

(No Model.)

F. E. FREY.

MAIL BOX.

No. 292,741.

Patented Jan. 29, 1884.

Fig. 1.

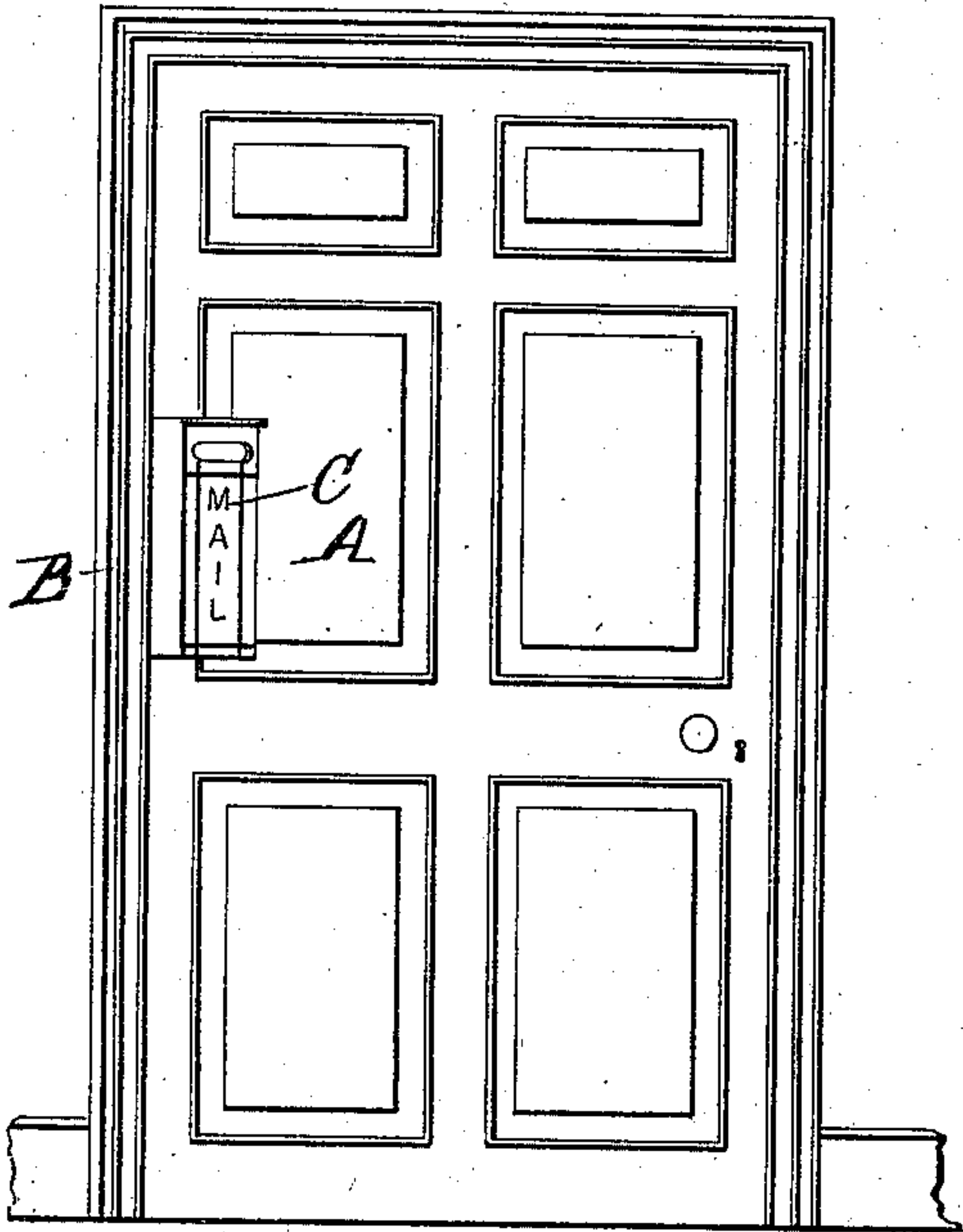


Fig. 2.

