

(No Model.)

W. M. WADE.
MESSAGE REGISTER.

No. 532,121.

Patented Jan. 8, 1895.

Fig. 1.

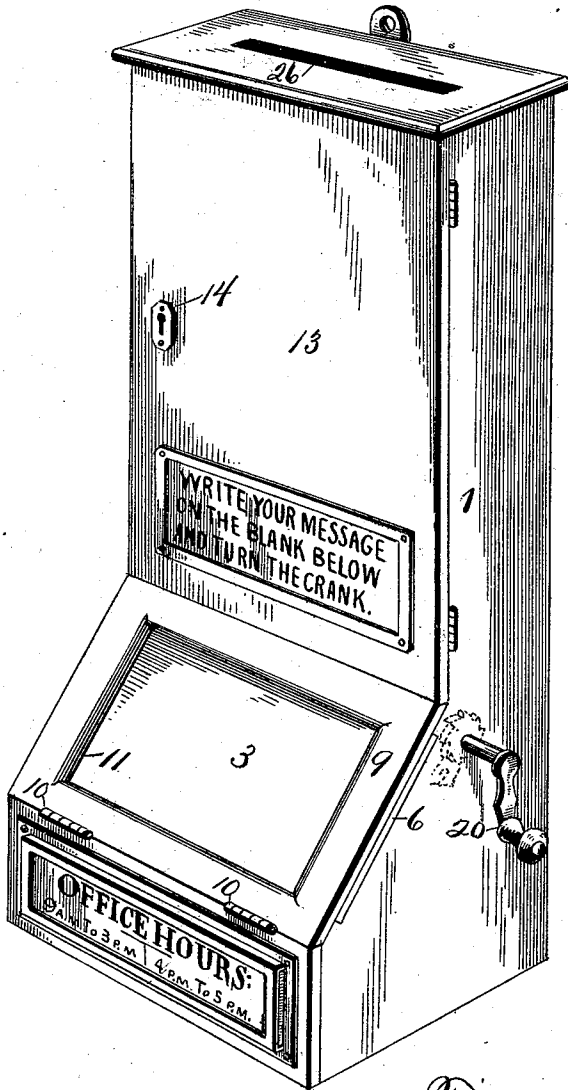


Fig. 2.

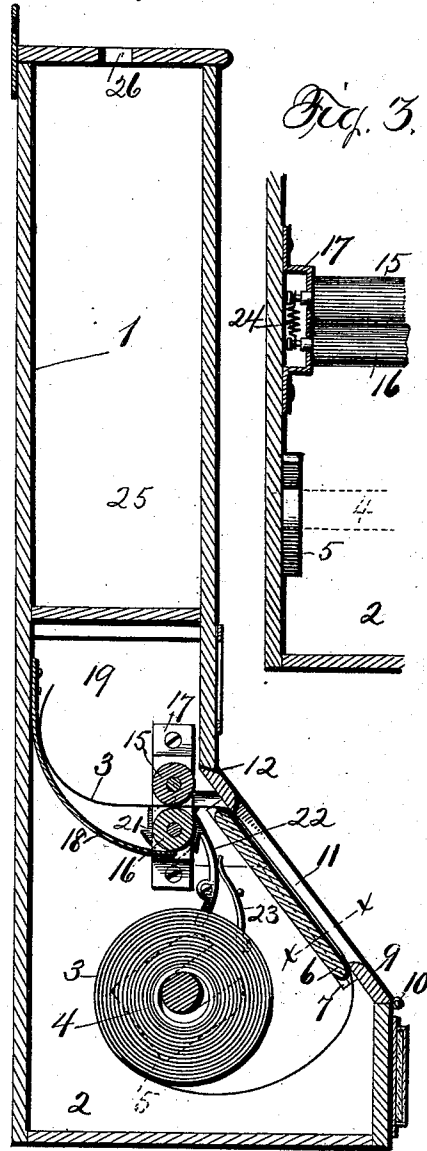


Fig. 3.

