(No Model.) 2 Sheets—Sheet 1.

W. COOK.

LETTER BOX.

No. 413,928. Patented Oct. 29, 1889.

Fig. 1

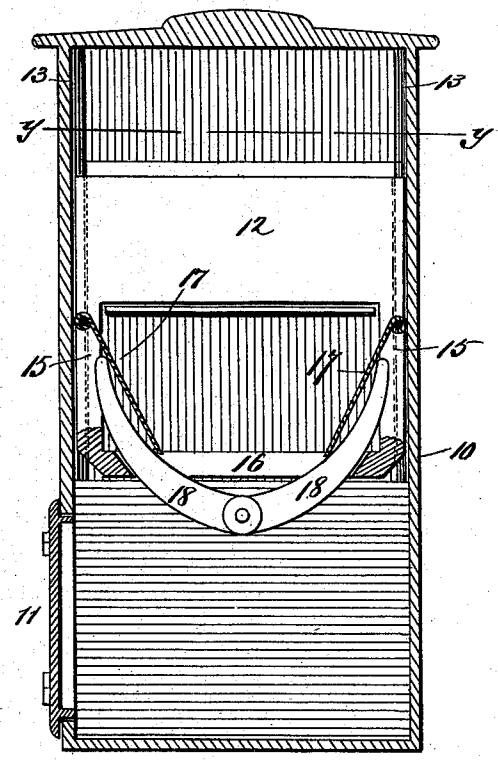


Fig. 2

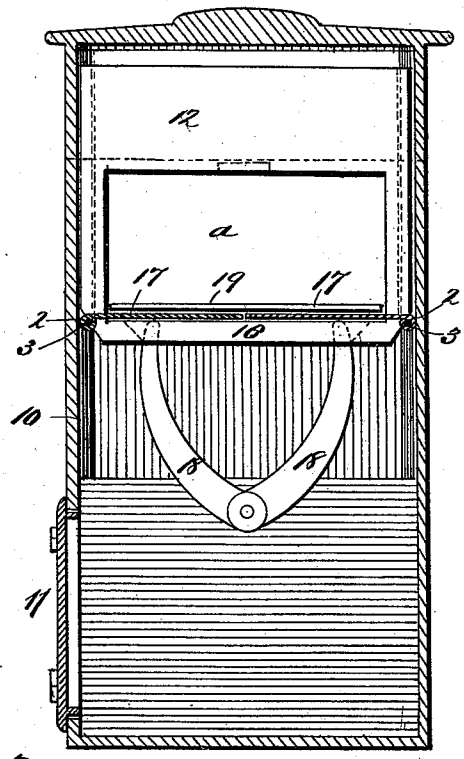
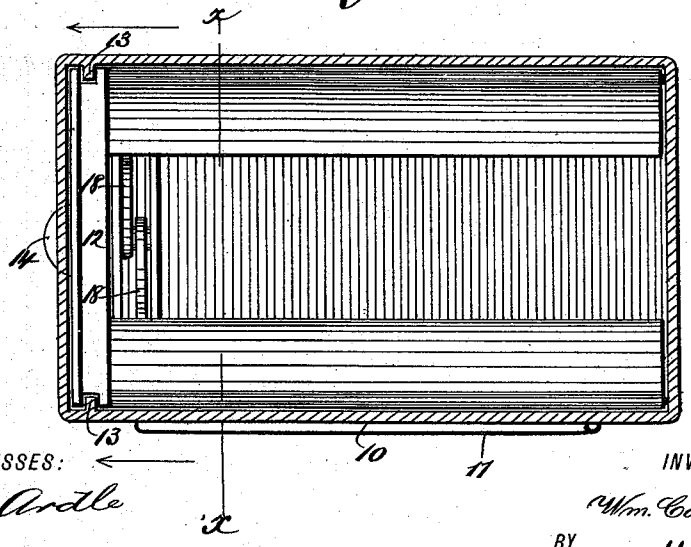


Fig. 3



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E. McClark

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ATTORNEY

N. PETERS. Photo-Lithographer. Washington, D. C.

(No Model.) 2 Sheets—Sheet 2.

W. COOK.

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Fig 4

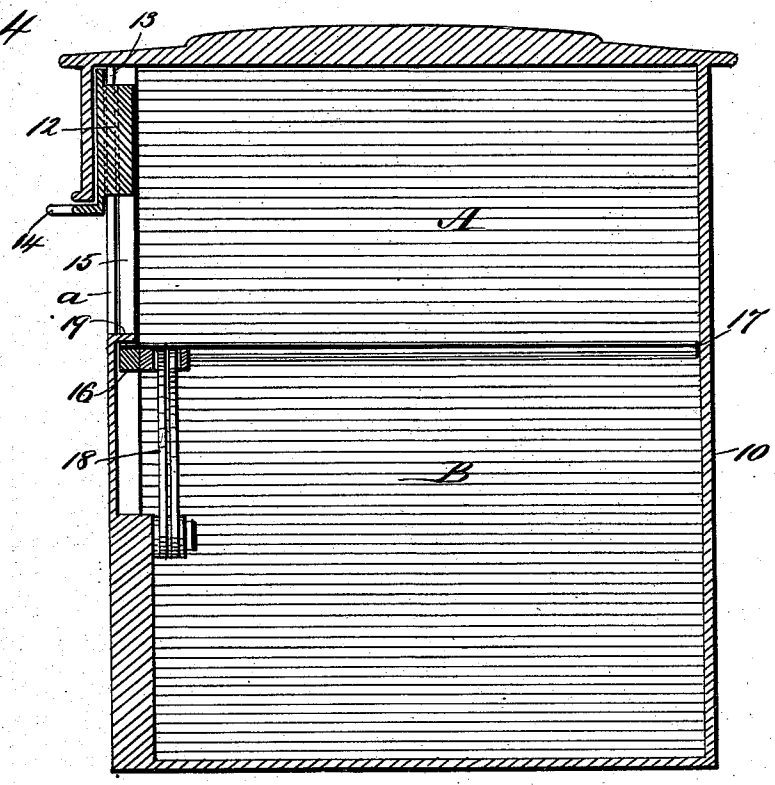
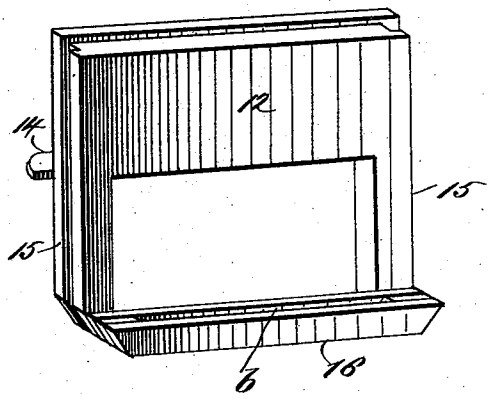


