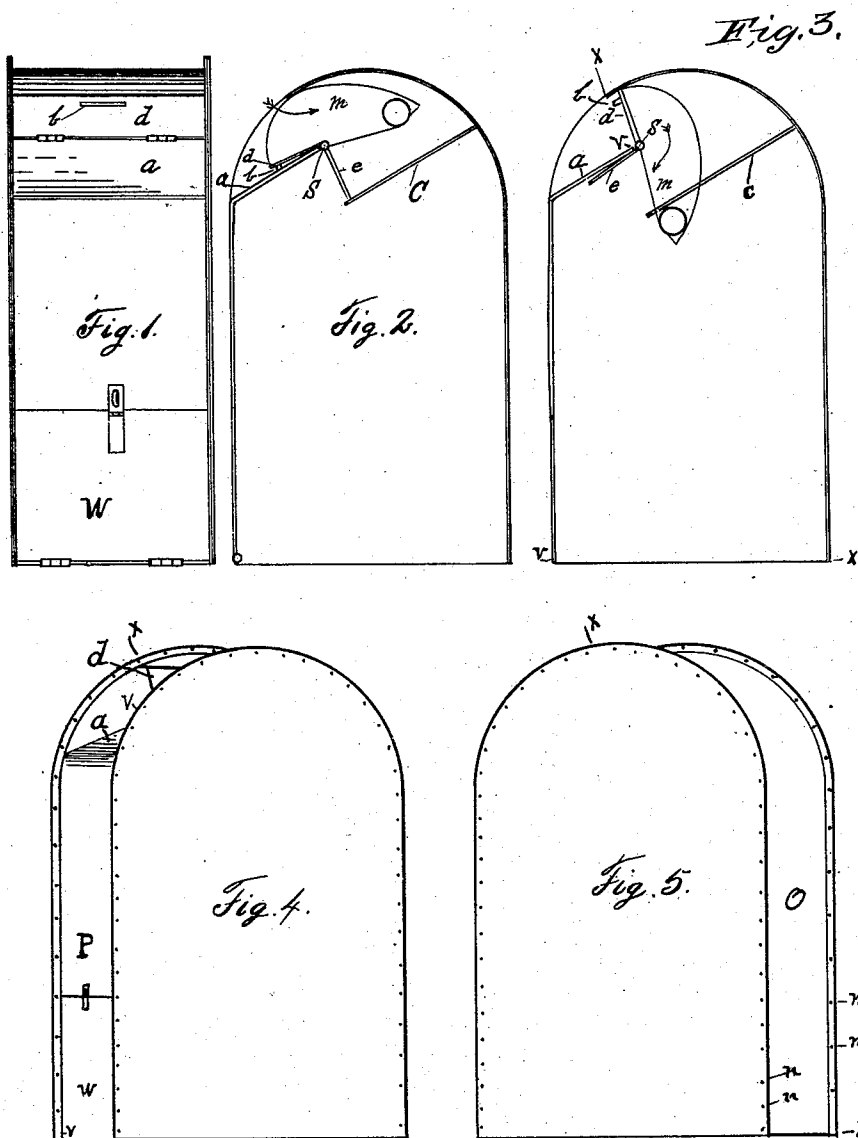


(No Model.)

W. H. SPENCER.
POSTAL PACKAGE BOX.

No. 567,283.

Patented Sept. 8, 1896.



WITNESSES:

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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POSTAL PACKAGE-BOX.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 567,283, dated September 8, 1896.

Application filed March 15, 1893. Serial No. 466,048. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM H. SPENCER, of the city, county, and State of New York, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Postal Package-Boxes, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to what is known in the United States Post-Office Department as "package-boxes," its object being to facilitate the depositing of mailable packages without the possibility of the same being stolen from the box after the same have been deposited.

The drawings which accompany this specification and form a part thereof illustrate my invention in several figures, with similar letters of reference to indicate corresponding parts throughout the same, as follows:

Figure 1 represents a face or front view of my improved package-box, showing the door *d*, which when pulled down rests upon the beveled front piece *a*, as shown in Fig. 2. Fig. 2 represents a longitudinal vertical section showing the deflecting-plate *C*, which extends from the back of the box forward, and the manner in which the drop-door *e* closes the space between the end of the deflecting-plate *C* and the beveled front piece *a* when the door *d* is pulled down to insert a package, shown in Fig. 2 and indicated by the arrow. Fig. 3 represents a similar view showing the door *d* closed and the side counterbalance-pieces *M* hanging down. Fig. 3 also shows a separate illustration of the door *d* detached. Fig. 4 represents a perspective view showing the manner in which the front is beveled in and recessed to form space for the door *d* to work; and Fig. 5 represents the manner in which the box is put together, all of which will be explained in the construction of my box, which is as follows:

The two side pieces are first formed of suitable size and of the shape shown in Figs. 4 and 5. The pieces are perforated with holes all along their outer edge, as shown at *n n*, Fig. 5. The back piece *O* is made of one strip bent over to conform to the shape of the side pieces and extends from *x* to *x*, Figs. 3 and 5. This piece has its sides flanged up at right angles, so as to form a riveting-surface, as illustrated in Fig. 5. The front piece *P* is made in the same way and extends from *v* to *v*, Figs. 3 and 4. When these pieces are riveted together, the four sides of the box will be complete, leaving a space in the front of

the box just the size of the door *d*, excepting the bottom, which is simply a square piece flanged on four sides and riveted to the four sides of the box. The deflecting-plate is simply flanged and riveted to the back and top of the box, leaving sufficient space at the sides for the guide-pieces *M* of the door *d* to work.

The door is made with an upper and lower portion *d* and *e*; also the two projecting side pieces, as *M M*, which act as guides and counterbalances to close the door portion *d*. Thus when the door-piece is trunnioned in place, as shown at *s*, Fig. 3, the weight of the side pieces *M* will keep the door *d* closed and the drop-door *e* up under the beveled front piece *a*, as shown in Figs. 1, 3, and 4.

In order to remove the packages mailed in the box, a lower door, as *W*, Figs. 1 and 4, is provided, which is an ordinary drop-door that may be of any desired shape or size.

The operation of my improved package-box is as follows: The door *d* is pulled down by means of the handle *b*, attached to its upper edge. (See Figs. 1 and 2.) The drop-door *e* then moves down and closes the space between the beveled front *a* and the end of the deflecting-plate *C*, as shown in Fig. 2. The parcel is then inserted, as indicated by the arrow, and the door let go. The guide-pieces *M* then drop down and close the door *d*, and the drop-door *e* raises up under the beveled front *a*, so that the parcel deposited slides down the deflecting-plate into the box, as indicated by the arrow.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is, to wit:

A postal package-box provided with the beveled front portion *a* deflecting-plate *c* and double-acting door consisting of the parts *d* and *e*, provided with the counterweight guide-pieces as *m*, leaving the space between the parts *e* and *c* substantially as shown and described.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing improvement in postal package-boxes as above described I have hereunto set my hand this 14th day of March, 1893.

WM. H. SPENCER.

Witnesses:

W. R. SAYMOUR,
R. C. SHIMEALL.