

J. T. Young,

Indicator.

No. 101,697.

Patented. April 5, 1870.

Fig. 1.

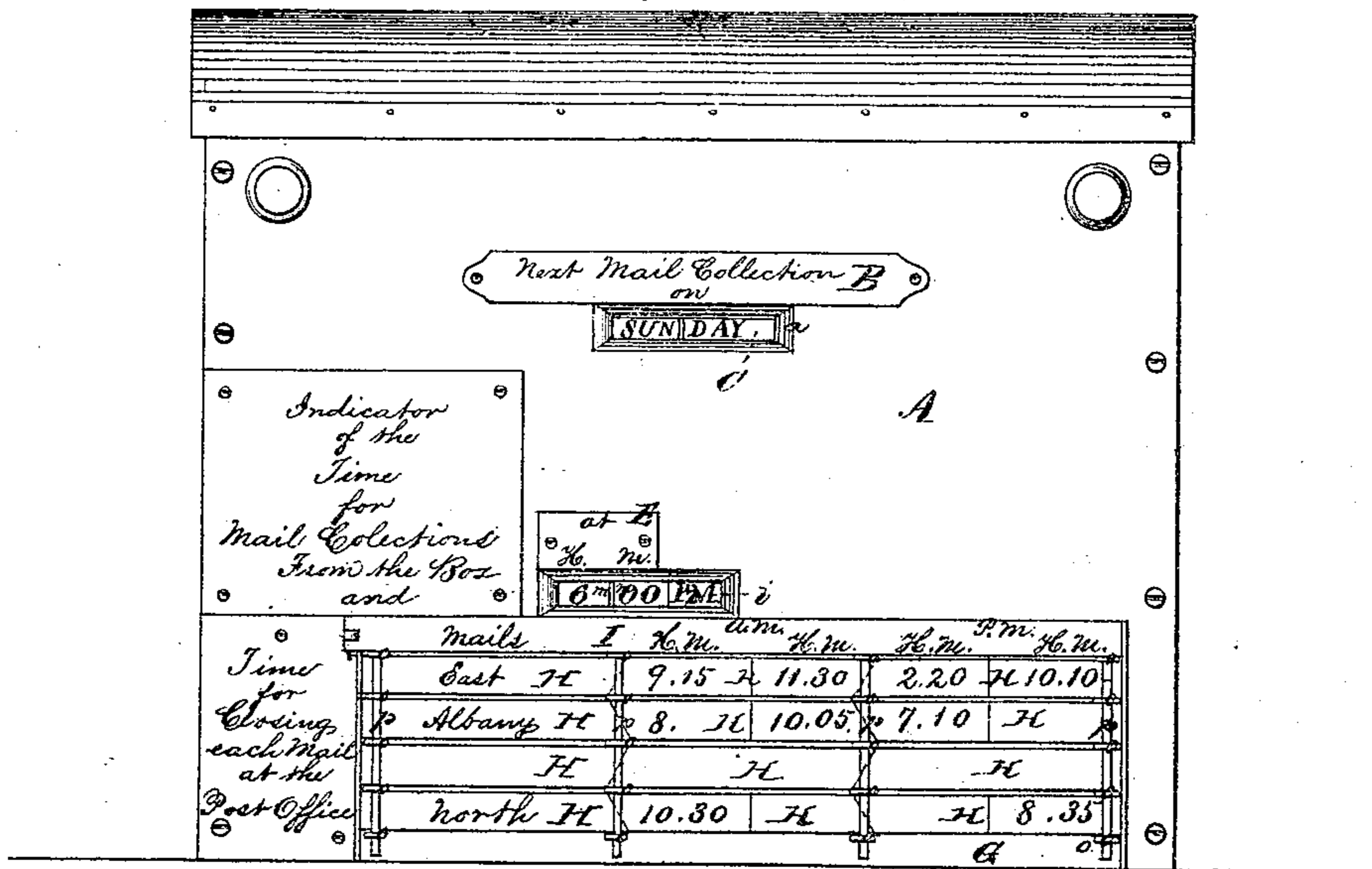


Fig. 2.