Fig 5



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLIAM COOK, OF NEW YORK, N. Y., ASSIGNOR TO HIMSELF AND PAUL D. REED, OF SAME PLACE.

LETTER-BOX.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 413,928, dated October 29, 1889.

Application filed January 8, 1889. Serial No. 295,756. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM COOK, of the city, county, and State of New York, have invented a new and Improved Letter-Box, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description.

My invention relates to street letter-boxes of the class employed by the Post-Office Department of the United States, the object of the invention being to prevent the withdrawal of the contents of the boxes by unauthorized persons; and to this end the invention consists, essentially, of a box formed with a receiving and with a stowage compartment, said compartments being separated at times by leaves which are moved to a position such as to constitute the bottom of the receiving-compartment and the top of the stowage-compartment, this movement of the leaves being brought about by connections between said leaves and a slide that is arranged in connection with a letter or package receiving opening, all as will be hereinafter more fully explained, and specifically pointed out in the claims.

Reference is to be had to the accompanying drawings, forming a part of this specification, in which similar figures and letters of reference indicate corresponding parts in all the views.

Figure 1 is a cross-sectional view of my improved letter-box, the parts being represented as they appear when the receiving-opening is closed by its slide and parts being broken away. Fig. 2 is a similar view, the parts, however, being represented as they appear when the slide which normally closes the receiving-opening is raised, these two views being taken on line x x of Fig. 3. Fig. 3 is a sectional plan view on line y y of Fig. 1. Fig. 4 is a central longitudinal sectional view, the parts being represented as they appear in Fig. 2; and Fig. 5 is a perspective view of the slide.

In the drawings, 10 represents a box or case of any desired form or construction, the box, however, being preferably made of sheet or cast metal. At one side, and near the lower part of the box, there is provided a door 11, and at one end, and above the center of the box, there is a receiving-opening a. The opening a is normally closed by a slide 12, which rides upon vertical ribs or flanges 13, and is provided with an outwardly-extending thumb-piece 14. The slide 12 is provided with downwardly-extending arms 15, that are connected by a longitudinally-slotted cross-bar 16. Just below the opening a, I mount leaves 17, the outer edges of said leaves being turned over to form eyes 2, through which eyes there are passed rods 3; or the leaves might be hinged within the case. In connection with the leaves I arrange arms 18, which normally bear against the outer faces of the leaves, as shown in Fig. 1, these arms being pivotally connected to the case and arranged so that they extend upward through the longitudinal slot b of the cross-bar 16. At the lower edge of the opening a there is arranged an inwardly-extending lip 19.

From the construction above described it will be seen that if the slide 12 be raised the defining end walls of the slot b will bear against the arms 18, and said arms in turn will bear against the under or outer sides of the leaves 17, and said leaves will be moved to the position in which they are shown in Fig. 2, the upper faces of the leaves resting closely against the under face of the lip 19.

By arranging the letter-box as above described I provide a receiving-compartment A above the leaves 17 and a stowage-compartment B below said leaves, the two compartments being separated by the leaves 17 whenever the slide is raised to clear the opening a, which said opening leads to the compartment A, so that all tampering by unauthorized persons with the contents of the compartment B is prevented. It will be noticed that the edges of the leaves 17 closely abut when they are moved to the position shown in Fig. 2. In practice this joint would be so fine as to prevent the introduction of a prying implement, and as the leaves abut against the under side of the lip 19 it will be impossible to force such an implement under the ends of the leaves.

Having thus described my invention, I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent—

1. The combination, with a case provided with a receiving-opening, of a slide normally covering said opening, leaves pivotally connected to the case-walls, and pivotally-mounted arms which bear against the leaves

and against which the slide bears, substantially as described.

2. The combination, with a case, of leaves hinged therein, arms pivotally mounted within the case beneath the leaves, a slide arranged in connection with an opening formed in the case, and connections between the slide and the arms, whereby when the slide is raised the arms will be moved inward and the leaves upward, substantially as described.

3. The combination, with a case formed with an opening *a* and a lip 19, of a slide mounted to normally close the opening *a* and formed with downwardly-extending arms that are connected to a longitudinally-slotted cross-bar, arms pivotally mounted within the case and arranged to extend upward through the cross-bar slot, and leaves pivotally mounted above the arms and below the case-lip, all arranged substantially as described.

WILLIAM COOK.

Witnesses:
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C. SEDGWICK.