

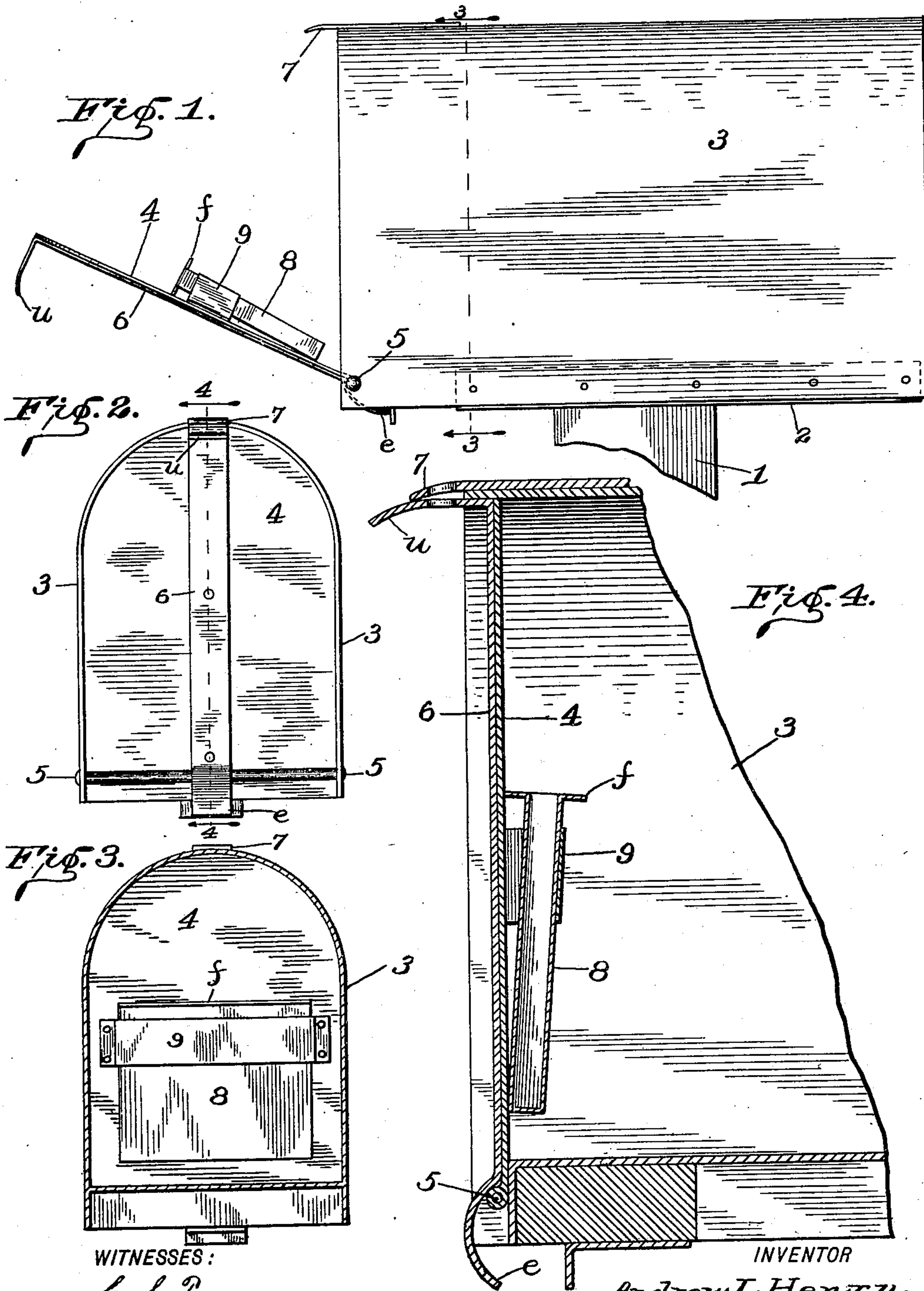
No. 677,763.

Patented July 2, 1901.

