

No. 815,263.

PATENTED MAR. 13, 1906.

D. T. BUCKWALTER.
MAIL BOX.

APPLICATION FILED MAY 29, 1905.

FIG. 1

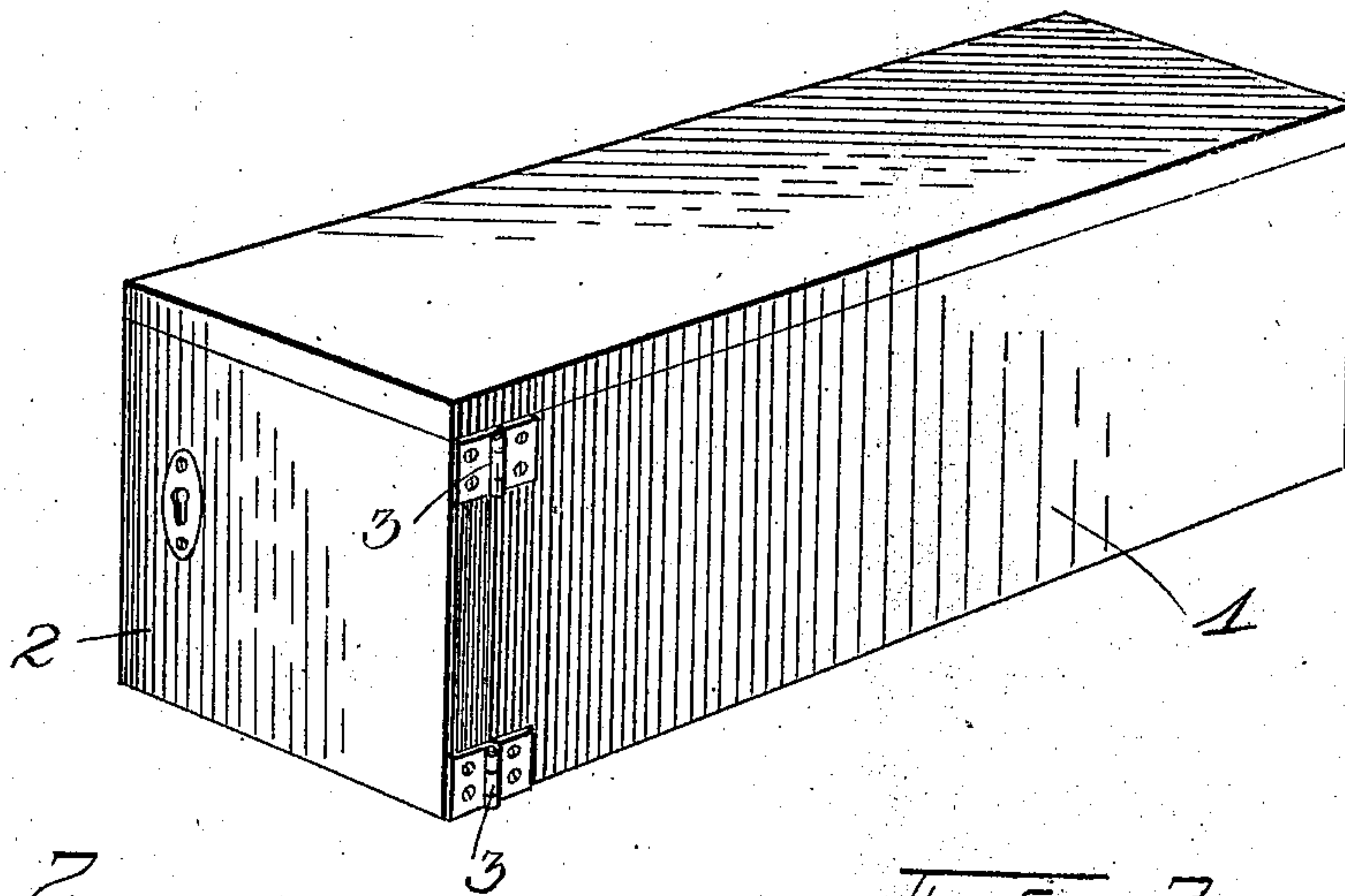


FIG. 2

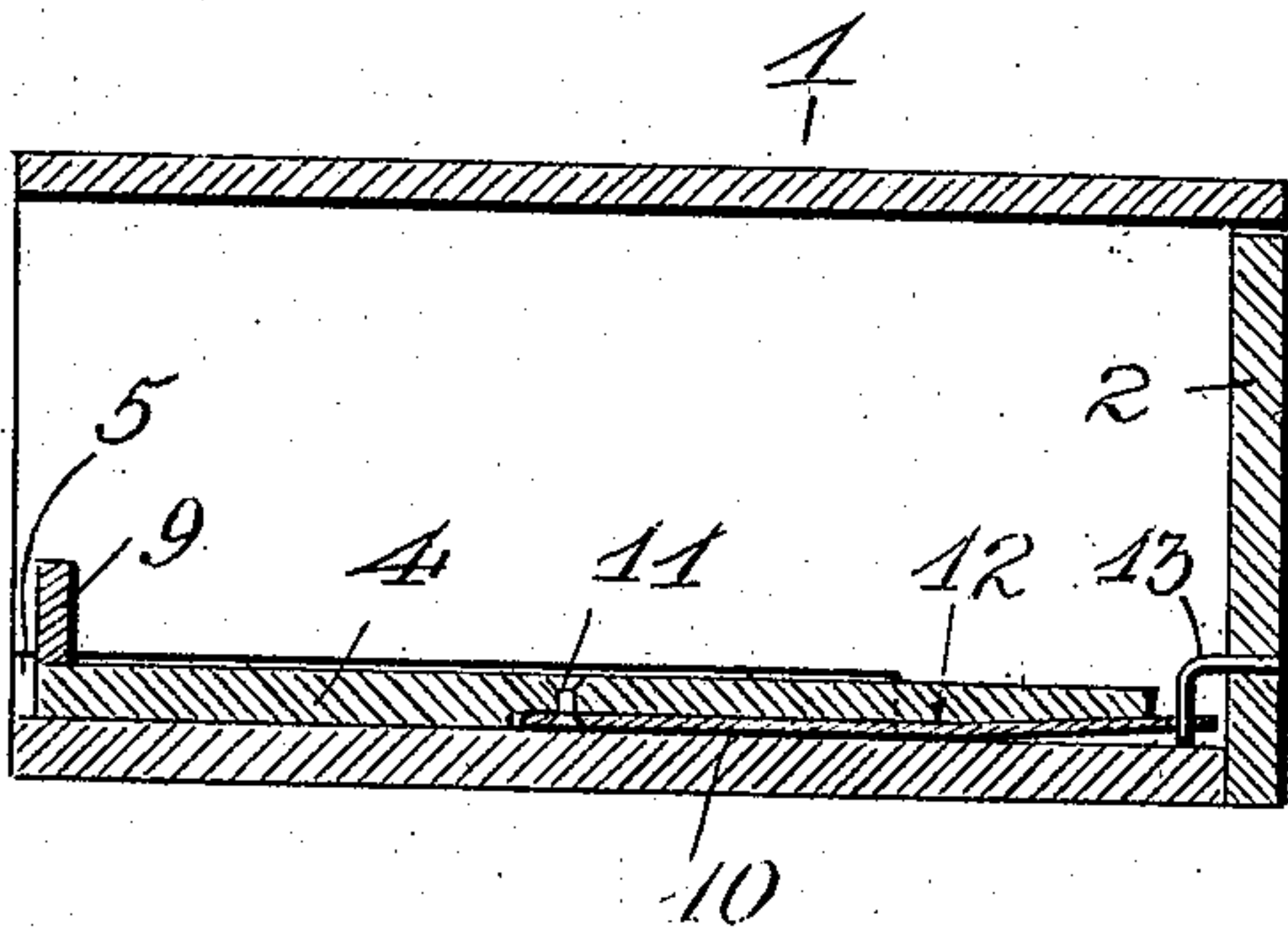


