No. 891,520. PATENTED JUNE 23, 1908.

R. W. ASHLEY.

MAIL CHUTE.

APPLICATION FILED JUNE 12, 1906.

4 SHEETS—SHEET 1.

Fig. 1.

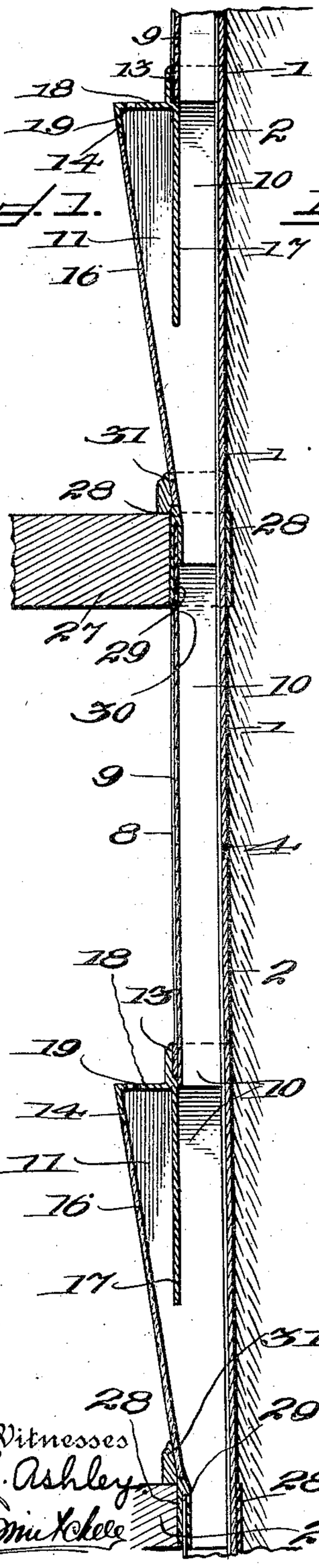
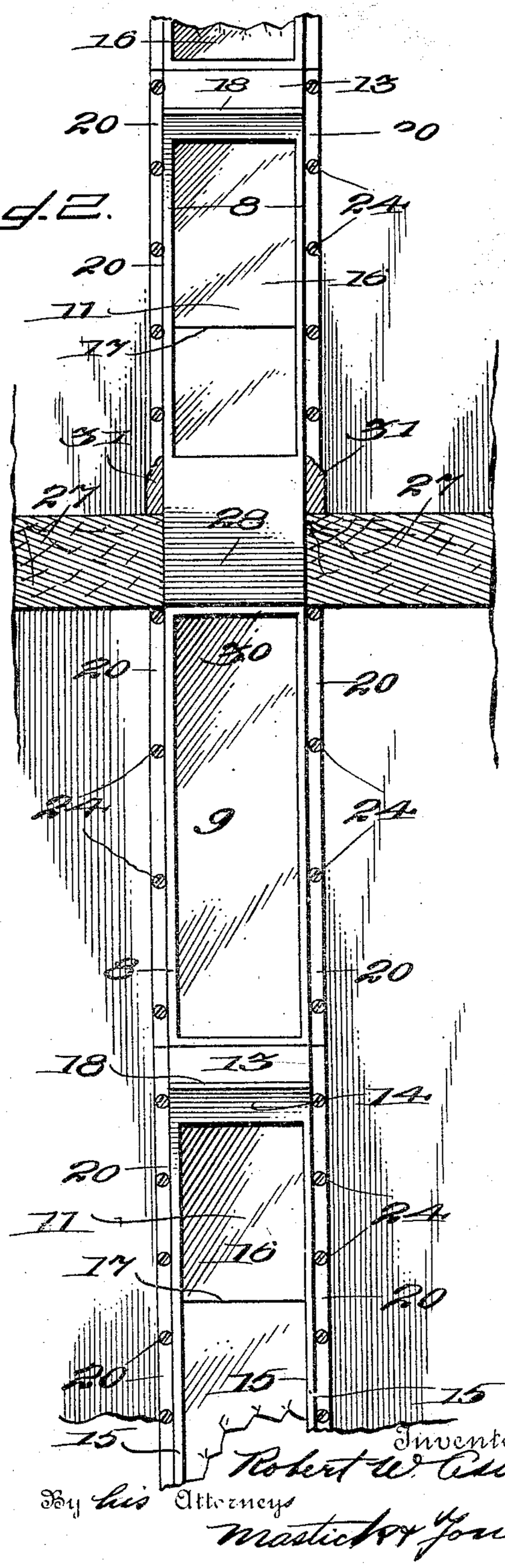


Fig. 2.



