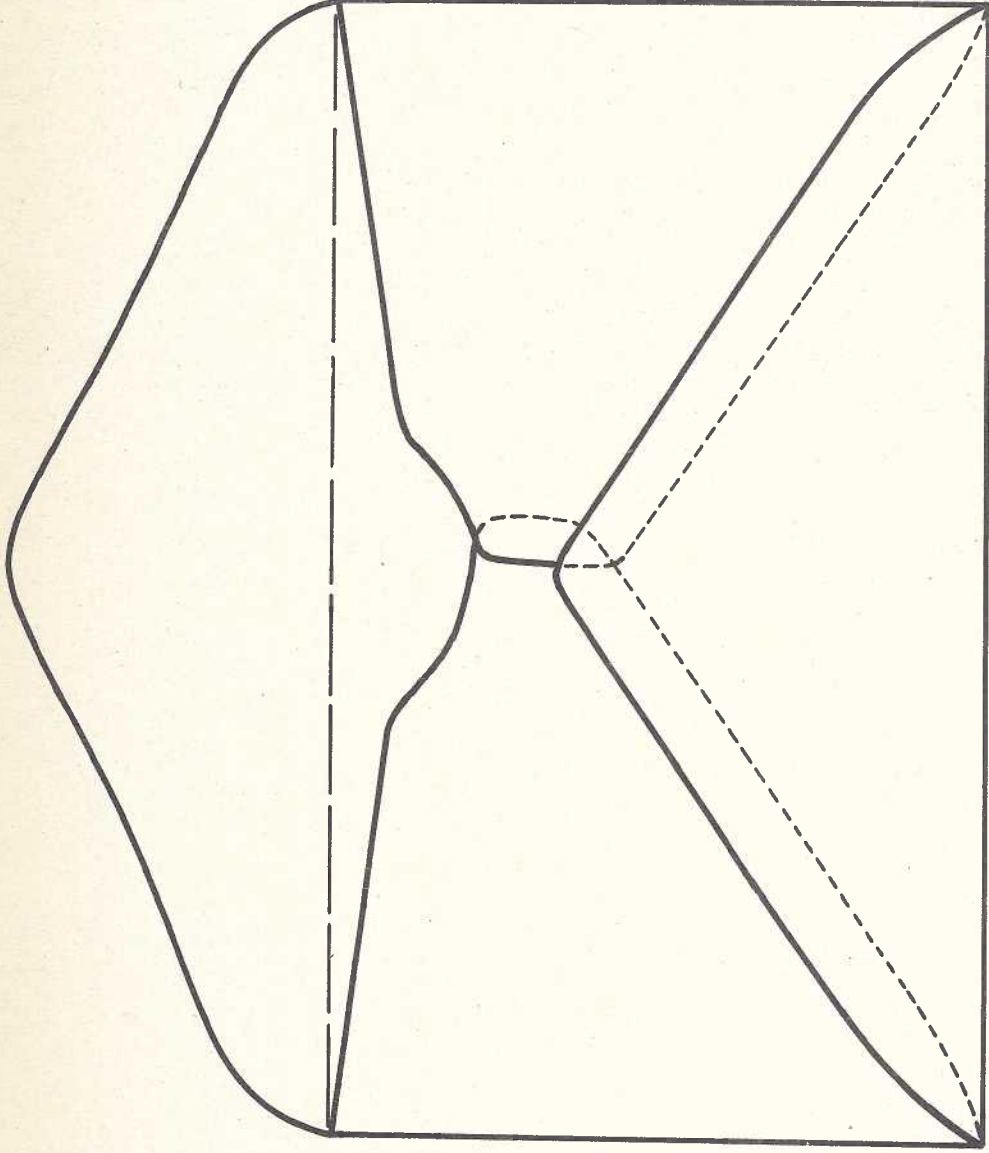


KNIFE 43  
(1874)  
Size 5

DIMENSIONS  
89 x 160 mm.  
3½ x 6¼ in.

FLAPS  
Top - 45 mm.  
Side - Small overlap  
7 mm.  
Bottom - Sharp to  
slightly rounded.

NOTES  
Medium deep  
throat.  
Compare K-42  
and K-50.



