

No. 651,958.

Patented June 19, 1900.

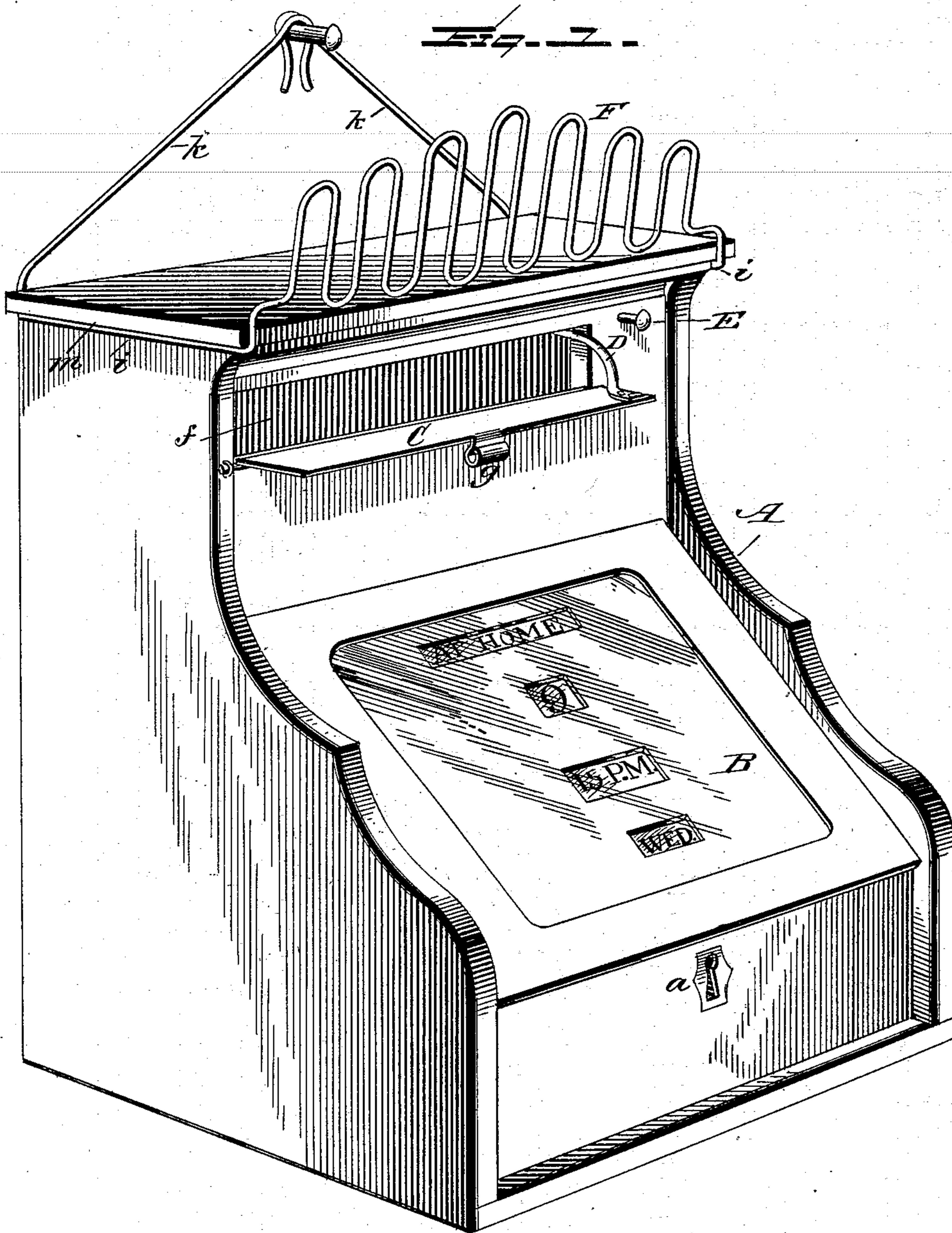
G. TREVETT.

MAIL BOX.

(Application filed Apr. 9, 1900.)

(No Model.)