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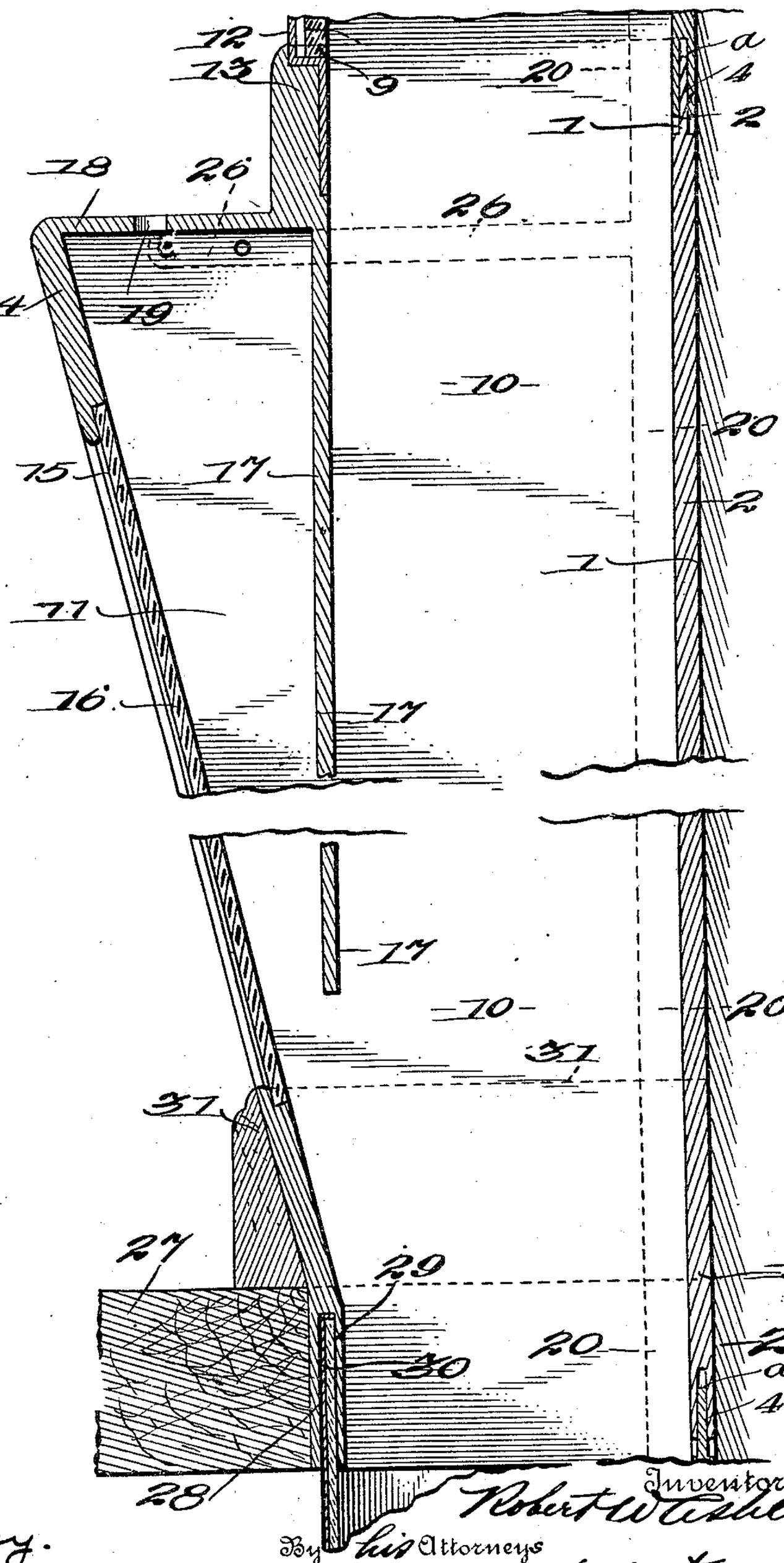
4 SHEETS—SHEET 2.

