

No. 894,728.

PATENTED JULY 28, 1908.

J. W. CUTLER.
SECURING DEVICE FOR MAIL CHUTES.
APPLICATION FILED AUG. 31, 1905.

Fig. 1.

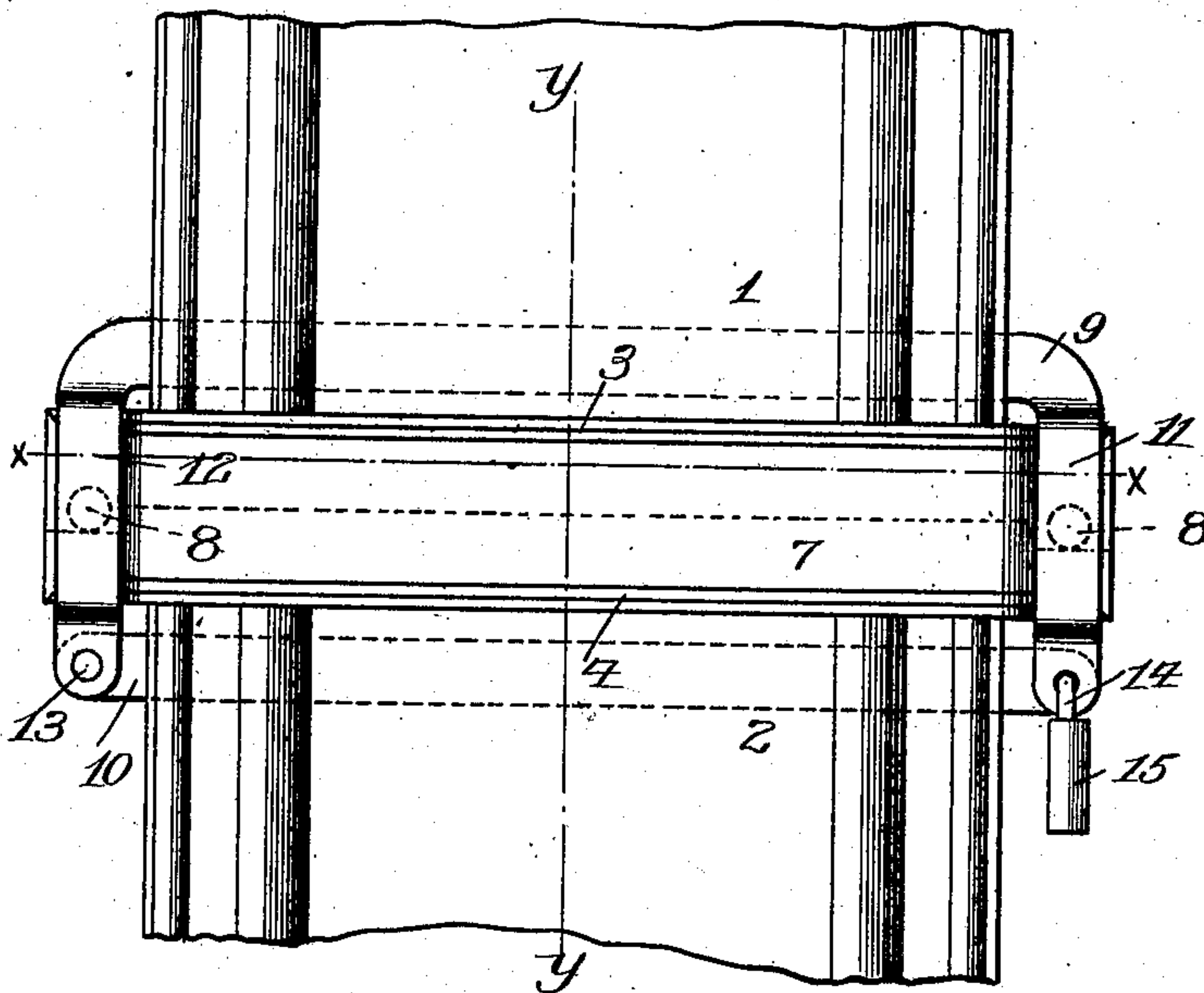


Fig. 2.