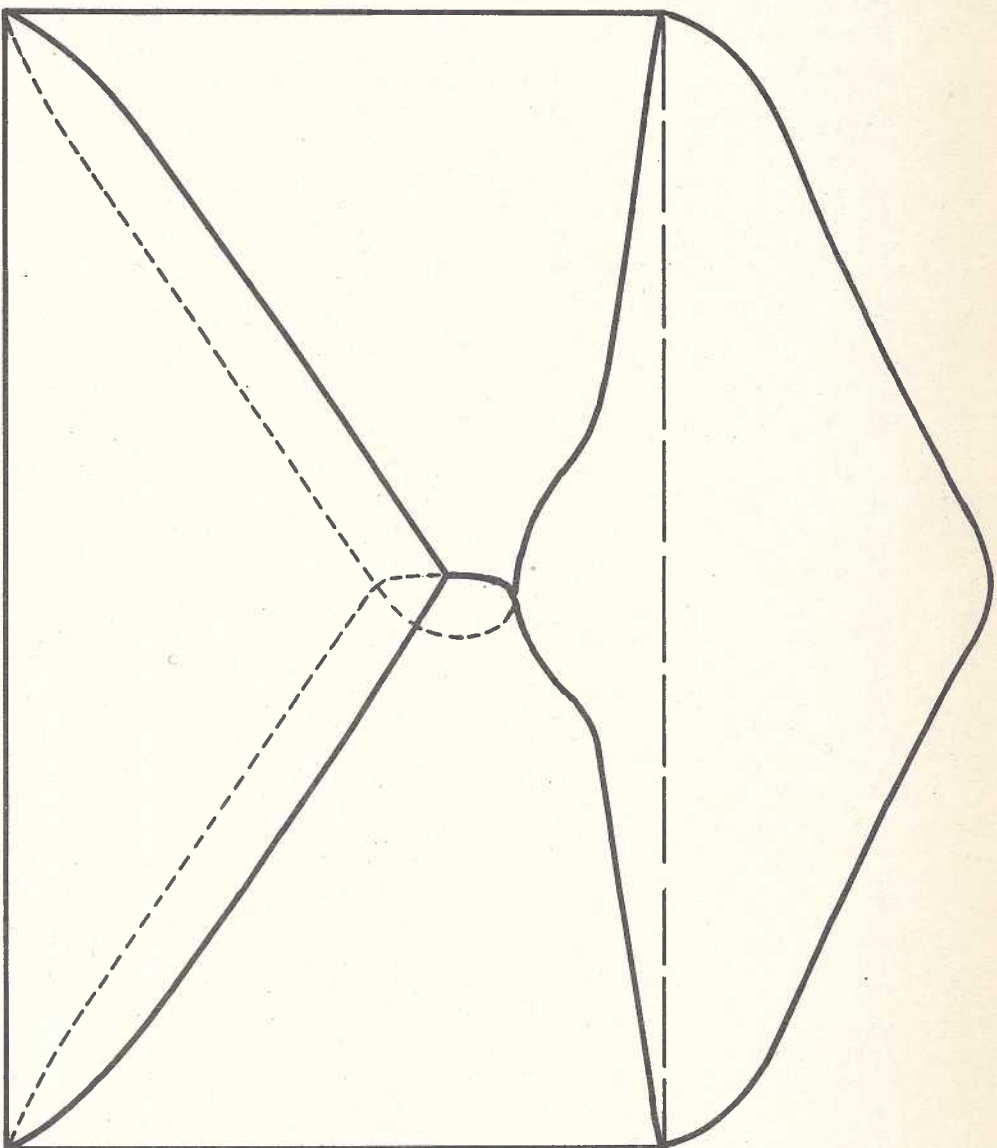
KNIFE 44  
(1875)  
Size 4½

DIMENSIONS  
85 x 149 mm.  
3 ⅜ x 5 ⅞ in.

FLAPS  
Top- Wall rounded.  
Side- Nearly straight.  
Bottom- Tip slightly  
rounded.

NOTES  
Shallower throat  
than K-49.  
Used before 1878 &  
closely resembles  
K-49.  
Comp. K-45.



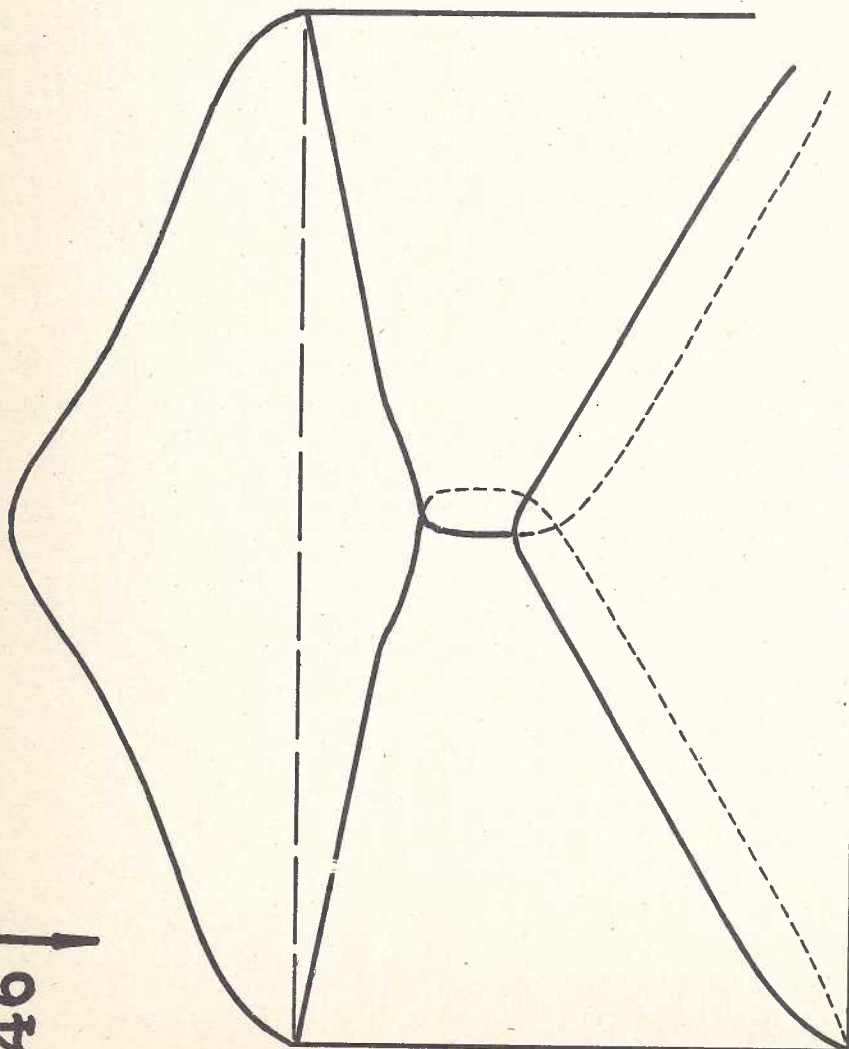


## NOTE

Knives 44, 45 and 49, from present view point, might have been combined. They are included for historical and reference value.

KNIFE 45 (1877) Size 4½	DIMENSIONS 85 x 149 mm 3⅜ x 5⅞ in.	FLAPS Top-Well rounded. Side-Left fully rounded. Bottom-Pointed.	NOTES Differs from K-44 & K-49 chiefly in pointed tip of bottom flap
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46 ↓



