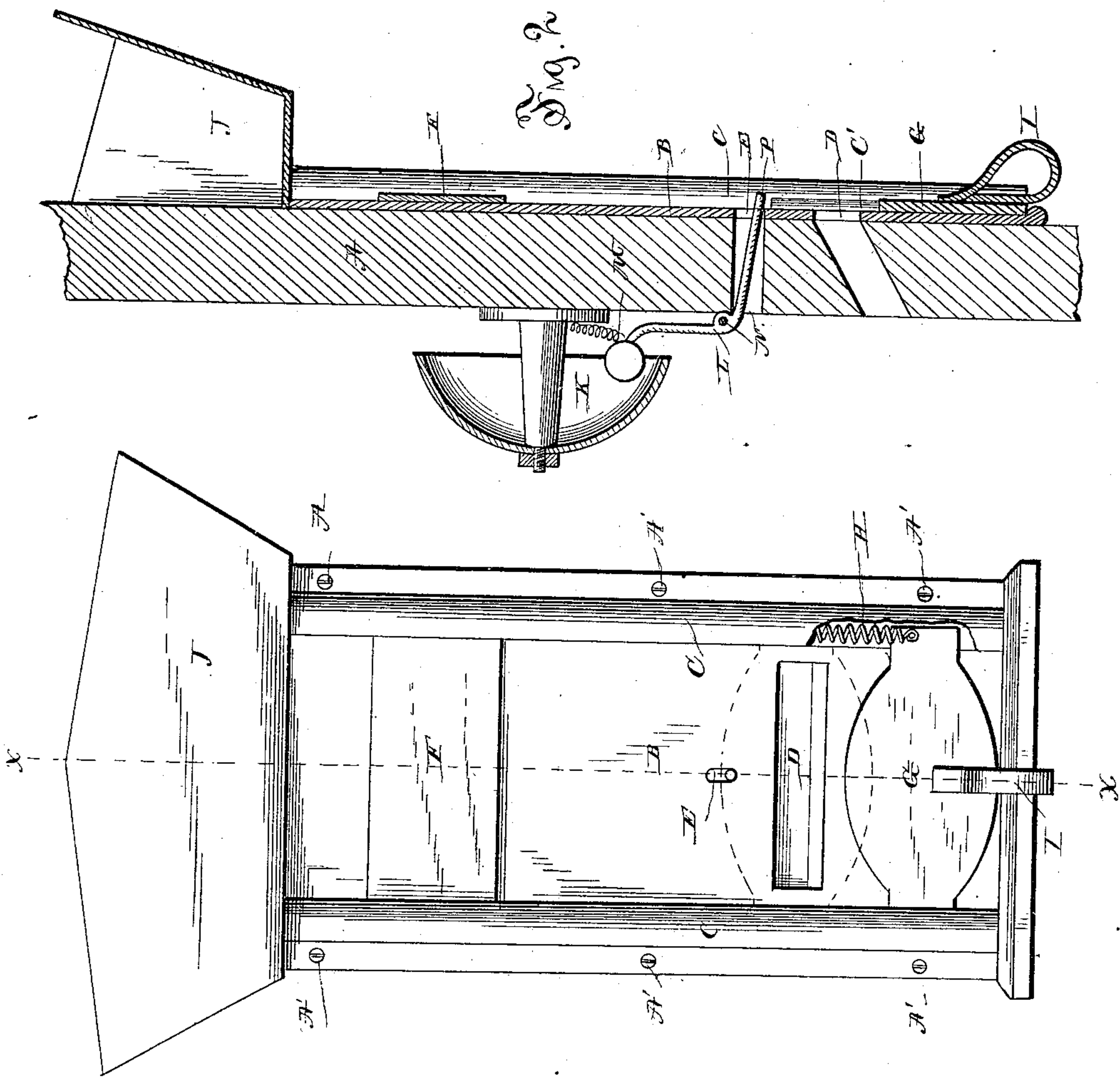


(No Model.)

M. W. ATOR.
LETTER BOX BELL.

No. 354,032.

Patented Dec. 7, 1886.



WITNESSES
F. L. Curand
Mrs. J. J. Jeter

Fig. 1
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

MARGARET W. ATOR, OF BLOOMINGTON, ILLINOIS.

LETTER-BOX BELL.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 354,032, dated December 7, 1886.