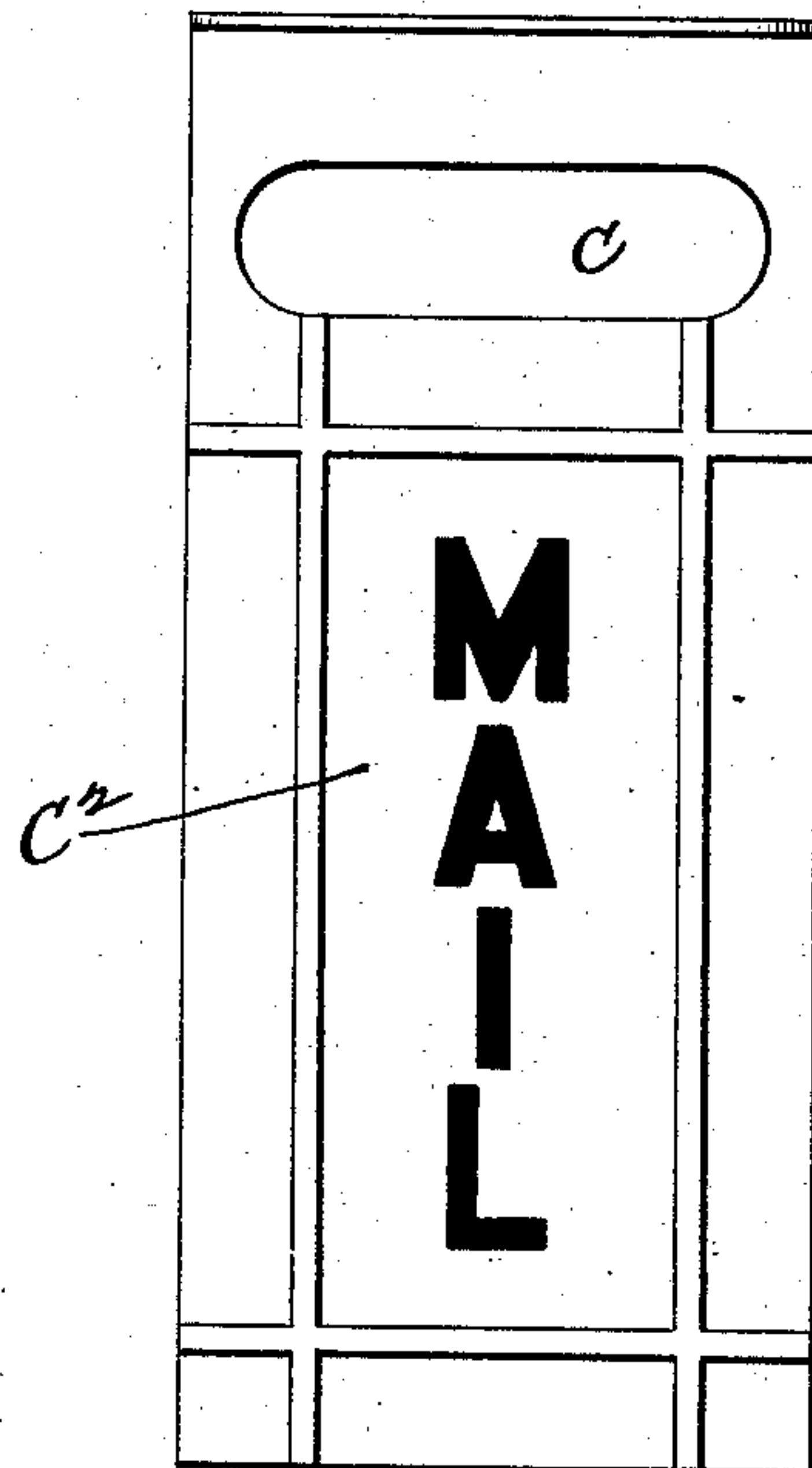
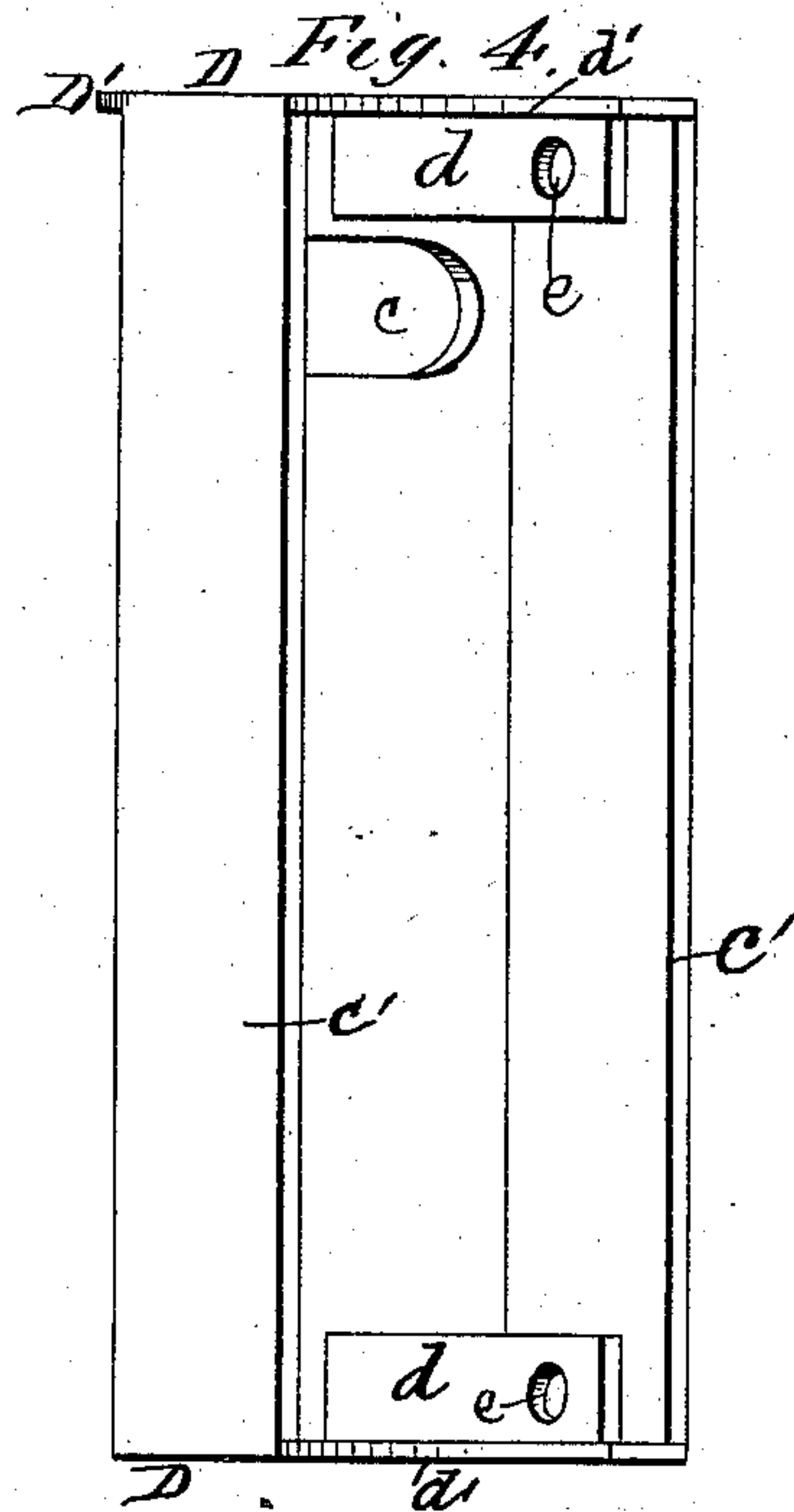