KNIFE 46  
(1878)  
Size 2

FLAPS

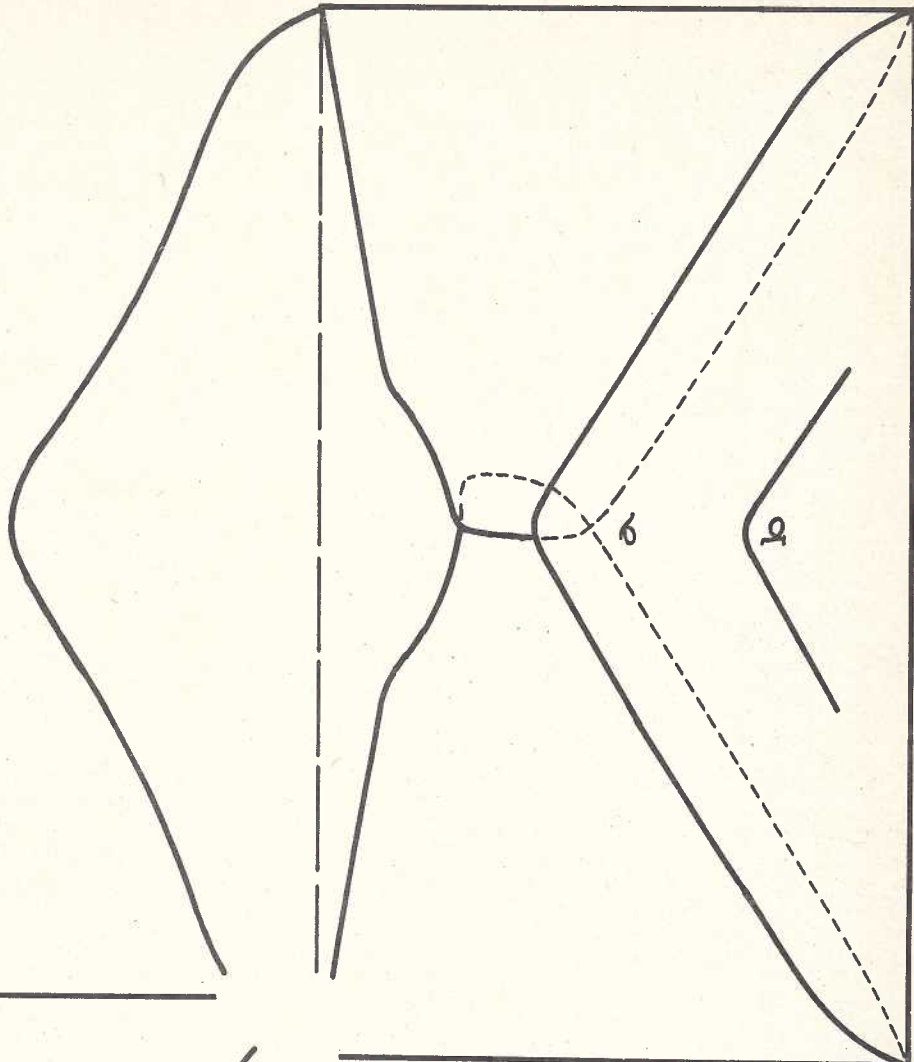
Top-Tongue Shaped  
Side-Narrower  
Lt. tip than K-38  
Bottom- Point is  
slightly rounded

DIMENSIONS  
78 x 139 mm  
3 1/8 x 5 1/2 in.

NOTES

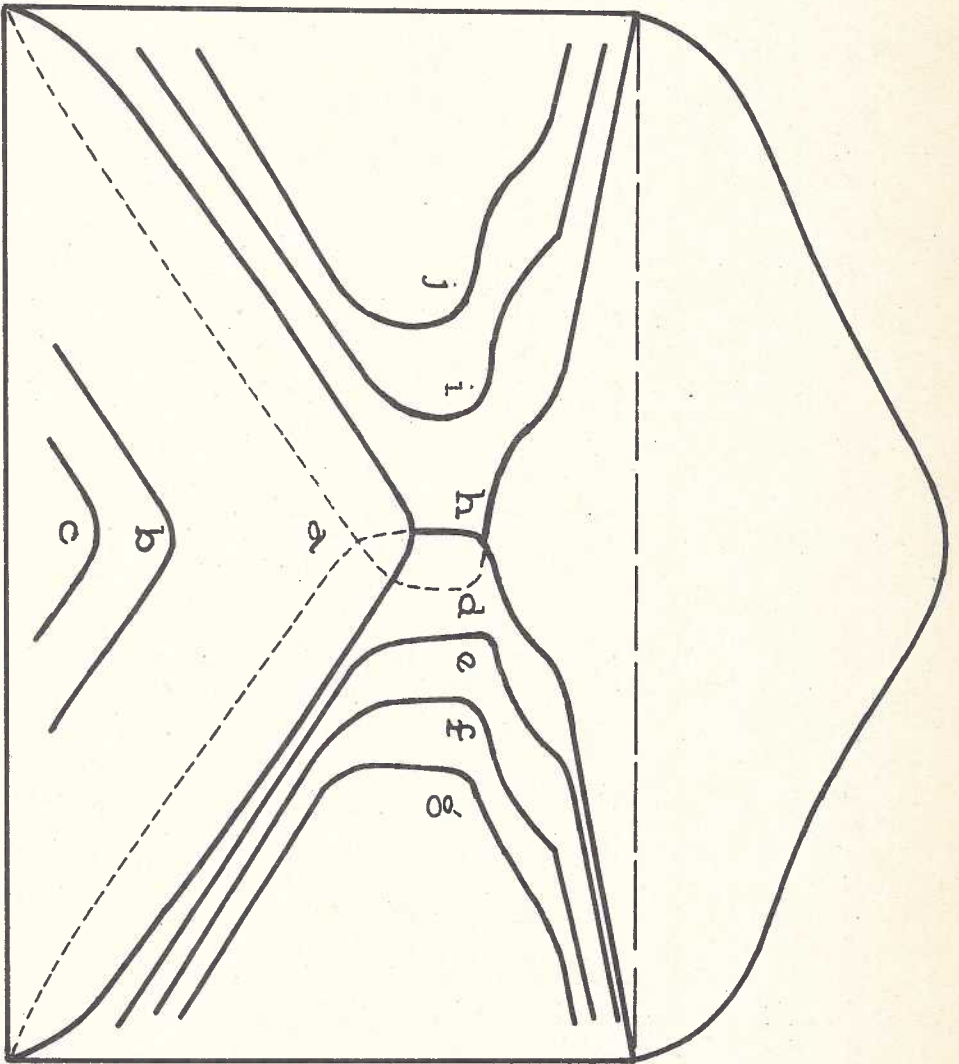
Much deeper  
throat than  
K-38

↓ 47



PLIMPTON & MORGAN KNIVES  
46 TO 61

<p>KNIFE 46 (1878) Size 1 Size L (1890) Size 1 (1895)</p>	<p>DIMENSIONS 73 x 134 mm 2 7/8 x 5 1/4 in.</p>
<p>FLAPS Top- 39 mm Side-R/L. Overlap 6 mm Bottom- Point slightly rounded.</p>	<p>NOTES Much deeper throat than K-37. Comp. K- 65, which is L/R.</p>