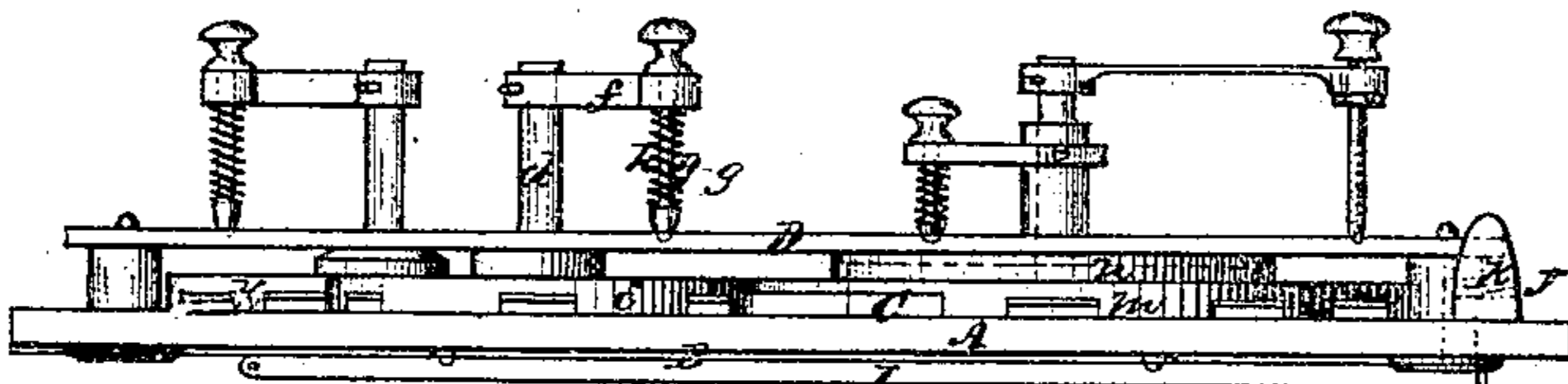
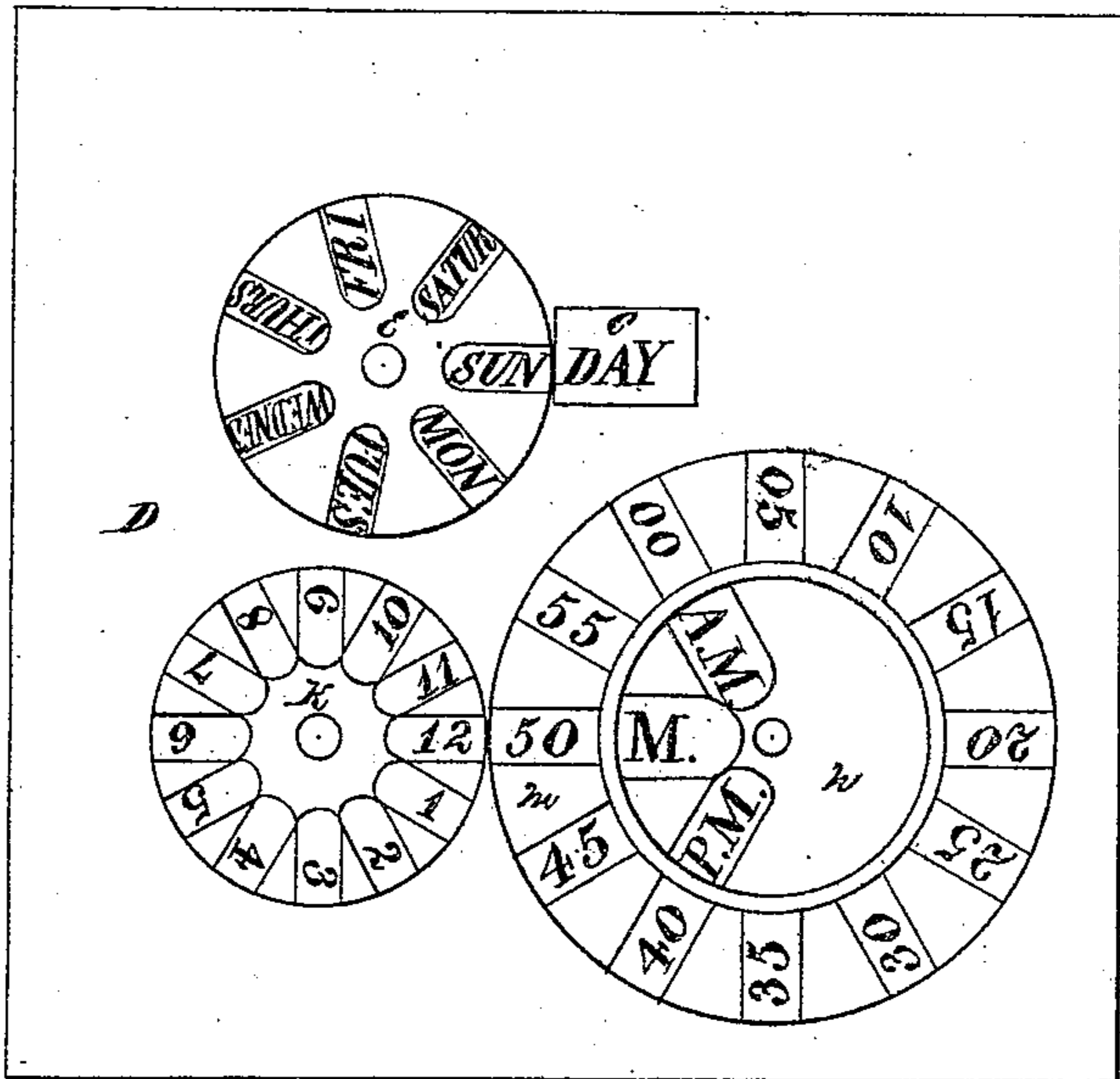


Fig. 3.



Witnesses.

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JAMES T. YOUNG, OF WASHINGTON, DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.

Letters Patent No. 101,697, dated April 5, 1870.

