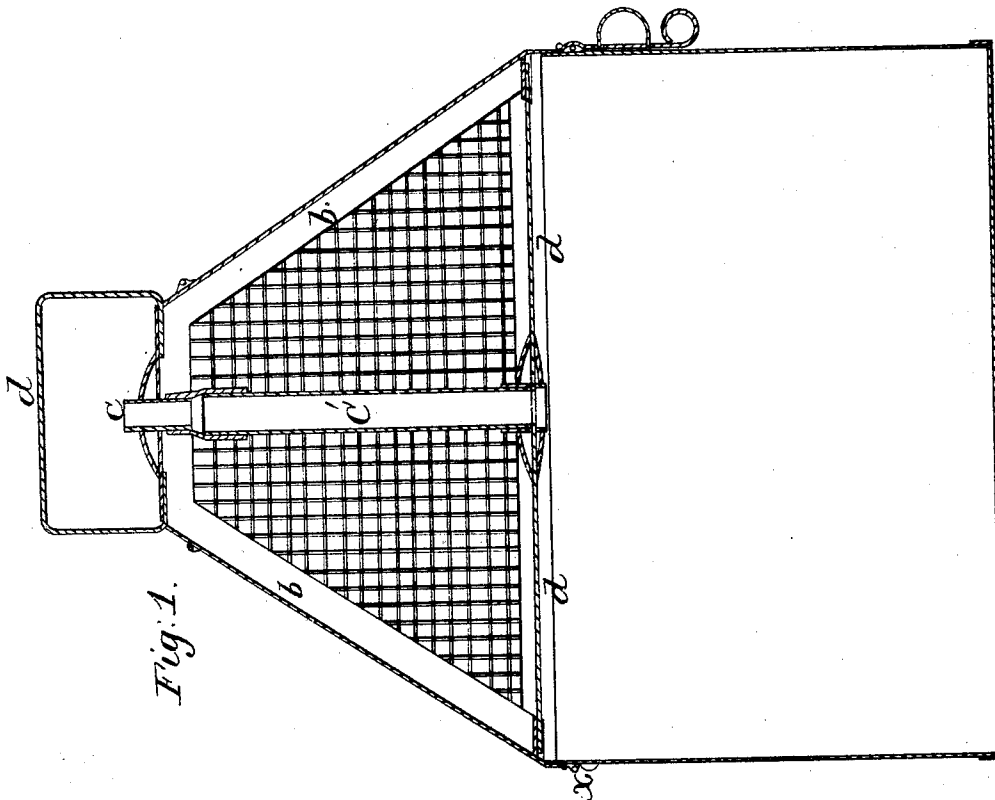
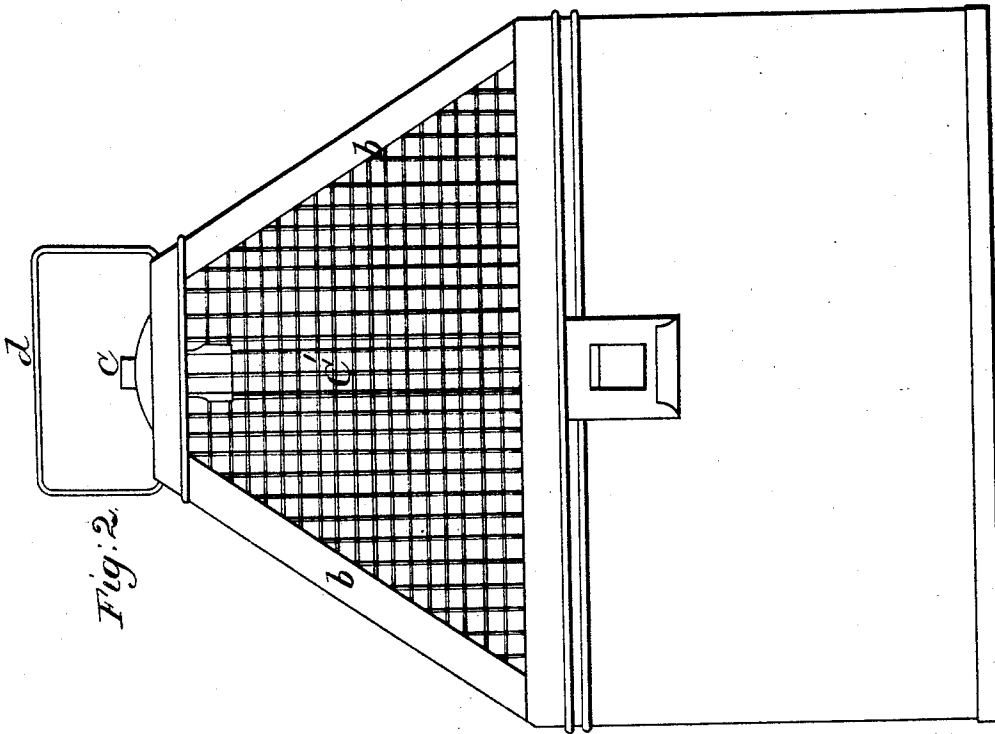


A. Cummings.
Ballot Box.

N^o 20,256. Patented May 18, 1858.



UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ALLAN CUMMINGS, OF NEW YORK, N. Y.

BALLOT-BOX.

Specification of Letters Patent No. 20,256, dated May 18, 1858.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ALLAN CUMMINGS, of New York city, county and State of New York, have invented a new and Improved
5 Ballot-Box for Securing the Purity of Elections; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full and exact description thereof with and by the aid of the drawings herewith, of which—

10 Figure 1 is a section and Fig. 2 an exterior view.

My invention consists of a sheet metal box surmounted by a conical or pyramidal cover hinged at *x*. The base of the cover is a plate
15 of glass *a, a*, and the sides of it are of perforated metal or wire netting supported by the angle straps or frame *b, b*, constituting the corners of the cover. Its truncated apex is sealed over with a sheet metal crown piece
20 from which projects a short metallic nozzle or tube *c*, which communicates with a glass tube *c'*, as shown which traverses the entire top, vertically, ending just through and below the glass plate *a, a*, in which it is
25 fixed.

By this arrangement the ballots that are inserted one by one at *c*, are visible in single file for some time, the insertion of each one displacing another at the lower end of the tube, it being understood that they do not,
30 owing to the spring of the paper and its friction in the tube, drop directly through as a general thing, but after the ballots have descended into the body of the box its entire contents are constantly visible while the
35 polling lasts and before it commences. The wire netting while not obstructing the view protects the tube and plate *a* from injury.

d is a simple wire bail or handle.

What I claim, is—

40 The peculiar formed cover or top combining the glass plate *a* transparent tube *c'* and the wire screens constituting the sides all for the purpose and substantially in the manner described.

ALLAN CUMMINGS.

Witnesses:

ANDW. DOUGLAS,
J. A. STOUTENBURGH.