(No Model.)

W. J. SCULTHORP.

MAIL RECEIVER.

No. 365,410. Patented June 28, 1887.

Fig. 1.

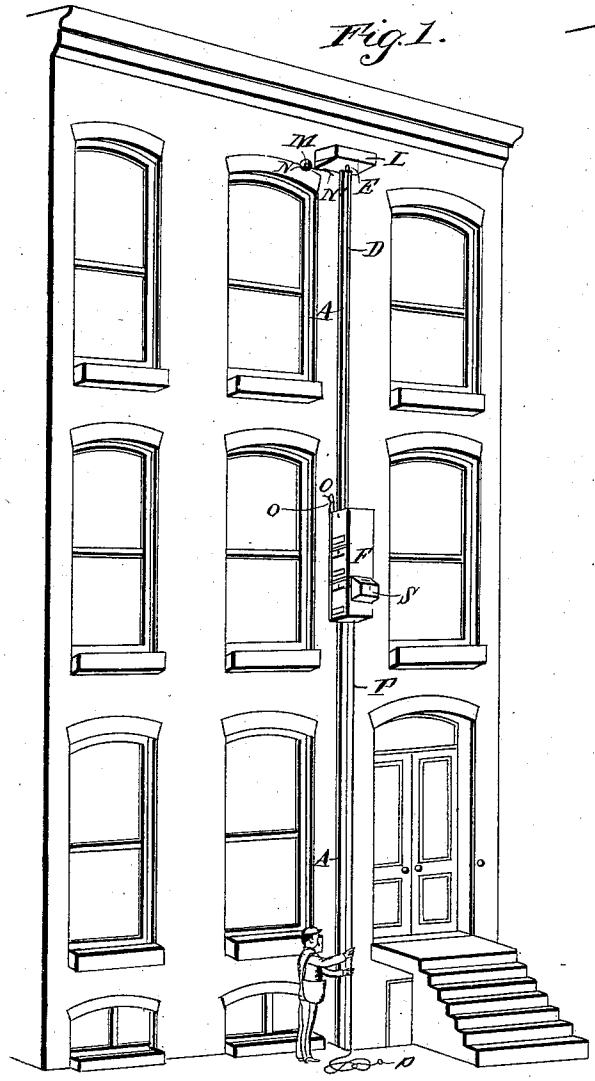


Fig. 2.

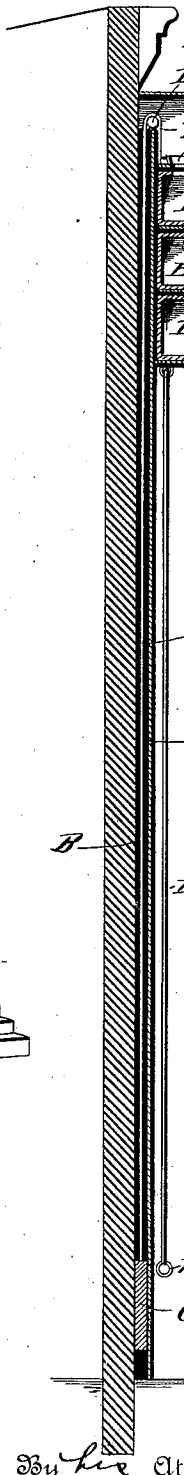


Fig. 3.

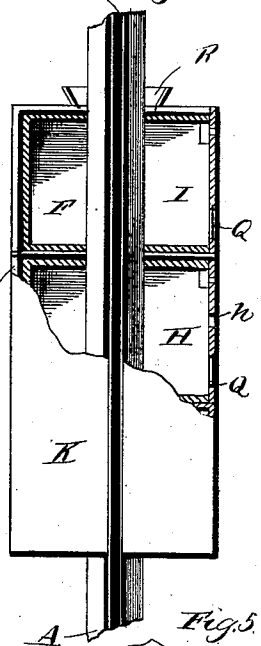


Fig. 5.

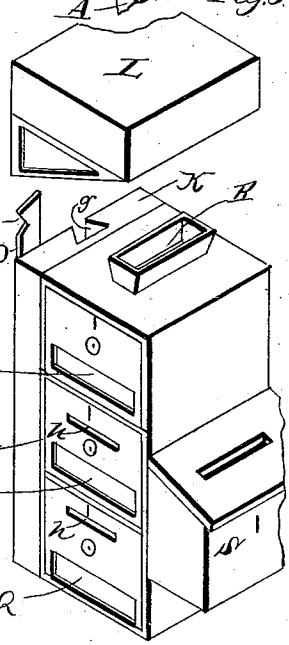


Fig. 6.

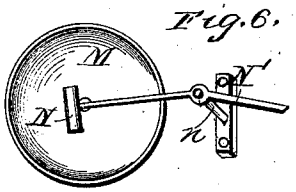
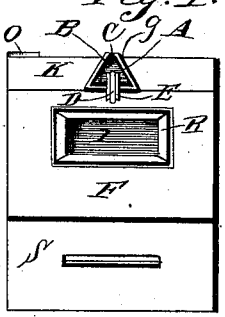


Fig. 4.



Witnesses

C. L. Taylor,

C. E. Doyle.

Inventor

W. J. Sculthorp

By his Attorneys

C. A. Snow & Co.

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

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WALTER J. SCULTHORP, OF COLUMBIAN GROVE, VIRGINIA, ASSIGNOR OF ONE-HALF TO OSCAR A. SCARLETT, OF PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA.

MAIL-RECEIVER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 365,410, dated June 28, 1887.

