No. 758,258. PATENTED APR. 26, 1904.

A. M. KINDWALL.

RURAL MAIL DELIVERY CASE.

APPLICATION FILED FEB. 8, 1904.

NO MODEL. 2 SHEETS—SHEET 1.

Fig. 1.

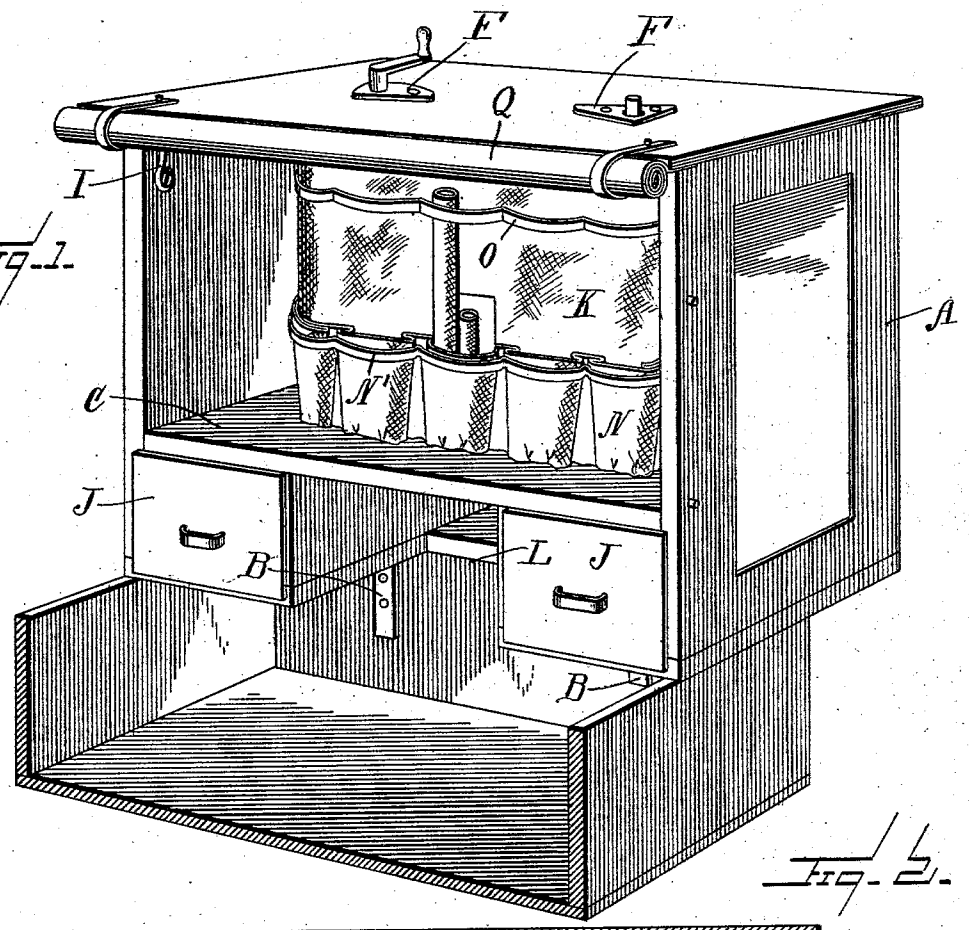
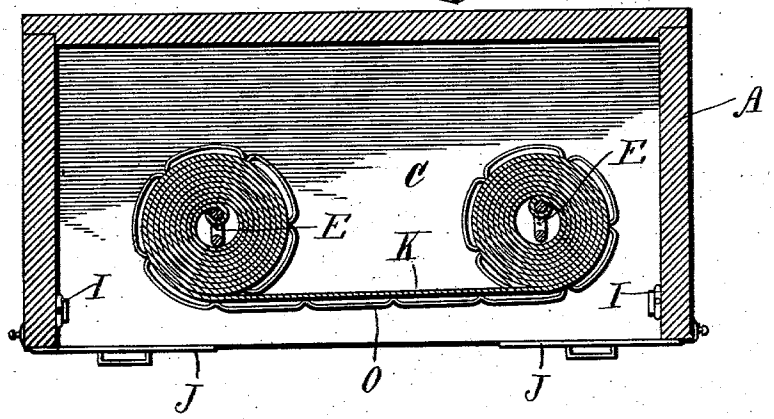


Fig. 2.



