

No. 741,489.

PATENTED OCT. 13, 1903.

T. HAMILTON & C. VAN RIPER.

RURAL MAIL BOX.

APPLICATION FILED MAY 15, 1903.

NO MODEL.

Fig. 1.

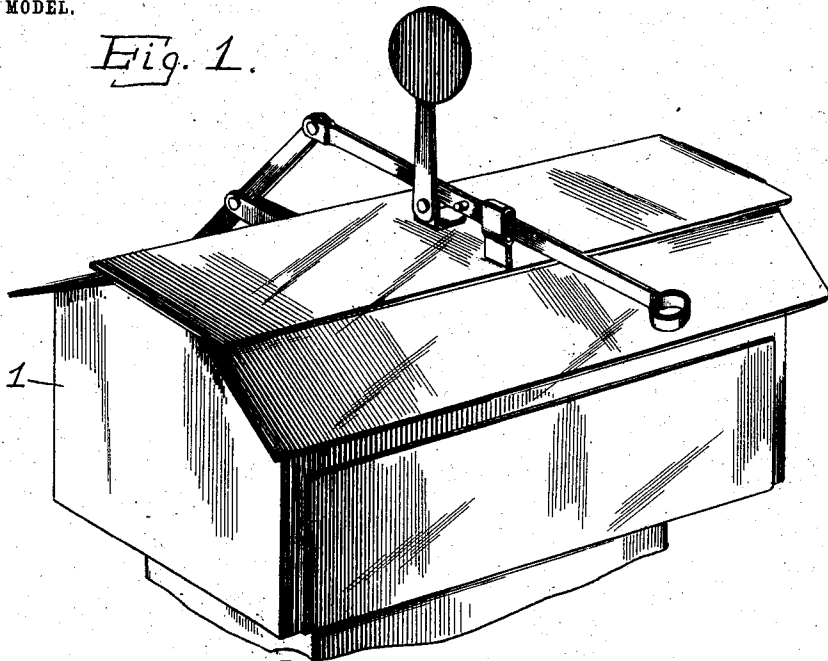


Fig. 2.

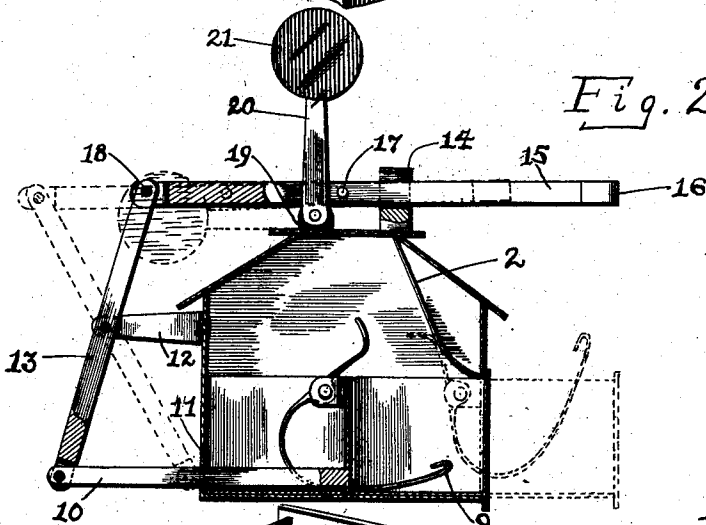
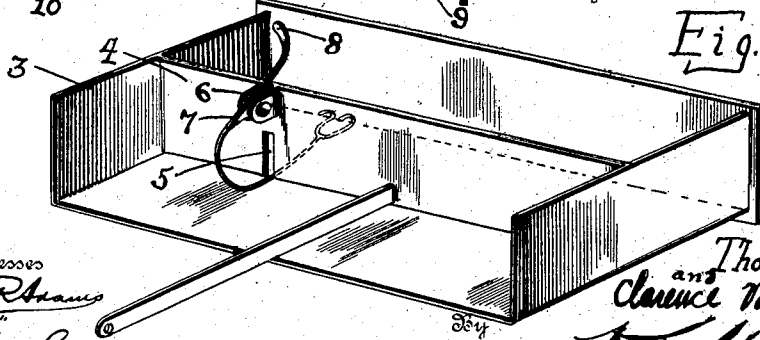


Fig. 3.



Witnesses
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

THOMAS HAMILTON AND CLARENCE VAN RIPER, OF CLAYTON, MICHIGAN.

RURAL MAIL-BOX.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 741,489, dated October 13, 1903.

Application filed May 15, 1903. Serial No. 157,306. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that we, THOMAS HAMILTON and CLARENCE VAN RIPER, citizens of the United States, residing at Clayton, in the county of Lenawee and State of Michigan, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Rural Mail-Boxes, of which the following is a description.

