

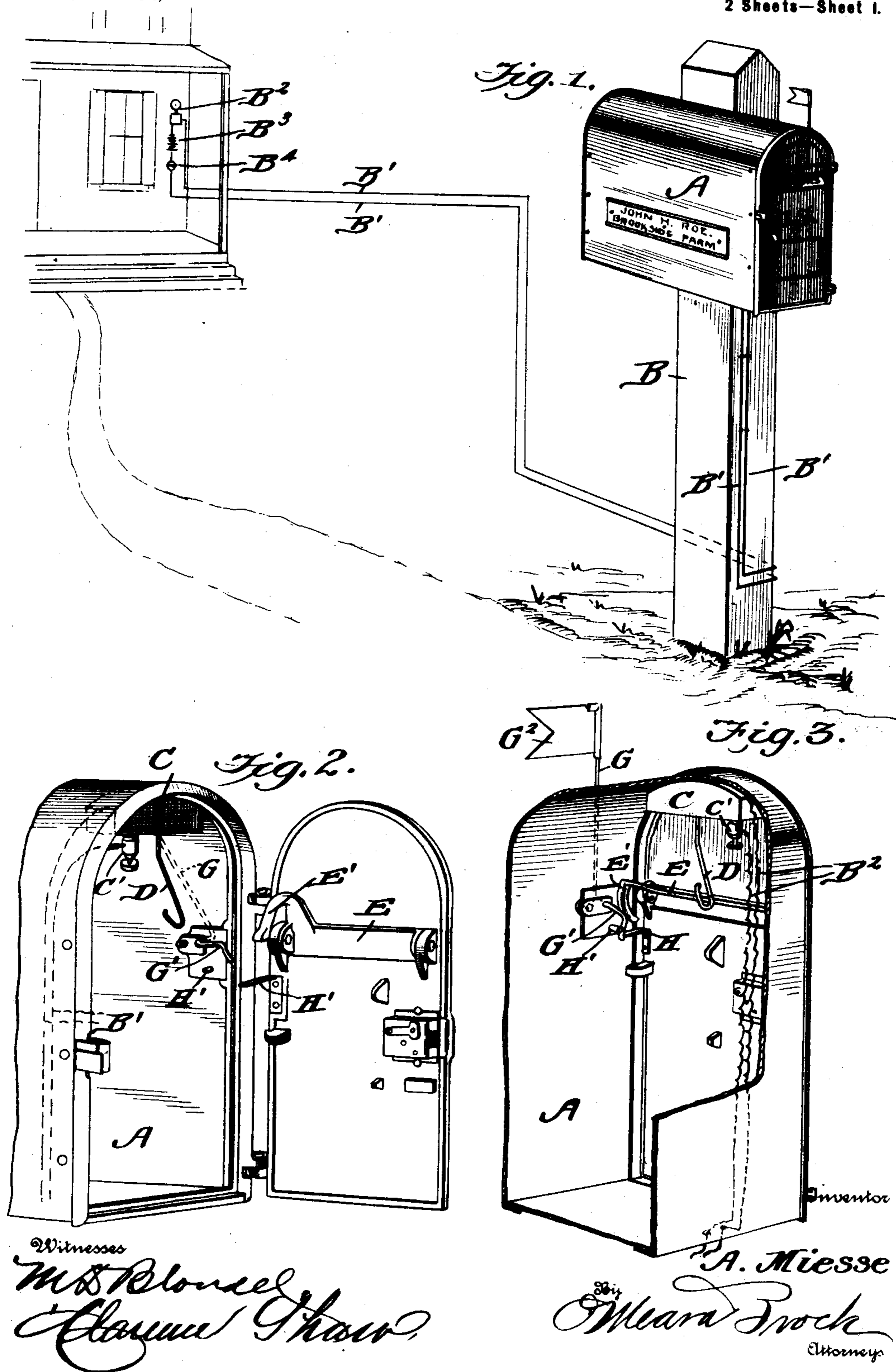
No. 713,662.

Patented Nov. 18, 1902.