Application filed December 27, 1886. Serial No. 222,684. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WALTER J. SCULTHORP, a citizen of the United States, residing at Columbian Grove, in the county of Lunenburg and State of Virginia, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Mail-Receivers, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to an improvement in mail-receivers; and it consists in a certain novel construction clearly described hereinafter, and specifically pointed out in the claims.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is a perspective view of my improved mail-receiver arranged alongside of a house. Fig. 2 is a vertical longitudinal section of the same. Fig. 3 is a rear elevation, partly in section, of the receiver. Fig. 4 is a top plan view with the cap removed. Fig. 5 is a perspective view of the receiver detached. Fig. 6 is a perspective view of the alarm-bell and attachments.

Referring to the drawings, in which similar letters denote corresponding parts in all the figures, A designates a post or standard triangular in cross-section and provided with a triangular groove, B, extending the entire length of the post. Fitted in the said groove B is a triangular weight, C, adapted to move vertically therein and suspended by a rope, D, which passes up the groove B and over a pulley, E, at the upper end thereof. The rope D passes from the pulley E down on the outside of the standard A, and is attached to the top of a box, F, which is the receiver for the mail matter. Said box comprises two main divisions, the compartment G, containing the lock-boxes H, for the letters, &c., and the lock-box I, for the second-class matter, papers, &c., and the block K, secured to the back of the compartment G and having a triangular slot, *g*, therein to receive the post A and slide vertically thereon.

It will be understood that the triangular shape of the weight and the slot in which it moves in the post is designed to prevent the said weight from slipping out of the slot and becoming jammed, and also to guide the weight in its movements.

The outside of the post and the slot *g* in the box are made dovetailed in shape for the same reason, the post thus serving as a guide for the mail-box and preventing any tendency to move laterally.

L is a cap or cover secured permanently over the receiver—as, for instance, to the wall of the house—and designed to receive the box and protect it from the weather when drawn up. Close to said cap, and also secured to the wall of the house, is an alarm-bell, M, having a hammer or striker, N, provided with a lever-arm, N′, pivoted to a staple, *n*. The free end of the said lever-arm N′ is adapted to be operated by the stationary dog O, attached to the receiving box F, and having the notch *o* to receive the end of the lever N′ after the bell has been rung, and to cause the said bell to be rung when the box F is pulled down. The method of operating this will be understood. The notch *o* receives the end of the lever-arm N′, and as the box F is pulled down the notch continues to hold the arm N′ and pull it down. When the dog O has been pulled down far enough to release the arm N′, it flies up and the hammer or striker, dropping suddenly by its own weight, strikes the alarm-bell; or there may be a spring on the pivot of the lever-arm N′, which causes the striker to strike the bell by the recoil of the said spring after being tightened or distended by the drawing down of the lever-arm N′ by the notch *o*.

P is a rope provided with a handle or ring, *p*, attached to the bottom of the mail-box F, to enable the box to be drawn down to insert the mail matter, &c. When released, the weight C being heavier than the box F and the mail, the said box will ascend, drawn up by the weight, and when said box reaches the top of the post A the alarm-bell will be rung by the arm O striking the lever N′ and operating the hammer or striker N.

The lock-boxes H are for the letters, having a slit, *h*, in the door for the reception of the mail; and there may be any number of these boxes—for instance, a separate box for each occupant of the office—the glass, Q, in the front of the box having a number or the name of the owner thereon. The upper box, I, is designed for second-class matter—newspapers,

&c.—said newspapers, &c., being admitted to the box through the funnel-shaped aperture R on top of the receiving-box F.

S is a mail-box secured to the side of the receiving-box F and designed to hold letters, &c., to be mailed, the key of which box S is held by the postman. It will be readily understood that the mail in this box S will be taken out by the postman who is collecting the mail.

My invention may also be used inside of a building in the same way as a dumb-waiter, in which case the cover L may be dispensed with.

By the use of my invention the postman and newsboy are enabled to send the mail and papers up to the second, third, or fourth floor of a building without the necessity of delivering them personally. This will save the postman much valuable time, and also be a vast convenience. The persons in the office are also relieved of the necessity of carrying or sending the letters to be mailed to the letter-box or to the post-office, as if placed in the box S they will be collected by the postman in his usual rounds.

I do not wish to be understood as limiting myself to the exact construction herein described—as, for instance, I may not have the box S on the side of the box F, but may substitute therefor an additional lock-box beneath the box F, and I may not use the weight C to raise the box F, as it may be operated by a variety of means.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim, and desire to secure by Letters Patent of the United States, is—

1. A mail-receiver comprising the post A, having a triangular groove, B, therein adapted to receive the triangular weight C, and pulley E at the top of the groove B, and the box F, suspended upon the rope D, which passes over the pulley E and is attached at the other end to the weight C, substantially as described, for the purpose set forth.

2. A mail-receiver comprising the post A, triangular in cross section, and the receiving-box consisting of a compartment, G, for the mail-boxes, and the block K, attached to the back of the compartment G and adapted to be detached to remove the box F from the post, substantially as described, for the purpose set forth.

3. A mail-receiver comprising a hollow post, A, triangular in cross section and having a triangular groove therein for the weight C, a receiving-box, F, having a dovetailed groove therein to fit over and slide upon the post A, and means for raising and lowering said box, substantially as described.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing as my own I have hereto affixed my signature in presence of two witnesses.

WALTER J. SCULTHORP.

Witnesses:

WM. N. MOORE,

E. G. SIGGERS.