In the drawings, Figure 1 is a perspective view of the box embodying our invention. Fig. 2 is a transverse section of the same, parts being in elevation. Fig. 3 is a perspective view of the mail-receptacle.

1 represents the housing, of any suitable style and material, having an opening in its front wall, above which is secured a stop 2 on the interior of the housing.

3 is the mail-receptacle, having a partition 4 extending throughout the length thereof, said partition being provided with a slot 5, to be hereinafter referred to.

6 represents a pair of lugs, between which is pivoted a lever 7, the upper end 8 of which extends beyond the top of the receptacle and is adapted for engagement with the stop 2, as shown in dotted lines in Fig. 2. The lower end of the lever 7 is bent backward and is extended through the slot 5 in the partition 4 of the mail-receptacle, the extreme end of the lever being divided to form the yoke and double hook 9, said hook 9 being normally positioned within the mail-receptacle and near the bottom thereof, as clearly shown in full lines in Fig. 2.

10 is a bar connected to the partition 4 of the mail-receptacle and extending rearwardly therefrom through an aperture 11 in the rear of the housing.

12 is a brace secured to the rear wall of the housing, to the outer end of which the lever 13 is centrally pivoted, the lower end of this lever being pivoted to the outer end of the bar 10.

14 is a slideway mounted upon the top of the housing, in which is slidably mounted the push-bar 15, having a suitable handle 16 and provided with a pin 17, the rear end of the push-bar being pivoted at 18 to the centrally-pivoted lever 13.

19 is a lug secured to the top of the housing, to which is pivoted a rod 20, upon the top of which is mounted a signal 21, which is

represented for purposes of illustration as a circular disk, upon which may be printed any matter found desirable.

The operation of our improved box is as follows: After mail-matter has been deposited within the receptacle 3 said receptacle is drawn within the housing, pulling the push-rod 15 forward toward the front of the housing, and the signal is set in an upright position, the parts being in the position shown in full lines in Fig. 2. The upward position of the signal is an indication to the collector that there is outgoing mail within the box. To open the mail-receptacle, the push-bar is shoved rearward, thus swinging the centrally-pivoted lever upon its pivot, which in turn pushes upon the bar 10, whereby the receptacle is shoved outside of the housing to the position shown in dotted lines in Fig. 2. In the forward movement of the receptacle 8 the lever 7 engages with the stop 2 inside of the housing, thereby throwing the lever 7 upon its pivot, thus elevating the hook end 9 to the position shown in dotted lines in Fig. 2. It will be explained that in placing the mail-matter in the box it rests upon the forked or hooked end of lever 7, and in the upward movement of the forked or hooked end said mail-matter is elevated to the position above the top of the receptacle, so as to facilitate the removal of said matter by the mail-collector.

It is obvious that slight changes in the details of construction may be made without departing from the spirit of our invention.

Having thus described our invention, the following is what we claim as new therein:

1. In a mail-box, the combination with a housing, and a mail-receptacle slidably mounted therein, of a lever pivoted to said receptacle and extending above the same within the housing for engagement with the housing when the receptacle is open to elevate the contents of the receptacle.

2. In a mail-box, the combination with a housing, and a receptacle slidably mounted therein, of a lever pivoted to the exterior of the receptacle, one end extending within the receptacle, and the other end extending above the receptacle for engagement with the housing when the receptacle is opened the end of the lever within the receptacle adapted to elevate the contents of said receptacle.

3. In a mail-box, the combination with a housing, of a mail-receptacle slidably mounted therein, a lever pivotally mounted on the exterior of the receptacle, one end of which
5 extends within the receptacle, while the other end extends above the receptacle; means within the housing constructed to engage the upper end of the said lever, a lever mounted upon the exterior of the housing and connected with the slidable mail-receptacle.
10 4. In a mail-box, the combination with a housing, and a mail-receptacle slidably mounted therein, of a lever pivotally mounted on the exterior of said receptacle, one end of which extends within the receptacle while
15 the other end extends above the receptacle; a stop within the housing in the path of the upper end of said lever, a bar connected to

said receptacle and extending to the exterior of the housing, a centrally-pivoted lever 20 mounted upon the housing, one end of which is pivotally connected with the end of said bar, a push-rod slidably mounted upon the top of the housing, the inner end of which is pivotally connected with said centrally-piv- 25 oted lever, a signal pivotally mounted upon the top of the housing and a pin upon said push-rod in the path of said signal.

The foregoing specification signed this 12th day of May, 1903.

THOMAS HAMILTON.
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Witnesses:

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