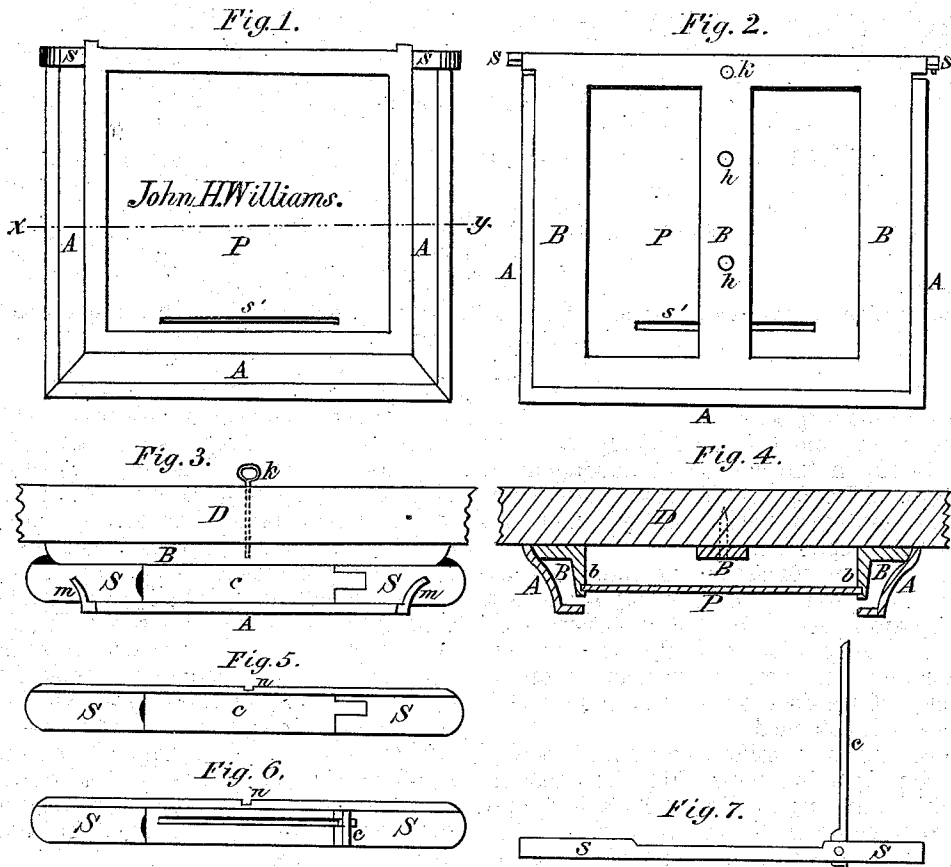


J. H. WILLIAMS.

Letter-Boxes.

No. 156,246.

Patented Oct. 27, 1874.



Witnesses.

J. C. Smith
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOHN H. WILLIAMS, OF GREAT BEND, PENNSYLVANIA.

IMPROVEMENT IN LETTER-BOXES.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **156,246**, dated October 27, 1874; application filed March 19, 1874.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOHN H. WILLIAMS, of Great Bend, in the county of Susquehanna and State of Pennsylvania, have invented a new and Improved Letter-Box, of which the following is a specification:

This invention consists in an improved letter-box, so constructed that it may serve as a safe depository for cards, notes, letters, &c., which can be put in from the outside, but which cannot be taken out without access to the inside of the door, or other suitable place, to which it is attached.

Figure 1 is an outside view; Fig. 2, a rear view; Fig. 3, a top view; Fig. 4, a section through the line *xy* in Fig. 1; Figs. 5, 6, and 7, different views of the sliding cover.

The outer frame *A* is made of sufficient depth to hold the letters, cards, &c., that may be deposited therein, and to contain a plate, upon which the name of the occupant of the house may be inscribed. *B* is the inner frame, fitting into the outer frame *A*, as shown in Figs. 2 and 4; and the holes *h h* in the middle cross-piece are for the screws, with which the whole box is to be attached to the door *D*. The projections *b b* upon the inner frame are grooved for the ends of the plate *P*, which may be taken out and put in when the cap or slide *S* is removed. The plate *P* is made of thin sheet metal, and is to bear the name of the occupant of the house. This may be read-

ily changed whenever it is desired to have another name upon the door. The slot *s'* is to enable the plate to be more easily raised. A glass plate may be placed in front of the plate to protect the same. The box is securely covered by the slide *S*, which contains a slot, through which letters, &c., may be dropped, and a hinged cap, *c*, by which the slot is covered after the deposit is made. The slide *S* is held in place by the top of the inner frame *B* and projections *m m* upon the outer frame *A*, and is secured by the key *k*, which passes through the door *D* from the inside, and enters the notch *n* in the edge of the slide. A small projection, *a*, upon the end of the slide prevents it from being drawn entirely out. A small spring upon the inside of the door keeps the key in place.

To open the box and remove the contents, the key *k* is withdrawn, the slide *S* shoved to one side, and the glass and plate *P* raised from the box.

What I claim as my invention is—

The letter-box, consisting of the outer frame *A*, inner frame *B*, sliding cover *S*, and the plate *P*, the whole constructed and operating substantially as and for the purposes set forth.

JOHN H. WILLIAMS.

Witnesses:

SEYMOUR ELDRIDGE,
JOSEPH DU BOIS.