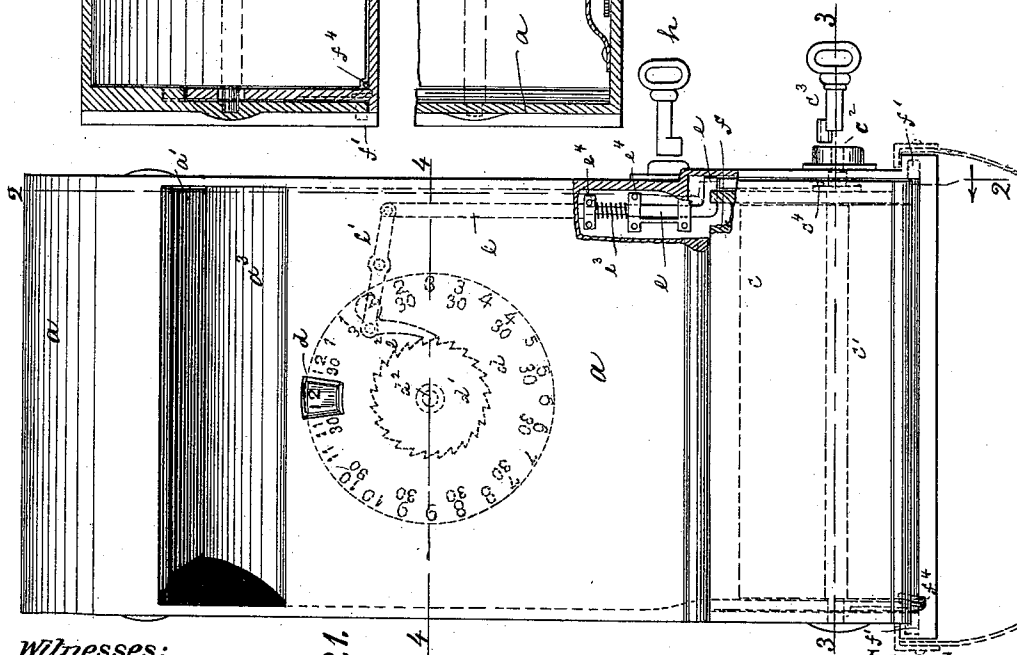
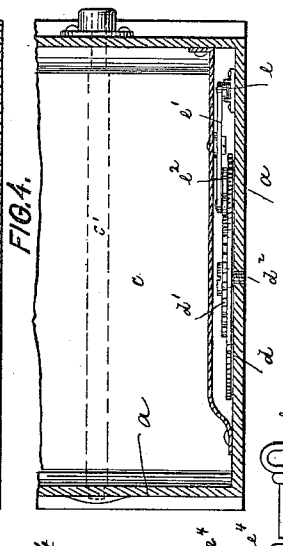
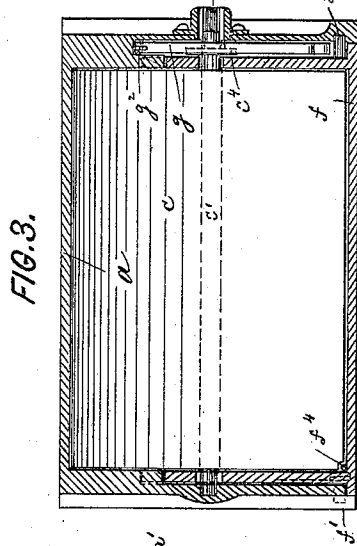
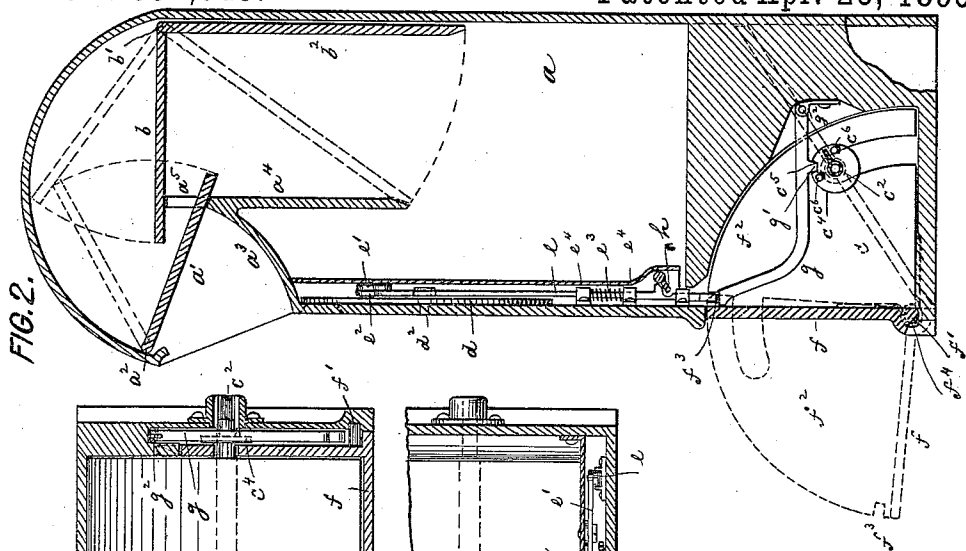


(No. Model.)

H. HUEG.
LETTER BOX.

No. 538,045.

Patented Apr. 23, 1895.



Witnesses:
John Decker
William Shufy

Inventor:
Herman Hueg
by his attorneys
Roeder & Bissell

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

HERMAN HUEG, OF LONG ISLAND CITY, NEW YORK.

