

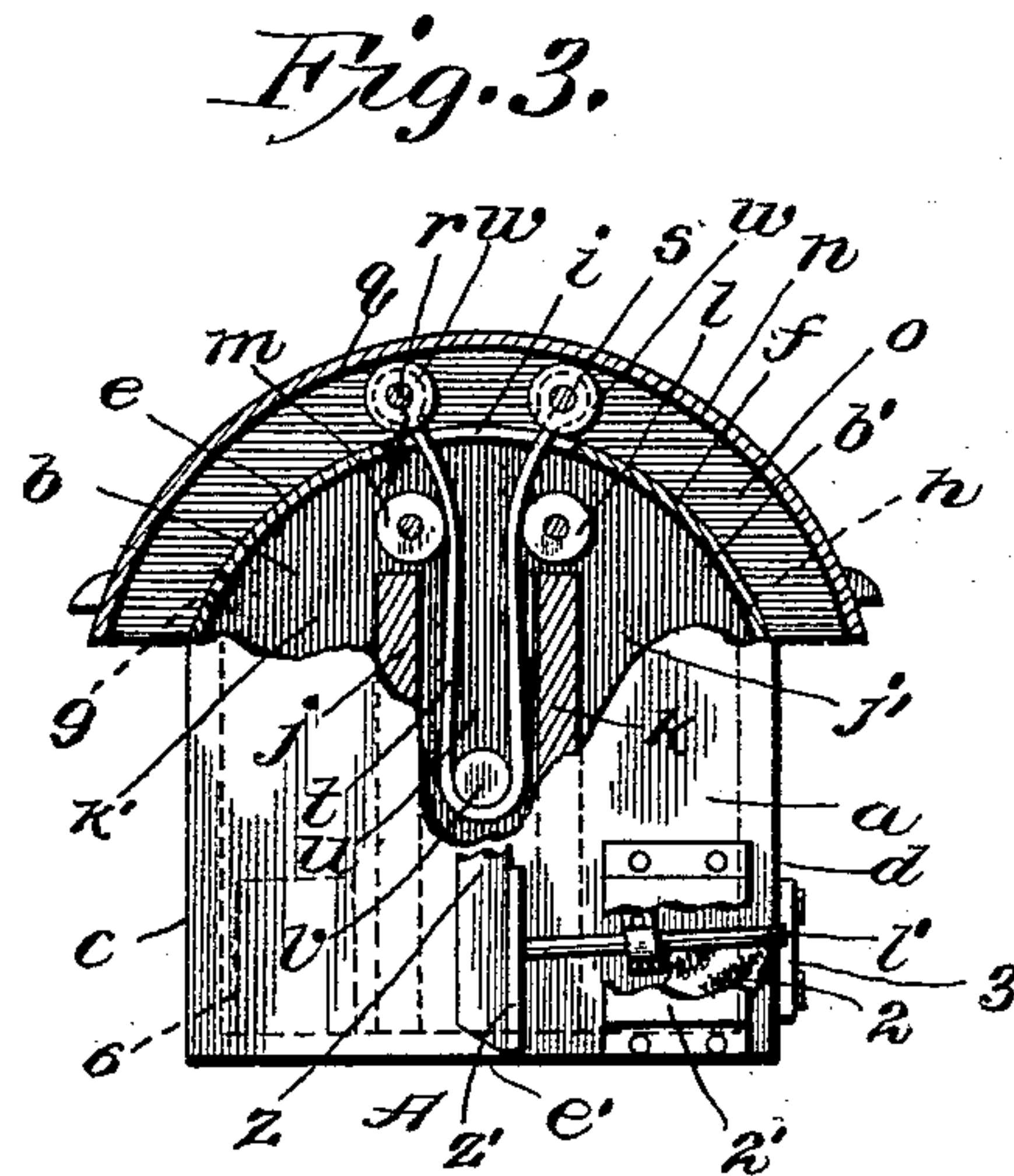
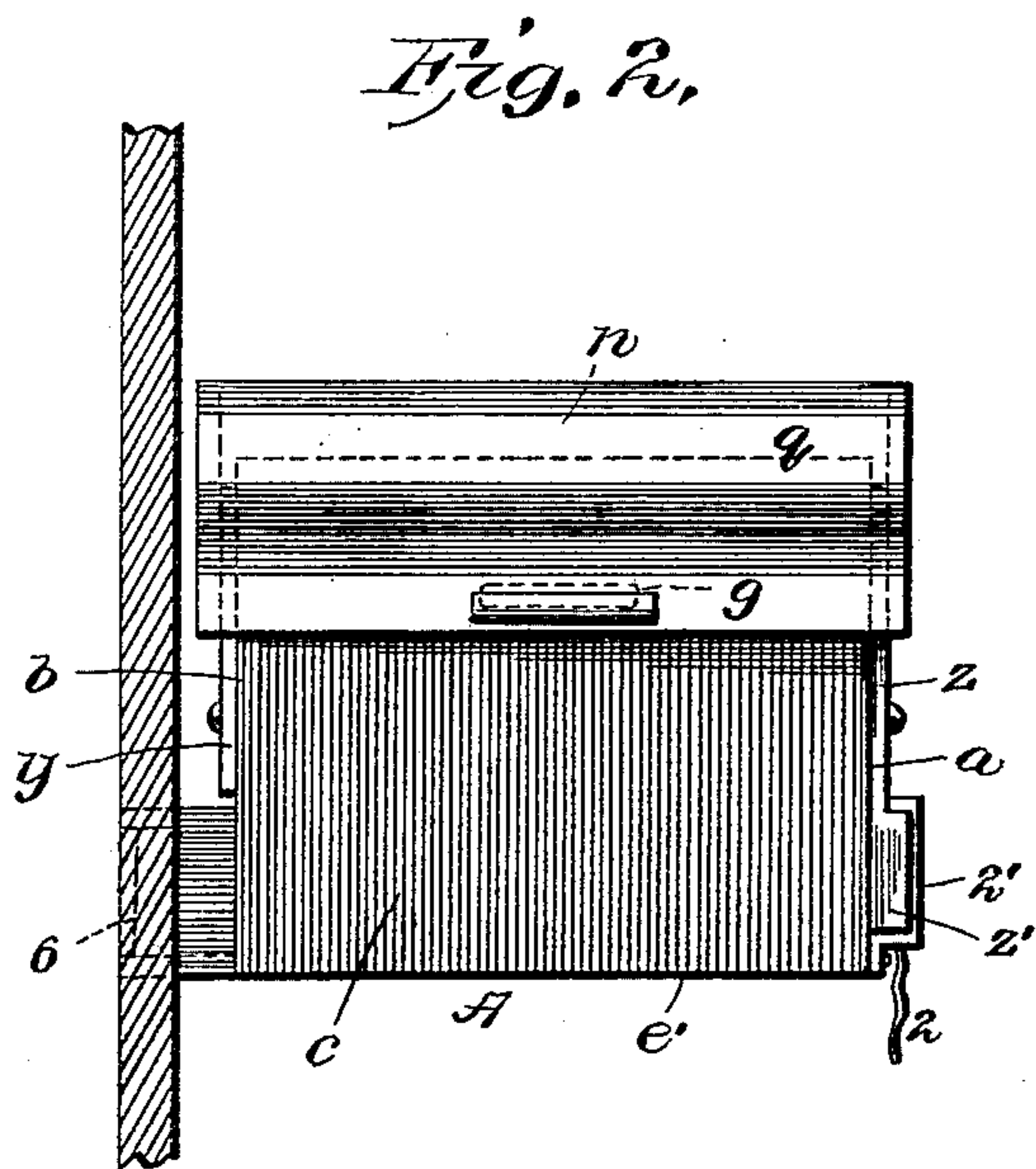