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NO MODEL. 2 SHEETS—SHEET 2.

Fig. 3.

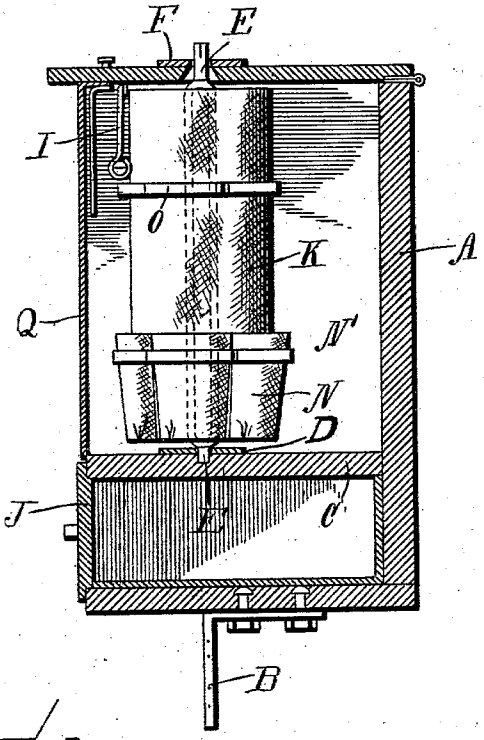
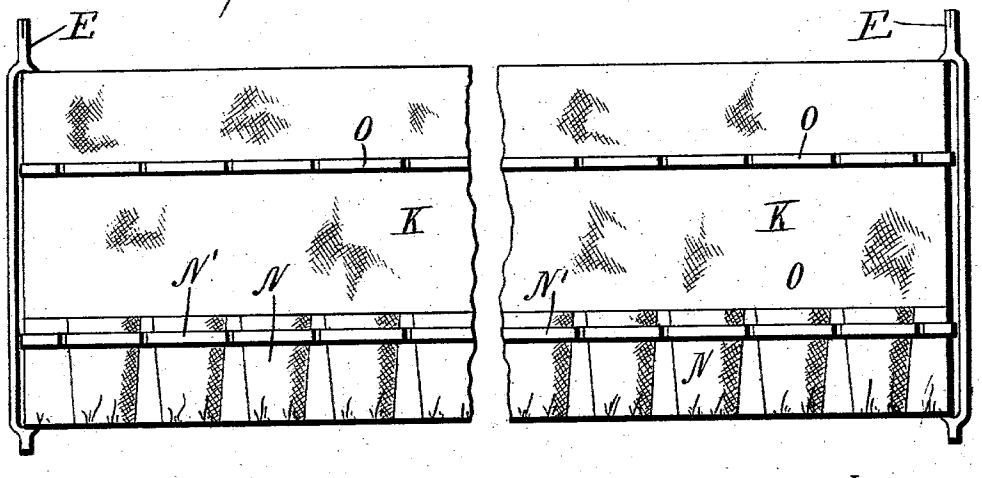


Fig. 4.



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No. 758,258. Patented April 26, 1904.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ABEL M. KINDWALL, OF ALBERT CITY, IOWA.

RURAL MAIL-DELIVERY CASE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 758,258, dated April 26, 1904.

Application filed February 8, 1904. Serial No. 192,626. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ABEL M. KINDWALL, a citizen of the United States, residing at Albert City, in the county of Buena Vista and State of Iowa, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Rural Mail-Delivery Cases; and I do declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and to the letters of reference marked thereon, which form a part of this specification.

This invention relates to new and useful improvements in rural free-delivery apparatus; and the object of the invention is to produce a device for attachment to a wagon in place of a dashboard and having means whereby mail may be conveyed by convenient apparatus, whereby it may be easily distributed along the route and mail collected.

