

W. SHARROCK, Jr.  
Transparent Door-Plates.

No. 157,724.

Patented Dec. 15, 1874.

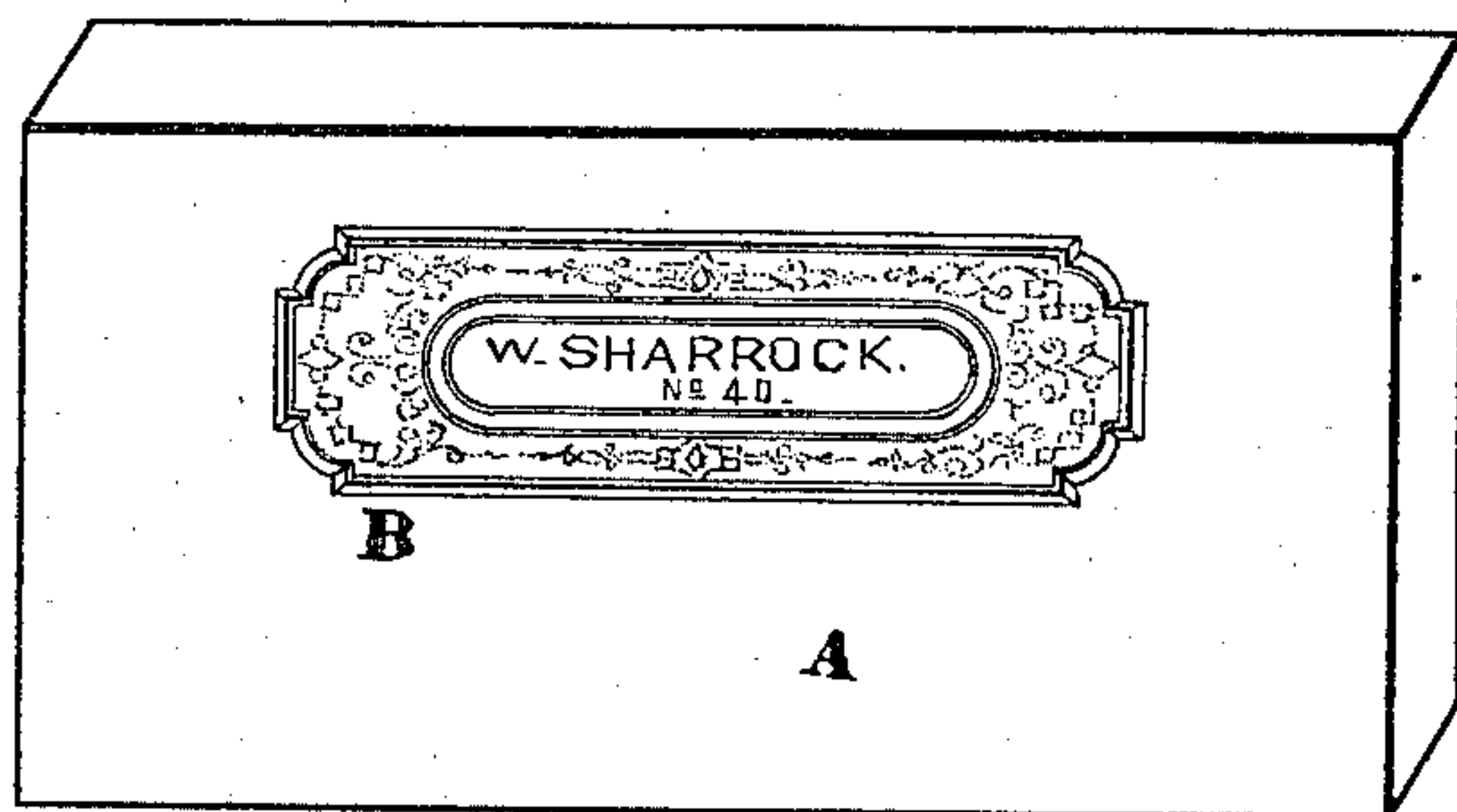


Fig. 1.