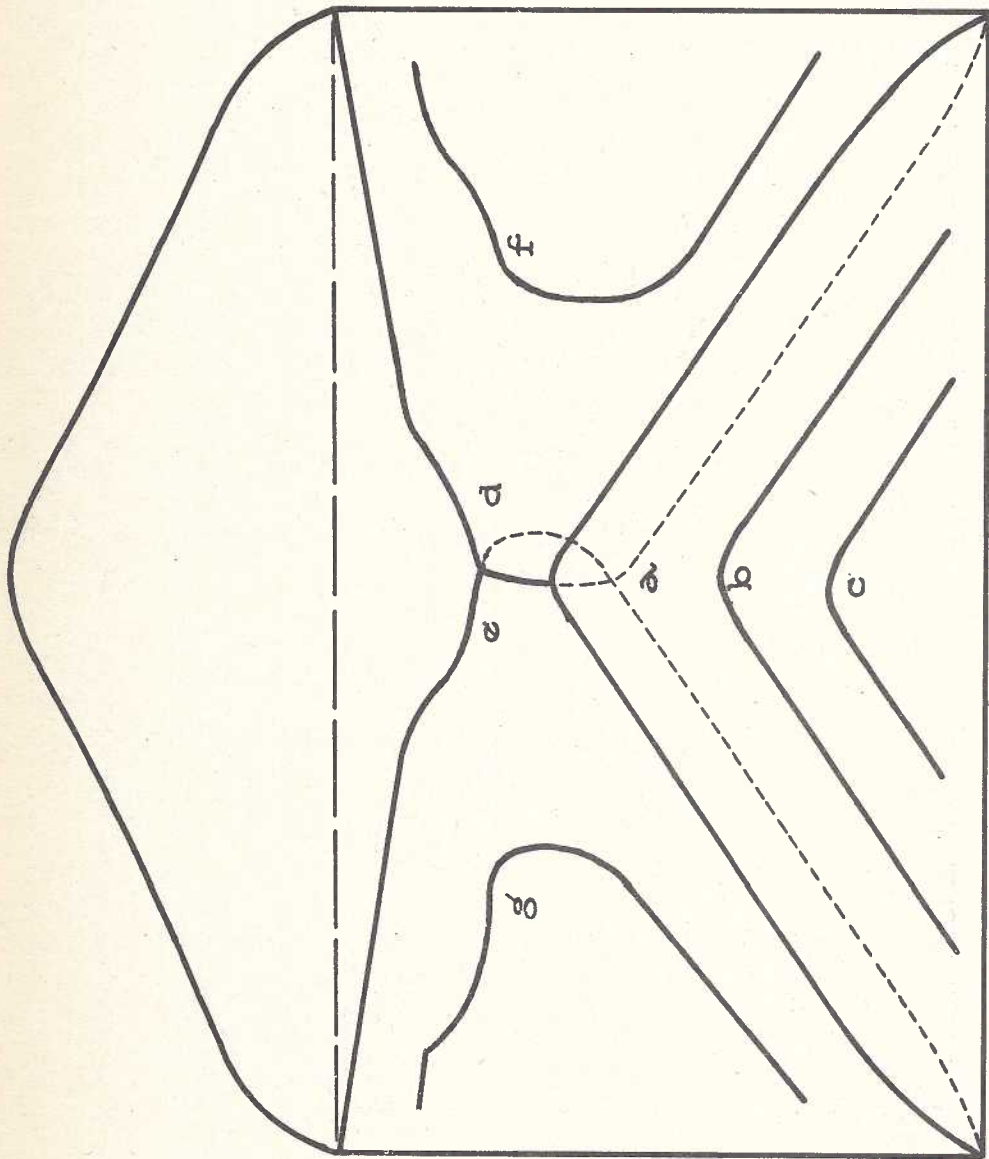
**KNIFE 48**  
(1878)  
S13e 3  
S13e A (1890)  
S13e 2 (1895)

**DIMENSIONS**  
83 x 139 mm  
3 1/4 x 5 1/2 in.

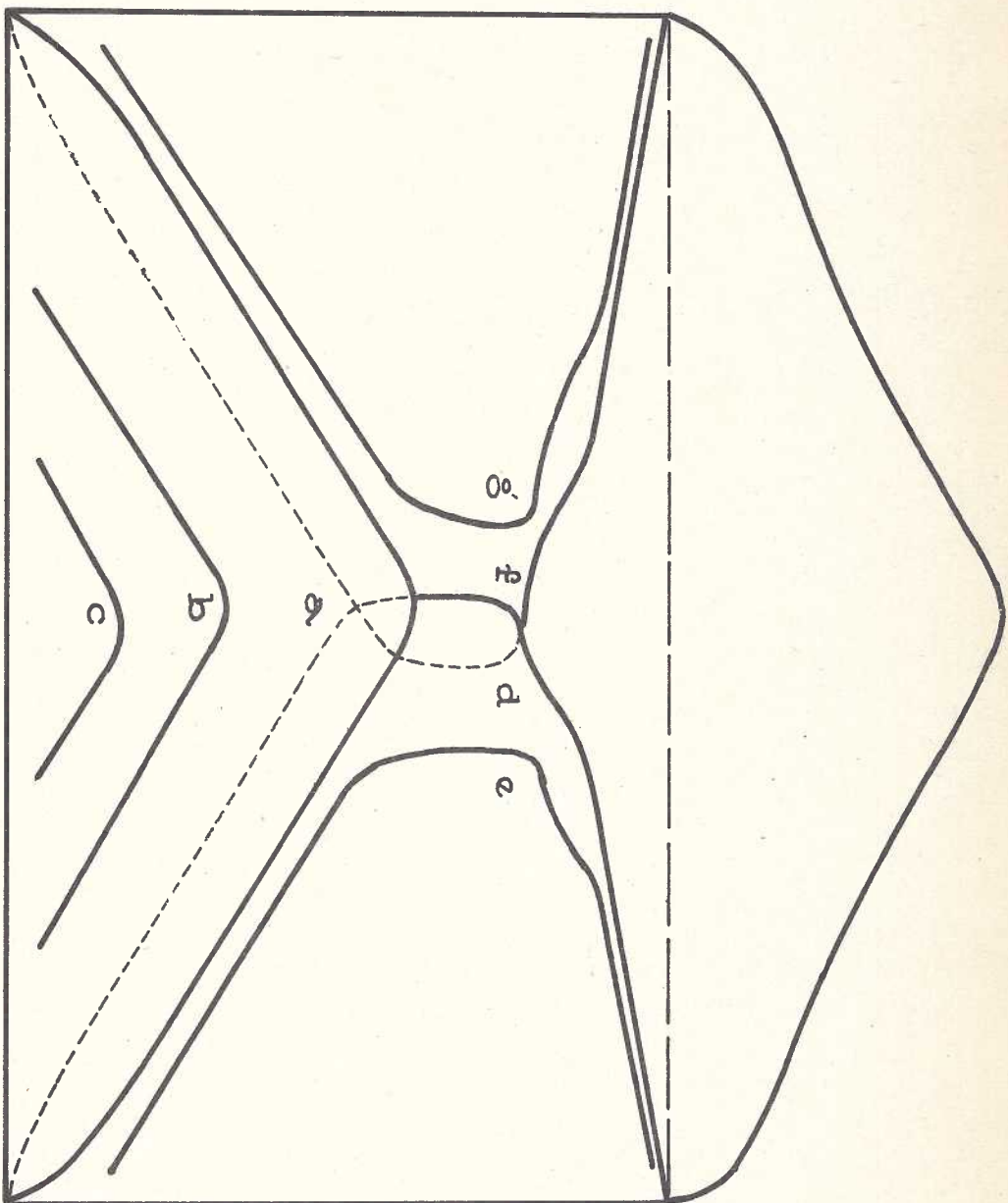
**FLAPS**  
Shapes of side and bottom flaps vary considerably as indicated.