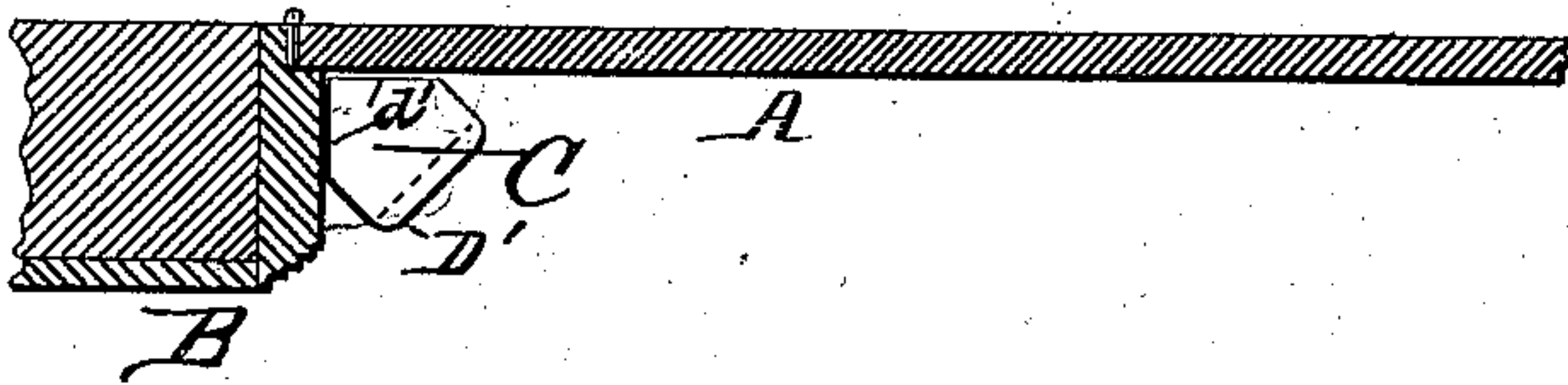


