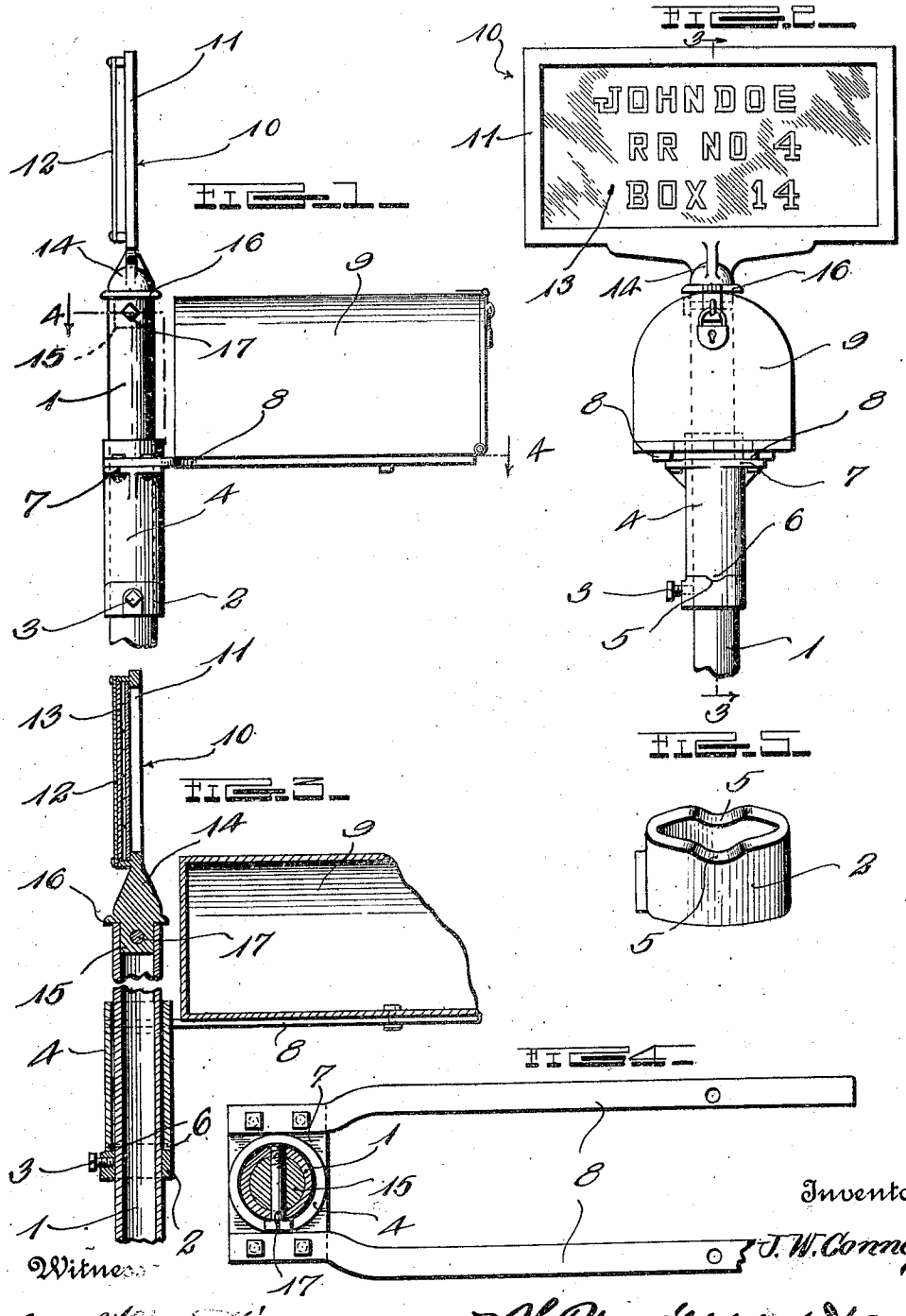
J. W. CONNERY.

COMBINED MAIL BOX AND SIGN HOLDER.

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1,435,379. **Patented Nov. 14, 1922.**



Witness:

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JAMES W. CONNERY, OF KEWANEE, ILLINOIS.

COMBINED MAIL BOX AND SIGN HOLDER.

Application filed June 6, 1921. Serial No. 475,503.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JAMES W. CONNERY, a citizen of the United States, residing at Kewanee, in the county of Henry and State of Illinois, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in a Combined Mail Box and Sign Holder; and I do declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same.

This invention relates to an improved device which is especially designed for use in rural free mail delivery districts, the same embodying means for supporting a mail box and also supporting a sign bearing the name of the owner of the box.

The principal object of the invention is to generally improve upon devices of this class by the provision of one of extreme simplicity and durability wherein the structure is such that the mail box is rotatably mounted on a standard and is supported on an adjustable stop on the latter, this construction and arrangement being advantageous in that it permits the box to be swung around in such a way as to enable it to be conveniently emptied by the resident of the house, in front of which the box is placed, and swung to an opposite position to properly position it so that it will be convenient to have mail placed therein by the postman.

Another object of the invention is to provide a device of this class wherein the means for mounting the mail box on the post is not only rotatable, but is slidable to permit it to be raised to the proper elevation for convenience of use.