**NOTES**  
Deeper throat than K-41.

1x



<p>KNIFE 49 (1878) Size 4½ Size C (1890) Size 3 (1895)</p>	<p>DIMENSIONS 85 x 149 mm. 3 3/8 x 5 7/8 in.</p>	<p>FLAPS Shapes of side and bottom flaps vary considerably as indicated.</p>	<p>NOTES See note on K-45, which closely resembles K-49</p>
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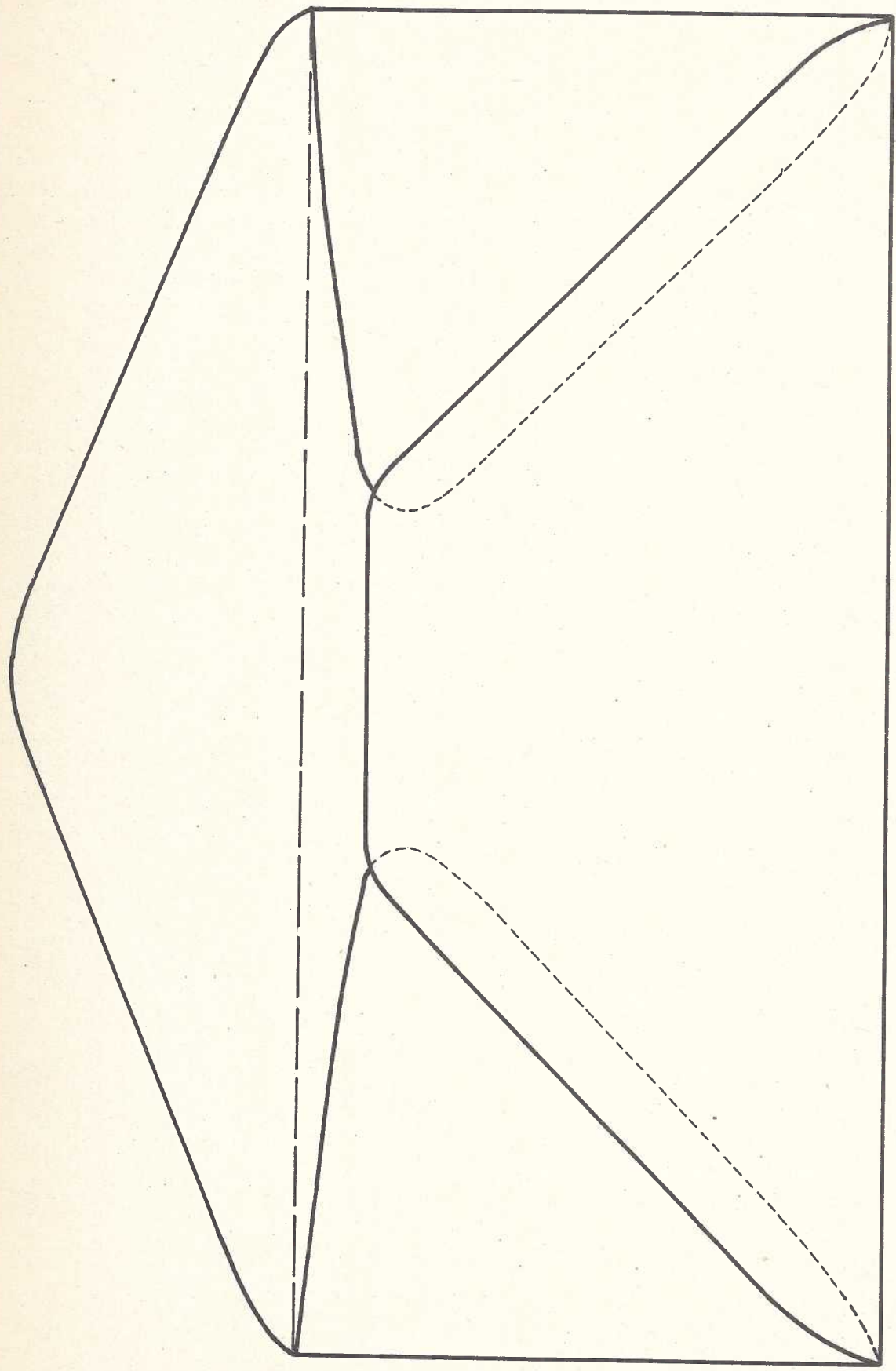
KNIFE 50  
(1878)  
Size 5 (1890)  
Size D (1890)  
Size 5 (1895)

DIMENSIONS  
89 x 160 mm  
 $3\frac{1}{2}$  x  $6\frac{5}{16}$  in.

FILFADS  
Top-45 mm.  
Side and bottom  
shapes vary con-  
siderably as in-  
dicated.