Fig. 3.



Witnesses.
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

FRANCIS E. FREY, OF SPRINGFIELD, OHIO, ASSIGNOR OF ONE-HALF TO
JAMES W. McROBERTS, OF SAME PLACE.

MAIL-BOX.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 292,741, dated January 29, 1884.

Application filed November 6, 1883. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, FRANCIS E. FREY, of Springfield, Clarke county, Ohio, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Mail-Boxes, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to that class of mail-boxes which are intended for private use and attachment to the exterior of residences or places of business for the carrier or other person to place the mail in, and to be opened only by the authorized party or parties.

I construct my box in such a manner as that it shall occupy a position adjacent to a door or other moving part, which, when closed, forms one of the walls of the box, and when opened reveals the interior and allows the contents to be taken out.

As preferably constructed my box is formed to fit in the angle made by the door and the door-jamb at the hinge side, and is attached to the jamb or frame in such a way as not only to be closed entirely when the door is shut, but also to have its fastening means entirely hidden, and thus prevent the removal of the box, except when the door is open. The construction is such also as to enable me to attach the box with equal facility either in a right or left hand corner, and in either to obtain equal advantages.

The accompanying drawings form a part of this specification, and illustrate what I consider the preferable and best form of embodying the invention.

Figure 1 is a view of a door with my device applied; Fig. 2, a front elevation of my device; Fig. 3, a section of the door and jamb, with a top view of my device in place. Fig. 4 is a perspective taken from the inner side of my device.

Similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts in all the figures where they occur.

A is the door or other swinging or moving part, and B the door jamb or frame, stationary and forming an angle to the face of the door.

C is my box. It is composed of a front, C², provided with the usual slot or opening *c* for receiving the matter, two parallel sides, *c' c'*, ends D D, and ribs *d d*. The ends D D are preferably parallel to each other, and are

formed to meet and cover the space partially surrounded by the front C² and sides *c' c'*. Each end extends past the rear edges of the sides in a pointed form, and its edges make two sides of a right-angled triangle. This form is shown in Fig. 3, where *d' d'* represent the inclined edges.

Under the ends D, and reaching from the center of the front to the points of the ends, are the ribs *d d*, which form the means whereby the box is attached to the building. Near the outer ends of the ribs holes *e e* are provided, through which screws pass to take hold of the wood of the frame. The holes penetrate the ribs at right angles, and will receive the screws as well from one side as the other, thus rendering the box equally well adapted for use in a right or left hand corner. The ribs may be punctured in more than one place, if desired. They need not necessarily extend entirely back to the front of the box, but may terminate just beyond the screw-holes. When, however, they reach from front to point of the ends, they serve to strengthen the ends and prevent possibility of their being fractured. If the ends are made thick enough, the ribs may be entirely dispensed with and the holes for receiving the screws made in the ends direct.

The end of the box which forms the top is projected slightly over the front, as shown in Figs. 3 and 4 at D', and forms a shield to protect the slot *c* against rain or snow.

The front of the box may be oval in form instead of flat, and where desired may have a door to lock or open like other boxes. Ordinarily, however, this will not be desired.

The box is preferably made of cast metal, and, as will be observed, its construction is such as to render it capable of being cast in a single piece. Its simplicity of structure and method of construction combine to render its production cheap and its strength and durability great.

In use it will be seen that when the door or other moving part is swung away from the side of the box which it closes, that the whole interior of the box is thrown open, and its contents will drop out or can readily be removed. Wherever it is placed, whether in a right or left hand corner, the jamb or frame will form a wall for one of the open sides, and a moving

part closing up at right angles to the face of the jamb will form the wall for the other open side of the box and thus completely close it.

It will also be observed that the screws let
5 into the jamb through the ribs *d d*, or holes in the ends of the box will be completely hidden and covered when the door is closed, and will thus be defended against unlawful interference and completely frustrate all attempts to
10 remove the box when the door is shut.

It is apparent that the box may be attached to the door and swung with it when it is opened as well as it can be attached to the jamb; but I consider it preferable to secure it to the jamb.

15 Having thus described my invention, what I claim, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. A mail-box composed of front, sides, and ends, extended past the sides in a pointed form
20 forming open sides of the box, as set forth.

2. A mail-box formed with an open back and extended pointed ends, and adapted to be

secured to the jamb or frame in an angle made by a door or other moving part and its jamb or frame, so that the open back of the box 25 shall be closed by the jamb and door when the door is closed, and one part of the back of the box be opened when the door is opened, as set forth.

3. A mail-box having open back and pointed 30 ends, provided with ribs having screw-holes formed therein, substantially as set forth.

4. A mail-box consisting of a slotted front, *C'*, sides *c' c'*, ends *D D*, having extended inclined edges *d' d'*, and ribs *d d*, provided with 35 openings as described, and for the purpose set forth.

In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand in the presence of two witnesses.

FRANCIS E. FREY.

Witnesses:

E. S. WALLACE,
W. H. HART.