FIG. 3

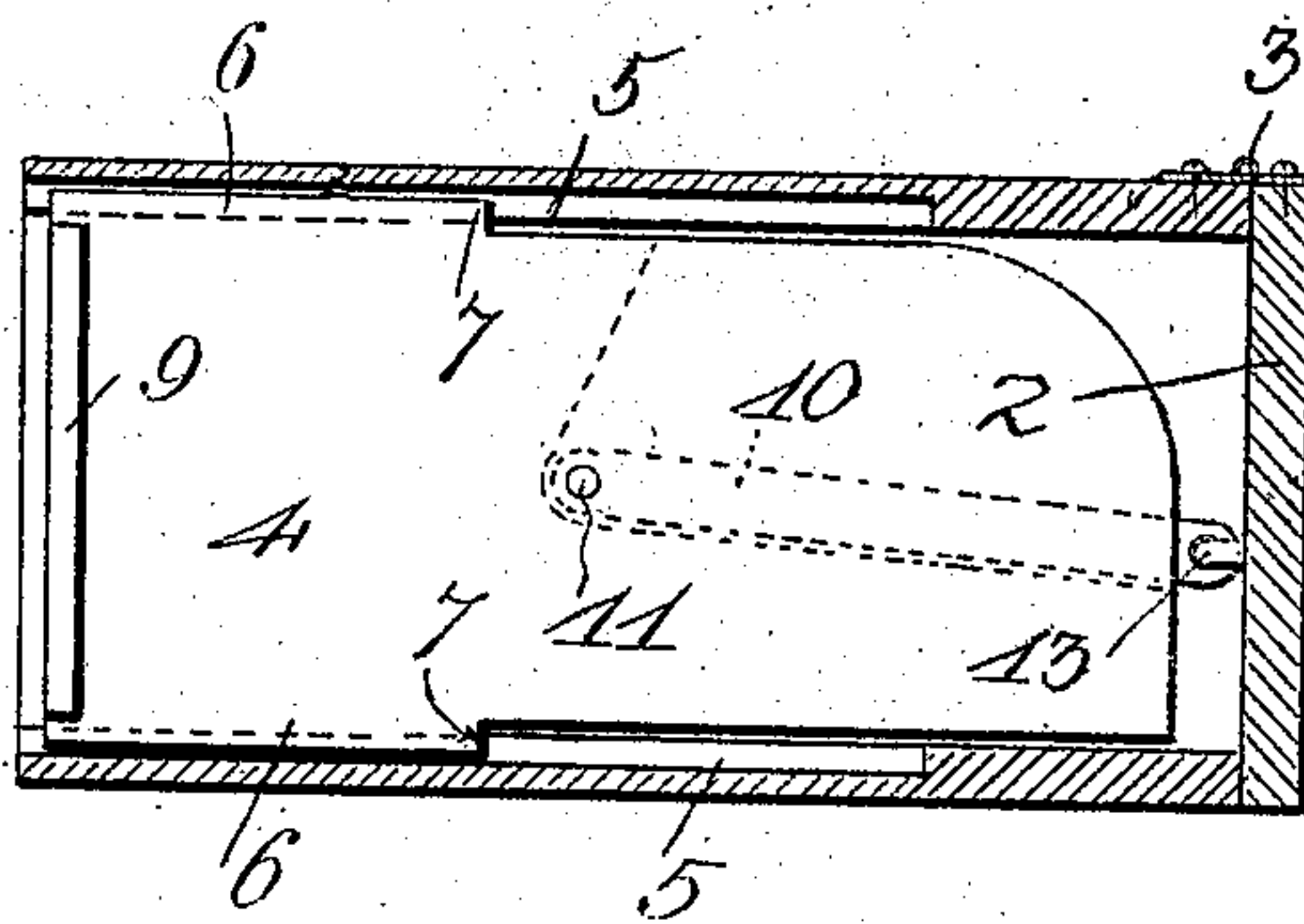


FIG. 4

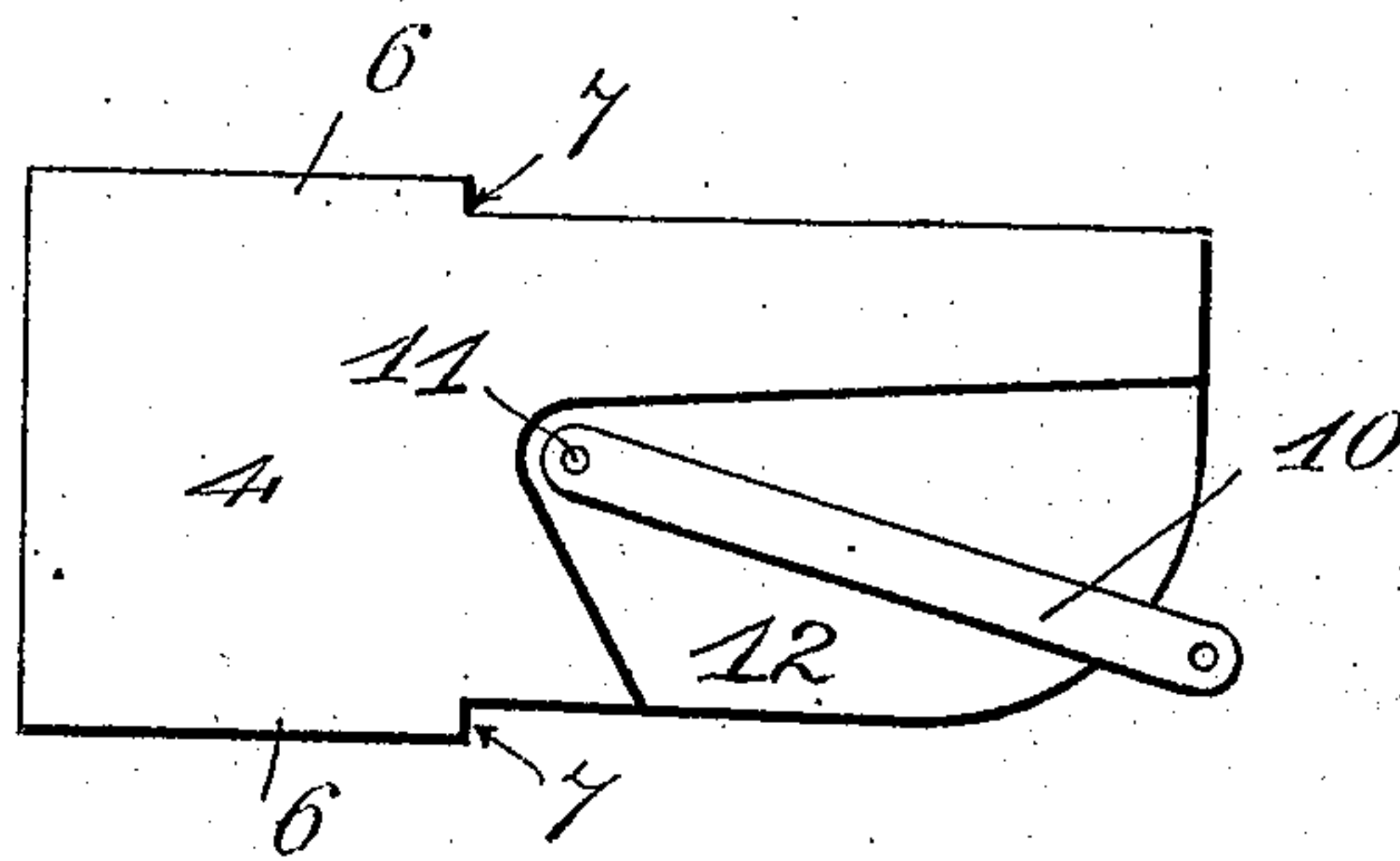