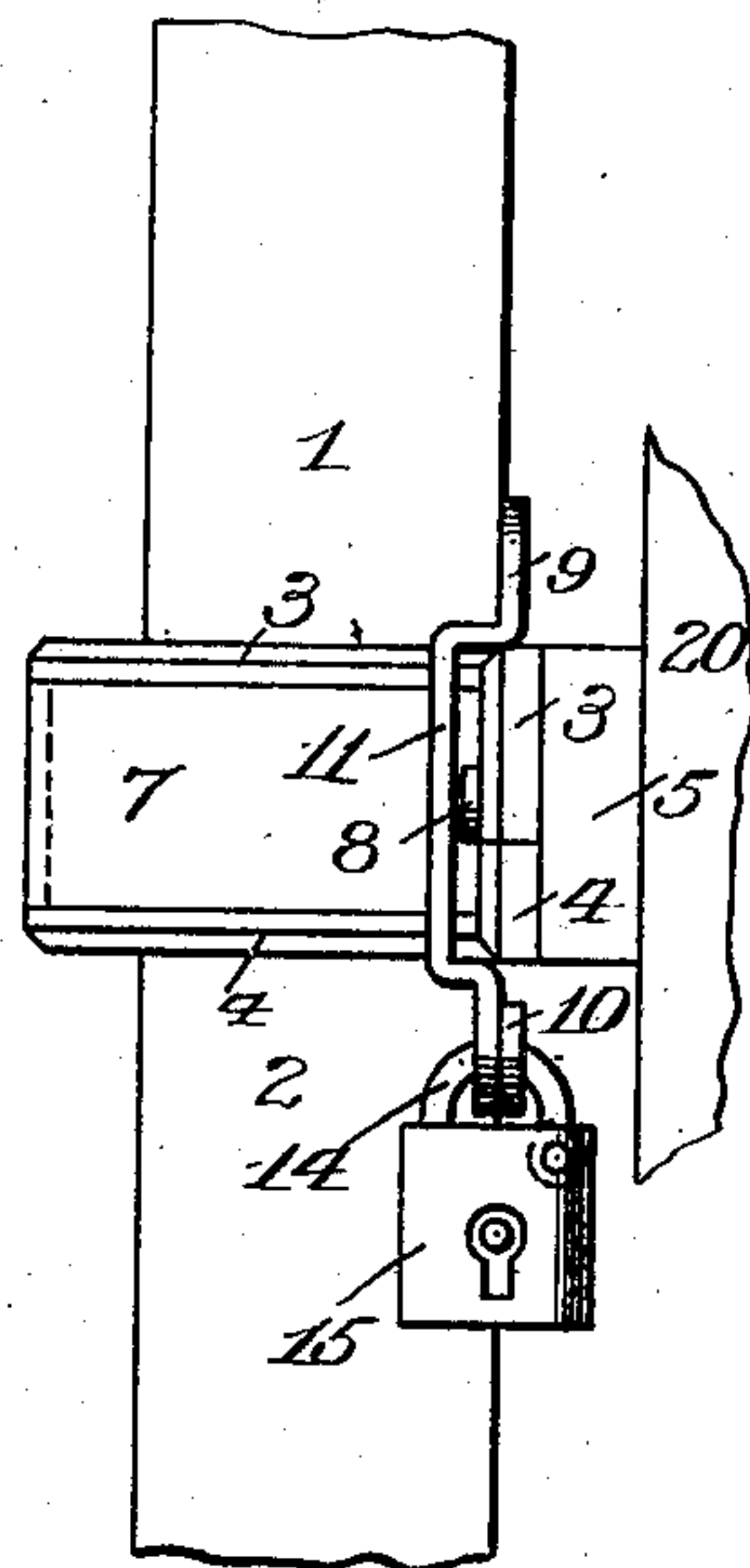


Fig. 3.