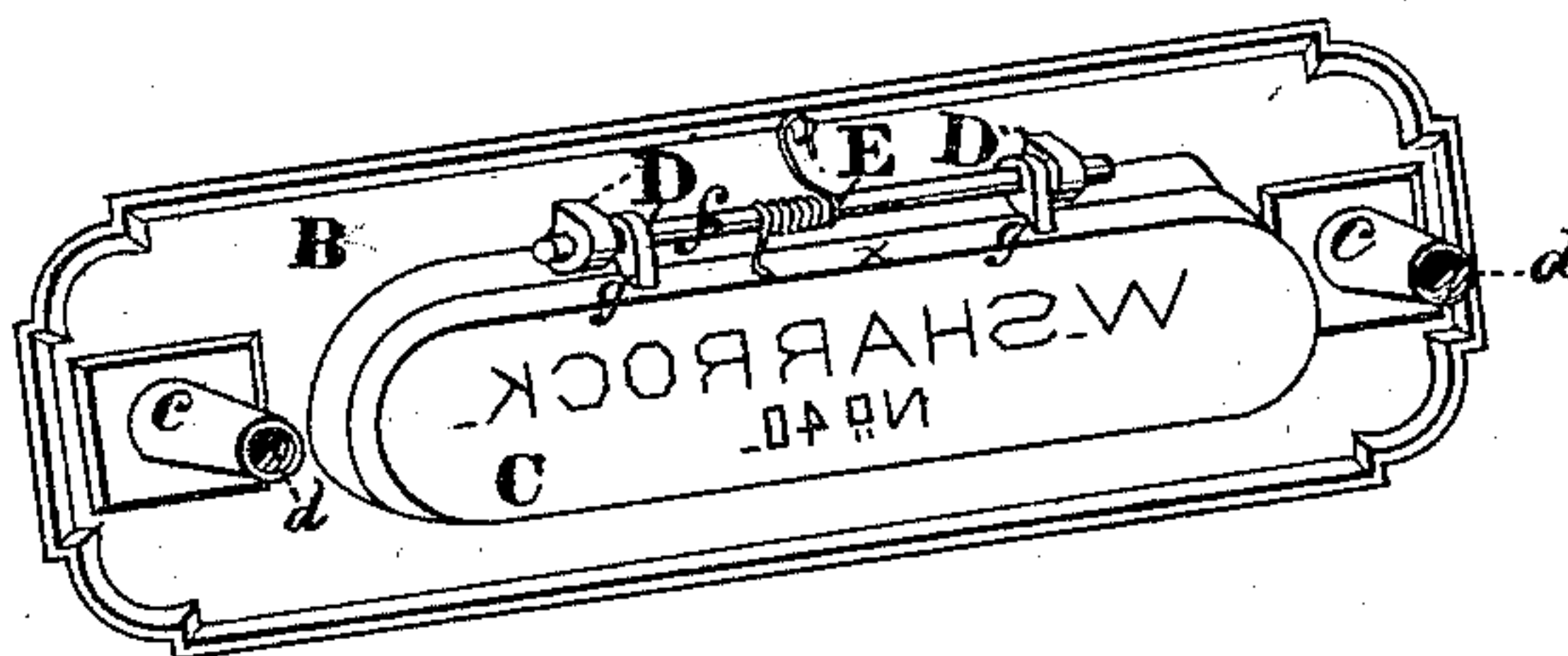


Fig. 2.

Witnesses;

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*per C. A. Shaw*  
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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLIAM SHARROCK, JR., OF LAWRENCE, MASSACHUSETTS.

## IMPROVEMENT IN TRANSPARENT DOOR-PLATES.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **157,724**, dated December 15, 1874; application filed October 31, 1874.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, WILLIAM SHARROCK, Jr., of Lawrence, in the county of Essex, State of Massachusetts, have invented a certain new and useful Improvement in Combined Door-Plates and Letter-Box Covers, of which the following is a description sufficiently full, clear, and exact to enable any person skilled in the art or science to which my invention appertains to make and use the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawing, forming a part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 is a front elevation, and Fig. 2 a rear elevation, of my improvement.

Like letters of reference indicate corresponding parts in the different figures of the drawing.

My invention relates to that class of door-plates which are composed wholly or in part of glass; and consists in a novel construction and arrangement of the parts, by which the plate is adapted for both day and night use, and also for a door or cover to a letter-box, as hereinafter more fully set forth and claimed.

The extreme simplicity of my invention renders an elaborate description unnecessary.

In Fig. 1, A represents a section of the door to which the plate is applied, and B the escutcheon or frame, which is constructed of metal, and is held in place by means of the studs *c c*, Fig. 2. These studs are hollow and threaded, as shown at *d d*, being designed to receive screws from the inside of the door. The setting or frame of the name-plate C is provided with lugs *g g*, and is hinged to the escutcheon B by means of the projections D D and rod *f*. A spring, E, is coiled around the rod, one end of said spring resting upon

the upper edge of the plate, and the other upon the interior face of the escutcheon, in such a manner that the expansive action of the spring operates to press the setting or plate firmly against the inside of the escutcheon. Through the center of the escutcheon there is an elongated letter-opening, somewhat smaller than the plate, and for which it acts as a cover. The plate itself is composed of glass, or other transparent or translucent material, set in a metallic frame, and is designed to bear a name and the number of the street, as shown.

It will be obvious that in the night-time a door-plate of this character may be readily illuminated from the interior of the house, rendering the name and number inscribed thereon perfectly visible; also, that when arranged as described, it will serve as a self-closing door to a letter-box.

I am aware that a letter-box or letter-box escutcheon for attachment to doors has been used, having a hinged metallic cover; and I do not, therefore, claim the same, broadly, or when in and of itself considered; but

What I claim is—

1. As a new article of manufacture, the name-plate and letter-chute cover combined, constructed of the retracting glass plate C, mounted on the metallic frame X, and hinged to the escutcheon B by means of the lugs D D *g g* and rod *f*, the latter being provided with a spring, E, substantially as described.

2. The escutcheon or plate B, provided at its inner ends with studs *c c*, having internal screw-threads *d d*, for the purpose described.

WILLIAM SHARROCK, JR.

Witnesses:

CALEB SAUNDERS,  
GEO. W. POOR.