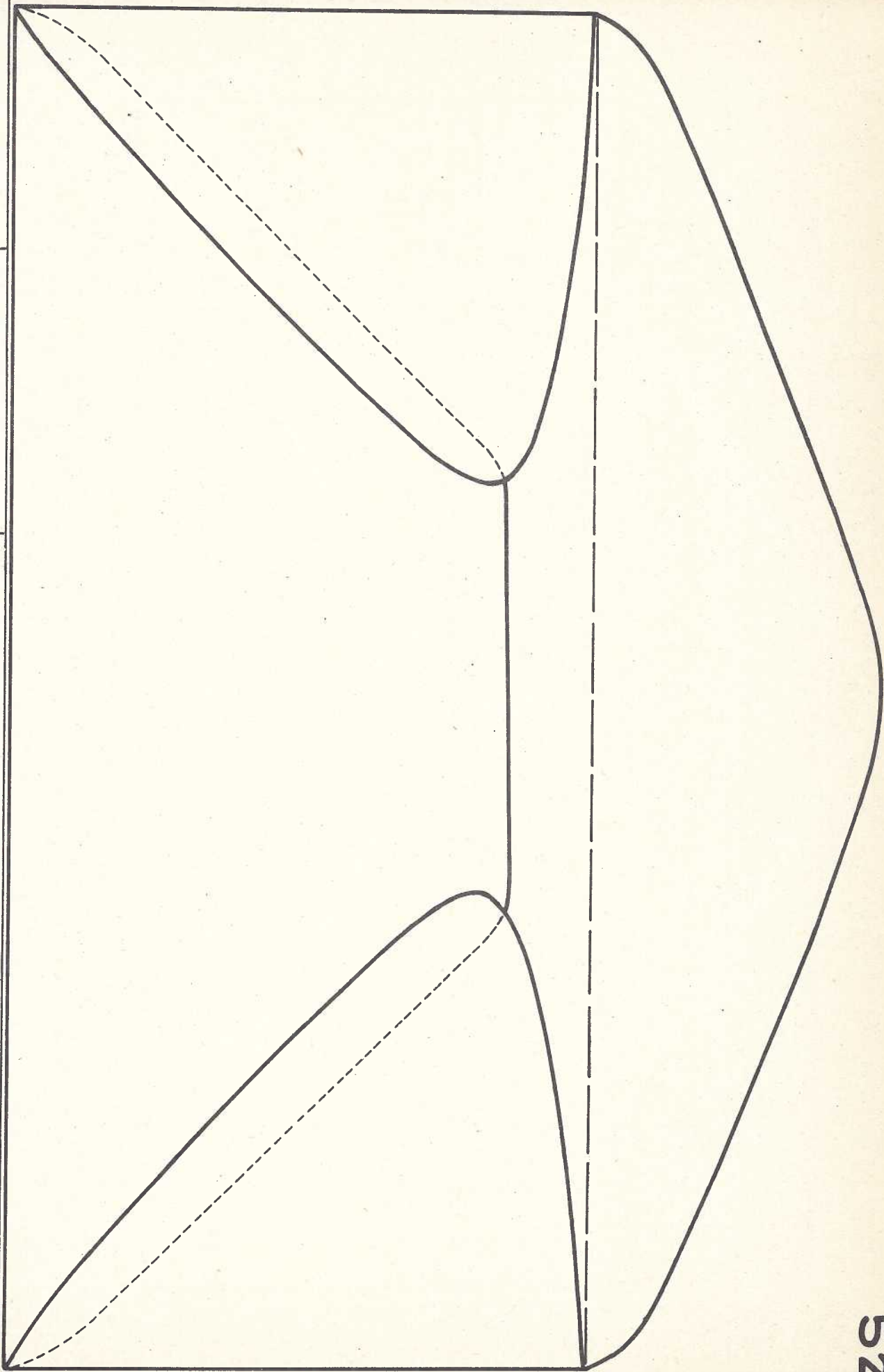
NOTES  
Moderately deep  
throat.  
Compare K-42  
and K-43.

51  
51a



<p>KNIFE 51 (1878) Size 7 Size 6 (1890) Size 7 (1895)</p>	<p>DIMENSIONS 98 x 225 mm 3 7/8 x 8 7/8 in.</p>	<p>FLAPS Top - 50 mm. Side - B/S Bot. - Slightly rounded upper corners.</p>	<p>NOTES When found S/B is called K-51a Compare K-69.</p>
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52