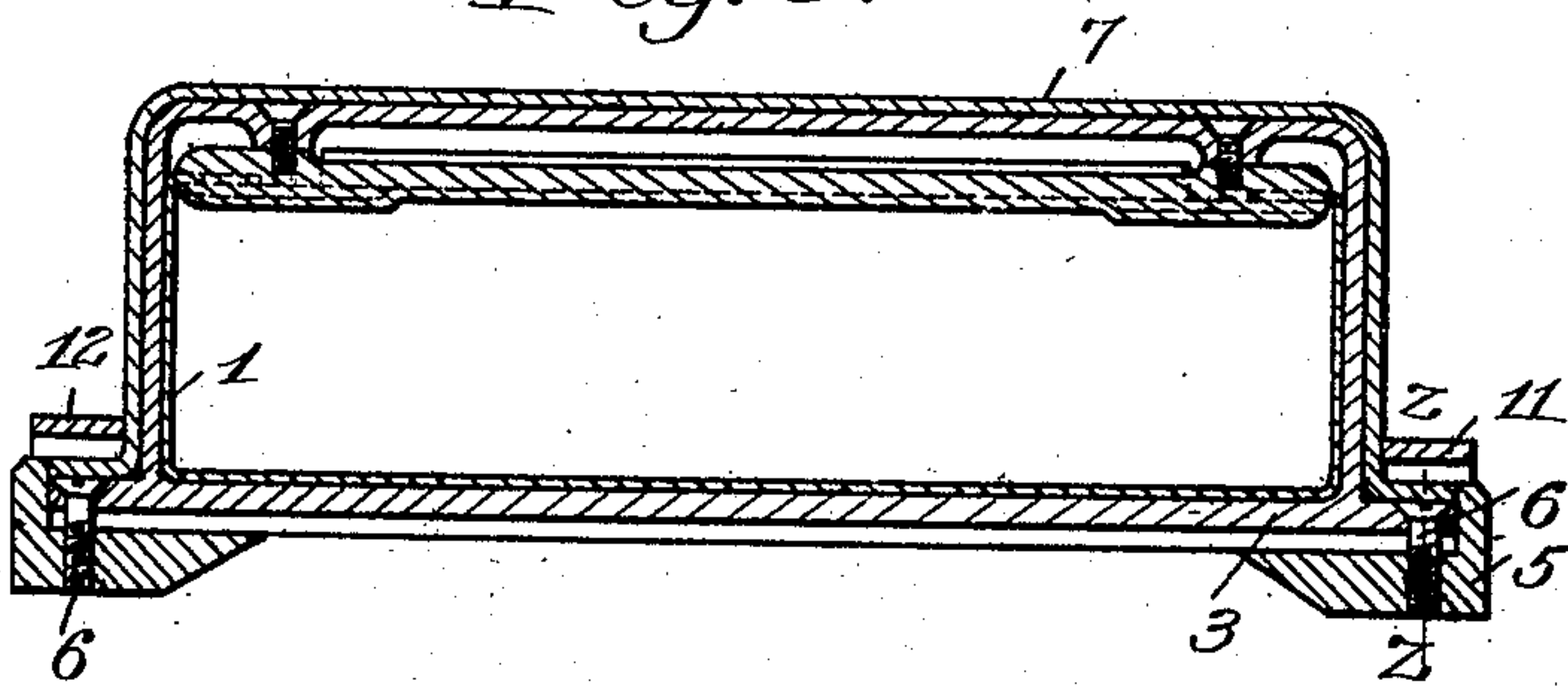
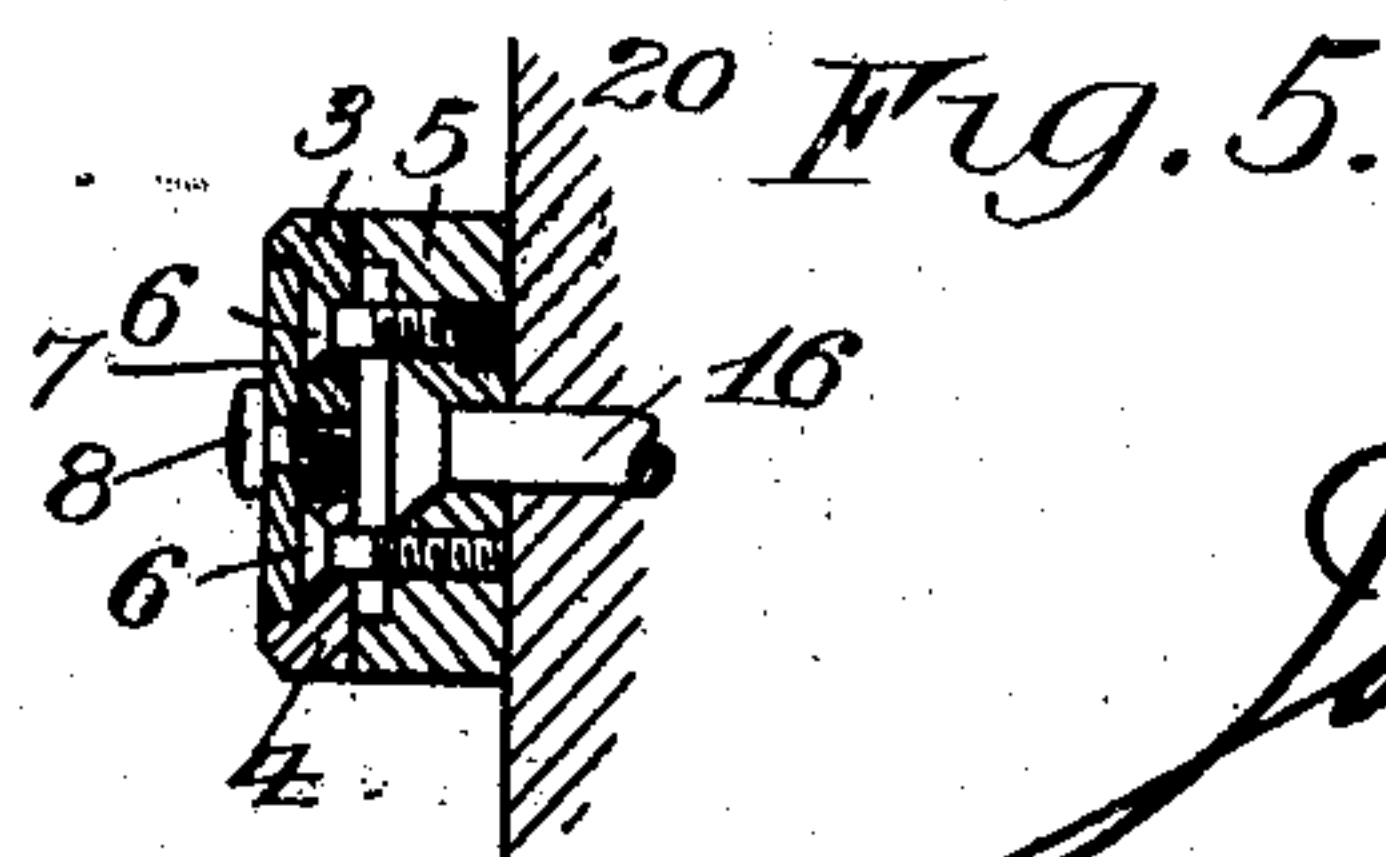