Application filed April 14, 1886. Serial No. 198,812. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, MARGARET W. ATOR, of Bloomington, in the county of McLean, and in the State of Illinois, have invented certain
5 new and useful Improvements in Mail-Receptacles for Buildings or Private Houses; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description thereof, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and
10 to the letters of reference marked thereon, making a part of this specification.

My invention relates to mail-receptacles; and it consists in the peculiar construction and arrangement of parts, as will be hereinafter
15 more fully described, and pointed out in the claims.

The object of this invention is to provide means whereby mail may be delivered and notice of the same given to the occupants of
20 the house by a gong or other suitable alarm device automatically operated by the slide that covers the opening through which the mail is passed, and also to provide a box in which may be placed the mail for collection. These
25 objects I attain by the means illustrated in the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a front elevation of my invention, with a part of a guide-bar broken away to show one of the springs for operating the
30 slide that covers the mouth of the opening through which the mail is passed, and Fig. 2 is a vertical sectional view taken on the line *x x* of Fig. 1.

The slide in both of these views is shown
35 drawn down, which is its position when it is desired to deliver mail, &c. The slide is shown down, so as to illustrate the mouth of the conducting passage, which would not be seen if the parts were in their normal position.
40

Like letters indicate like parts throughout the several views.

A represents the door or other suitable support, to which is attached by screws A' or
45 other suitable fastenings a plate, B, bearing upon its face vertical guide-bars C. These guide-bars may have formed upon their inner faces a groove extending from top to bottom, or may be constructed with grooves C', as
50 shown in the drawings. The grooves shown extend only part way up the guide-bars.

The plate B is provided with openings D and E. Through the opening D the mail is conveyed into a box or other suitable receptacle. Through the opening E projects one
55 end of the hammer of the bell or alarm K. Both openings D and E are continued through the door. The door-plate F, upon which may be placed the name of the occupant of the building, is held in position by the guide-
60 bars C. The ends of the cover enter the openings or grooves C', and have the lower ends of the springs H secured to them, the said springs having their upper ends secured to the inner
65 side of said grooves at higher points.

At the lower end of the device is a cover, G, for the opening D. This cover is held normally over said opening by spiral springs H, located in the vertical guides C. A ring, I,
70 or other suitable projection is placed upon the face of the cover G, by means of which the cover may be easily and quickly moved from over the mouth or opening D.

At the upper end of the plate B and guide-bars C is formed a trough or box, J, in which
75 is placed the mail that is desired to be collected.

On the inner face of the door is secured a bell or alarm, K. The hammer L of the bell is pivoted at N to the inner face of the door
80 near the end of the passage E, so that one end extends through said passage and projects beyond the face of plate B. The hammer is held away from the gong by a spring, M.

The operation of my invention will be readily understood in connection with the above
85 description, and is as follows: When it is desired to deliver a letter or package, the sliding cover G is moved downward from over the opening D and the letter pushed through said
90 opening. When the cover G is pulled downward, the spring M exerts its force and moves the hammer L until the end P of said hammer is brought against the lower side of the opening E. When the cover G is liberated, the
95 springs H cause it to have a forcible upward movement. Before the cover assumes its normal position it comes in contact with the projecting end P of the hammer. This causes a sharp stroke upon the bell, thereby giving notice
100 to the occupants of the house that mail has been delivered.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent of the United States, is—

1. In a mail-receptacle, the combination,
5 with the plate B, having openings D E, said
openings being continued through the body to
which the plate is secured, the grooved guide-
bars secured to the face of said plate, and
spring-actuated cover, in combination with a
10 bell secured on the inside of the door or body
to which the plate is secured, one end of the
hammer of said bell extending through the
opening E, whereby when the cover is liber-
ated after being drawn downward an alarm is
15 sounded, substantially as specified.

2. The combination of the door A, the plate
B, the openings D and E, passing through both
door and plate, the bell secured to the inner
side of the door, the spring-controlled hammer
20 L, pivoted to the inner side of the door with

its handle extending outside of the opening E,
and the spring-controlled cover on the outside
of the door, which in using strikes said handle
and rings the bell, substantially as specified.

3. The combination of the door A, plate B, 25
openings D E, extending through both plate
and door, the bell K, hammer L, pivoted at
N, and having its arm P extending through
the opening E, springs M, the guide-bars C,
having the openings or grooves C', cover G, 30
provided with the handle I, and springs H, all
constructed and arranged substantially as
specified, and for the purpose set forth.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing I
have hereunto set my hand this 17th day of 35
March, 1886.

MARGARET W. ATOR.

Witnesses:

JOSEPH ATOR,
R. J. CANNELL.