Fig. 3.



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4 SHEETS—SHEET 3.

Fig. 4.

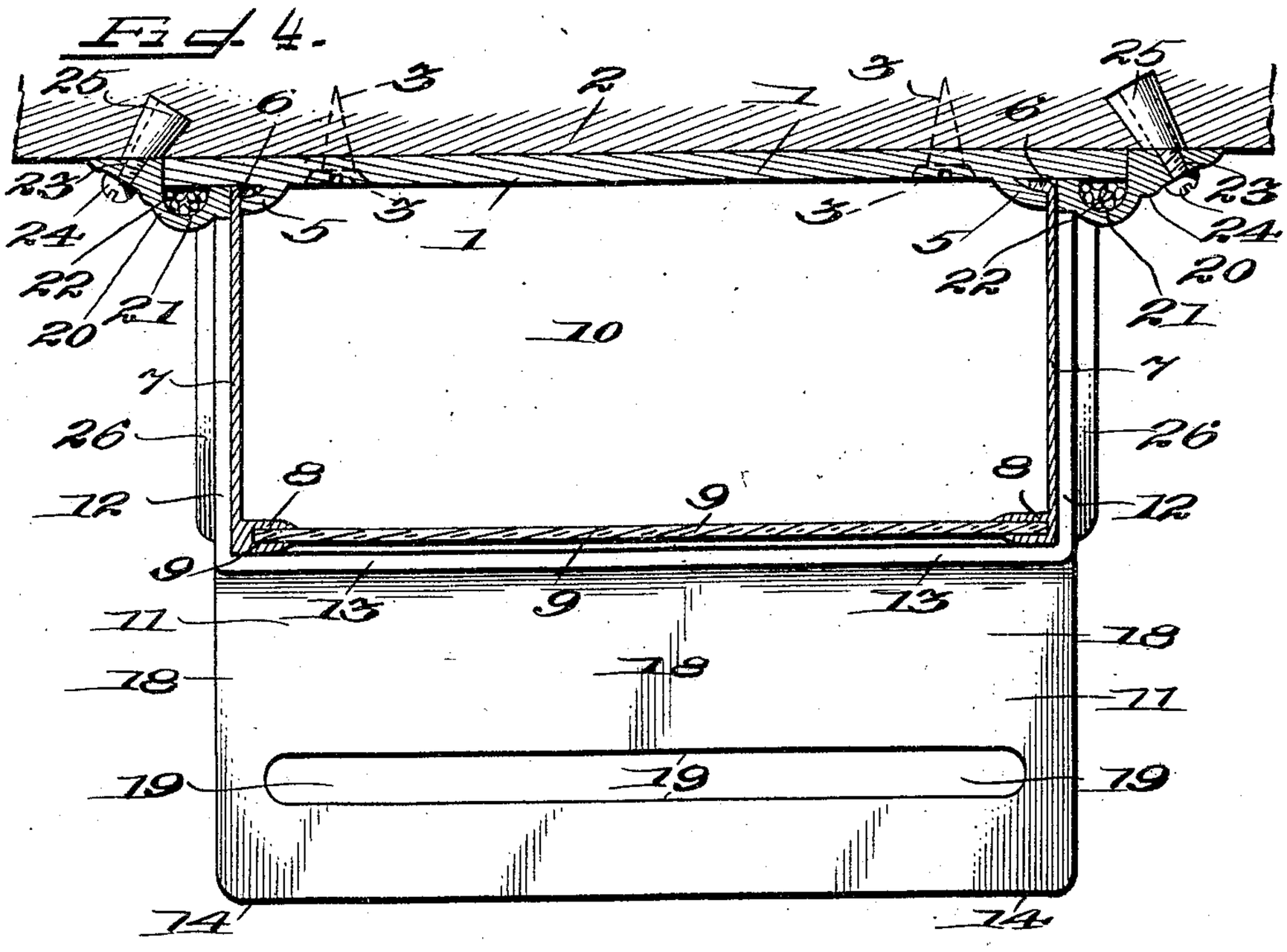
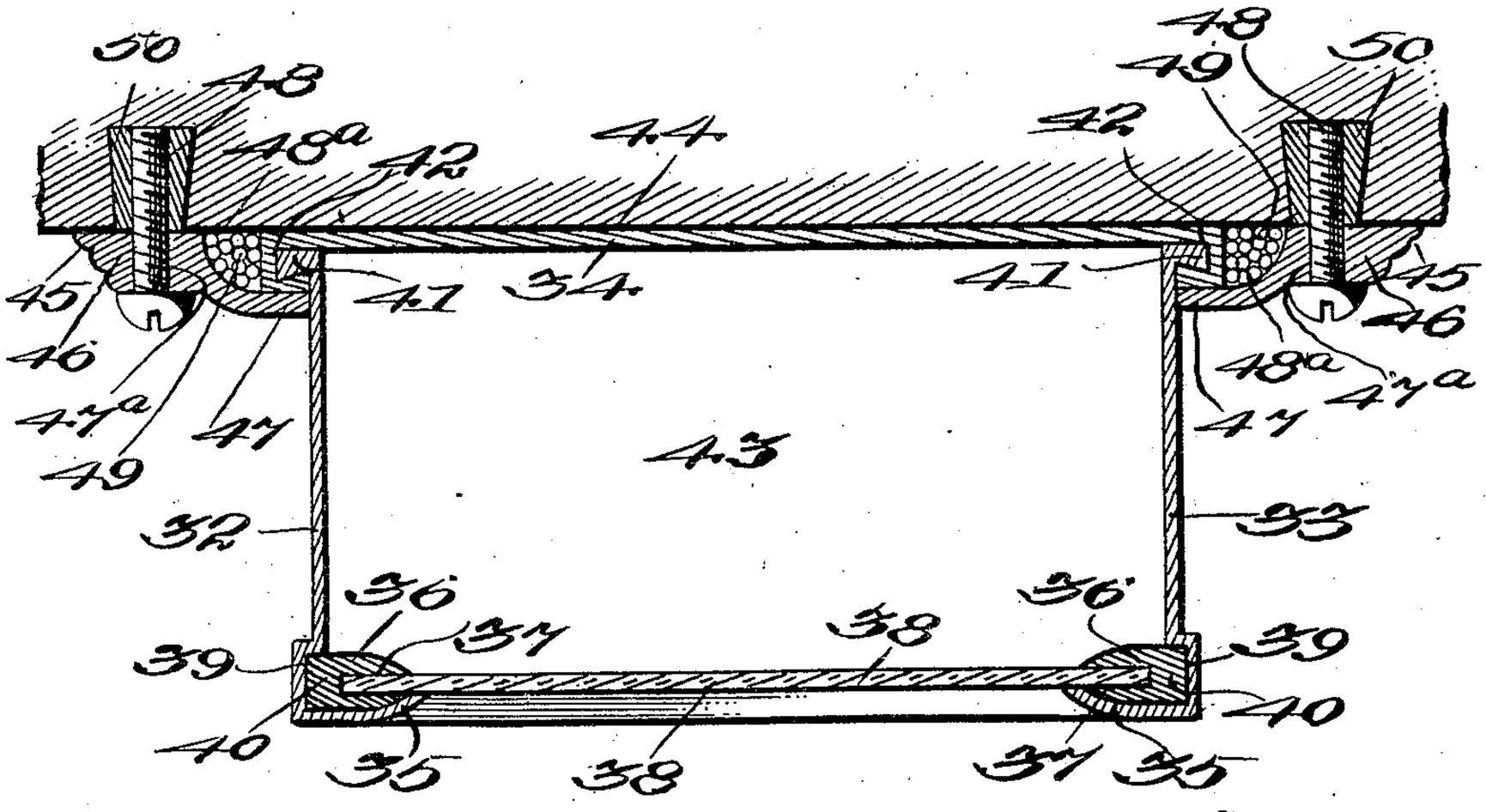


Fig. 5.