Another object of the invention is to provide a device of this class embodying the structure mentioned in the last named object together with a sign holder which is positioned on the upper end of the standard and serves as a stop to prevent possible displacement of the box from the standard by lifting it upwardly.

Other objects and advantages of the invention will become apparent during the course of the following description.

In the accompanying drawings forming a part of this specification and in which like numerals are employed to designate like parts throughout the same:

Figure 1 is a side elevational view of a device constructed in accordance with this invention, with the lower portion of the standard removed.

Figure 2 is a front elevational view thereof.

Figure 3 is a central vertical sectional view taken substantially on the plane of the line 3—3 of Fig. 2.

Figure 4 is a detail section taken substantially on the plane of the line 4—4 of Fig. 1 with the mail box removed.

Figure 5 is a perspective view of one of the details of the device.

Referring to the drawings specifically and by reference characters, the numeral 1 designates a hollow standard designed to be anchored in the ground at a convenient point in front of the house. An adjustable stop-collar 2 is arranged on this standard a slight distance below the upper end of the latter, being held in various adjusted positions by means of the set-screw 3 with which it is equipped and which is engageable with the standard as shown in Fig. 3. A sleeve 4 of larger diameter than the standard 1 surrounds the latter and rests on the upper edge of the collar 2. As before indicated, this sleeve 4 is both rotatable and slidable on the standard for a purpose already mentioned and to be hereinafter again referred to. Since the sleeve 4 is rotatable as stated, it is desirable to provide means for holding it in a set position. I therefore provide a novel co-acting means between the sleeve and stop-collar for accomplishing this end. This co-acting in its preferred form is carried out by forming notches 5 in the upper edge of the stop collar at diametrically opposite points and forming projections 6 at corresponding points on the lower edge of the sleeve, these projections being shaped to be received in and held in the notches 5 as shown in Fig. 2. Here I wish to point out that when the device is in practical use, the co-acting means 5 and 6 will be positioned so that the mail box can be supported either in front of or in rear of the standard to permit it to be conveniently emptied or filled as the case may be. Referring now to the upper end of the sleeve 4, it will be seen that this part is equipped with oppositely disposed ears 7 to which the mail box supporting arms 8 are bolted or otherwise secured. These arms 8 extend in parallel spaced relation with respect to one another at right angles to the supporting post and

the mail box 9 is detachably or otherwise connected therewith as shown.

As before indicated, the device in addition to embodying the parts already mentioned includes a novel sign holder which is here designated as a whole by the numeral 10. I wish to make it known here that this sign holder 10 may be constructed in any suitable way, the same preferably including a rectangular open frame 11 and a removable backing or retaining plate 12 for holding the sign 13 in place. This sign, of course, is to bear the name of the resident of the house in front of which the mail box is placed, also designating the number of the route and box number. It is of course understood that any other suitable inscriptions may be placed thereon. The sign also preferably includes a central depending part 14 having on its lower end a reduced neck 15 which extends into the upper end of the hollow standard 1 as shown in Fig. 3, this portion 14 being equipped with a stop flange 16 which rests on the upper end of this standard and serves to limit the downward movement of the part 14. A removable bolt or the like 17 is passed through the standard and neck 15 to retain the sign holder in place. Here I again wish to direct attention to the fact that the sign holder also constitutes means for preventing the sleeve 4 and other parts from being removed from the standard as long as it is in place. It therefore serves an important additional function.

In use, the standard 1 is anchored in any suitable way at a convenient place in front of the house with the inscriptions on the sign facing the roadway. Thus, the postman will be able to easily see the name appearing on the same as he approaches the device. Assuming that the mail box is in the position indicated in the drawings, that is extending forwardly from the standard, it will be seen that it is in a convenient place to enable the postman to deposit mail inside of the box. When it is desired to remove the mail, the sleeve 4 is grasped and slid upwardly on the standard and the mail box and other parts are swung around so that the box is in an opposite position to that shown, in which place the mail can be conveniently and easily removed. When the box is in this position, it will be seen that the co-acting means 5 and 6 already described will serve to hold it either in the forwardly or rearwardly extending position as the case may be.

Persons reading the foregoing description in connection with the drawings will doubtless be able to obtain a clear understanding of the invention. In view of this, a more lengthy and detailed description is thought unnecessary.

Since probably the best results may be obtained with the construction and arrangement herein shown and described, this is taken as the preferred embodiment of the invention. However, slight minor changes coming within the scope of the subjoined claims may be resorted to if desired.

I claim:

1. In combination, a standard, an adjustable stop thereon, a tubular member slidably and rotatably mounted on the standard and resting loosely on said stop, co-acting means between the latter and member to hold said member in a set position, and mail box supporting arms rigidly connected with said member.

2. In combination, a standard, an adjustable stop collar arranged thereon, said collar having notches formed in its upper edge at diametrically opposite points, a sleeve rotatably and slidably mounted on said standard and resting on the upper edge of the collar, said sleeve having diametrically opposite projections formed on its lower end for cooperation with said notches, said sleeve being also provided near its upper end with oppositely and laterally disposed ears, and a pair of spaced horizontal mail box supporting arms connected with said ears.

3. In combination, a hollow standard having an adjustable stop thereon, a rotary mail box supporting device rotatably and slidably mounted on said standard and engageable with said stop, and a combined sign holder and stop on the upper end of said standard for preventing undue upward movement of said elements.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand.

JAMES W. CONNERY.