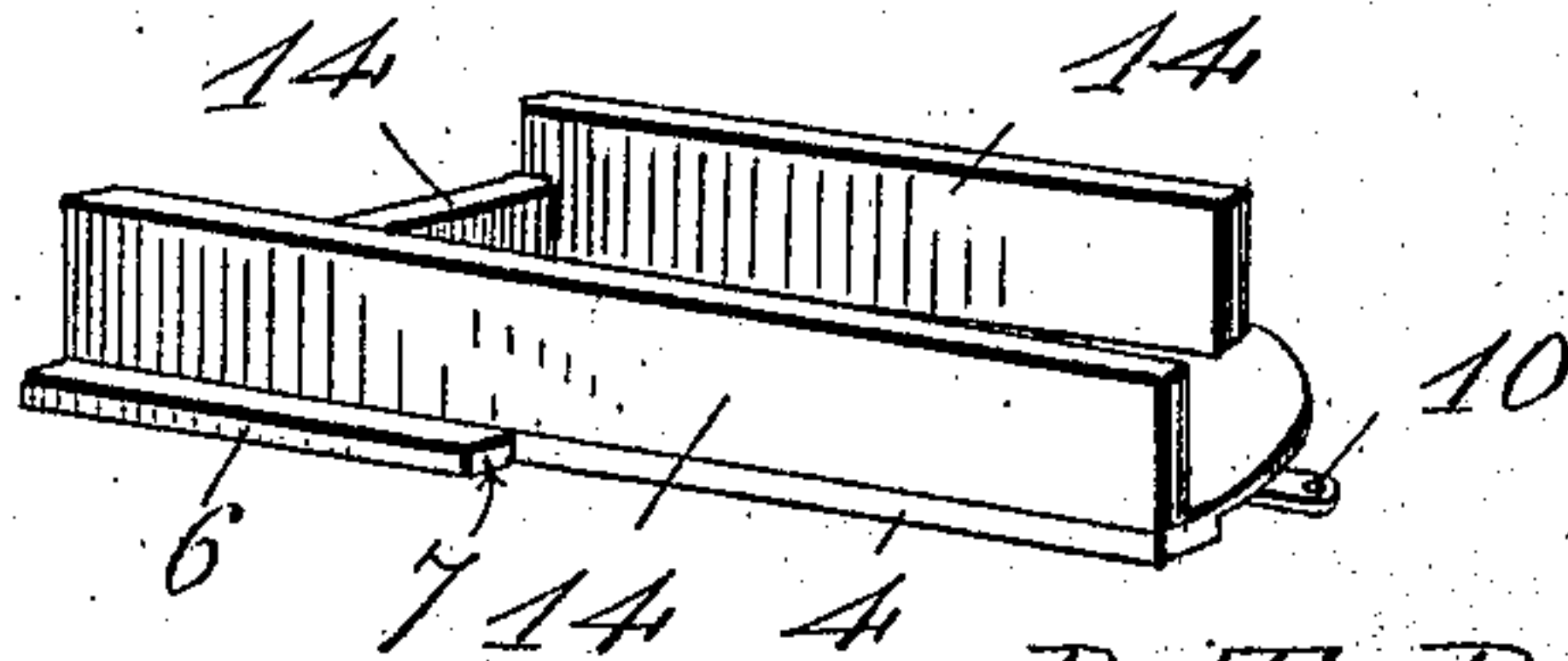


FIG. 5



Witnesses

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

DANIEL T. BUCKWALTER, OF ROYERSFORD, PENNSYLVANIA.