IMPROVEMENT IN TIME-INDICATORS FOR LETTER-BOXES.

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, JAMES T. YOUNG, of Washington, in the county of Washington, District of Columbia, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Mail-Boxes; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description thereof, reference being had to the accompanying drawings and to the letters of reference marked thereon, which form a part of this specification.

The nature of my invention consists in the construction and general arrangement of indicators upon a letter-box to show the time of collecting and closing the mail, substantially as hereinafter set forth.

In order to enable others skilled in the art to which my invention appertains to make and use the same, I will now proceed to describe its construction and operation, referring to the annexed drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a front view of a letter-box with my indicator attached;

Figure 2 is a plan view; and

Figure 3, an inside view of the same.

A represents the front side of a letter-box constructed in any desired manner.

At a suitable point on the side A is affixed a plate, B, bearing the inscription "Next mail-collection on —," and immediately below this plate is a slot, *a*, through the front of the box, for showing or exhibiting the name of the day. This is accomplished in the following manner:

A plate, C, is secured to the inner side of the front A, so as to cover a portion of the slot *a*, said plate being stationary, and provided with the raised letters "D-A-Y," projecting in the slot.

The whole inside of the front A is provided with a plate, D, secured to and a suitable distance from it, as shown in fig. 2, by bolts in its corners.

In this plate, and in the front A, a shaft, *d*, has its bearings, upon which shaft, between the front A and the plate D, is mounted a wheel, *e*, in such a position that it will cover the balance of the slot *a*.

Upon the front side of the wheel *e* are, at suitable intervals, placed the raised letters "M-O-N," "T-U-E-S," &c., so as to complete, with the letters "D-A-Y" on the plate C, the names of all the days in the week, and so that, by turning or revolving the said wheel *e*, the name of every day in the week can be seen in succession through the slot *a*.

Upon the inner end of the shaft *d* is secured an arm, *f*, through the outer end of which a knob and pin, *g*, is passed, the pin being surrounded by a spiral spring, *h*, which forces it into holes made in the plate D, so as to hold it and the wheel at any point it may be set. These holes are made to correspond with each group of letters on the face of the wheel *e*, so that the letter-

carrier or collector, when he desires to change the name of the day, need only raise the pin *g* out of its hole or recess, and then, by turning the arm until the pin drops into the next hole, the face will show the next day, and so on.

Under the slot *a*, upon the face of the front A, is another plate, E, bearing the inscription "At —, A. M.;" and under the same is another slot, *i*, through which the time is to be indicated. This is accomplished by three wheels, *k*, *m*, and *n*, arranged upon shafts and operated in precisely the same manner as above described for the wheel *e*, with the exception that the shaft upon which the wheel *m* is mounted is hollow, and the shaft for the wheel *n* passes through the same, and the face of the wheel *m* is recessed for the wheel *n* to fit in the same, the wheels *k* and *n* covering each about one-third of the slot *i* from the ends thereof, while the center is covered by the outer edge of the wheel *m*.

Upon the face of the wheel *k*, at suitable intervals, are placed numbers, from 1 to 12, to indicate the hour; and upon the edges of the wheel *m* are the numbers 00, 05, 10, 15, 20, and so on to include 55, so as to indicate the minutes.

Upon the face of the wheel *n* are placed the letters "M.," "A. M.," and "P. M."

When the carrier collects the letters from the box he will change all these wheels so as to indicate the exact time when he is supposed to come again to collect them, so that any person depositing a letter in the box can see at what time it will be taken to the post-office, and, the closing of the mails being also indicated, as hereinafter to be set forth, whether the next collection will be in time for the closing of the mail.

Below the slot *i*, on the face of the front *e*, is fastened a plate, G, of suitable dimensions, the ends of which are turned up, or rather forward.

On the face of this plate are several series of staples or loops, *o o*, between which are placed metal strips H H. These strips are confined at the ends by the turned-up edges of the plate G, and held by headed pins, *p p*, passed through the loops *o o*. These pins are locked by a metal bar, I, hinged at one end of the plate G, and a latch, J, at the other end, which latch passes through the side A, and is locked on the inside thereof by the bar K, as shown.

Upon the bar I is the inscription—

A. M. P. M.
"MAILS, H. M. H. M. H. M. H. M."

And on the strips H H, in their appropriate places, are the names of the mails, such as "Eastern," "Southern," &c., with the hours each mail closes.

By unlocking the bar I, and removing the pins *p p*,

the strips H H can be readily taken out and replaced by others when necessary.

The indicator thus constructed is made of any suitable durable material, and can be placed as well on the lid or sides of the letter-box as on the front.

It may also be made in a case separate from the letter-box and hung up near the same.

Having thus fully described my invention,

What I claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

The wheels E K *m n*, plates C D, shaft *a*, arm *f*,

and spiral spring *h*, all arranged in connection with a letter-box, substantially as and for the purposes set forth.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing as my own, I affix my signature in presence of two witnesses.

JAMES T. YOUNG.

Witnesses:

T. H. ALEXANDER,
EDM. F. BROWN.