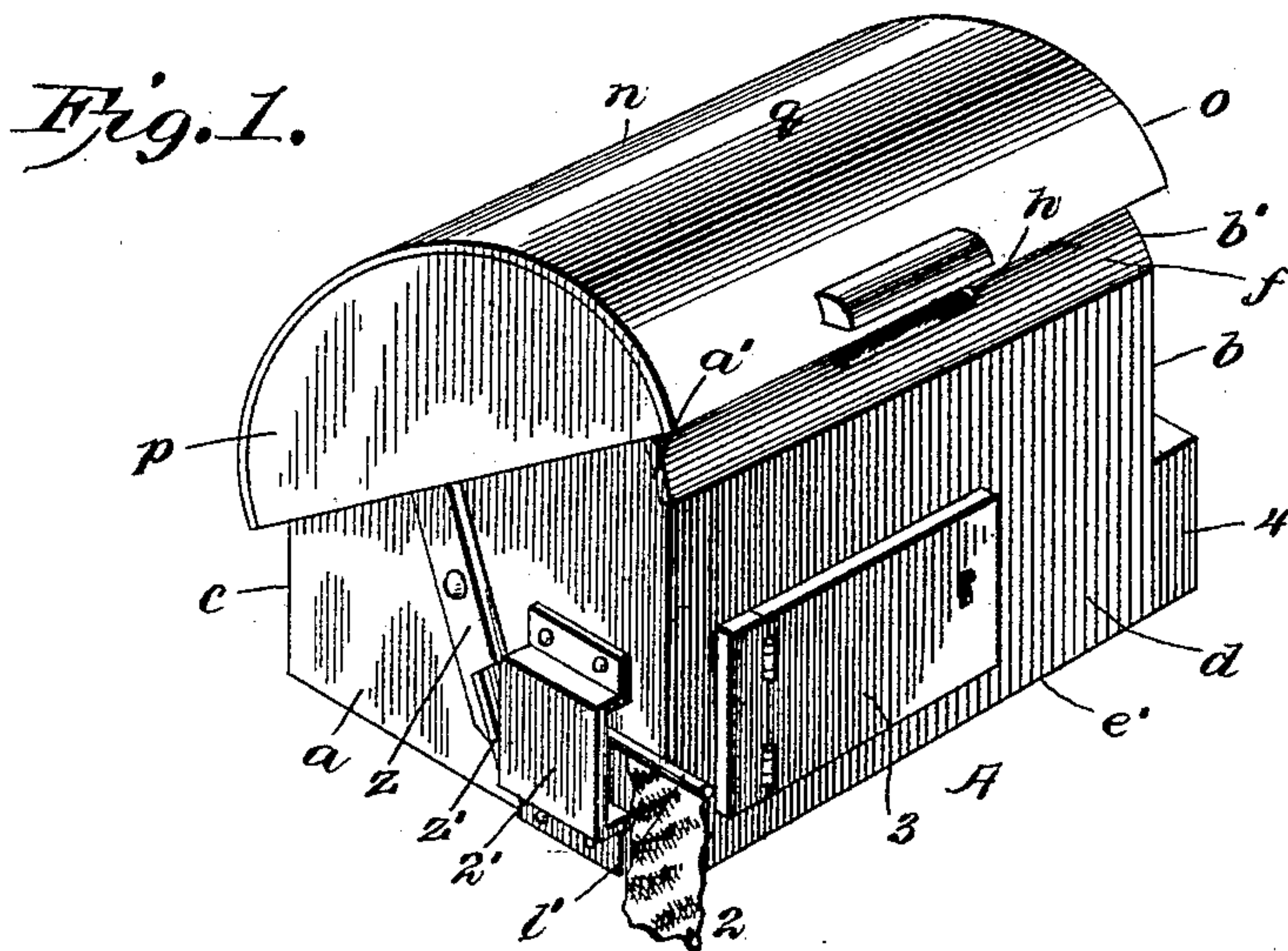
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Patented Sept. 12, 1899.