A. L. HENRY.
LETTER BOX.

(Application filed Sept. 24, 1900.)

(No Model.)



WITNESSES:

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ANDREW L. HENRY, OF LADOGA, INDIANA.

LETTER-BOX.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 677,763, dated July 2, 1901.

Application filed September 24, 1900. Serial No. 30,882. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ANDREW L. HENRY, a citizen of the United States, residing at Ladoga, in the county of Montgomery and State of Indiana, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Letter-Boxes, of which the following is a specification.

The object of my said invention is to provide in a letter-box a means by which the contents can be conveniently and expeditiously removed by the postman; and it consists in an independent removable receptacle for letters and other matter placed inside of the box, all as will be hereinafter more specifically described and claimed.

Referring to the accompanying drawings, which are made a part hereof, and on which similar reference characters indicate similar parts, Figure 1 is a side elevation of a box embodying my said invention, the door being shown in its open position; Fig. 2, an end elevation of said box; Fig. 3, a transverse sectional view of the same as seen when looking in the direction indicated by the arrows from the dotted line 3 3 in Fig. 1; and Fig. 4, a vertical sectional view through the front end of the box and its door, on an enlarged scale, as seen from the dotted line 4 4 in Fig. 2, showing the receptacle more plainly.

The body 3 of the box may be of any usual or desired form and is designed to be secured to the cap 2 on the post 1, this particular form of box being designed for farmers' use on rural delivery-routes and said cap and post being an appropriate support therefor.

The door 4 is hinged at the lower edge on a pivot-rod 5 and is adapted to close inside the edges of the ends of the box, which form jambs for said door. A flat bar 6 is riveted to the said door, and its lower end *e* extends down underneath the bottom of the box at the front edge and forms a stop which holds the door when open up to the position shown in Fig. 1. The upper end *u* of said bar or strip is bent outwardly, as shown, and forms one member of the lock-hasps, the other member 7 of said lock-hasps being riveted to the top of the box. These two parts of the lock-hasps where they come together are also curved

somewhat, as shown, and engage when closed, as best shown in Fig. 4, the yielding or elasticity of the sheet-metal box-body permitting this. The door is thus held shut even when not locked.

Within the box, at a convenient point, preferably on the inner side of the door 4, is a removable receptacle or pocket 8, which is supported there by means of a loop-like bar 9, which is rigidly attached to the inner side of said door and is of sufficient size to receive said pocket or receptacle. This pocket has flanged edges *f*, which hold it away from the surface of the door, so that when letters are placed therein they are held sufficiently away from said surface to enable them to be conveniently grasped by the fingers, as will be readily understood. Said pocket is also adapted to receive coins or other currency when persons putting mail in the box are not provided with postage-stamps and wish to leave the money instead.

The postman upon reaching the box opens the door and swings it to the position shown in Fig. 1, lifts up the receptacle or pocket 8, and empties its contents into his hand or the mail-sack. This he may readily do without removing his gloves, which is an advantage, especially in cold and inclement weather. The inconvenience of reaching to completely within the box and picking up small coins from the flat surface of the bottom is also obviated.

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

1. The combination of a letter-box, a door hinged thereto by a horizontal pintle at the lower edge thereof, a support secured on the inner side of said door, and a removable receptacle for receiving letters and the like adapted to be inserted within said support, substantially as and for the purposes set forth.

2. The combination, in a letter-box, of the hinged door thereto provided with a support for a removable pocket, and said pocket, the same having flanges which hold it away from the surface of the door, substantially as shown and described.

3. The combination, with a letter-box, of a removable pocket adapted to be secured therein having uniform flanges upon both sides thereof, whereby the same is adapted
5 to be placed in position in its support and its surface held away from the wall carrying said support, irrespective of which side is placed next the wall, substantially as set forth.

In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and seal, at Indianapolis, Indiana, this 10 21st day of September, A. D. 1900.

ANDREW L. HENRY. [L. S.]

Witnesses:

CHESTER BRADFORD,
JAMES A. WALSH.