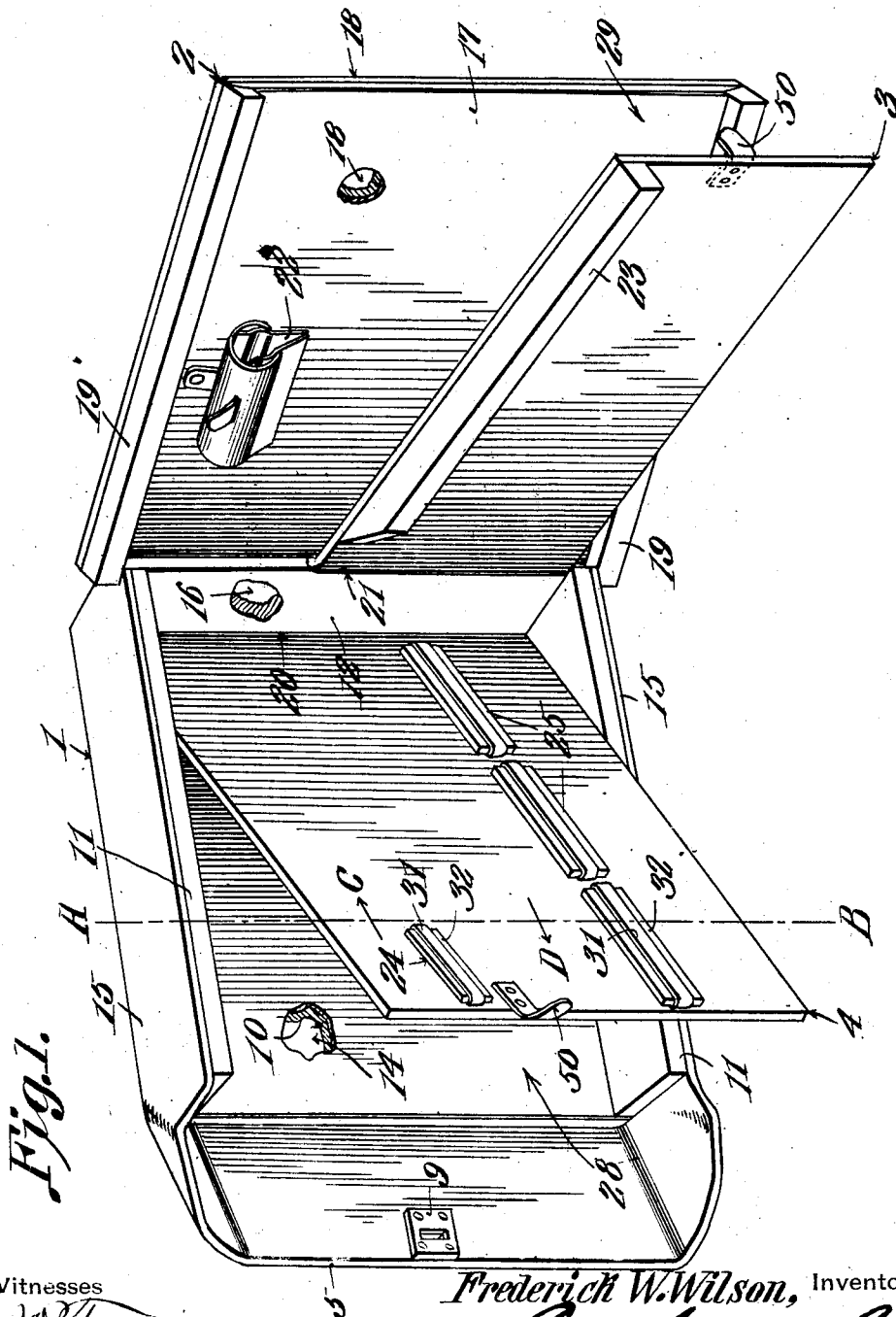


F. W. WILSON.
 LETTER CARRIER'S PORTFOLIO.
 APPLICATION FILED FEB. 7, 1911.

1,037,388.

Patented Sept. 3, 1912.

2 SHEETS—SHEET 1.



Witnesses

W. J. Toney
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Frederick W. Wilson, Inventor.

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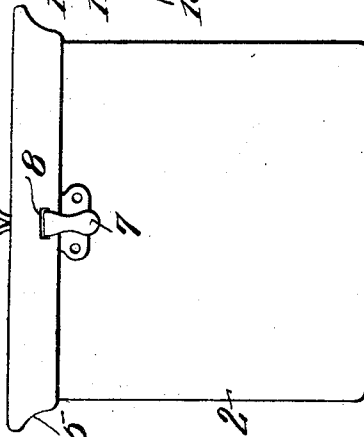
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2 SHEETS—SHEET 2.