W. H. KESSLER.
COLLECTION AND DELIVERY MAIL BOX.

(Application filed July 21, 1899.)

(No Model.)



Witnesses

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLIAM H. KESSLER, OF MERWIN, MISSOURI, ASSIGNOR OF ONE-FOURTH
TO GEORGE M. ROSIER.

COLLECTION AND DELIVERY MAIL-BOX.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 632,815, dated September 12, 1899.

Application filed July 21, 1899. Serial No. 724,677. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM H. KESSLER, a citizen of the United States, residing at Merwin, in the county of Bates and State of Missouri, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Collection and Delivery Mail-Boxes; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same.

The object of my invention is to provide a mail-box which shall be cheap of manufacture, simple of construction, and easy of operation, and one in which mail may be deposited for collection and delivery.

Referring now to the drawings forming a part of this specification, and in which like letters and figures of reference indicate similar parts in the several views, Figure 1 is a perspective view of my invention. Fig. 2 is a side elevation showing my box attached to a door. Fig. 3 is an end view of my invention, in which a portion of the box is broken away and in which one end of the cover is removed.

In carrying out my invention I provide a box A, comprising end pieces *a* and *b*, side pieces *c* and *d*, and a bottom piece *e'*. The end pieces are semicircular at their upper edges, as shown at *a'* and *b'*, which said semicircular edges are connected by plates *e* and *f*, preferably formed of thin metal, and which are provided with longitudinal slots *g* and *h* for the reception of the mail. The plates *e* and *f* are so arranged as to leave an opening *i* extending the length of the box and at its highest point.

The interior of my mail-box is divided into three parts by partitions *j* and *k*, arranged longitudinally thereof. These partitions extend upwardly to within a short distance of the plates *e* and *f* and are arranged directly below the adjacent edges thereof. The division *j'* thus formed is for the reception of mail for collection, and the division *k'* is for the delivered mail. Pivoted to the end pieces *a* and *b* are rollers *l* and *m*, interposed between the upper edges of the partitions *j* and *k* and the plates *e* and *f* and lying parallel therewith.

As a means of protecting the contents of the box from the weather I provide an oscillating cover *n*, comprising end pieces *o* and *p*, connected by a semicircular cover portion *q*, which conforms to the arc of the plates *e* and *f*. Mounted between the ends *o* and *p* are rods *r* and *s*, to which are connected the ends of a strip *t* of leather or other suitable material, which falls into the central division *u*, and supported by which is a weight *v*. These rods also support rollers *w*, arranged oppositely in pairs at each end of the cover and adapted to roll upon the plates *e* and *f* above the end pieces *a* and *b*.

The cover *n* is connected to the body of the box by arms *y* and *z*, the latter of which is extended to form a lever, the end of which is adapted to engage the free end of a slidably-arranged signal-supporting rod *1'*, supporting a flag or other suitable signal 2. This signal is normally concealed from view by a shield 2', secured to the end of the box, beneath which the rod and signal are adapted to slide. Suitable lifts are attached to either side of the cover to facilitate its operation.

In the side *a* of the box is an opening through which the mail intended for collection may be secured, and which is normally closed by a door 3, provided with a suitable fastening, and to the end *b* is secured a block 4 by which the box may be secured to a house-door. Adjacent the block 4 is an opening through which the delivered mail may be secured, surrounded by an outwardly-projecting flange which is adapted to be passed through the door to which the mail-box is attached. This opening is also closed by a suitable closure 6, which is provided with locking means.

From the above description it will be seen that when the mail is deposited the cover of the box must be rocked, and if the deposited mail is for collection the lid must be rocked in such a manner as to cause the end *z'* of the arm or the lever *z* to engage the free end of the sliding rod *1'*, and thus cause the signal 2 to project sufficiently to be seen by an approaching collector. When the cover *n* is released, it will be returned to the position shown in Fig. 3 by means of the weight *v*, supported by the strip *t*, which plays on the rollers *l* and *m*. After the mail is removed the

carrier forces the signal back into its place of concealment. It will be seen that the mail delivered to the box will not cause the signal to project.

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

10 1. A device of the class described comprising a body portion an oscillating cover pivotally secured to the body portion, rollers interposed between the cover and the body portion, a sling suspended from the axles of the rollers, a weight supported by the sling, a signal mounted upon the body portion and means for
15 operating the signal at the oscillation of the cover.

20 2. A device of the class described comprising a body portion an oscillating cover pivotally secured to the body portion, rollers interposed between the cover and the body portion, a sling suspended from the axles of the rollers, a weight supported by the sling, an arm secured to each end of the cover portion, pivotally connected to the body portion, one of
25 said arms extending beyond its pivot, a slidably-arranged signal mounted upon the body

portion and adapted to be operated by the extension of the arm when the cover is oscillated.

3. A device of the class described comprising a subdivided body portion, an oscillating cover portion, rods connecting the ends of the cover portion, rollers mounted upon the rods to hold cover from engagement with the body portion, a sling suspended from the rods and between the rollers, a weight supported by the sling, rollers mounted within the body portion adapted to receive the respective sides of the sling, arms pivotally connecting the body portion and the cover portion, one of said arms being extended beyond its pivot, a slidably-arranged signal mounted upon the body portion and adapted to be operated by the extension of said arm when the cover is oscillated, and openings in the body portion, one of said openings having an encircling flange turned at an angle to the body portion.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature in presence of two witnesses.

WILLIAM H. KESSLER.

Witnesses:

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