More specifically, the invention comprises a box adapted for attachment to a wagon and having two reels which are removably held within the box, and in the provision of a series of pockets which are adapted to wind from one reel to the other and to carry mail.

The invention consists, further, in various details of construction and in combinations and arrangements of parts, which will be hereinafter fully described and then specifically defined in the appended claims.

My invention is illustrated in the accompanying drawings, which, with the letters of reference marked thereon, form a part of this application, and in which drawings—

Figure 1 is a perspective view showing my improved attachment as applied to a portion of a wagon. Fig. 2 is a sectional view, parts being shown in elevation. Fig. 3 is a sectional view vertically through the attachment, and Fig. 4 is a detail view of the reels and the mail-carrying box.

Reference now being had to the details of the drawings by letter, A designates a casing which may be of any suitable size and shape and adapted to be fastened to a wagon, preferably in place of a dashboard, by means of the angle-irons B. Mounted upon the transverse partition C of said casing are the plates D, which are apertured to receive the lower ends of the winding-posts or reels E, the upper ends of which reels are adapted to have bearings in plates F, which are fixed to the hinged top of the casing. The upper ends of said reels or shafts are made so that a crank may be fitted over the same for the purpose of rotating one or the other, as may be desired, to cause the band K to wind from one post to the other. Said band or cloth is provided with a series of pockets N at its upper edge, which may be suitably lined, and elastic straps N′ are provided for holding the mail-matter in said pockets, while loops O of elastic material may be provided above the pockets for assisting in holding the mail in place. The top of the casing is hinged along its forward edge, and a storm-curtain Q is fastened to the rear edge of said top, and fastening-hooks I are pivotally mounted within the casing and adapted to engage eyes adjacent to the swinging edge of the top. Underneath said partition C, I have illustrated drawers J, in which stamps, cash, or other articles may be held and within convenient reach of the operator's seat of the wagon. The bottom of the casing is cut away, as at L, in order to make room for the feet of the driver, who sits on the seat near by.

The operation of my device is as follows: For collecting mail the operator raises the lid or top of the casing, removes the two reels or posts carrying the canvas with pockets therein, and going into the post-office assorts the mail in the various pockets for persons along his route. The two reels, with the mail-matter applied in the pockets, are inserted in the casing, and as the mail is taken from the successive pockets the operator by rotating one of the reels will cause the canvas to wind from one post or reel to the other, and also as mail is collected along the route it may be placed in the pockets and wound from one reel to the other, and after the delivery has been made the mail-matter which has been taken up may be removed from the pockets after the reels are taken from the casing and the canvas unwound.

While I have shown a particular form of apparatus embodying my mail-carrying appa-

ratus, it will be understood that I may make alterations, if desired, in the various details of construction without in any way departing from the spirit of the invention.

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

1. A rural mail-delivery apparatus adapted for attachment to a wagon, comprising a casing, a top hinged thereto and means for fastening the swinging edge of said top, a partition in said casing, plates mounted thereon, plates upon the hinged top of the casing, reels journaled in said plates, canvas fastened to said reels, pockets formed upon said canvas and elastic loops about said pockets and above the same, and a crank adapted to fit over the tops of said reels for rotating the same, as set forth.

2. A rural mail-delivery apparatus adapted for attachment to a wagon, comprising a casing, a top hinged thereto and means for fastening the swinging edge of said top, a partition in said casing, plates mounted thereon, plates upon the hinged top of the casing, reels journaled in said plates, canvas fastened to said reels, pockets formed upon said canvas and elastic loops about said pockets and above the same, and a crank adapted to fit over the tops of said reels for rotating the same, the bottom of said casing being cut away, and drawers mounted upon either side of said cut-away portion, as set forth.

In testimony whereof I hereunto affix my signature in presence of two witnesses.

ABEL M. KINDWALL.

Witnesses:
J. A. KINDWALL,
A. GULBRANSON.