3 Sheets—Sheet 1.



WITNESSES:

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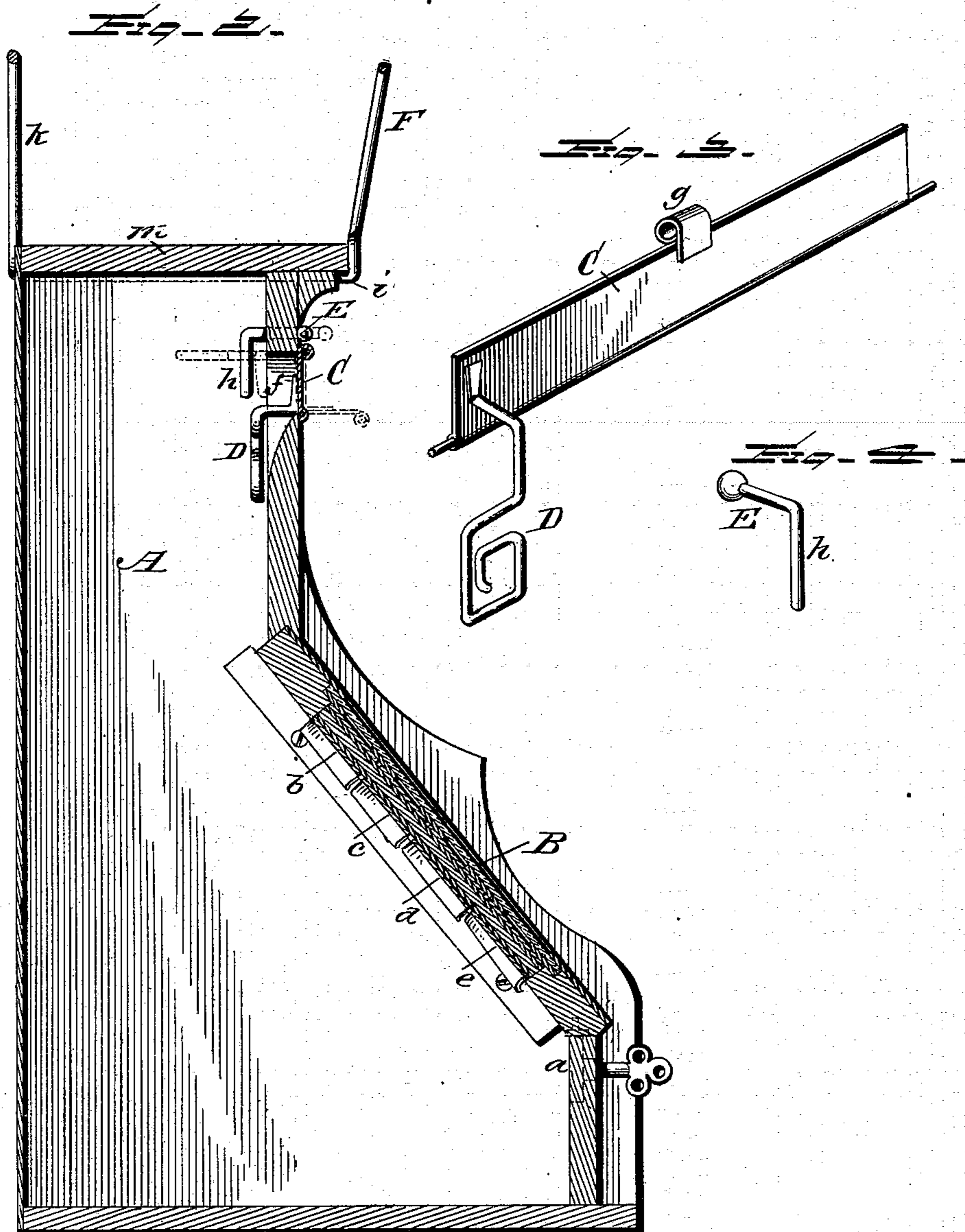
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3 Sheets—Sheet 2.



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Fig. 5.