A. MIESSE.  
RURAL DELIVERY BOX.  
(Application filed Mar. 29, 1902.)

2 Sheets—Sheet 1.

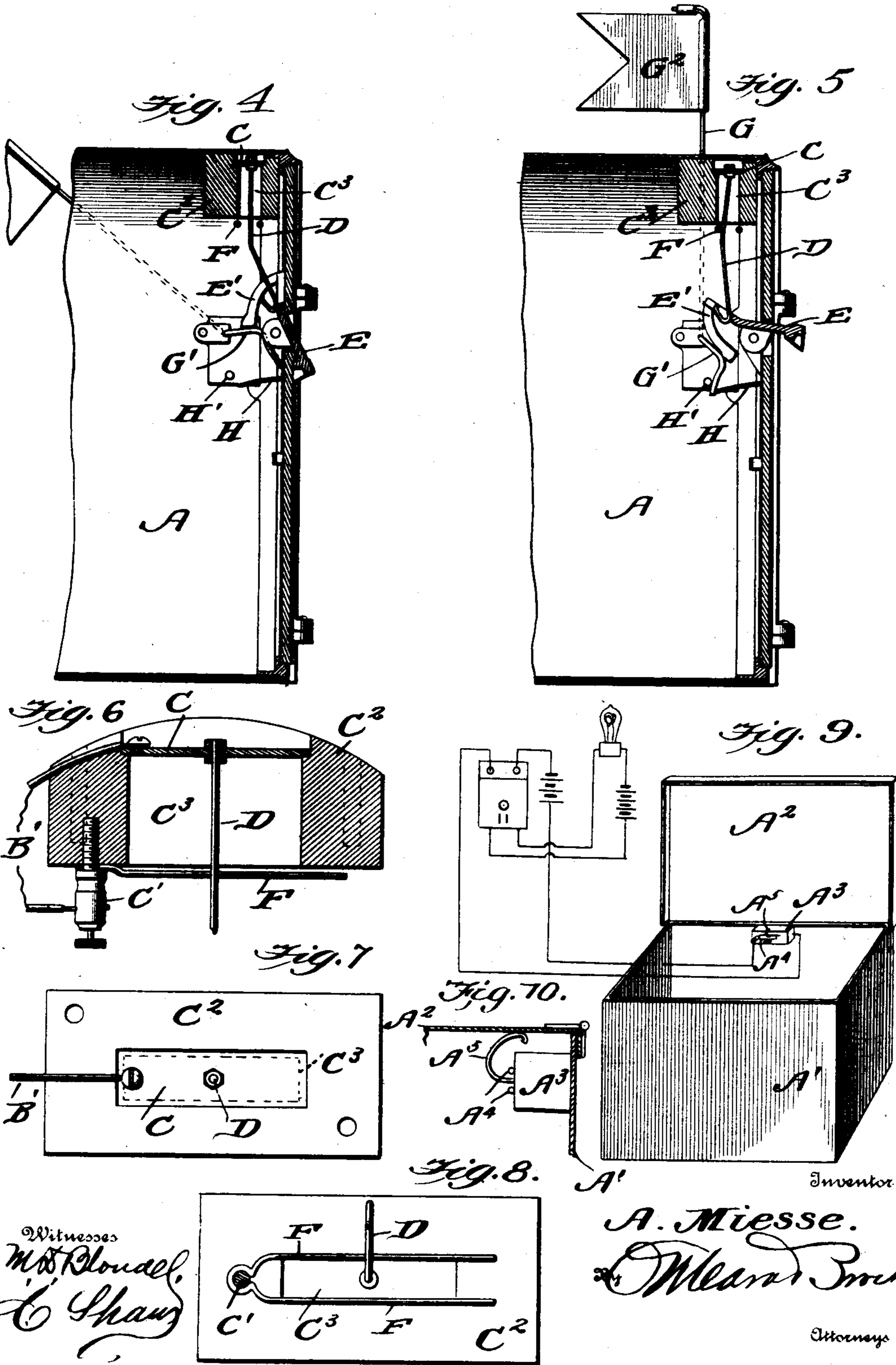
(No Model.)



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(No Model.)

2 Sheets—Sheet 2.



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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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## RURAL-DELIVERY BOX.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 713,662, dated November 18, 1902.