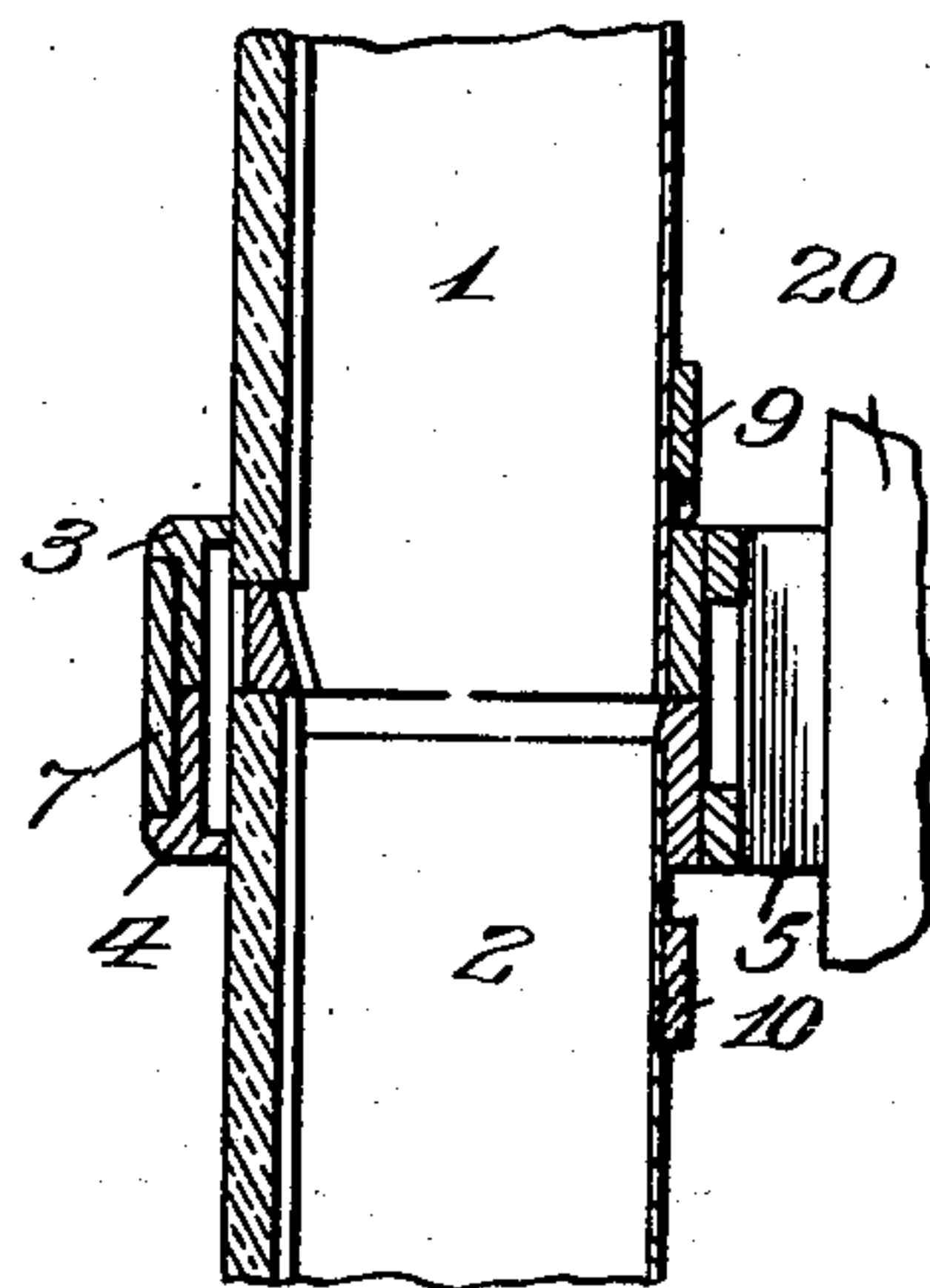


