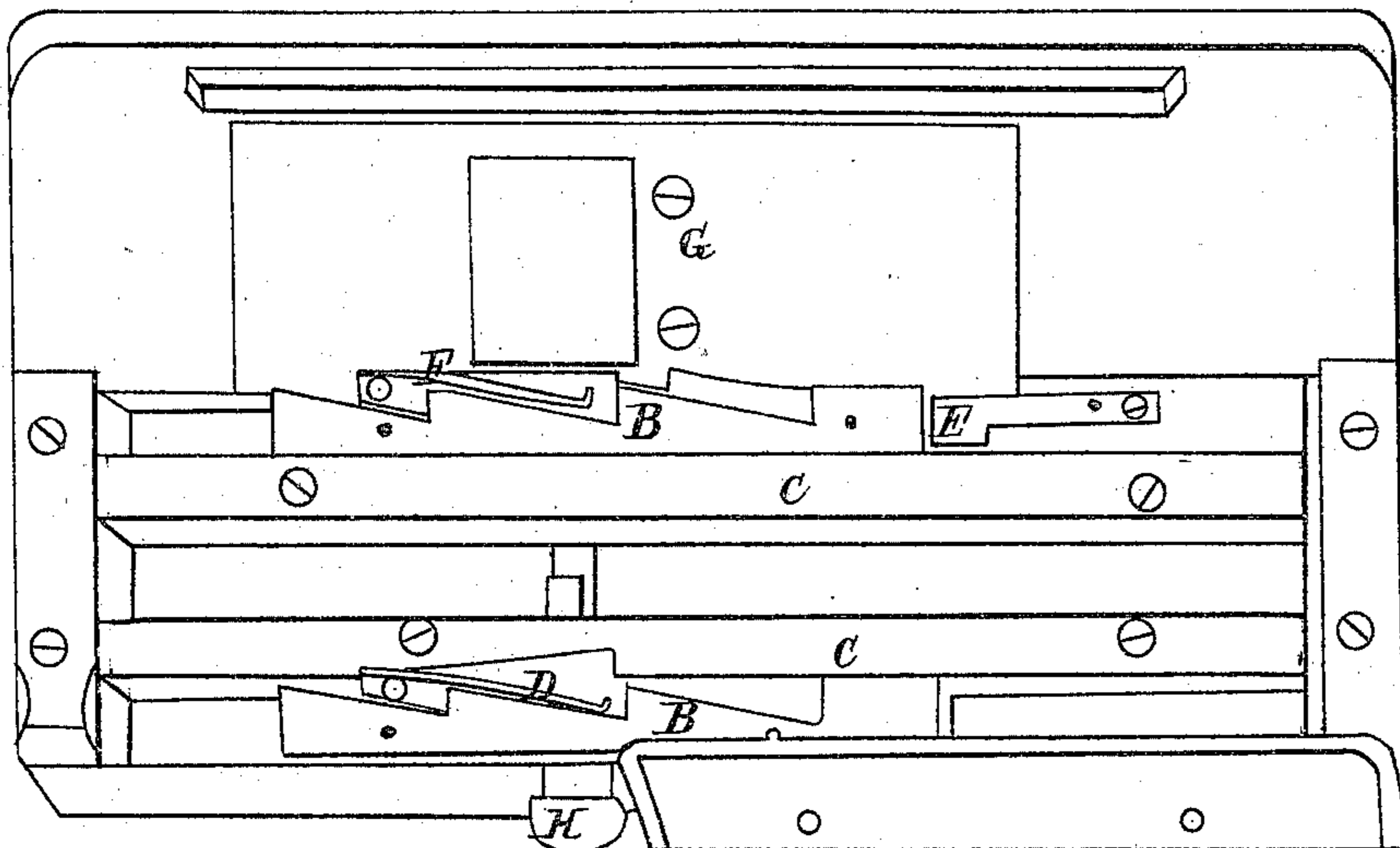


*B.C. Davis.*  
*Post Office Box.*

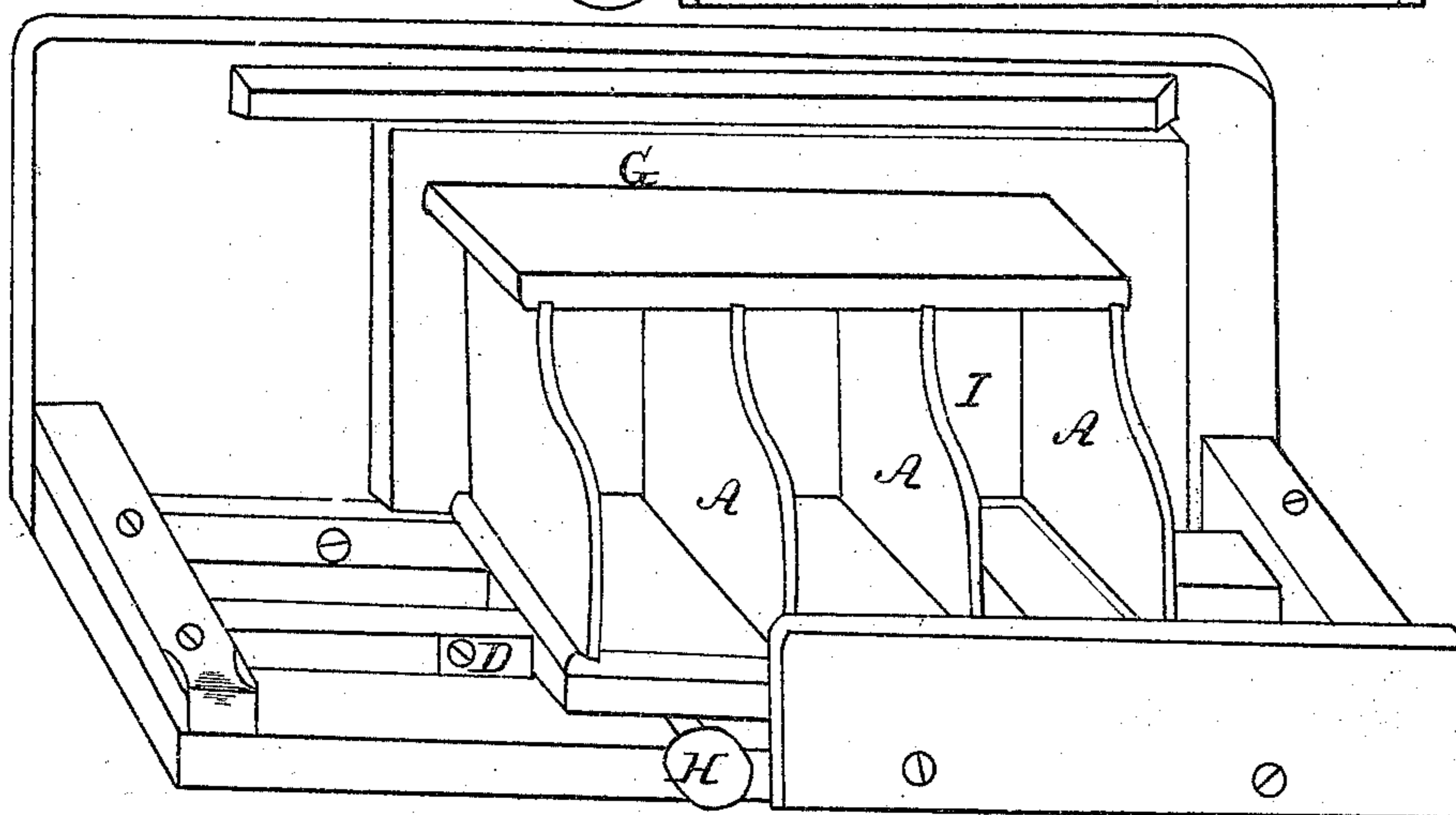
*Nº 97,483.*

*Patented Dec. 7, 1869.*

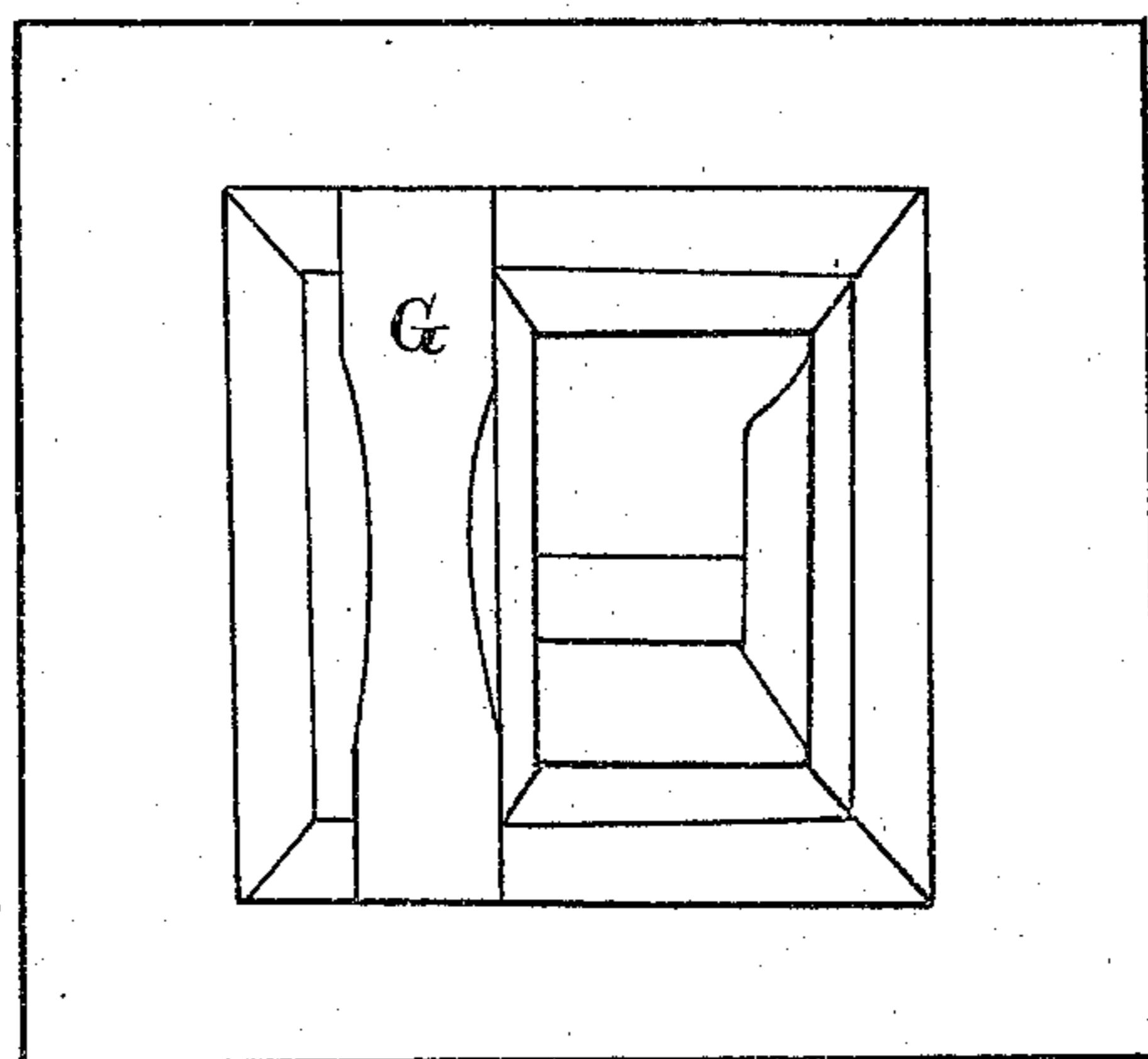
*Fig. 3.*



*Fig. 2.*



*Fig. 1.*



*Witnesses*  
*H. R. Follett.*  
*E. C. Fish.*

*Inventor;*  
*Biram C. Davis.*

# United States Patent Office.

BIRAM C. DAVIS, OF BINGHAMTON, NEW YORK.

*Letters Patent No. 97,483, dated December 7, 1869; antedated November 22, 1869.*

## IMPROVEMENT IN POST-OFFICE LETTER-BOX.

The Schedule referred to in these Letters Patent and making part of the same

*To all whom it may concern :*

Be it known that I, BIRAM C. DAVIS, of Binghamton, county of Broome, State of New York, have invented a new and useful Improved Letter-Box; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description of the construction and operation of the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and to letters of reference marked thereon, making a part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 is a view, showing the out or public side place to transmit articles to be mailed;