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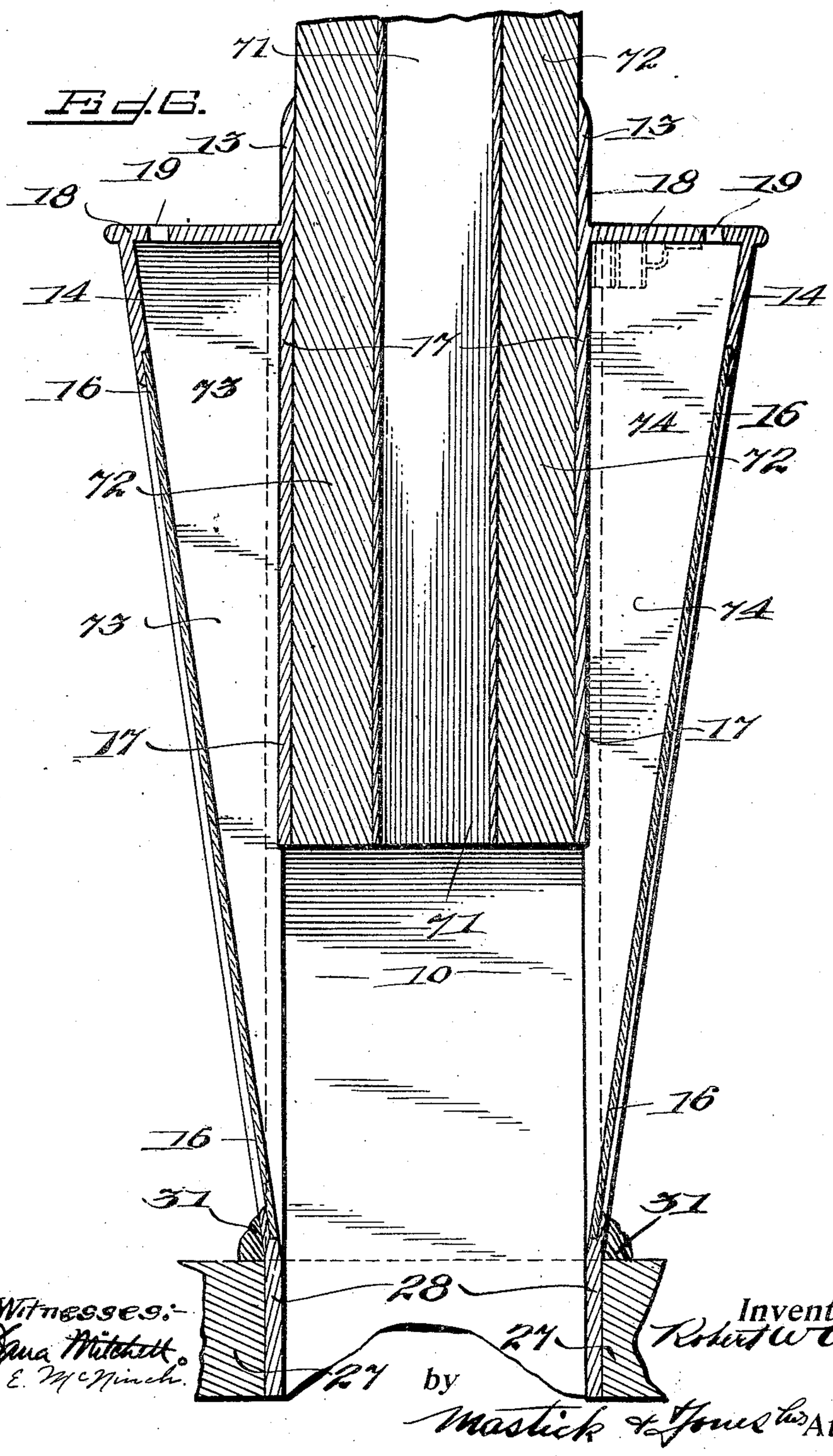
4 SHEETS—SHEET 4.

