

LINUS YALE, Jr.
Improvement in Locks for Post Office Boxes &c.

Fig. 1. Patented Oct. 24, 1871.

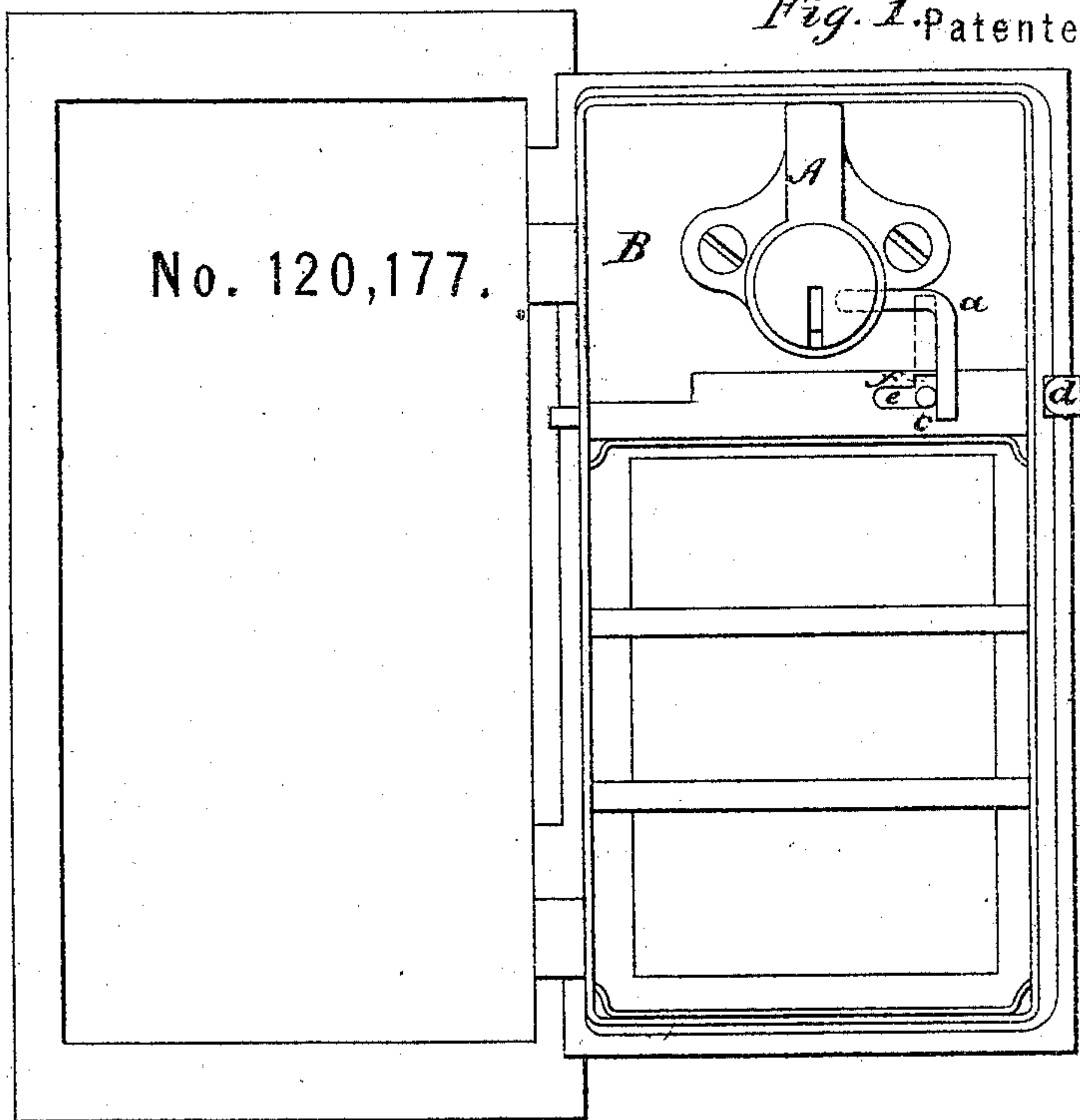
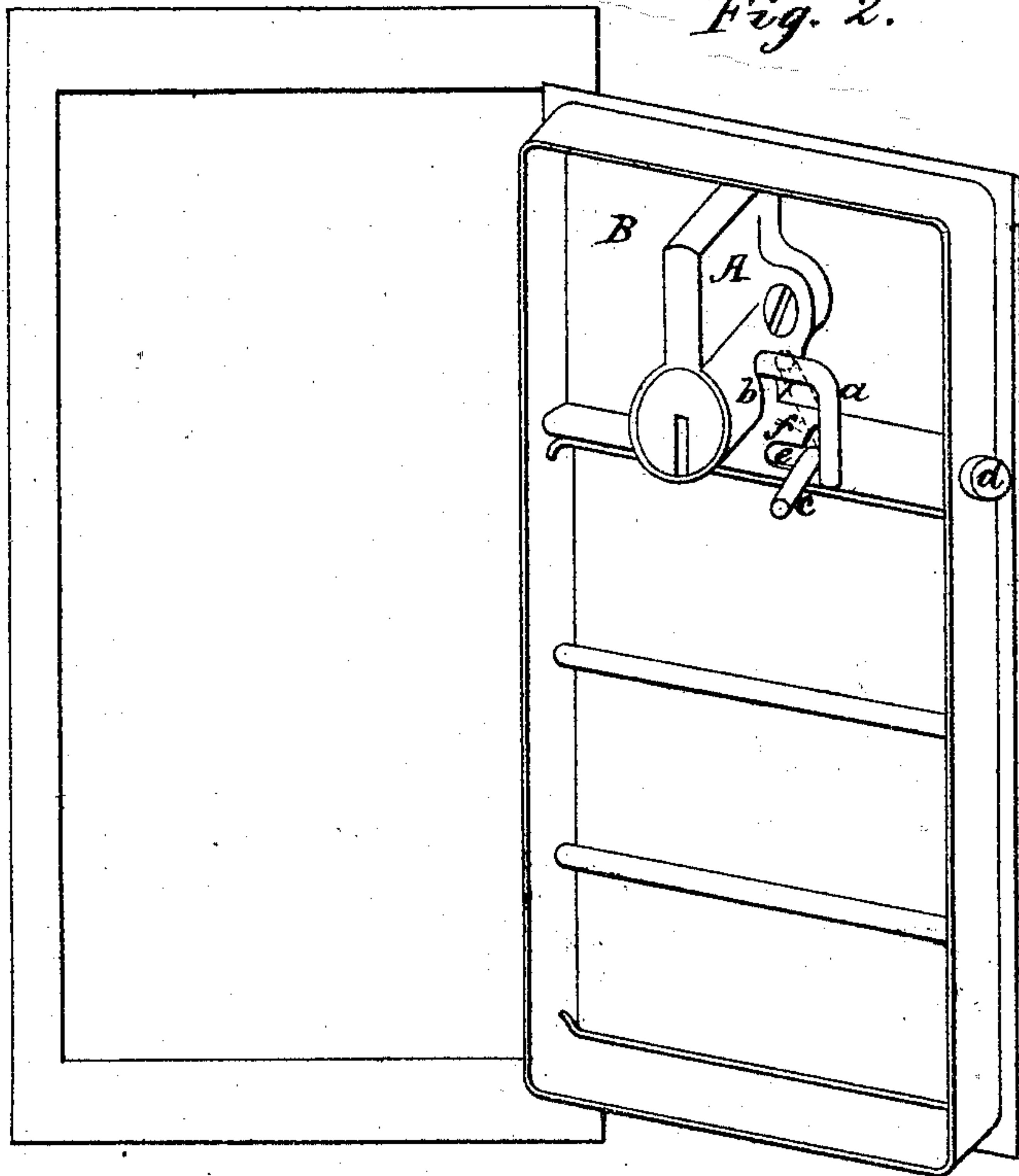