Figure 2 is a perspective view, shown inside the office; and

Figure 3 shows the bottom and manner in which the letter-box or boxes are operated.

This invention relates to a new post-office arrangement, whereby letters and other articles, and their postage can be deposited quickly, safely, and separately; thus in numerous cases releases persons from waiting, in an over-crowded office, or when closed, and at such times, not only a convenience to the public, but releases the postmaster from waiting on such persons separately; and at the making up of each mail can attend to all at once, holding for postage such letters and articles that are not properly paid. Postage indicator is to be attached at fig. 1.

The construction and operation are as follows, which I apply by cutting and making a way through the partition or wall of the office, and case it, as shown in fig. 1; and construct a series of letter-boxes, A A

A, secure them to the notched ways B B, which slide along on corresponding ways C C.

The spring D holds the sliding boxes from slipping back.

The spring E prevents the sliding boxes from going any further than the width of one box.

The actuating spring F is attached to the sliding door G, and it draws the boxes along when the door is opened, as shown in fig. 1.

On closing the sliding door G, the spring F catches in the notch B, and the spring E is at the same time depressed.

Any person opening the sliding door G always presents an empty box, as shown in figs. 1 and 2, and carries away the contents that have previously been deposited, as shown in box I; and at the making up of each mail, or when the sliding boxes are filled, the postmaster depresses the springs D and F, at H, which allows the series of sliding boxes to slide back, and presents the contents to be distributed, and leaves the boxes in a position ready to be filled again.

I claim the combination and arrangement of the series of sliding letter-boxes, having guides B B, with the detent-pawls D and E, and the actuating pawl F, operated by the sliding door G, substantially as and for the purposes herein described.

BIRAM C. DAVIS.

Witnesses:

W. R. FOLLETT,  
E. C. FISH.