

No. 635,426.

Patented Oct. 24, 1899.

J. N. CLOUSE.
LETTER BOX REGISTER.

(Application filed Mar. 27, 1899.)

(No Model.)

Fig. 1.

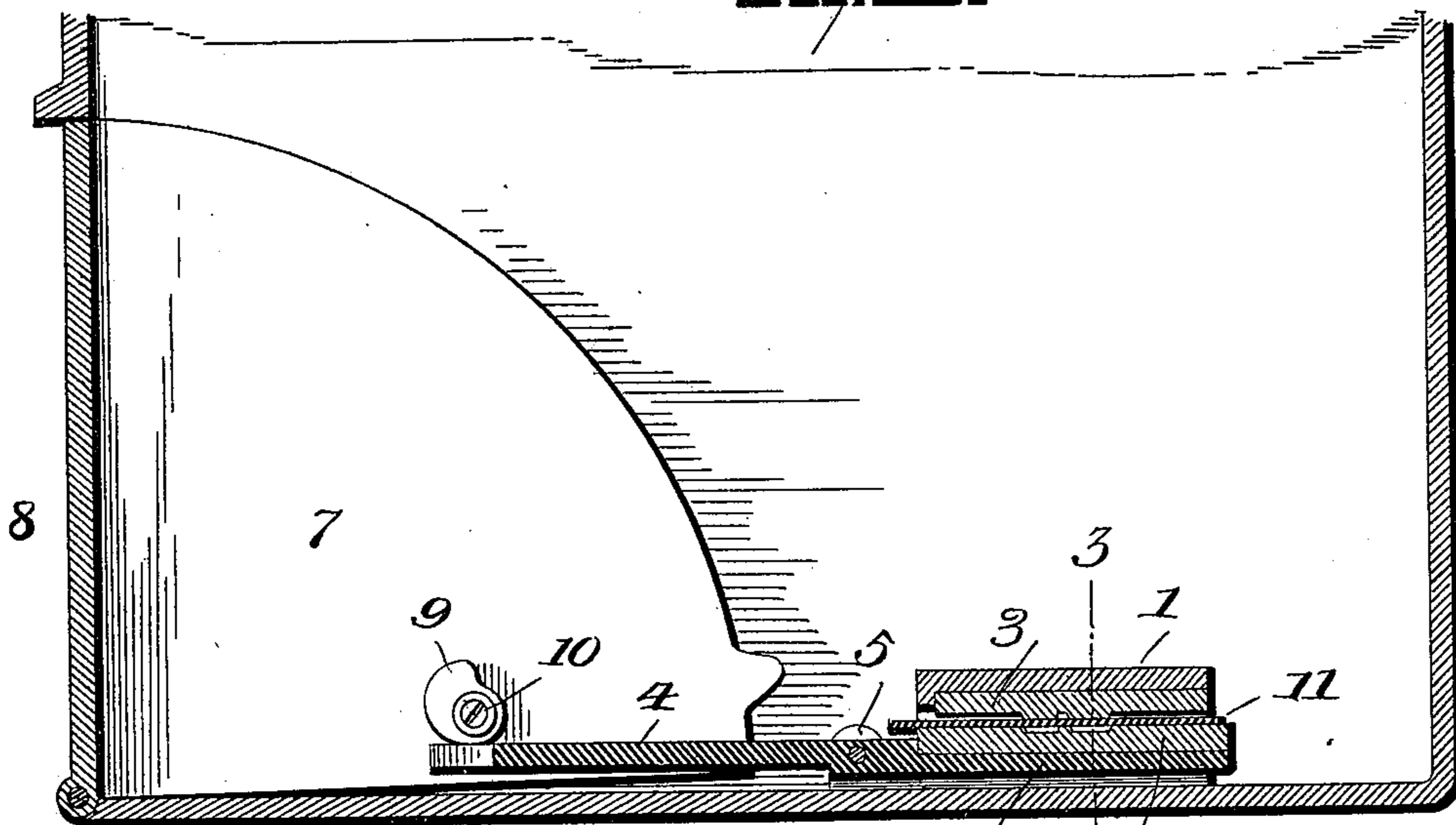


Fig. 2.

