

1/8/76

Dear Bruce,

No word from United Parcel but the trucker delivered the new envelopes today. A sample is the smallest of these three.

You have been more than kind about this but I wind up with anything but what was specified, a snug fit. Try your copy of the book in one.

I can't in good conscience ask more of you and I do not. But if you paid this new company to provide a snug fit and gave it a sample, then there is no excuse for so gross an error by them. You will remember that I said if it were necessary to pay over the contract price to have a special one made I would and that if a gusseted one were required I'd pay extra, if necessary, for that.

I used one this evening. I put two books in it, Post Mortem and the largest of the earlier books. These did not quite fill it up so I then added cardboard backers top and bottom. That made a snug fit but left projecting ends that would guarantee damage in mailing and the clasp didn't come close to fitting.

(In fact, I have yet to be able to use a clasp on any size and in each case with each size the useless clasp is an extra bother because in order to close the envelope for taping I also have to bond the upper end of the clasp!)

The one thing I can say for the new one is that it required less Scotch tape on the one package I made. All today's other packaging was completed by the time the truck came.

You personally and Santa have been so considerate and have gone to so much trouble and expense that I cannot in good conscience ask any more of you. However, I do want you to know that you have again thrown your money away.

My thanks for your good tries.

Best wishes,

back this is the third wrong size provided by subcontractors who cannot match an envelope to a book a sample of which each had. It would seem impossible.