

(No Model.)

J. J. BISEL.

COMBINED LETTER PORT COVER AND NAME PLATE.

No. 511,722.

Patented Dec. 26, 1893.

Fig. 1.

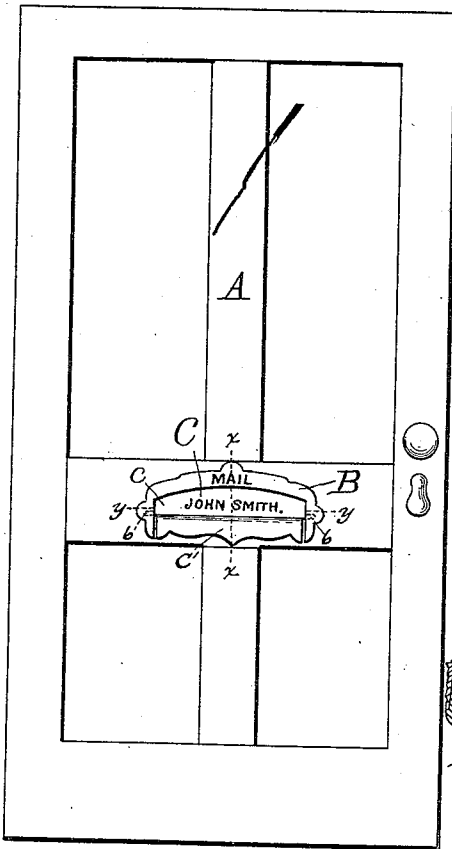


Fig. 2.

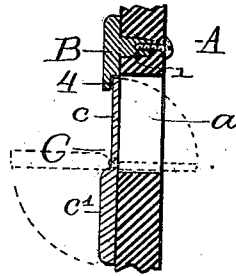


Fig. 3.

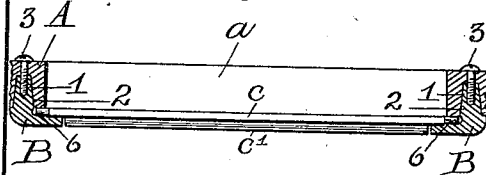


Fig. 4.

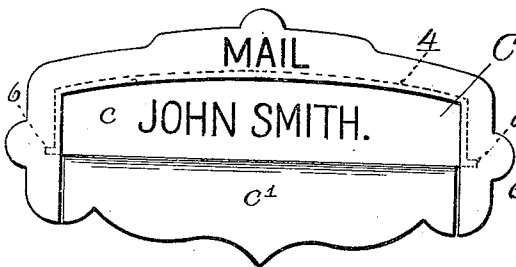
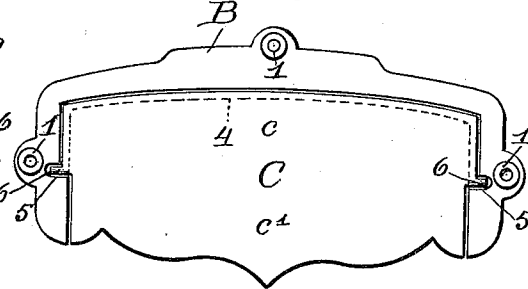


Fig. 5.



Witnesses
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JOSEPH J. BISEL, OF PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA.

COMBINED LETTER-PORT COVER AND NAME-PLATE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 511,722, dated December 26, 1893.

Application filed April 5, 1893. Serial No. 469,142. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOSEPH J. BISEL, a citizen of the United States of America, residing at Philadelphia, in the county of Philadelphia and State of Pennsylvania, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in a Combined Letter-Port Cover and Name-Plate, of which the following is a specification, reference being had therein to the accompanying drawings.

My invention relates to an improved combined letter-port cover and name-plate, the important characteristics of which are that it enables the letter-carrier to deliver mail matter in the easiest and most convenient manner; it can be made comparatively narrow, and yet admit of the slot or port being made large enough to receive newspapers and the like; it effectually prevents snow, rain, and cold air from beating through the port; it is very simple in construction, and it can be manufactured and supplied to the public at a low cost.