Fig. 6.



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THE NORRIS PETERS CO., WASHINGTON, D. C.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ROBERT W. ASHLEY, OF NEW YORK, N. Y., ASSIGNOR OF ONE-HALF TO SEABURY C. MASTICK, OF PLEASANTVILLE, NEW YORK.

MAIL-CHUTE.

No. 891,520. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented June 23, 1908.

Application filed June 12, 1906. Serial No. 321,337.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ROBERT W. ASHLEY, a citizen of the United States, residing at New York city, in the county of New York and State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Mail-Chutes, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to improvements in chutes having particular reference to chutes for the reception of mail matter.

In the following is described in connection with the accompanying drawings one embodiment of the invention the features thereof being more particularly pointed out hereinafter in the claims.

In the following Figure 1 is a vertical sectional view showing a series of mail reception sections and adjoining sections; Fig. 2 is a front elevation thereof; Fig. 3 is an enlarged vertical sectional view of a mail reception section; Fig. 4 is a cross sectional view of the chute showing in plan elevation the reception slot and means for fastening the reception parts to a wall or partition of a building; Fig. 5 is a cross sectional view of a modified form of construction illustrating in detail means for fastening the same to a wall or partition of a building; and Fig. 6 is a vertical sectional view of a chute having two mail reception sections, the chute proper being embedded in a partition or party wall of a building.

Similar numerals of reference indicate similar parts throughout the several views.

The device as shown in Figs. 1, 3, and 4 of the drawings comprises a series of plates 1 suitably fastened to the face of a wall or partition 2 by means of screws 3—3. Said series of plates 1 are adapted to be telescopically joined together at 4, the object of said telescoping joint 4 being to provide means whereby the chute is rendered buckle proof in case the wall to which same is applied should settle or partially disintegrate. Plates 1 have cast on the face portions thereof longitudinal ribs or reception members 5 adapted to receive the turned in edges 6 of the chute sides 7—7, said chute sides 7—7 having at their outer ends grooves 8 adapted to receive the glass or metal face 9, the respective parts forming therein an integral or uninterrupted passage way 10.

The section as above described comprises the section extending from the mailing slot section or reception member 11 to the floor above, the mailing slot section 11 thereof comprising the means of making up the next adjoining section or portion reaching from the bottom of section 10 to the floor below the mail reception section. Reception section 11 is made up of a single casting and comprises side walls 12—12, reinforcing face capping 13 and face piece 14, said face piece 14 being adapted to have formed on its respective sides grooves 15 adapted to receive glass face 16. Reception member 11 has cast with it intermediate of the front and back a tongue or longitudinal extension 17 the same constituting the front wall of the chute proper or uninterrupted passageway 10. Said longitudinal extension 17 also provides means of keeping the mail inserted in the slot in said section from coming in contact or colliding with mail inserted from the floors above. Said longitudinal tongue 17 also provides means for supporting the automatically controlled aperture opening and closing means not shown in the accompanying drawings.

Reception section 11 has suitably formed or cut in the step portion 18 thereof a slot 19 the same affording the means for the insertion of mail in the respective mail reception sections. Reception section 11 has preferably cast with it at its respective inner edges a beading 20 having formed therein a conduit 21 adapted to receive the wire leads 22 of the aperture opening and closing means, said conduit 21 comprising a continuous conduit from the main floor of a building to the uppermost floor. Beading 20 has suitably cut therein angular bores 23 adapted to receive expanding bolts 24 engaging expanding members 25. Said expanding members 25 comprise a filling member of lead inserted into the wall of the building at an angle of 45 degrees the object of the same being to provide means whereby the chute is held rigid to said wall and at the same time overcoming or preventing any slight side strain caused by the movement of the wall.