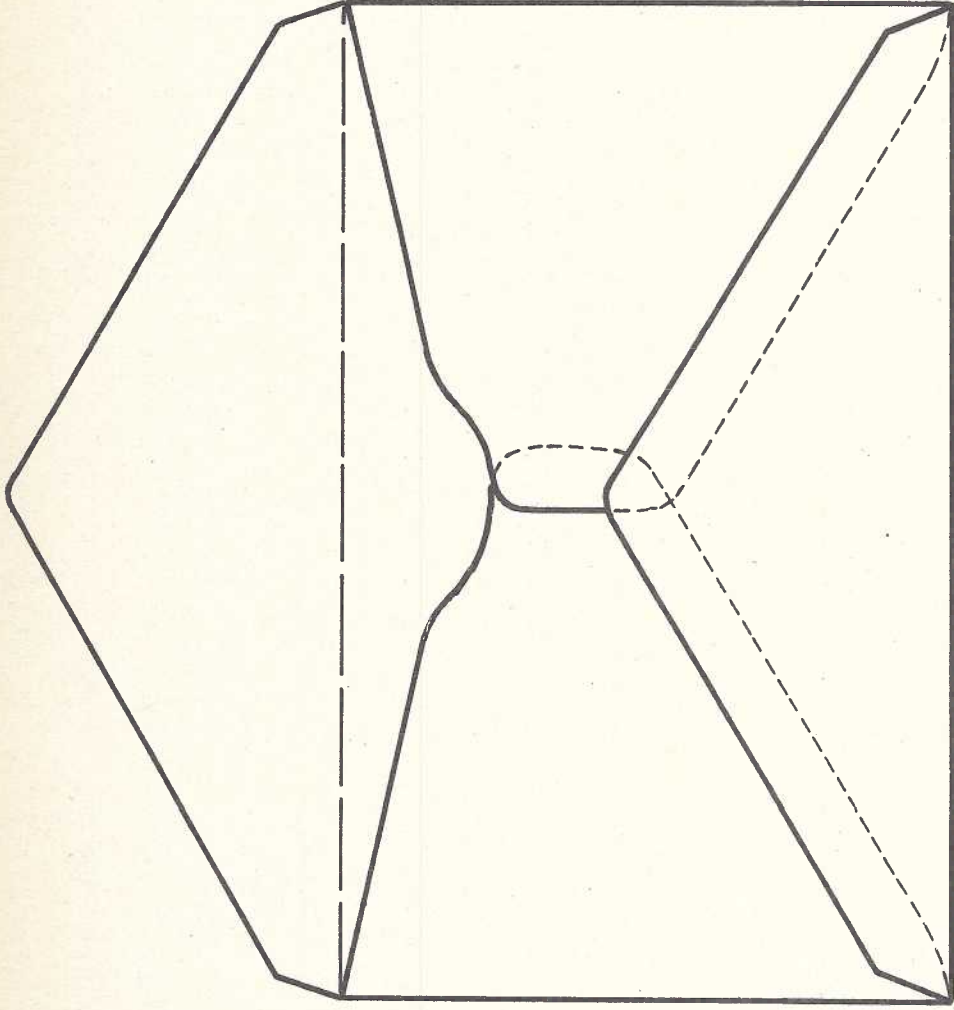


**KNIFE 52**  
(1878)  
Size 8  
Size I (1890)

**DIMENSIONS**  
111 x 257 mm.  
4 <sup>3</sup>/<sub>8</sub> x 10 <sup>1</sup>/<sub>8</sub> in.

**FLAPS**  
Top-Broad curves.  
Side-S/B  
Bot.-Slightly rounded  
upper corners.

**NOTES**  
Always found  
with square gum.  
K-61 is B/S of very  
similar shape.



KNIFE 53  
(1886)  
Size 2

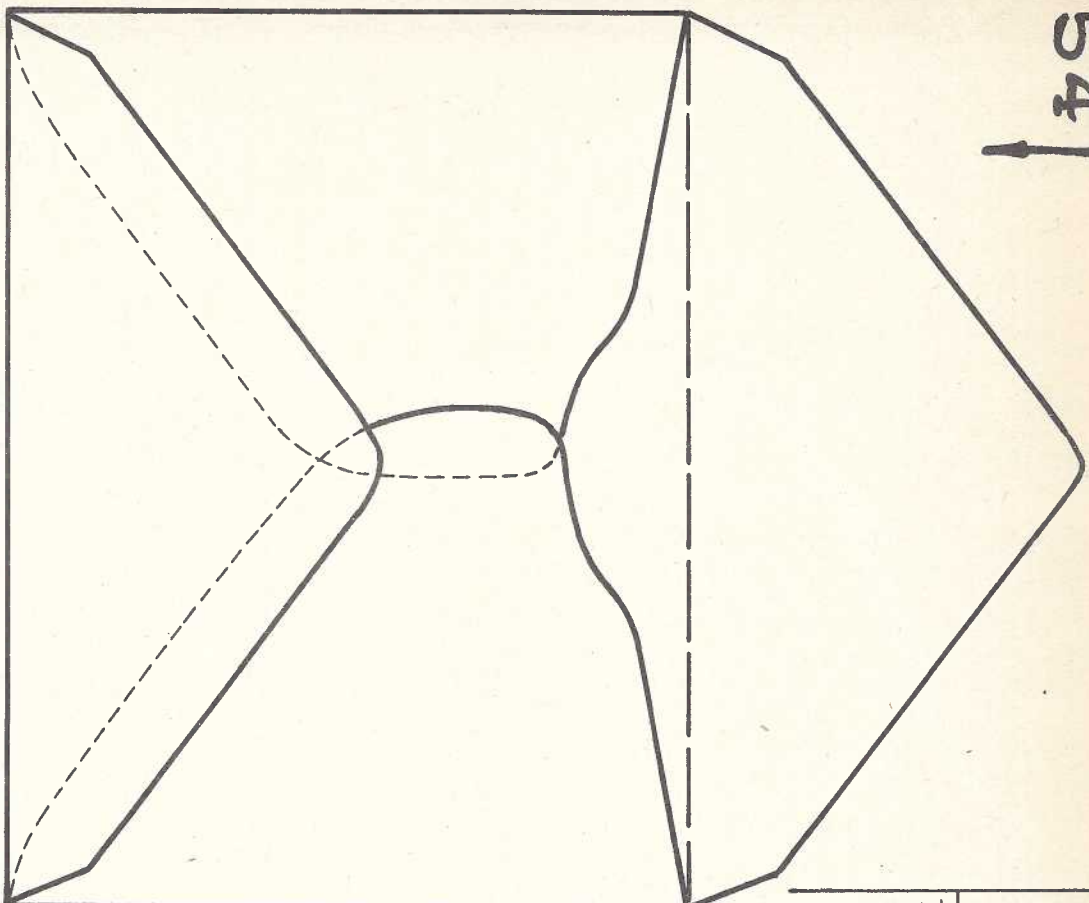
DIMENSIONS  
80 x 130 mm.  
 $3\frac{1}{8}$  x 5 $\frac{1}{8}$  in.

FLAPS  
Top-Clipped corners  
Side-Broad points.  
Bottom-Clipped corners.

NOTES  
Clipped corners on top and bottom flaps give new outline.



54



KNIFE 55

(1886)