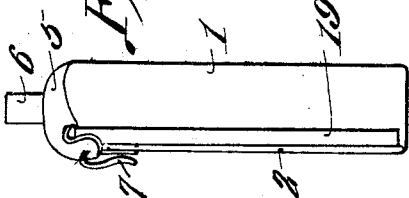
Fig. 2.



Witnesses

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Fig. 3.



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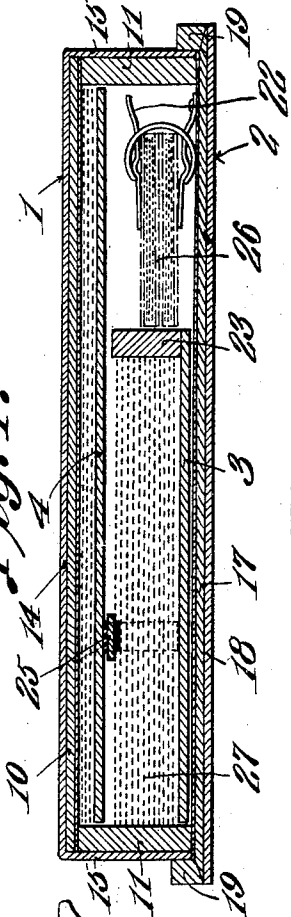
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Fig. 4.



UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

FREDERICK W. WILSON, OF UPPER MARLBORO, MARYLAND.

LETTER-CARRIER'S PORTFOLIO.

1,037,388.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Sept. 3, 1912.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, FREDERICK W. WILSON, a citizen of the United States, residing at Upper Marlboro, in the county of Prince Georges and State of Maryland, have invented a new and useful Letter-Carrier's Portfolio, of which the following is a specification.

The device forming the subject matter of this application, is adapted to be used primarily by rural mail carriers.

It is the object of this invention to provide a portfolio for the use of mail carriers and others, so constructed that articles may be easily mounted in the portfolio and removed therefrom, the portfolio being so constructed that, when closed together, it will house its contents against the elements.

Another object of the invention is to provide a portfolio adapted to hold a plurality of articles, the portfolio being so constructed that when the same is closed together, the articles will be prevented from sliding about, or changing their relative positions within the portfolio.

With the foregoing and other objects in view which will appear as the description proceeds, the invention resides in the combination and arrangement of parts and in the details of construction hereinafter described and claimed, it being understood that changes in the precise embodiment of invention herein disclosed can be made within the scope of what is claimed without departing from the spirit of the invention.

In the drawings,—Figure 1 shows the invention in perspective, and swung open; Fig. 2 is a side elevation showing the device in closed position; Fig. 3 is an end elevation showing the device in closed position; Fig. 4 is a transverse section upon the line A—B of Fig. 1, looking in the direction of the arrow C, the device, however, being folded into the closed position shown in Fig. 3; Fig. 5 is a transverse section upon the line A—B of Fig. 1, looking in the direction of the arrow D, the device, however, as in the preceding figure, being folded together in the closed position shown in Fig. 3; Fig. 6 is a fragmental elevation showing one of the racks in detail; and Fig. 7 is a transverse section upon the line E—F of Fig. 6.

Referring to the drawings, and describ-

ing the invention in general terms, the same consists of a box-like body 1, open at one side and at one end. To one end of the body 1 a lid 2 is hinged, this lid 2 serving as a closure for the open side of the body 1. A narrow leaf 3 and a wide leaf 4 are hinged to the body 1, and the body 1 is provided with a flexible flap 5, adapted to be folded over the open end of the body; and over the end of the lid 2, when the device is closed, as shown in Figs. 3 and 2. The flap 5 carries an upstanding eye 6, whereby the structure may be suspended from a shoulder sling, or from a supporting nail. The lid 2 carries a latch 7, adapted to extend through a hole in the flap 5, the inner face of the flap 5 being provided, about the periphery of the hole 8, with a face plate 9, seen in Fig. 1.

In a more detailed description, the body 1 consists of a stiff back 10, side walls 11, and an end wall 12. The body 1 is inclosed by a covering, ordinarily of leather, or other water-proof material. The flap 5 is included in this covering, the covering being carried along the back 10, as shown at 14, and being extended upon the side walls 11 as at 15. The covering is carried across the end wall 12 as at 16, and is extended upon the backing 17 of the lid 2, as denoted by the numeral 18. The lid 2 carries, along the lateral edges, outstanding ribs 19. These ribs 19 overlap the side walls of the body 1, and serve to protect the contents of the portfolio against the elements.