Application filed March 29, 1902. Serial No. 100,577. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, AMERICUS MIESSE, a citizen of the United States, residing at Lima, in the county of Allen and State of Ohio, have invented a new and useful Rural-Delivery Box, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates generally to letter-boxes, and more particularly to rural-delivery boxes.

The object of the invention is to provide a signal or alarm mechanism operatively connected to a rural-delivery box and operated by the drop of the said box, said alarm mechanism being located at any suitable point about the house or premises.

With these various objects in view the invention consists in the novel features of construction and combination, all of which will be fully described hereinafter and pointed out in the claims.

In the drawings forming a part of this specification, Figure 1 is a perspective view showing the practical application of my invention. Fig. 2 is a perspective view showing the end of the rural-delivery box, the door being opened. Fig. 3 is a detail perspective view illustrating the interior of the end of the box, the door being closed. Fig. 4 is a sectional view showing the normal position of the parts. Fig. 5 is a sectional view showing the position of the several parts when the drop is raised and the alarm circuit is closed. Fig. 6 is a detail sectional view, partly in elevation, and illustrating the circuit-closer. Fig. 7 is a top plan view of the same. Fig. 8 is a bottom plan view. Fig. 9 shows a slightly-modified construction—particularly adapted for receiving packages and parcels, and Fig. 10 is a detail view illustrating the circuit-closing means employed in connection with the box illustrated in Fig. 9.

In carrying out my invention I employ a rural-delivery box A, which is arranged upon a suitable post B at a point convenient for the carrier, and connected to this post B are the electrical conductor-wires B', which extend to any particular portion of the house or premises and are connected to an electric bell B<sup>2</sup>, a battery B<sup>3</sup>, and a cut-off

switch B<sup>4</sup>. The opposite ends of the wires are connected, respectively, to a plate C and a binding-post C', said plate and binding-post being connected to a block C<sup>2</sup>, which is secured upon the inner side of the box in the roof thereof and adjacent to the forward end, said block being slotted vertically, as shown at C<sup>3</sup>, and working in said vertical slot is the depending contact-rod D, which is secured at its upper end to the plate C, its lower end being curved or bent, so as to contact with the drop E when the said drop is raised for the purpose of depositing mail, and when the said drop is so operated contact-rod D is forced inwardly and contacts with one of a pair of contact-arms F, which are secured to the block C<sup>2</sup> by means of the binding-post C', said arms being arranged directly beneath the slot or opening C<sup>3</sup>, so that when the drop is operated the contact-rod is pushed inwardly, contacting with one of the arms F, and thereby closing the circuit and sounding the alarm within the house. By this construction a signal or alarm is given at the particular point of the house or premises the moment the rural letter-carrier raises the drop for the purpose of depositing the mail.

In Figs. 9 and 10 I have shown a slightly-modified form of construction, in which the box A' is provided with a lid A<sup>2</sup>, and at the rear side of the box adjacent to the upper edge is arranged a block A<sup>3</sup>, carrying contact-arms A<sup>4</sup> and a curved contact-rod A<sup>5</sup>. The line-wires are connected to the contact arms and rod, and the said rod is of such shape and occupies such position that when the lid is closed the circuit will be opened or closed, as the owner may prefer, as some may wish to have the signal sounded when the carrier raises the lid, while others may prefer to keep the lid open and close the circuit only when the top of the box is closed or locked. The line-wires leading from this box are connected to an electric bell and battery and also to an incandescent light, so that a visible signal may be given at the same time an audible one is produced.

It will thus be seen that I provide an exceedingly simple and highly efficient construction of rural-delivery box provided with signal and alarm mechanisms.

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

1. The combination with a mail-box, of a  
5 pivoted drop, a vertically-slotted block, a binding-post in said block, contact-arms secured to the block by the binding-post, a plate connected to the block, a contact-rod swing-  
10 ingly secured in the vertical slot and adapted to contact with one of the arms where the drop is lifted, and line-wires secured to the plate and binding-post, respectively.

2. The combination with a box having a hinged door provided with a pivoted drop, a block arranged within the box, a plate at- 15 tached to said block and having a contact-rod depending therefrom, the contact-arms connected also to the block and adapted for contact with the rod when the drop is raised, substantially as specified.

AMERICUS MIESSE.

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