Mail reception member 11 has cast with it a transverse slot or conduit 26 connecting with conduit 21 in beading 20, the same affording means of carrying the respective

wire leads to the solenoid magnets (not shown) interposed in said mail reception members 11. Said mail reception members 11 taper inwardly toward the wall 2 and have cast with them at their extreme lower ends or the portion adapted to extend through the floor 27 a thimble 28, said thimble 28 having suitably cut therein reception slots 29 adapted to receive the upper ends 30 of the next adjoining section.

31 is a molding surrounding the lower end of said reception member 11 and is adapted to act as a means to fasten the chute to the wall, also means of preventing injury to that portion of the chute.

The device as shown in Fig. 5 of the drawings comprises a chute made up of four separate members the same including side pieces 32 and 33, back 34 and face piece 35. Face piece 35 comprises a molding 36 having suitably cut therein grooves 37 adapted to receive glass or metal fronts 38. Side pieces 32 and 33 have formed at their outer ends reception channels 39 adapted to receive the square edges 40 of the face piece molding 36 and at their inner edges tongues 41 engaging reception channels 42 in the back 34, the parts as a whole forming intermediate of the respective members thereof an integral passageway 43. The chute is fastened to the wall 44 by means of beading or molding 45. Said molding 45 comprises a solid portion 46 and a rib or neck portion 47 adapted to press against the face of the inturned portions 42 of the back member 34. Said solid portion 46 has suitably cut therein a bore 47^a adapted to receive expanding bolts 48. The beading or molding 45 has also formed therein a curved or hollow portion 48^a adapted to receive wire leads 49.

50 is an expanding member of any suitable material preferably of heavy lead and is adapted to receive the inner ends of bolts 48 the same affording absolute fastening means, also means of holding the respective parts of the chute in place.

Referring to Fig. 6 of the drawings 71 indicates the chute as being embedded in a wall or partition 72. 73 and 74 are mail reception members fastened on each side of the wall the same comprising the means of permitting the insertion of mail into a single chute from separate buildings or from halls or apartments on either side of a parting wall.

In constructing a chute or general passageway for the reception of mail matter, etc., the device as herein described is a very simple one. The sections are telescopically joined together at their adjoining ends thus rendering the chute buckle proof in case of the settling of a building or wall to which the same is applied. It is obvious that the chute is made up principally of two separate sections, one section being suitably fastened to the wall and extending upwardly on the respective floors to the flooring of the floor above, whereas adjoining said section a mail reception section is provided, one part of said reception section being so constructed that it forms part of the uninterrupted passageway of the above adjoining section, whereas the other part of said mail reception section forms a separate section for the reception of mail. Heretofore it has been practically impossible to construct a chute of approximately the same width and breadth from its uppermost section to its lowermost section and at the same time provide a section for the reception of mail matter separate from the uninterrupted passageway. This is accomplished by constructing the mail reception section of practically one piece of metal with a downwardly extending tongue or partition which forms the face of the uninterrupted passageway with which the separate or mail reception section communicates. Furthermore, great difficulty has been found in strengthening a mail chute across its face. This is accomplished by the means of forming or casting webbed members of the respective metallic parts across the face of the glass.

The device shown in Fig. 3 of the drawings illustrates more clearly the manner in which the mail reception section is constructed, it being obvious that the uninterrupted passageway is entirely a separate section from the mail reception member and that it is not essential that each mail reception section be either increased or decreased in its width.

It is obvious that the device as herein shown and described may be widely varied without departing from the spirit of the invention.

What I claim and desire to secure by Letters Patent is:

1. A device of the character described including a chute comprising a plurality of superimposed sections of substantially the same width and breadth from top to bottom, means for telescopically joining said sections together at their respective ends, and means formed on the reception sections adapted to form the face of an uninterrupted passageway.

2. A device of the character described including a chute comprising a plurality of superimposed reception sections and adjoining sections adapted to form an uninterrupted passageway of the same width and breadth from the uppermost section to the lowermost section, a plurality of floor thimbles, means for telescopically joining the reception sections together, and tongues formed on said mail reception sections extending downwardly from the reception slot therein to approximately said floor thimbles

adapted to form the partial face portion of an uninterrupted passageway.

