To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, GEORGE W. SCHWEER, a citizen of the United States, residing at Windsor, in the county of Henry and State of Missouri, have invented a new and useful Combined Stamp, Stationery, and Cash Box, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to a combined stamp, stationery, and cash box particularly adapted for the use of letter-carriers in the delivery and collection of mail in the rural free-delivery districts, and has for its object to provide a simple inexpensive device of this character wherein the stamps, envelopes, &c., may be compactly and conveniently arranged in several compartments for distribution, the whole being so arranged and constructed as to enable the carriers to quickly obtain access to the several compartments and transport the box from place to place without disarranging the contents.

A further object of the invention is to provide the box with a novel form of stamp-book and holder for the same, the stamps being arranged between the oiled leaves of the book and retained within the holders in such a manner as to effectually prevent their accidental displacement and enable the carriers to select one or more stamps of any desired denomination without disarranging the rest.

The invention consists in the construction and novel combination and arrangement of parts, hereinafter fully described, illustrated in the accompanying drawings, and pointed out in the claims hereto appended.

In the drawings, Figure 1 is a perspective view of the box constructed in accordance with my invention, the lid being open, showing the several compartments. Fig. 2 is a longitudinal section. Fig. 3 is a detail view of the stamp-book.

Similar numerals of reference indicate corresponding parts in all the figures of the drawings.

1 designates the body of the box, formed of sheet metal or other suitable material, open at the top and at one end, and consists of the side pieces 2, an end piece 3, and bottom 4.

A cover 5, having a depending end portion 6, is pivoted to the bottom 4 by means of a pin 7. The cover 5 is provided with a flange 8, which rests when the lid is closed on the over-hanging flange 9, formed on the end and sides of the box. A transversely-disposed partition 10 is arranged within the box, dividing the body thereof into two compartments 11 and 12, the compartment 11 being used as a money-receptacle. Within the compartment 12 is a hinged tray 13, pivoted between the side walls 2 of the box by means of pins 14. The tray 13 is provided with a horizontally-disposed partition 15, defining a pair of pockets or compartments 16 and 17, adapted to receive envelopes, postal cards, &c., and the front edges of these pockets or compartments recede 65 one from the other to permit the carriers to more readily grasp the cards or other articles and facilitate their removal.

Pivoted to the top 18 of the tray 13 and at the rear end thereof is a tray or holder 19, one end thereof being bent inwardly and downwardly to form a clamp 20, which engages the cover of a stamp-book 21 and by means of which the book is removably secured within the holder 19. The stamp-book 21 rests between the upwardly-extending flanges or sides 22 of the holder 19, which prevents lateral displacement of the book, and the holder 19 is also provided with a recessed portion 23, which permits the book to be grasped and removed from the holder when desired.

The pivoted tray 13 and hinged holder 19 are arranged within the compartment 12 in such a manner as to allow them to be swung upwardly either independently or together, the combined height of the tray and holder being approximately equal to the depth of the box, so that when said tray and holder are folded within the compartment 12 the top of the holder 19 will lie below the top of the box, thereby permitting the cover 5 to be closed, forming a substantially rectangular box, as clearly shown in Fig. 2 of the drawings.

The stamp-book 21 consists of a number of leaves of oiled or otherwise specially-prepared paper 24, between which are placed sheets of stamps, and arranged at predetermined intervals between the oiled leaves 24 are division-plates 25, formed of paper or other suitable material, which divide the book into several sections, each section being designed to receive a particular denomination of stamps. The stamp-book is prefer-
ably formed of sufficient size to accommodate sheets of stamps of twenty-five or more, and these sheets are preferably arranged between the oiled leaves in the order of greatest demand, each denomination of stamp being separated from the rest by one of the division-plates 25—for instance, stamps of the two-cent denomination being interposed between the first few oiled leaves and then a division-plate inserted, then one-cent stamps and a division plate, and so on, each denomination being arranged in a predetermined section of the book and separated from the rest by a division-plate, forming, in effect, an index. By this arrangement the carrier is enabled to select any particular denomination of stamp or stamps with ease and despatch without disarranging the rest.

In operation a carrier or other person may obtain access to the lower compartment by pressing downwardly and rearwardly on the clamp 20, which causes the upper and lower compartments to swing together outwardly on the pins 14, exposing the contents thereof, or, of the stamp-holder and book may be swung outwardly independently of the lower compartment, if desired, the two compartments being independently hinged.

From the foregoing description it will be seen I have produced a simple, inexpensive combination-box, the relative disposition of the parts being such as to permit the several compartments to be swung outwardly, exposing their contents, and compactly folded within the body of the box, so that the box can be transported from place to place as the occasion requires. Various changes in form, proportions, and minor details of construction may be resorted to without departing from the principle or sacrificing any of the advantages of this invention.

Having thus described the invention, what I claim is—

1. In a receptacle, the combination with a body portion, of a cover, a pivoted compartment disposed within the body portion and having a plurality of pockets, the front edges of which recede one from the other and a stamp-book holder hinged to the pivoted compartment.

2. In a receptacle, the combination with a body portion, of a cover, a plurality of independently-hinged compartments disposed

within the body portion, and clamping means for removably securing a book in one of the compartments.

3. In a receptacle, the combination with a body portion, of a hinged cover, a plurality of outwardly-swinging pivoted compartments disposed within the body portion, one of said compartments forming a holder adapted to receive a stamp-book, and means for removably securing the book within the holder.

4. In a receptacle, the combination with a body portion, of a pivoted cover, a plurality of outwardly-swinging pivoted compartments disposed within the body portion, one of said compartments having its rear end portion bent inwardly and downwardly to form a clamp for a removable stamp-book.

5. In a receptacle, the combination with a body portion, of a pivoted cover, an outwardly-swinging compartment pivoted between the side walls of the body portion, said compartment being provided with a series of pockets, the front edges of which recede one from the other, and a stamp-book holder hinged to the compartment, said holder and compartment being adapted to be swung outwardly either independently or together.

6. In a receptacle, the combination with a body portion of a cover, a plurality of independently outwardly swinging compartments pivoted within the body portion, one of said compartments being provided with an overhanging, clamping member adapted to removably secure a book within the compartment.

7. In a receptacle, the combination with a body portion, of a pivoted cover, a pair of independently outwardly swinging compartments pivoted within the body portion, the lower compartment being provided with a horizontally-disposed partition defining a series of pockets the front edges of which recede one from the other and the upper compartment being formed with upwardly-extending side flanges and an inwardly and downwardly extending end portion forming a book-holding clamp.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing as my own I have hereto affixed my signature in the presence of two witnesses.

GEORGE W. SCHWEER.

Witnesses:
G. N. E. CARPENTER,
JOSEPHUS SMITH.