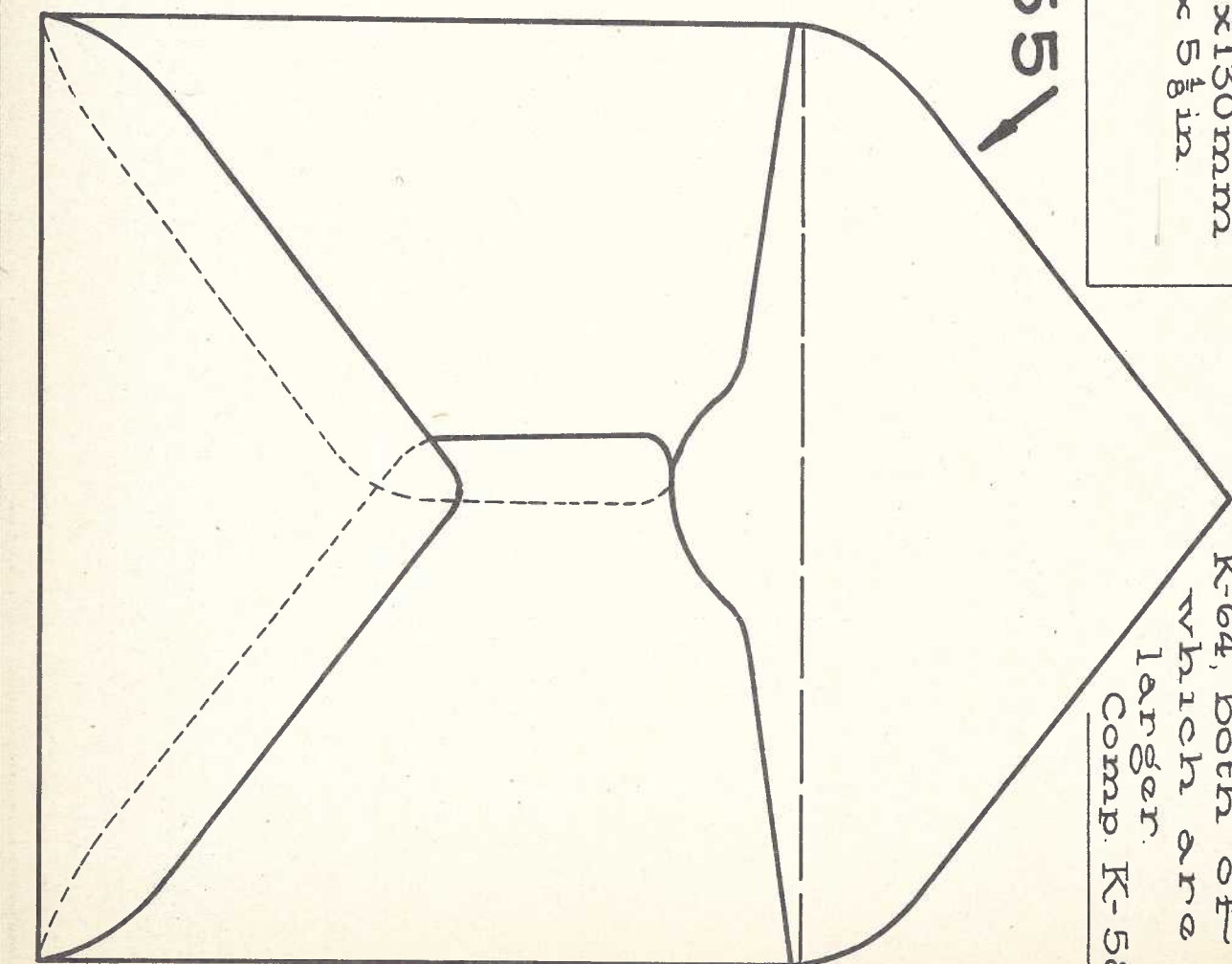
Size 11

DIMENSIONS

105 x 130 mm

4 1/8 x 5 1/8 in.

55



FLAPS: Top-Rounded corners & sharp point. Side-Wide ends Bot-Rnded corners & point

NOTES: Similar to K-61 & K-64, both of which are larger. Comp. K-58.

KNIFE 54

(1886)

Size 10

Size M (1890)

Size 10 (1895)

DIMENSIONS

90 x 117 mm

3 1/2 x 4 5/8 in.

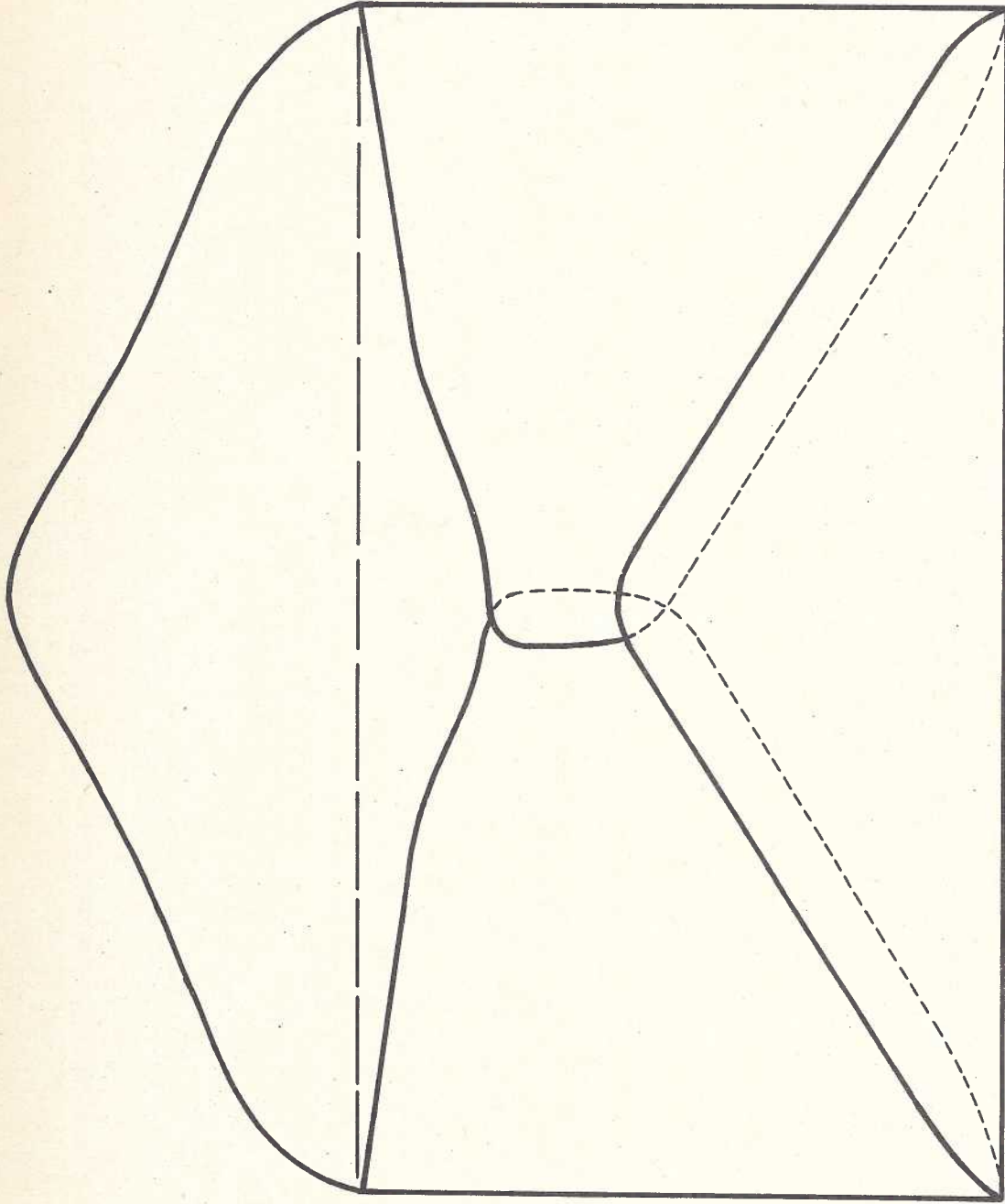
FLAPS

Clipped corners on top and bottom flaps with rounded points. R/L.

NOTES: New shape

called small Bar-

onial Comp. K-70 which is L/R



KNIFE 56

(1886)

Size 9

Size F (1890)

Size 13 (1895)

## DIMENSIONS

95 x 171 mm

3  $\frac{3}{4}$  x 6  $\frac{3}{4}$  in.

## FLAPS

Top-Tongue shaped

T. F. 51 mm.

Side-Flatish ends. R/L.

Bot.: Round point.

## NOTES

Deep throat.

New size.

Compare K-57  
which is L/R.