LETTER-BOX.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 538,045, dated April 23, 1895.

Application filed January 29, 1895. Serial No. 536,528. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, HERMAN HUEG, of Long Island City, Queens county, New York, have invented an Improved Letter-Box, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to an improved letter box and more particularly to a novel construction of the parts for introducing and withdrawing the mail and for setting the dial that displays the hours of collection.

In the accompanying drawings: Figure 1 is a front elevation of my improved letter box; Fig. 2, a longitudinal section on line 2, 2, Fig. 1; Fig. 3, a horizontal section on line 3, 3, Fig. 1, and Fig. 4 a similar section on line 4, 4, Fig. 1.

The letter *a*, represents the case of the letter box having its drop protected by the lid *a'*, hinged to the arched roof of the box at *a*². This lid is adapted to rest when closed upon an upwardly extending curved guard *a*³, from the free end of which depends a vertical plate or stop *a*⁴. Within the box *a*, there is hinged at *b'*, and back of the drop, an angle plate *b*, *b*², the horizontal arm *b*, of which rests normally upon a lug *a*⁵, of box *a*, a short distance above lid *a'*.

When the lid *a'*, is opened to introduce a letter or other mailable matter, the lid will raise plate *b*, and swing the plate *b*², into contact with stop *a*⁴, (dotted lines Fig. 2.) In this way the contents of the mail box are protected against pilfering. When the lid *a'*, is released, the plate *b*², will recede from stop *a*⁴, and the mail will drop into the box. It will be seen that with my construction but one hand need be used to introduce the mail.

The mail may be collected either at the front or at the bottom of the box and to this effect a double delivery mechanism may be provided. The case *a* is open at the bottom and provided with a tilting bottom plate *c*, fixed centrally to a rock shaft *c'*, hung across the case. One end of this shaft is reduced and constitutes the cylindrical arbor *c*², of a key *c*³. By rocking the shaft *c'*, the bottom *c*, is oscillated to drop the contents of the box into a mail bag adapted to be suspended beneath the box.

To the face of the box *a*, there is secured a dial *d*, upon which the hours of collection are

consecutively marked. This dial is operated by the oscillation of bottom *c*, so that the withdrawal of the mail will automatically set the dial. The mechanism for effecting this result is as follows: Upon the shaft *c'*, is set a disk *c*⁴, having stops *c*⁶, and notch *c*⁵. The notch *c*⁵, is normally engaged by a lug *g'*, of a lever *g*, hinged within the box at *g*². The free end of lever *g*, engages the lower end of rod *e*, the upper end of which is pivoted to a lever *e'*, carrying the pivoted pawl *e*². This pawl engages a ratchet wheel *d'*, fast on spindle *d*², of dial *d*. A coiled spring *e*³, surrounding rod *e*, and placed upon an offset of the same between a pair of fixed guides *e*⁴, has the tendency to normally draw the rod *e*, down. When the key *c*³, is introduced and turned to rock the shaft *c'*, its bit will lift the lug *g'*, out of the notch *c*⁵, to unlock the bottom *c*, and at the same time to raise rod *e*, and thereby lower pawl *e*², into engagement with a fresh tooth of ratchet wheel *d'*. When the shaft is rocked backward, the lug *g'*, will re-enter the notch *c*⁵, and thus the rod *e*, will draw the pawl *e*², up to revolve the dial for the distance of one figure and cause it to display the next hour of delivery. Should it be desired to revolve the dial for more than one figure, it is only necessary to oscillate the bottom as many times as it is desired to advance the dial. The stops *c*⁶, on disk *c*⁴, have for their object to serve as contact points for the key bit, by which the disks *c*⁴, and consequently the shaft *c'*, is carried around.

If the letter box is to be adapted for indoor or private use, it is desirable that the mail may be taken out, not from the bottom but at the front. To this effect, I provide a lower delivery opening which is protected by a lid *f*, hinged to the box at *f'*. This lid is also so constructed that by opening and closing it the dial *d*, is set. To this effect an inwardly projecting sector *f*², secured to the lid is provided with a notch *f*³, which is engaged by the lower beveled end of rod *e*, when the lid is closed. This rod thus constitutes in effect a latch which may be raised by a key *h*, to release the lid *f*, which will at once be thrown open by a spring *f*⁴. Upon closing the lid, the rod *e*, will be again lowered to re-engage notch *f*³, and thus an up and down motion of

the rod will have been effected to revolve the dial d , in the manner previously described.

What I claim is—

1. The combination in a letter box having
5 guard a^3 , and depending stop a^4 , with a lid adapted to rest upon the guard, and with an angle plate hinged within the box, back of the guard, all being so constructed that the lid when raised, is adapted to engage the upper
10 arm of the angle plate, and the stop is adapted to engage the lower arm of said plate, substantially as specified.

2. The combination in a letter box having an open lower end, of a tilting bottom plate
15 with a rock shaft upon which such plate is centrally mounted, a lever operated by the

rock shaft, a spring rod operated by the lever, and a dial operated by the spring rod, substantially as specified.

3. The combination in a letter box of a tilt- 20
ing bottom having a rock shaft, with a notched disk mounted thereon, a lever having a lug that engages the disk, a rod operated by the lever, a pawl operated by the rod, a ratchet wheel operated by the pawl and a dial mount- 25
ed upon the ratchet spindle, substantially as specified.

HERMAN HUEG.

Witnesses:

WILLIAM SCHULZ,
F. V. BRIESEN.