The invention will first be described in connection with the accompanying drawings, and then pointed out in the claims.

Figure 1 of the drawings is a front elevation of a door having my combined letter-port cover and name-plate applied to the cross-rail. Fig. 2 is a vertical sectional view taken on the line $x x$, Fig. 1, the dotted lines showing the name-plate swung to open the port. Fig. 3 is a broken horizontal sectional view taken on the line $y y$, Fig. 1, showing the manner of securing the port-casing to the door from the inner side. Fig. 4 is a front view and Fig. 5 a rear view of my combined letter-port cover and name-plate.

Referring to the drawings, A is a door, through which is cut a slot a , preferably large enough to permit the passage therethrough of such mail matter as newspapers and the like, said slot being hereinafter termed a port.

B is the port-casing, made of any suitable metal, and provided on its rear side with a series of thimbles 1, screw-threaded interiorly. These thimbles are designed to fit in recesses 2 cut in the front side of the door, and be engaged by screws 3 inserted from the rear side of the door, as clearly shown in Fig. 3, whereby the casing is secured in place entirely from the rear. This fastening feature

however, is old, and nothing relating thereto is claimed herein. The inner edge of the casing is rabbeted, as at 4, on the rear side, the rabbet extending entirely across the top and part way down the ends. It will be seen in the drawings that casing B comprises only the top and ends, the lower part being left open, for a purpose hereinafter stated. In each end of the casing, at the termination of the rabbet, in the rear side, is formed a groove 5, the purpose of which will be stated farther on.

C is the name-plate, which also serves to close the port a in the door. For convenience in description this plate, although made in one piece, will be referred to as comprising an upper and a lower part. The rear side of this plate is flat; but the front side is in two planes, by reason of the lower part c' being made thicker than the upper part c , as clearly shown in Fig. 2. The upper part is slightly longer than the lower part, so as to fit closely in the rabbet in casing B, while the lower part fits between the ends of the casing and is flush with their outer surface. On each end of the plate, at the lower edge of part c , which is about midwidth of the plate, is formed a short trunnion 6, these being designed to rest wholly within the grooves 5 in the casing, which serve as bearings, so that when the casing is secured to the door the plate may be swung on them.

It will be observed that the plate-trunnions and their bearings are in front of the lower side of the port a , which permits the upper part of the plate to be swung inward through the port by simply pressing a letter, newspaper, or other like article of mail matter against it, and when the plate is thus turned nearly the whole area of the port is made available for the passage therethrough of such articles. When the mail matter has been delivered the plate will resume its normal position by gravity.

By leaving the port-casing B open at the bottom and adapting the lower part of the name-plate to fill the space I am enabled to use a gravitating plate perfectly flat on its rear side, so that its lower part may lie close against the door, and thus cause its upper part to bear snugly against the rabbeted edge of the port-casing and effectually close the port. Furthermore, by this construction I am en-

abled to make the casing much narrower than would be possible if it extended entirely around the plate; and this becomes an essential feature when it is desired to cut a
5 port large enough for all practical purposes through the narrow cross-rail often put in vestibule doors.

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

1. The combination, with a letter-port casing open at its lower side, of a name-plate journaled midwidth in said casing, that part
15 of the plate below the journals being heavier than the part above them and arranged to close the open space in the casing when the plate is in its normal position.

2. The combination, with a letter-port casing open at its lower side, of a name-plate
20 journaled midwidth in said casing and having a flat rear surface, that part of the plate be-

low the journals being heavier than the part above them and arranged to close the open space in the casing when the plate is in its normal position. 25

3. The combination, with a letter-port casing open at its lower side, and having its inner edge rabbeted on the rear side along the top and part way down the ends, of a name-plate flat on its rear side, and whose upper
30 portion fits in the rabbet flush with the rear side of the casing, while its lower portion fits between the ends and is flush with the outer surface of the casing, said plate being journaled midwidth in the rear side of the casing. 35

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

JOSEPH J. BISEL.

Witnesses:

WM. HUNTER MYERS,
G. W. BALLOCH.