No. 879,370. PATENTED FEB. 18, 1908.

W. DENNISON.

SERVICE BOX.

APPLICATION FILED JULY 8, 1907.

Fig. 1.

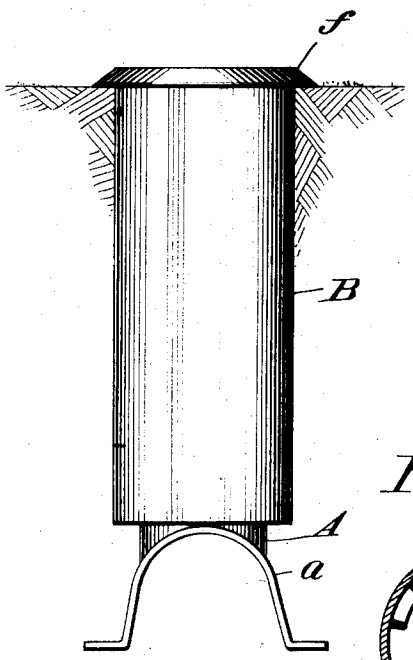


Fig. 2.

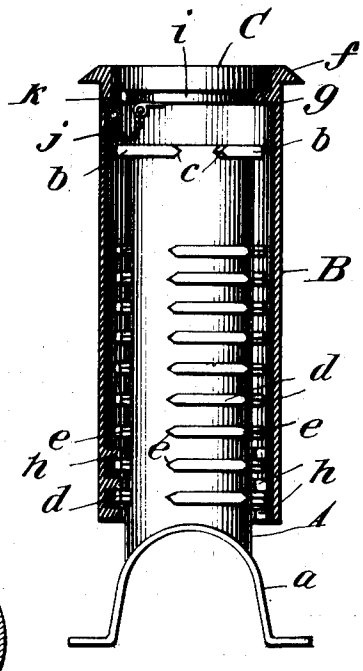


Fig. 7.

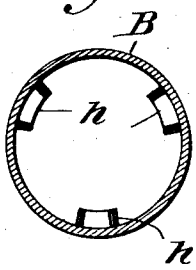


Fig. 3.

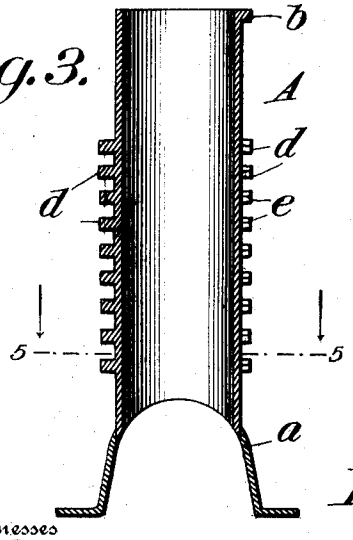


Fig. 4.

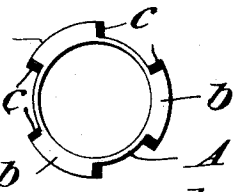


Fig. 5.

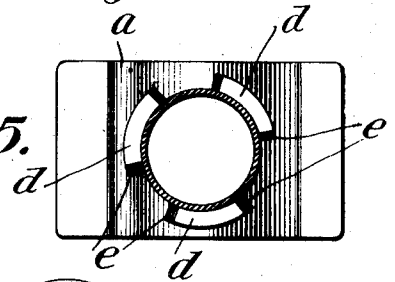
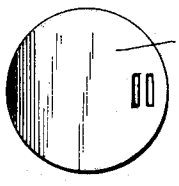


Fig. 6.



Witnesses

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLIAM DENNISON, OF NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA.

SERVICE-BOX.

No. 879,370. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Feb. 18, 1908.

Application filed July 8, 1907. Serial No. 382,660.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM DENNISON, a citizen of the United States, residing at New Orleans, in the parish of Orleans and State of Louisiana, have invented new and useful Improvements in Service-Boxes, of which the following is a specification.

My present invention pertains to service boxes constructed with a view of being adjusted as to length; and it contemplates the provision of a service box the length of which may be expeditiously and easily increased or diminished by the rectilinear adjustment of one member with respect to the other followed by the turning of one member through a part of a revolution.

Other advantageous features of my invention will be fully understood from the following description and claims when the same are read in connection with the drawings accompanying and forming part of this specification, in which:

Figure 1 is a view illustrating the service box constituting the present and preferred embodiment of my invention as the same appears when in proper position in the ground. Fig. 2 is a view illustrating the upper and exterior member of the service box in diametrical section and the lower or interior member in elevation and also illustrating the closure plug of the upper and exterior member in elevation. Fig. 3 is a detail view showing in section the lower or interior member of the box. Fig. 4 is a plan view of the upper end of said lower or interior member. Fig. 5 is a cross-section of the member mentioned, taken in the plane indicated by the line 5—5 of Fig. 3, looking downward. Fig. 6 is a plan view of the closure plug complementary to the upper or exterior member of the box. Fig. 7 is a horizontal section of the lower portion of the upper or exterior member of the box.