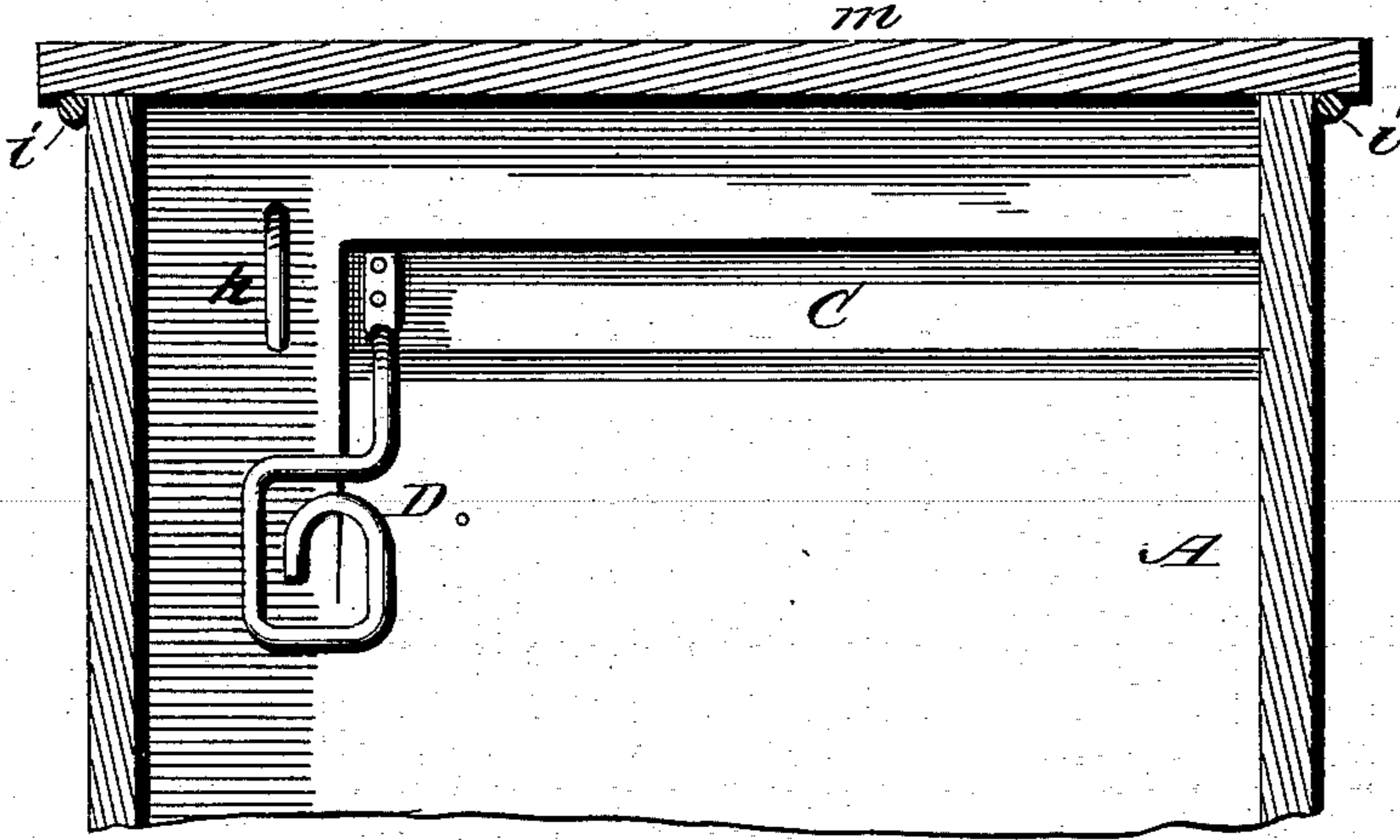