3. A device of the character described including a mail chute of approximately the same width and breadth from the uppermost section to the lowermost section comprising a plurality of reception sections and adjoining sections communicating therewith, tongues formed on said reception sections substantially parallel with the face of said adjoining sections, the portion between said guard and the face of said reception section comprising the mail reception compartment.

4. A device of the character described including a chute of substantially the same width and breadth from top to bottom comprising a plurality of mail reception sections and adjoining sections, means for telescopically joining the reception sections together at their engaging ends with said adjoining sections, tongues formed on said reception sections parallel with the face of said adjoining sections extending from the mail slot downwardly to approximately the floor line of a building.

5. A device of the character described including a chute of substantially the same width and breadth from top to bottom comprising mail reception sections and adjoining sections interposed between each of said reception sections adapted to form an uninterrupted passageway between said reception sections, tongues formed on said reception sections adapted to form a separate receiving section for the passage of mail matter therethrough and means for re-inforcing the respective side members of the adjoining sections across the face thereof.

6. A device of the character described comprising a plurality of metal back plates having formed thereon reception ribs, side members adapted to engage said reception ribs, channels formed in the outer edges of said side members said channels being adapted to receive correspondingly shaped beading or molding members.

7. A device of the character described comprising a plurality of metal back plates having formed thereon reception ribs, side members adapted to engage said reception ribs, channels formed in the outer edges of said side members, a beading or molding adapted to fit into said channels, said beading or molding having formed therein grooves adapted to receive glass or metal face members.

8. A device of the character described comprising a plurality of metal back plates having formed thereon reception ribs, side members adapted to engage said reception ribs, channels formed in the outer edges of said side members, a beading or molding adapted to fit into said channels, glass or metal face members adapted to fit into said beading or molding, and an auxiliary beading or molding having formed therein a conduit adapted to receive a series of electric wires, said auxiliary beading or molding comprising the means of fastening the respective sections to a wall or partition.

9. A device of the character described including a mail reception section forming part of an uninterrupted passageway of a mail chute system comprising an uninterrupted channel adapted to communicate with an uninterrupted passageway, a downwardly extending tongue formed thereon, a mail reception slot, means formed on the respective ends of said mail reception section adapted to receive the telescoping ends of adjoining sections, and a face member adapted to receive a glass face panel and means formed thereon adapted to reinforce the same across the face portion thereof.

10. A device of the character described comprising a plurality of metal back members having formed at its respective edges U-shaped channels, metal side members having formed at their inner ends tongues adapted to fit into said U-shaped channels, channels formed on the outer edges of said side members, said channels being adapted to receive correspondingly shaped beading or molding members, said beading or molding members having formed therein grooves adapted to receive glass or metal face pieces.

11. A device of the character described comprising a plurality of metal back members having formed at its respective edges U-shaped channels, metal side members having formed at their inner ends tongues adapted to fit into said U-shaped channels, channels formed on the outer edges of said side members, said channels being adapted to receive correspondingly shaped beading or molding members, said beading or molding members having formed therein grooves adapted to receive glass or metal face pieces, an auxiliary beading or molding being adapted to act as the means of fastening the aforesaid sections to a wall or partition.

12. A device of the character described comprising a plurality of metal back members having formed at its respective edges U-shaped channels, metal side members having formed at their inner ends tongues adapted to fit into said U-shaped channels, channels formed on the outer edges of said side members, said channels being adapted to receive correspondingly shaped beading or molding members, said beading or molding members having formed therein grooves adapted to receive glass or metal face pieces, an auxiliary beading or molding being adapted to act as the means of fastening the aforesaid sections to a wall or partition, said auxiliary beading forming therein a conduit adapted to carry a series of electric wires.

13. A device of the character described comprising a plurality of back plates, fastening means formed thereon, side members adapted to engage said fastening means, and means for reinforcing said side members across the face thereof.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto signed my name in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

ROBERT W. ASHLEY.

Witnesses:
RICHARD B. CAVANAGH,
SEABURY C. MASTICK.