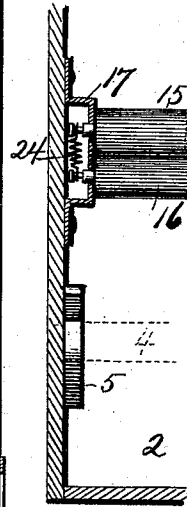
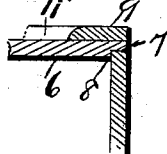


Fig. 4.



Witnesses
E. Williamson.
Alfred T. Sage.

Inventor
William M. Wade,
by R. Henderson,
Attorney.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLIAM M. WADE, OF RICHMOND, VIRGINIA.

MESSAGE-REGISTER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 532,121, dated January 8, 1895.

Application filed October 29, 1894. Serial No. 527,307. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM M. WADE, a citizen of the United States, residing at Richmond, in the county of Henrico and State of Virginia, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Message-Registers; 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 figures of reference marked thereon, which form a part of this specification.

My invention relates to a device for receiving written messages, and is designed particularly for office use although it may be used at any place where it is desired to leave a message.

It has for its object to produce a simple form of device for the purposes stated wherein the board or plate which serves as a support for the paper upon which the message is written will also serve as a cover to the opening through which access may be had to the chamber containing the web of paper so as to permit easy access to that chamber for the purpose of placing the roll of paper in position and replacing it with another roll when necessary, the writing board or plate being held in place by a frame formed with an opening through which the web of paper is exposed so as to receive the written message.

It has also for its object to provide a construction by which the open frame is locked in position by a hinged door which may constitute one side of a compartment or receptacle designed to receive cards, letters, and papers, which door may be provided with a lock so that access cannot be had to the compartment receiving the written message until the door is unlocked and opened.

It has also for its object to provide a curved plate or partition above the roll of paper and back of a set of friction rolls so that as the sheet of paper is moved by the friction rolls the curved plate or partition will direct the paper upward and away from the friction rolls and permit it to fold in its receiving compartment, the bottom of which is formed by said curved plate or partition.

It has further for its object to simplify the construction and arrangement of the several parts so as to render them less liable to get out of order and to render them easy of application and operation.

To the accomplishment of the foregoing and such other objects as may hereinafter appear, the invention consists in the construction and also in the combination of parts herein- after particularly described and then sought to be specifically defined, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, forming a part hereof and in which—

Figure 1 is a perspective of the complete device; Fig. 2, a vertical section through the same; Fig. 3, a detached view of a portion of the device showing the application of springs for drawing the friction rolls together; and Fig. 4 a detail sectional view on the line $x-x$ of Fig. 2 to show the projection or shoulder at the end of the writing board or plate to prevent the board or plate moving sidewise.

In the drawings the numeral 1 designates the case or box the lower portion of which is larger than the upper portion as illustrated. In the bottom compartment 2 of the box is a roll of paper 3 supported in any suitable manner so that it may revolve, the roll of paper in the particular form shown being sustained by a shaft 4 passing through the center of the roll of paper and journaled in suitable boxings 5.

The numeral 6 designates a writing board or plate set into recesses 7 formed in the opposite sides of the compartment 2 as illustrated in Figs. 1 and 2 of the drawings and formed on its under side with projections or shoulders 8 adapted to bear against the inner face of the two side walls of the compartment so that the board or plate will not move sidewise.

The numeral 9 designates a frame which may be hinged at 10 to the front wall of the compartment and which is adapted to lie on top of the board or plate 6 so as to hold it in place. The frame is formed with an opening 11 so as to expose the paper which is drawn from the roll 3 and passed over the board or plate 6 in order that the message may be written upon the paper. The top edge of the frame 9 is beveled as shown at 12 so that when