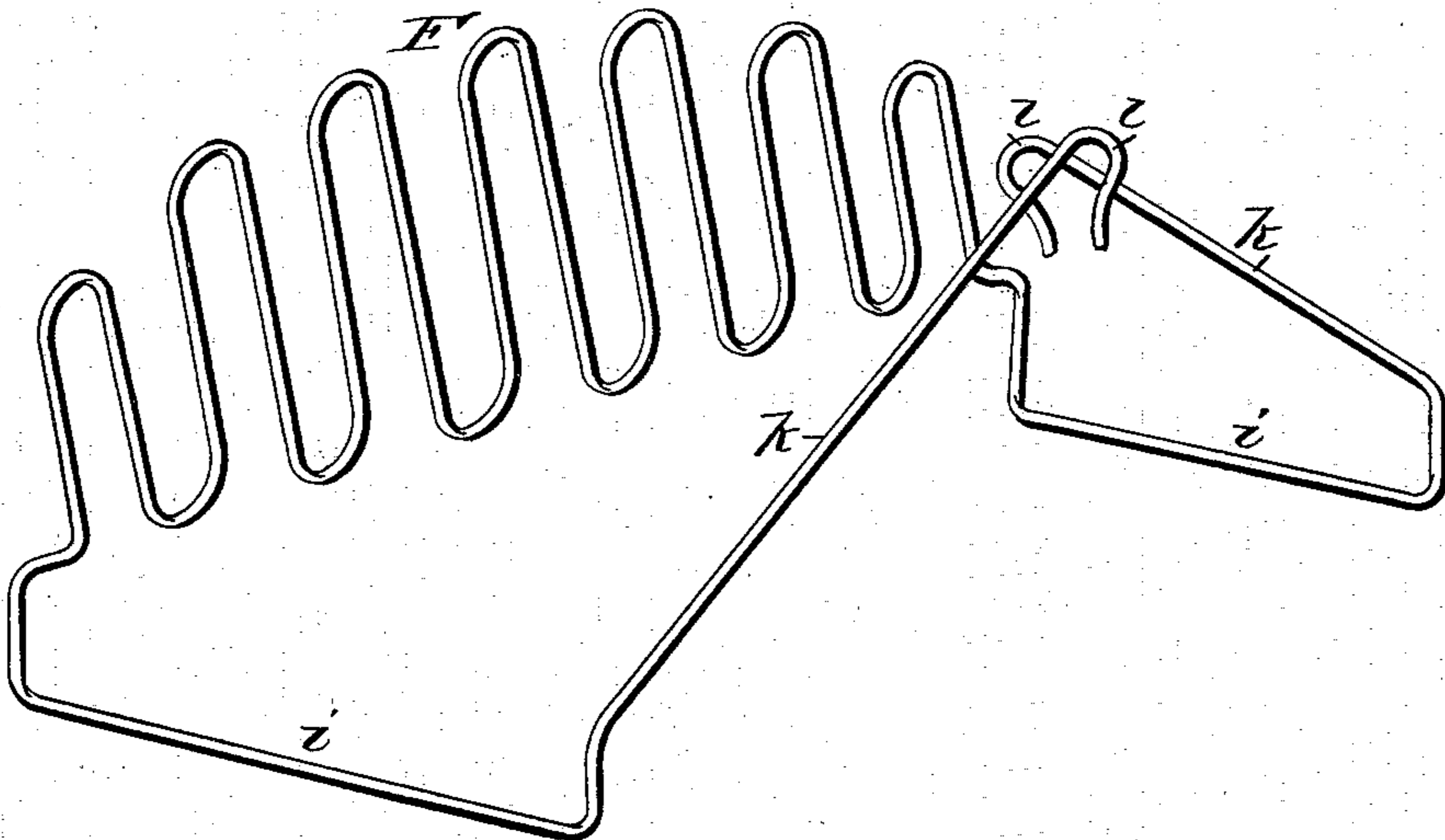