Fig. 4.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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SECURING DEVICE FOR MAIL-CHUTES.

No. 894,728.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented July 28, 908.

Original application filed October 24, 1904, Serial No. 229,749. Divided and this application filed August 31, 1905.
Serial No. 276,515.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOSEPH WARREN CUTLER, of Rochester, in the county of Monroe and State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Securing Devices for Mail-Chutes; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, forming a part of the specification, and to the reference-numerals marked thereon.

My present invention relates to improvements in mail chutes and has for its object to provide means for preventing the removal of the sections of which these chutes are composed by unauthorized persons, while the sections may be removed for cleaning or repair by authorized persons.

It has further for its object to provide a simple and cheap means which is readily adapted to mail chutes now in use, this application forming a division of my former application, Serial No. 229,749, filed October 24, 1904.

In the accompanying drawings; Figure 1 is a front view of a portion of the mail chute showing the abutting ends of adjacent sections with my device applied thereto. Fig. 2 is a side elevation of the same. Fig. 3 is a transverse sectional view on the line $x-x$ of Fig. 1. Fig. 4 is a longitudinal sectional view on the line $y-y$ of Fig. 1. Fig. 5 is a sectional view on the line $z-z$ of Fig. 3.

Similar reference numerals in the several figures indicate similar parts.

Mail chutes for conducting mail matter from various parts of a building to a convenient point for collection are usually composed of several superposed sections in order that they may be more readily manufactured, and assembled within the building and also to enable any of the sections to be removed for the purpose of repair or cleaning or removing obstructions, and the receptacle at the lower end of the chute is the only portion secured by a lock, keys to which are in the possession of authorized persons. The chute sections are simply secured by screws or other fastenings which might be removed, enabling letters deposited in the chute above to be intercepted, and my present embodiment is adapted to prevent chutes now in use from being thus opened by unauthorized persons so that access to different parts of the

chute and receptacle, considered as a whole, is prevented, as well as the opening of the mail box itself.

My invention is shown applied to a chute of the usual construction embodying the superposed sections the ends of which alone are shown and indicated by 1 and 2, said ends being provided with the cooperating flanges 3 and 4 respectively secured in relatively fixed position against the stationary bracket back or backing 5 by means of screws or other securing devices 6, such a construction permitting either of the chute sections to be removed when the securing devices are removed. The bracket back or backing 5 is also fastened to the wall or other suitable support 20 by screws 16 which are covered or concealable by the ends of the flanges 3 and 4. Over the abutting flanges 3 and 4 is fitted a removable securing band, channel or member 7 the extremities of which are preferably turned outwardly and perforated to receive the screws or other devices 8 which secure the member 7 from removal, the outwardly turned portions of the latter when in normal position serving to cover and conceal the securing devices 6 which fasten the adjacent chute sections in position and also the fastening devices 16 for the back or backing 5 to thereby prevent their removal.