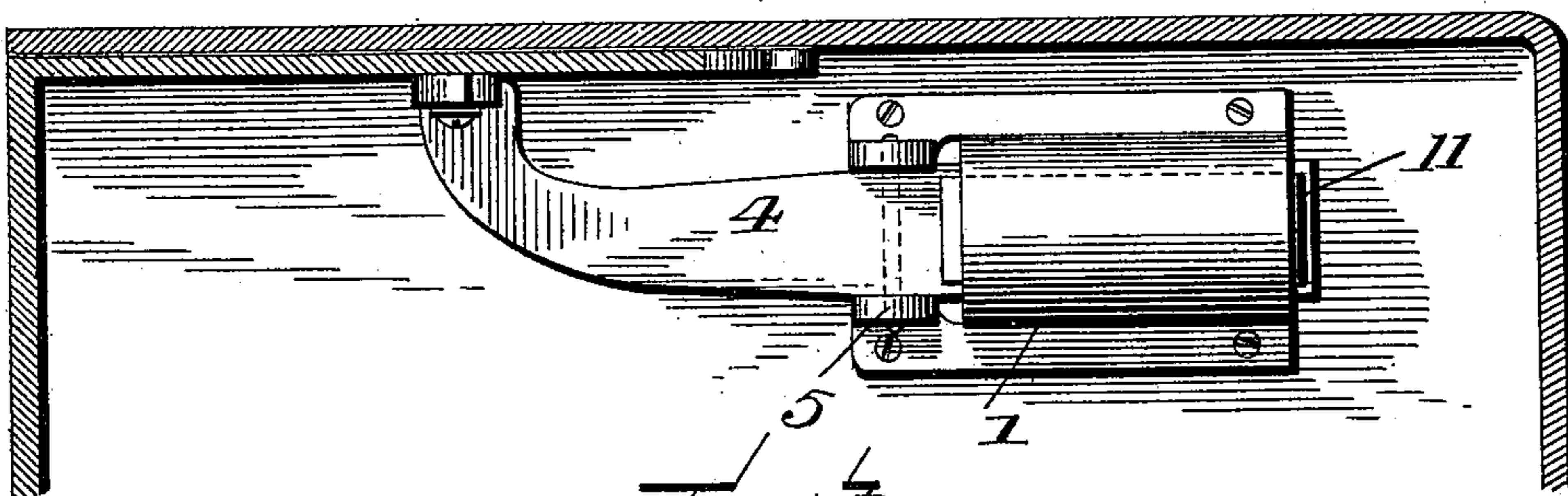
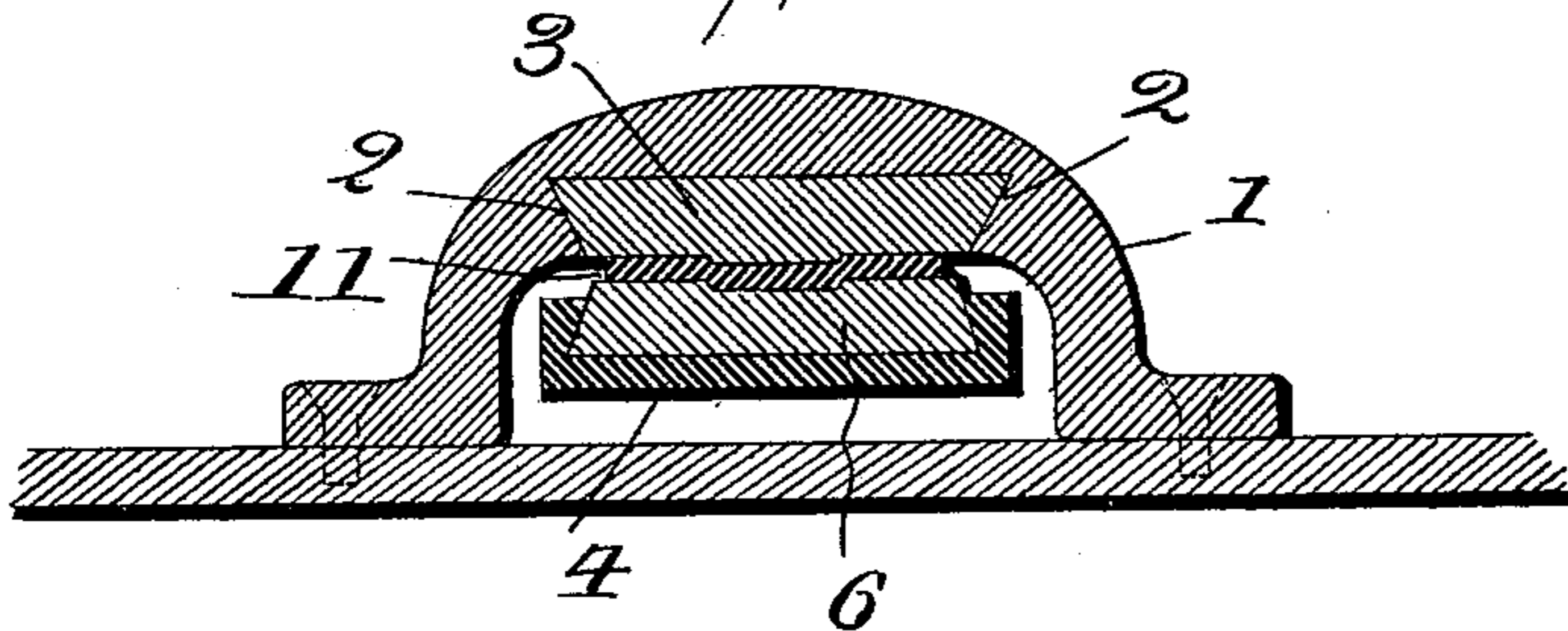


Fig. 3.



