

C. H. Bradley
Post Office Box.

No

32.748

Patented Jul. 9, 1861.

Fig. 1.

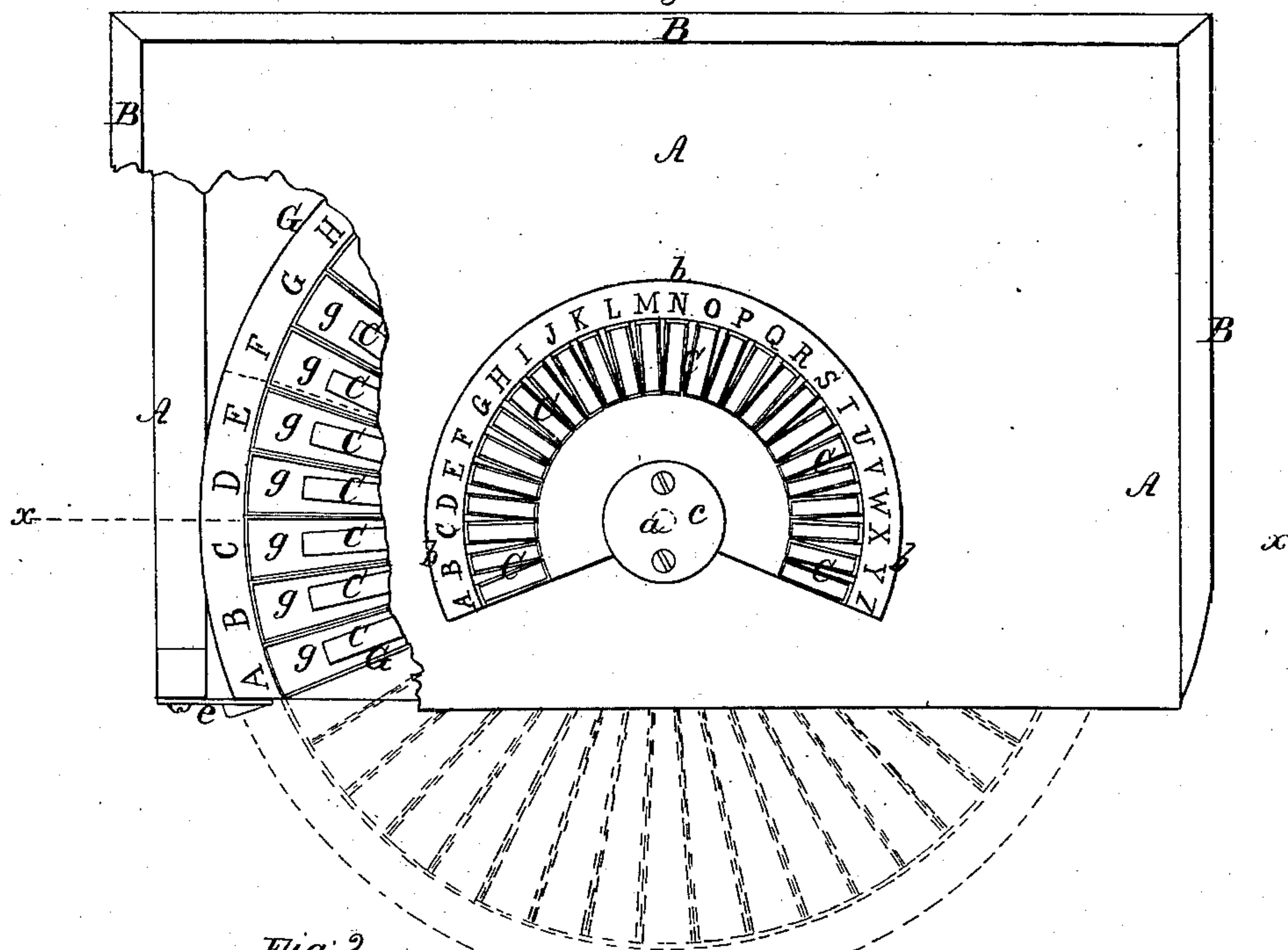
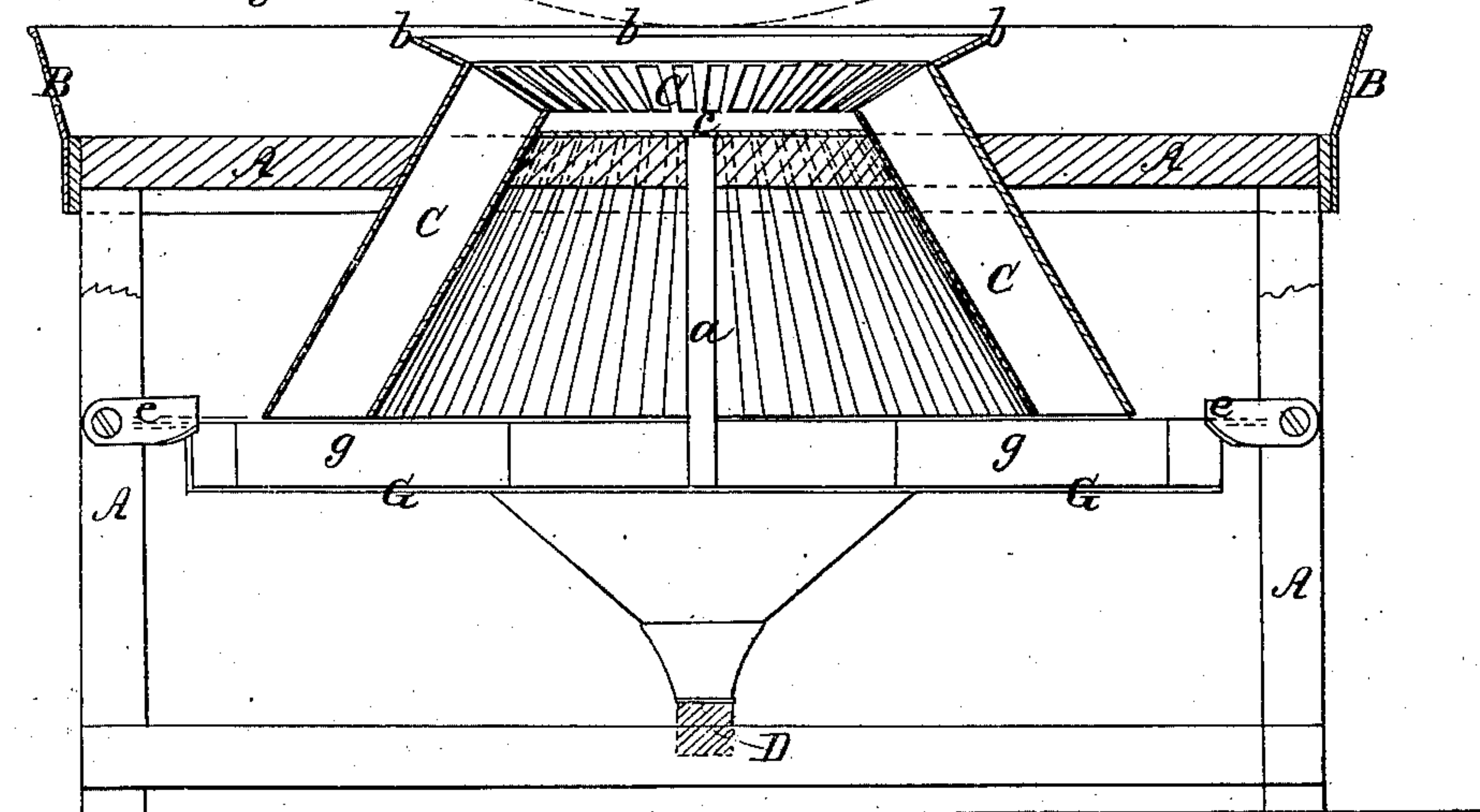