Fig. 6.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

GEORGE TREVETT, OF SAN JOSÉ, CALIFORNIA.

MAIL-BOX.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 651,958, dated June 19, 1900.

Application filed April 9, 1900. Serial No. 12,132. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, GEORGE TREVETT, a citizen of the United States, residing at San José, in the county of Santa Clara and State of California, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Mail-Boxes; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description of the same, reference being had to the annexed drawings, making a part of this specification, and to the letters of reference marked thereon.

The present invention has relation to that class of mail-boxes especially adapted for individual use at houses and offices; and the object thereof is to provide a simple and effective box of this character adapted for the reception of mail or other written matter, also for newspapers, the box being particularly adapted for lawyers' or doctors' offices and especially useful as an indoor house mail-box.

The invention consists in a mail-box constructed substantially as shown in the drawings and hereinafter described and claimed.

Figure 1 of the drawings is a perspective view of a mail-box constructed in accordance with my invention; Fig. 2, a sectional elevation thereof; Fig. 3, a detail perspective view of the hinged cover; Fig. 4, a similar view of the indicator; Fig. 5, a sectional view of the upper portion of the box, showing the interior thereof; Fig. 6, a detail perspective view of the paper-rack.

In the accompanying drawings, A represents the mail-box, of any suitable form and construction and of any preferred size. Said box is found desirable, being provided with an information-plate B. This plate is disposed on an incline to serve as a desk for the person calling to write a message or memoranda when found necessary, and the plate is locked in position by means of a suitable lock *a*, and when unlocked the information-plate may be removed from the box.

The information-plate B may be of any desirable construction, with movable strips *b c d e* containing suitable lettering thereon, as required, whereby certain letters and figures may be brought in line with the openings in the plate to give the required information to the caller. In describing this information-plate and its connections I wish it understood that the plate may be variously modi-

fied or changed or dispensed with altogether, as the essential feature of the invention lies in the special construction thereof as a mail-box or a box to receive temporary written messages and not as an office-indicator. Therefore the information-plate, with its attachments, may be dispensed with.

Near the upper end of the box A is a longitudinal opening *f*, through which the mail or other written matter may be deposited in the box, a cover C closing the opening when not in use. This cover C, I term a "gravitating swinging cover," as it closes automatically when released by the person depositing the mail or other written matter through the opening *f*. This cover C may be constructed of metal, wood, or any other material found most desirable and is either hinged, pivoted, or connected to the box in any suitable and well-known manner that will admit of it being depressed or brought to the position shown in Fig. 1 of the drawings, a thumb-piece *g* being provided for convenience in depressing or lowering the cover to expose the opening *f* when desired to deposit the mail or other written matter. Upon the inner side of the cover C and near one end thereof is a push device D, of any suitable form and construction, which is designed to act against the vertical arm *g* of the horizontal indicator-rod E, which extends through a hole in the front of the box A, as shown in Figs. 1 and 2 of the drawings. When the outer end of the indicator-rod E is in position shown in full lines of Fig. 2 of the drawings, it indicates that the cover C has not been touched or depressed by any one for the purpose of depositing any mail or written matter in the box; but should the cover be operated for the above purpose the push device D rises with the depression of the cover C and comes in contact with the arm *h* and forces the indicator out to the position shown in full lines of Fig. 1 and in dotted lines of Fig. 2 of the drawings, thus indicating that mail or other written matter has been deposited in the box, and by unlocking the information-plate B and removing the same access to the interior of the box is obtained for the purpose of removing the contents.

I provide for the box a simple newspaper-rack, (shown at F and in detail in Fig. 6 of the drawings,) which rack is constructed of

wire and is so formed as to provide a support and hanger for the box to secure it to the door. The rack F has two horizontal supports *i* extending rearwardly and terminating in upwardly-projecting hangers *k*, with eyes or hooks *l* at their upper extremities to adapt them to engage with a nail or screw. The supports *i* extend under the projecting edges of the top *m* of the mail-box A to suspend the box when the hangers are engaged with the nail or screw or other like object on the door or other place where the box is to be placed. It will therefore be seen that the newspaper-rack as it is constructed serves three distinct purposes—viz., a newspaper-rack, a support for the mail-box, and also a hanger therefor.

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

20 1. The combination with a mail-box of a newspaper-rack having rearwardly - extending horizontal supports to engage with the

top of the box, said supports terminating in upwardly-projecting hangers, substantially as and for the purpose specified. 25

2. A mail-box having an opening for depositing the mail, a gravitating swinging cover therefor, a push device connected to one end of the cover, an indicator-rod extending through the front of the box and having a downwardly-extending arm at its inner or rear end to act in connection with the push device, an information-plate removably secured to the box and disposed on an incline to serve as a desk, and a paper-rack and hanger connecting with the top of the box, substantially as and for the purpose set forth. 30 35

In testimony that I claim the above I have hereunto subscribed my name in the presence of two witnesses.

GEORGE TREVETT.

Witnesses:

W. M. SMITH,
J. R. PHELPS.