Witnesses

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOSEPH N. CLOUSE, OF ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI, ASSIGNOR, BY DIRECT AND MESNE ASSIGNMENTS, OF SEVEN-EIGHTHS TO HARRY R. WADE AND DANIEL W. BOWMAN, OF TOLEDO, AND JOSEPH W. BOWMAN AND HOWARD E. BOWMAN, OF TIPPECANOE CITY, OHIO.

LETTER-BOX REGISTER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 635,426, dated October 24, 1899.

Application filed March 27, 1899. Serial No. 710,679. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOSEPH N. CLOUSE, a citizen of the United States, residing at St. Louis, in the State of Missouri, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Letter-Box Registers; 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.

My invention has relation to registers especially adapted to be used on street letter-boxes; and it consists in the novel construction and arrangement of its parts, as hereinafter described.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is a transverse sectional view of the lower portion of a street letter-box, showing the register in section. Fig. 2 is a horizontal sectional view of the lower portion of the box, showing a top view of the register in position. Fig. 3 is a transverse sectional view of the register.

The casting 1 is riveted or otherwise secured to the bottom of the letter-box and on the inside of the same. The middle portion of the said casting is arched, and on the under side of the arch a suitable die-holder is formed. As shown in Fig. 3, the die-holder consists of the inwardly-inclined edges 2 2, which are adapted to engage the beveled edges of the die 3, thus holding the said die in position after the same is slipped longitudinally in the holder.

The die 3 may be either male or female. The lever 4 is fulcrumed to the casting 1 at the point 5, the shorter end of the lever extending under the arch of the casting 1, and the said short end of the lever having inclined edges similar to the edges 2 2, and thus forming a holder for the die 6, said die 6 having beveled edges and being adapted to be slipped longitudinally in the holder on the short end of the lever 4. The longer end of the lever 4 is curved at its extreme to one side, as shown in Fig. 2. On the flange 7 of the door 8 the adjustable cam 9 is located, the periphery of the said cam being in a spiral shape, and thus as the said cam is revolved

and secured in place by means of the set-screw 10 the distance from the center of the said screw to the periphery of the cam downward toward the end of the lever 4 is increased or diminished, according to the direction in which the cam is turned. When the door 8 is closed, the cam 9 is brought in contact with the end of the lever 4, and thus the register is operated, as will be hereinafter described. By adjusting the cam 9 the parts may be made to work smoothly and in proper relation to each other.

The device is operated as follows: When the carrier opens the door 8 to take the mail from the box and after he has removed the mail, he slips a card 11 between the dies 3 and 6. He then shuts the door 8, and by so doing forces the longer end of the lever 4 down and the shorter end carrying the die up. This impresses a figure or other character on the card 11. When he comes again to collect the mail, he removes the card 11 with the mail and puts in another one in its place. The removed card is turned in at the post-office, together with the mail, thus showing that he has visited the box.

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

1. A register such as described consisting of a die-holder attached to the interior of the box, a lever fulcrumed to said die-holder and also adapted to receive a die, a lug attached to the flange of the hinged door said lug adapted to engage the end of the lever when the door is closed and operate to register.

2. A register such as described consisting of a die-holder attached to the interior of the box, a lever fulcrumed to said die-holder and also adapted to receive a die, a cam having a varying periphery, said cam being adjustably attached to the flange of the hinged door and being adapted to engage the end of the lever when the door is closed and operate the register.

3. A register such as described consisting of a die-holder attached to the interior of the box, a lever fulcrumed to said die-holder and

also adapted to receive a die, the outer end of
said lever being extended to one side, a lug
attached to the flange of the hinged door and
being adapted to engage the extended end of
5 the lever when the door is closed and operate
to register.

4. A register such as described consisting
of a die-holder attached to the interior of the
box, a lever suitably fulcrumed and having a
10 die-holder, the said die-holders being oppo-

site each other, a lug attached to the door of
the box, said lug adapted to engage the end
of the lever when the door is closed and oper-
ate to register.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature 15
in presence of two witnesses.

JOSEPH N. CLOUSE.

Witnesses:

MARTHA NOTON,
HANNAH M. HOSIE.