The wide leaf 4 is of substantially the same width as the body 1. This leaf is preferably hinged, as shown at 20 in Fig. 1, in the angle defined by the back 10 and the end wall 12 of the body. The narrow leaf 3 is of approximately one-half the width of the wide leaf 4. This narrow leaf is hinged, as shown at 21, to the body 1 along the outer edge of the end wall 12 of the body.

Secured to the inner face of the lid 2 is an article-holder, the same ordinarily consisting of a spring clip 22. A ledge 23 stands from the narrow leaf 3, along the upper edge thereof. Secured to the wide leaf 4, adjacent the upper, outer corner thereof, is an upper rack 24. Secured to the wide leaf 4, below the rack 24, and extended transversely of the wide leaf, are a plurality of lower racks 25. The specific

construction of these racks 24 and 25 will be dealt with hereinafter, and fully explained.

The clip 22 which is upon the lid 2 is adapted to hold one or more books, for instance, money order books, receipt books for registered letters, and like articles which a mail carrier must ordinarily take with him upon his journey. These books are clearly seen in Fig. 4, and are there denoted by the numeral 26. The lower racks 25 which are upon the wide leaf 4 adjacent the lower end thereof, are adapted to receive envelopes, post cards, and the like, as seen in Figs. 4 and 5, and there denoted by the numeral 27. The upper rack 24 may be employed for holding a plurality of books of stamps, as shown at 30 in Fig. 5. The space 28 which exists between the wide leaf 4 and the back 10 of the body may be employed to contain sheets of paraffin paper, between which, sheets of stamps are interleaved. The space 29 upon the inner face of the lid 2, below the clip 22, may be employed to support papers of various sorts, while the same are being written upon.

The clip 22 is so positioned upon the lid 2 that when the books 26 are in this clip, the books 26 will register between the book of stamps 30 which is within the rack 24, and the hinged edge 20 of the wide leaf 4; the device being in the closed position shown in Figs. 2 and 3. When the device is open, as shown in Fig. 1, the narrow leaf 3 may be swung into contact with the lid 2, the ledge 23 upon the narrow leaf 3, in such instance, extending beneath the books 26 which are in the clip 22, and preventing the books from being displaced from the clip. When the device is positioned in closed form, as seen in Figs. 4 and 5, this ledge 23 will register between the book of stamps 30 and the books 26 upon the one hand, and the post cards 7, and the like, denoted by the numeral 27, upon the other hand. By this construction, the contents of the portfolio cannot slide transversely of the portfolio and damage each other, nor become intermingled. Obviously, referring to Figs. 4 and 5, the side walls 11 of the body 1 cooperate with the ledge 23 in holding the articles in the members 22, 24, and 25. The leaves 3 and 4 are provided with tabs 30 for the swinging of the leaves.

By referring to Figs. 6 and 7 it will be

seen that a resilient band 31 is superposed upon the wide leaf 4, the wide leaf 4, in such instance, constituting a supporting member. A plate 32 is inclosed by the resilient band 31, and securing devices, ordinarily staples 33 or the like, are extended through the wide leaf 4, through the plate 32, and through that portion of the band 31 which is disposed between the plate and the leaf. Although the racks 24 and 25 may be modified to meet the exigencies of the proposed use, the form of rack delineated in the drawings, will afford a simple and inexpensive structure.

When the device is folded together, as shown in Figs. 2 and 3, it may readily be carried about, and the construction is such that the contents of the device will be adequately protected. Upon occasion, the device may be opened, as shown in Fig. 1, for the removal or insertion of stamps, books, envelopes and the like.

Having thus described the invention, what is claimed is:—

A portfolio for letter carriers comprising a box-like body open at one side and provided with a side wall and with one end wall only; a primary leaf adapted to fit closely in the body and to lie against the side wall of the body; a secondary leaf; a lid; the secondary leaf being narrower than the primary leaf and being adapted to lie against the lid; upper and lower article-holders upon the primary leaf above and below the upper edge of the secondary leaf, the secondary leaf constituting a protection for the articles in the lower holder and permitting the removal of articles from the upper holder when the leaves are parallel and within the body; the primary leaf upon the one hand, and the lid and the secondary leaf upon the other hand being hinged to opposite edges of the end wall and constituting the sole leaves within the body, thereby permitting an accumulation in the lower holders, between the primary and secondary leaves.

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

FREDERICK W. WILSON.

Witnesses:

WM. S. HILL,
C. F. OWEN.