a door 13 is closed its bottom edge will rest on top of the upper edge of the frame and thus prevent the frame from being moved except when the door is open. The door 13 will be provided with a lock at 14 so that it can be opened only by the person who controls the key to the lock. The paper after passing over the board or plate 6 is passed between two friction rolls 15 and 16 journaled in suitable boxings 17 and is fed forward by these rolls so that when the message has been written the paper can be moved forward and carry the message to the inside of the box thus concealing it from view. In order that the paper between the rollers may be prevented from dropping down into the compartment 2 and accidentally getting engaged with the roll of paper in that compartment, I provide a partition 18 arranged above the roll 3 in compartment 2 and extending back of the friction rolls 15 and 16. This partition forms a compartment 19 for receiving the paper on which the message is written. This partition is curved as illustrated so that as the paper comes in contact with it the curvature will direct the paper upward and away from the friction rolls thus preventing its interfering with the operation of the roll and insuring the easy feeding of the paper in the compartment. The end of the shaft to the lower friction roll 16 is extended through the side of the case or box and provided with a handle 20 so that the roll may be turned, and a ratchet 21 on the shaft of the roll is engaged by a pawl 22 which is pressed into engagement with the ratchet by a spring 23 and prevents the roll from rotating backward, thus preventing the withdrawal of the paper containing the message after it has been fed into the compartment 19.

The upper friction roll 16 has a slight vertical play and for the purpose of taking up the wear of the two friction rolls and keeping close contact between the surface of the rolls I connect the journals of the two rolls by means of a spiral spring 24. This insures a perfect feed of the paper at all times and allows adjustment automatically of one roll toward the other so as to compensate for any increased thickness in the paper or any knot that may be therein and thus prevent tearing of the paper in its feed. The front of the compartment 19 is closed by the door 13 and access can be had to that compartment only by opening that door. This door may be extended upward so as to constitute a door to the compartment 25 which is designed to receive cards, mail matter, and papers which can be introduced therein through an opening 26 in the top of the compartment.

The device affords absolute security and concealment to the message that may be desired to be left by a client or patient or other person as the same is accessible only to the person holding the key to the case or box. The parts are also few in number and simple in

both construction and operation. The board or plate which constitutes a backing for the paper while writing upon the paper also constitutes a cover to the compartment containing the roll of paper and being readily removable after the frame which lies over it has been released by the opening of the door to the box, it permits free access to the compartment containing the roll of paper and allows the paper roll to be readily adjusted and the paper placed in position between the friction rollers as the entire front of the machine is open when the door of the box and the hinged frame over the board or plate are thrown back. These are all desirable features as they simplify both the construction and mode of operation. The advantages resulting from the several features entering into the construction of the device have been set forth in describing the construction of each part and need not therefore be repeated.

While I have described with particularity the preferred construction of each of the parts still it is obvious that changes can be made in the details without departing from the more important and essential features of the device and such changes be within the scope of my invention.

Having described my invention and set forth its merits, what I claim is—

1. In a device for receiving written messages, the box or case having a lower compartment to receive a roll of paper, friction rolls between which is passed the paper from the roll, a spring compressing one friction roll against the other, a pawl and ratchet to prevent the backward movement of the friction rolls, a curved plate or partition located above the paper roll and extending backwardly and upwardly from the friction rolls to form a separate compartment to receive the paper having the message written thereon, and a board or plate to constitute a backing for the paper upon which the message is to be written, substantially as and for the purposes described.

2. In a device for receiving written messages, the box or case having a lower compartment to receive a roll of paper, means for unwinding the paper from the roll, a removable board or plate lying across the front of said compartment and serving as a backing for the paper to be written upon, an open frame lying across said board or plate to hold the same in place and expose the paper, a compartment to receive the paper after it has been written upon, and a door to close said compartment, the meeting edges of the door and said frame crossing each other so that the closing of the door will lock said frame in place, substantially as and for the purposes described.

3. In a device for receiving written messages, a box or case formed with a bottom compartment to receive a roll of paper, a top compartment to receive letters and cards, and

a central compartment to receive the paper as it is unwound from said roll, a removable board or plate lying across the lower compartment and forming a backing for the paper unwound from the roll, a hinged frame lying over said board or plate and formed with an opening for exposure of the paper drawn from the roll, and a door arranged to close the top and central compartment and extend over the upper edge of said hinged frame to lock to the same in place, substantially as and for the purposes described.

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

WILLIAM M. WADE.

Witnesses:

P. S. POWERS,

C. W. BOURNE.