Fig. 2.



Witnesses.

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Inventor.

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The Estate of Linus Yale, Jr. Dec'd
by
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

SILAS N. BROOKS, OF BERNARDSTON, MASSACHUSETTS, ADMINISTRATOR OF
LINUS YALE, JR., DECEASED.

IMPROVEMENT IN LOCKS FOR POST-OFFICE BOXES, &c.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 120,177, dated October 24, 1871.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that LINUS YALE, Jr., deceased, late of Shelburne Falls, in the county of Franklin and State of Massachusetts, during his lifetime invented a new and useful Improvement in Locks, specially designed for the doors of post-office boxes; and I, SILAS N. BROOKS, administrator of the estate of the said LINUS YALE, Jr., deceased, do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description thereof, sufficient to enable others skilled in the arts to understand, make, and use the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawing forming part of this specification, in which drawing—

Figure 1 is an inside view of a door of a post-office box, having a lock and bolt applied, according to this invention. Fig. 2 is a perspective view of the lock and bolt applied to a door.

This invention relates to an improvement in locks, especially designed for the doors of post-office letter-boxes; and consists of a device for locking the door from within, whereby all access to the box from without is prevented, the device being such as hereinafter more fully set forth, and particularly specified in the claim.

In carrying out this invention a lock, A, is used, of the construction shown in Letters Patent No. 274, of January 29, 1861, or No. 48,475, of June 27, 1865, granted to said LINUS YALE, Jr., deceased; this is attached to the metallic door B, described in the application made by me, the same date with this, for Letters Patent for Improvement in Doors for Post Office Boxes. An arm, *a*, of wire or other material, is attached to the turning mechanism of the lock A through a slot, *b*, made in the casing, in which the tumblers, &c., are placed. This arm is bent at its free end and engages with a pin, *c*, which is attached to a bolt,

d. The casing of this bolt is slotted horizontally at *e* and vertically at *f*, in which slots the pin *c* moves to push out and draw in the bolt, and to lock it when pushed or thrown out.

The locking and unlocking of the door is accomplished by means of this arm and pin in the following manner: The parts being in the position shown in Figs. 1 and 2 the key is turned and the arm *a* is caused to move in an arc of a circle, the slot limiting its movement, and it strikes against the pin *c* and moves it back in the slot, and of course draws the bolt with it, thus unlocking the door. It may be locked by simply pushing it, or, preferably, by turning the key. If the pin *c* be turned up into the vertical slot *f* it will be impossible for any outsider to unlock the door, even though he have the key. And thus, as will appear, the postmaster will have complete control over the boxes.

As will appear, this is a very useful contrivance, as it prevents access to the box in case of the loss of the key, or in other cases where the postmaster may desire it. Of course the application of this device is not limited to post-office lock-box doors.

What I claim as the invention of said LINUS YALE, Jr., deceased, is—

The combination of the pin *c* attached to the bolt *d* and operating in slots *e f* in the bolt-case, with the bent arm *a* of the lock, the combination and arrangement being substantially as described, and for the purpose specified.

SILAS N. BROOKS,
Administrator.

Witnesses:

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