Similar letters designate corresponding parts in all of the views of the drawings, referring to which:

A is the lower or interior member of my novel service box, which is generally tubular in form, and is preferably cast of iron or other material compatible with the purpose of a service box. The said member A is provided at its lower end with an arch-like base *a*, and at its upper end it has equidistant circumferential projections *b* which are disposed at a right angle to its length and are provided, by preference, with beveled ends *c* for a purpose which will presently be pointed out. At about the proportional distance illustrated below the projections *b*, the member A is provided with three (more or less) vertical series of circumferential projections *d* which are also disposed at a right angle to the length of the member and are provided with beveled or pointed ends *e*. The series of projections *d* are each arranged below a space between two of the projections *b*, as best shown in Fig. 2.

B is the upper or exterior member of the box which is preferably of cast-iron, and C is the closure plug for said member B, which may be of cast-iron or other suitable material. The member B is provided at its upper end with an exterior beveled flange *f* designed to lessen the liability of a pedestrian tripping over the member; and it is also provided adjacent to its upper end with an interior flange *g*. On its inner side adjacent to its lower end the member B is provided with three (more or less) vertical series of curvilinear projections *h*, Figs. 2 and 7, the said series being equidistant, and the curvilinear projections *h* being disposed at a right angle to the length of the member, and their ends being beveled or pointed after the manner illustrated. The closure plug C has a major portion designed to rest on the flange *g* of member B, and a reduced portion *i* adapted to rest within the said flange *g*; and it is preferably connected in a permanent though loose manner with the member B through the medium of a chain *j* as shown in Fig. 2. This chain *j* is designed to pass through a notch *k* in the flange *b*, Fig. 2, in order not to interfere with the reduced portion of the closure plug C resting snugly within the said flange *g*.

In the practical use of my novel service box, when it is desired to adjust the box as to length so as to properly accommodate the box to the depth at which a cut-off valve is arranged below the surface, it is simply necessary to turn the upper or outer member B through a part of a revolution so as to place the projections *h* or rather the three series of projections *h* in the spaces between the three series of projections *d* on the lower or interior member A, and then move the member B rectilinearly with respect to the member A until the box is of the length desired, and then turn the member B through a part of a revolution so as to position its projections *h* between the circumferential projec-

tions *d* of the member A, when, as will be readily apparent, the member B will be connected to and supported by the member A, and this in such manner that the member B is free to be raised to a certain extent on and with respect to the member A by the action of frost. Incident to the described turning of the member B through a part of a revolution, it will be observed that the beveled ends of the projections *d* and *h* will facilitate the entrance of the said projection *h* into the spaces between the projections *d*.

The circumferential projections *b* at the upper end of the member A are arranged in vertical alinement with the spaces between the three series of projections *d*, and hence it follows that when the member B is moved rectilinearly up on the member A, the uppermost projections *h* of said member B will bring up against the projections *b* of the member A, and in that way prevent casual disconnection of the members. It will also be seen that when a very short service box is desired, the projections *b* on member A may be positioned under the flange *g* of member B.

It will be gathered from the foregoing that to increase or diminish the length of my novel service box, it is simply necessary to move the member B rectilinearly with respect to the member A to the extent desired, and then turn the said member B through a part of a revolution, and it is obvious that this operation may be expeditiously and easily accomplished even when the box has been in the ground for a considerable period, and rust has collected on the projections of the members. It will also be gathered that the box as a whole is susceptible of being cheaply produced and is well adapted to withstand the usage to which service boxes are ordinarily subjected.

The construction herein illustrated and described constitutes the best embodiment of my invention at present known to me, but it is obvious that in practice such changes in the form and relative arrangement of parts may be made as fairly fall within the scope of my invention as defined in the claims appended.

Having described my invention, what I claim and desire to secure by Letters-Patent, is:

1. In a service box, the combination with a lower or interior member having a base and upper circumferential projections separated by vertical spaces and also having vertical series of circumferential projections separated by vertical spaces in vertical alinement with the upper projections and further having the upper projections and the vertical series of projections disposed at right angles to its length; of an upper or exterior member arranged to receive the lower or interior member and having on the inner side of its lower portion projections separated by spaces and extending at a right angle to its length and arranged when the upper or exterior member is turned through a part of a revolution to assume positions between projections on the lower or interior member.

2. In a service box, the combination with a lower or interior member having a base and upper circumferential projections *b* separated by vertical spaces and also having vertical series of circumferential projections *d* separated by vertical spaces in vertical alinement with the upper projections *b* and further having the projections *b* and *d* disposed at right angles to its length; of an upper or exterior member arranged to receive the lower or interior member and having an exterior beveled flange at its upper end and an interior flange adjacent to said end, and also having on the inner side of its lower portion projections *h* separated by spaces of the width described and extending at a right angle to its length and arranged when the upper or exterior member is turned through a part of a revolution to assume positions between projections on the lower or interior member, and a closure plug loosely connected with the upper or exterior member and arranged to rest on the interior flange thereof and having a lower reduced portion adapted to rest snugly within the said flange.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand in presence of two subscribing witnesses.

WILLIAM DENNISON

Witnesses:
GEO. W. KENDALL,
WILBUR J. DINKEL.