MAIL-BOX.

No. 815,263.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented March 13, 1906.

Application filed May 29, 1905. Serial No. 262,858.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, DANIEL T. BUCKWALTER, a citizen of the United States, residing at Royersford, in the county of Montgomery and State of Pennsylvania, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Mail-Boxes; and I do 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 relates to improvements in post-office individual mail-boxes; and it consists in the novel construction, combination, and arrangement of devices herein shown and described.

The object of the invention is to provide a simple, inexpensive, durable, and efficient device of this character which will greatly facilitate the owner of the box in removing his mail therefrom.

The above and other objects which will appear as the nature of my invention is better understood are accomplished by means of the construction illustrated in the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of a post-office individual mail-box with my improvements applied thereto, the door being in its closed position. Fig. 2 is a longitudinal sectional view through the box, the door being in its closed position. Fig. 3 is a horizontal sectional view. Fig. 4 is a detail view of the sliding false bottom of the box, and Fig. 5 is a detail view of a modified form of sliding false bottom.

Referring to the drawings by numeral, 1 denotes a post-office individual mail-box which is of the usual form and construction and has its opposite ends open. The front end, or that one from which the owner of the box removes his mail, is adapted to be closed by a swinging door 2, which is hinged, as shown at 3, and which may be provided with any suitable form of lock. Within the box is slidably mounted a false bottom 4, upon which the mail is deposited through the open inner end of the box and which is adapted to be drawn out of the front or outer end of the box by the opening movement of the door, so as to facilitate the removal of the mail-matter. This false bottom 4 may be of any form of construction and mounted to slide in any suitable manner; but I preferably form in the inner faces of the side walls of the box 1, adjacent to their inner ends, longitudinal

grooves 5, which engage flanges 6, provided upon the bottom 4, as shown in Fig. 3 of the drawings. The inner ends 7 of the flanges form stops to engage the inner ends of the grooves 5, and thereby limit the outer sliding movement of the bottom. The latter, as shown, is of rectangular form, being cut away or rounded at its forward end and having a transversely-disposed ledge or stop 9 at its inner end, which ledge or stop is adapted to retain the mail-matter upon the bottom 4 as it is drawn out of the box.

The sliding bottom 4 is operated by means of a strap or link 10, which connects it to the door. This link 10 has one of its ends pivoted, as shown at 11, upon the under side of the bottom 4 and is adapted to swing in a recessed portion 12, formed upon the under side of the bottom 4. The opposite end of the link 10 is pivotally connected to the inner side of the door 2, preferably by providing the latter with a hook 13, which projects into an aperture formed in said end of the link.

It will be seen that as the door 2 is swung open and closed the sliding false bottom 4 of the box will be slid outwardly and inwardly. As it moves outwardly the mail-matter deposited upon it by the postmaster or his clerk will be moved out of the box, so as to be readily removed by the person who has the key to the box.

In Fig. 5 of the drawings I have shown the sliding false bottom in the form of a tray, sides 14 being provided to retain the mail thereon.

From the foregoing description, taken in connection with the accompanying drawings, the construction and operation of the invention will be readily understood without requiring a more extended explanation.

While I have shown and described my invention as being particularly applied to a post-office individual mail-box, it will be understood that it may be employed upon boxes or receptacles for various other purposes.

Various changes in the form, proportion, and the minor details of construction may be resorted to without departing from the principle or sacrificing any of the advantages of this invention.

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

The combination with a mail-box or similar receptacle having a swinging door and

provided with guide-grooves, a false bottom
having flanges to slidably engage said
grooves, and a recess in its under side, means
for retaining mail-matter or the like upon
5 said false bottom and a link pivotally con-
nected to said bottom within said recess, and
to said door, substantially as described.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set
my hand in presence of two subscribing wit-
nesses.

DANIEL T. BUCKWALTER.

Witnesses:

HORACE PRIEST,

WALTER F. DREIBELBIS.