Fig. 2.



Witnesses
J. W. Boone
Wm. H. Simpson

Inventor;
C. H. Bradley.
per Munn & Co.
Attorneys.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

C. H. BRADLEY, OF WEST CHESTER, PENNSYLVANIA.

POST-OFFICE DISTRIBUTING-TABLE.

Specification of Letters Patent No. 32,748, dated July 9, 1861.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, C. H. BRADLEY, of West Chester, in the county of Chester and State of Pennsylvania, have invented a new and useful Post-Office Distributing-Table; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description thereof, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, making a part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1, is a top view of the improved table, a portion of the top of which is broken away to show the receiving boxes. Fig. 2, is a longitudinal section through Fig. 1, in the vertical plane indicated by the red line x, x , thereon.

Similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts in both figures.

This invention is intended for facilitating the distribution of mail matter, in post-offices.

It consists in arranging in a semi-circular form a number of chutes or tubes, inclining outward, and downward, from the top of a table toward the bottom thereof; and in combining with these inclined tubes a revolving table,—having large boxes on it corresponding in number to the number of inclined tubes used,—arranged horizontally under the tubes, for receiving the mail matter which is passed through these tubes—all as will be hereinafter fully explained.

To enable those skilled in the art to make and use my invention, I will proceed to describe its construction and operation.

In the accompanying drawings, A, represents a table mounted on four legs which are of a suitable height to allow a person to stand and work at the table with comfort.

B, represents a ledge which projects up from both sides and forms the back edge of the table top.

The table A, may be made round or quadrangular and if this table is made very large the front edge thereof may be curved inward so that a person standing at it may be able to reach every part of it.

C, C, C, are tubes or chutes, twenty-six in number, which are passed through a semi-circular opening made through the table top and arranged side by side. These tubes C, C, are made large enough to receive any ordinary sized package of mail matter, and they are all of an equal length, these tubes

are arranged so as to touch each other at their upper ends and at their lower ends they are separated some distance apart. The tubes C, C, C, also incline outward from the top of the table and their lower ends are concentric with a common center, or vertical axis a , represented in Figs. 1, and 2, of the drawings.

Surrounding the outer edges of the upper ends of the tubes C, C, is a semi-circular flange b , having printed, stamped, or engraved on its upper surface the letters of the alphabet; these letters are arranged so that every tube is known by its letter, and every letter is visible to a person standing in front of the table. The lower ends of the tubes C, C, are cut so that when they are arranged as described, they will all be in a horizontal plane as shown in Fig. 2, of the drawings.

The vertical axis a , has its upper end bearing in a plate c , secured to the top of the table A and the lower end of this axis a , is stepped in a transverse bar D, extending horizontally across the bottom of table A. To the vertical axis a , a large semi-circular table or shelf G, is secured in a horizontal plane, and on top of table G, twenty-six oblong boxes g, g, g , are arranged, all of which radiate from the center a , of the table. These boxes g, g, g , are intended for receiving the mail matter passed through the chutes, or tubes C, C, C, and for this purpose when the table G, is in the position represented in Figs. 1, and 2, there will be a box, g , under each tube C. The boxes g, g , are lettered correspondingly to their respective tubes C, and a letter dropped into D tube will fall into D box—into F, tube will fall into F box, and so on through the twenty-six letters of the alphabet. The table G, is kept in its place when under the table A, by means of two buttons e, e , shown in Figs. 1 and 2, which buttons are raised up when it is desired to move the table G, out from under the table A, for obtaining access to the boxes g, g . The semi-circular table G, is supported underneath by an inverted conical collar H, which is secured rigidly to the axis a , and to this conical collar the table G, is secured.

The operation of my invention is as follows: The mail matter is promiscuously emptied on the top of table A, between the

flange *b*, and ledge B. The table G, is now
adjusted under the tubes C, C, C, and se-
cured in place by pressing down the buttons
e, e. The distributor now stands at the table
5 A, and drops the letters, or papers, as the
case may be, into their respective tubes C,
C, C, which conduct the mail matter to the
boxes *g, g, g*, from which it can be gathered
in its alphabetical order, by turning the
10 table G, half around so as to move it from
under the table A.

Having thus described my invention, what

I claim as new and desire to secure by Let-
ters Patent is—

Combining with the distributing tubes 15
C, C, C, on table A, the semi-circular table
G, and receiving boxes *g, g, g*, arranged and
operating substantially as herein described
and shown.

C. H. BRADLEY.

Witnesses:

GEORGE W. HAWLEY,
WM. WHITEHEAD.