In order to prevent the removal of the securing devices 6, 8 or 16 I employ a protective device or locking means which in the present embodiment is in the form of a removable frame composed of a pair of members 9 and 10 capable of being inserted behind a mail chute of any existing construction, while it is in position, the free ends of the members being connected by vertically extending bars or members 11 and 12, in the present instance formed integrally with the member 9 and the two parts are pivoted together at 13 while their other ends are provided with apertures adapted to receive the hasp or bow 14 of a lock 15 capable of being opened only by a key in the hands of authorized persons. When the members are in locked position and secured by the key lock they will rest immediately over the securing devices 8 as well as over the outwardly turned ends of the removable member 7 and as the latter completely covers the securing devices 6 of

the chute sections and the screws 16 as well and the vertically extending portion of the securing device covers the screws 8, it will be obvious that all of the screws will be inaccessible while the locking member is in position and as this is secured by the key lock it will be impossible for persons without a key of the proper kind to remove either of the chute sections or in fact any part of the chute. The vertically extending portions of the securing device are preferably offset slightly forwardly in order to fit snugly over the ends of the abutting flanges of the sections, while the horizontal members pass behind the chute without the necessity of permanently fastening the securing device to the support.

The securing device as a whole is simple and cheap in construction and may be readily applied to existing structures without removal or special adaptation for the purpose and in the present arrangement being composed of only two parts, exclusive of the lock, the expense of the absolute protection of the chute will be normal.

It will be noted that the frame is a removable means for locking the parts and is adapted to the fastening means in that it covers or conceals them so that they cannot be removed; in other words, the apparatus is not only lock fastened to the wall or other form of upright construction, but is also securely fastened together and held in position and the various parts are locked in place in such manner that all fastenings are concealed and are under lock and key.

I claim as my invention:

1. A device for securing mail chute sections from unauthorized removal, consisting of a frame embodying two horizontally extending members and vertical members connecting their ends and a lock for securing the adjacent ends of said members.
2. A device for securing mail chute sections from unauthorized removal, consisting of a frame embodying two horizontally extending members and vertical members connecting their ends said members being pivotally connected at one or more points and a key lock for securing said members.
3. A device for securing mail chute sections from unauthorized removal, consisting of a frame embodying two horizontally extending members, vertical members connecting their ends and a key lock connecting adjacent ends of said members for securing them in position.
4. The combination with a support, a mail chute section and means for fastening it to the support, of a removable securing device embodying a member extending in rear of the chute section and having a portion cooperating with and preventing access to the fastening devices and a key lock for preventing the unauthorized removal of said device.

5. The combination with a support, two mail chute sections and means for fastening their proximate ends to the support, of a securing device consisting of a frame having members extending laterally behind the chute sections and portions extending over the fastening devices and a key lock for securing said frame in position.

6. The combination with a support, two mail chute sections and means for fastening their proximate ends to the support, of a securing device having portions extending in rear of the chute and connecting portions extending over the fastening means and a key lock for preventing the unauthorized removal of said securing device.

7. The combination with a support, two mail chute sections and means for fastening their proximate ends to the support, of a securing device embodying a portion extending in rear of the chute sections and portions cooperating with and preventing access to the fastening devices for said sections and a key lock for securing said device in position.

8. The combination with a support, a mail chute section and means for fastening it to the support, of a securing device embodying two members pivotally connected and adapted to extend in rear of the chute and over the fastening means and a key lock for preventing the unauthorized removal of the device.

9. The combination with a support, a mail chute section and means for fastening it to a support, of a detachable securing device separate from but cooperating with the fastening devices to prevent the operation of the latter and a key lock for preventing its unauthorized removal.

10. In a mail chute the combination of a detachable metal channel or band, a back or support, means for securing the band to the back and a device controlled by a key lock for concealing said securing device.

11. In a mail-chute, the combination of a removable lock as described, adapted to lock together parts of a mail-chute and fixed fastenings applied to other parts of a mail-chute, said fixed fastenings being adapted to be concealed by said removable lock.

12. In a mail chute, the combination of a back, a band engaging the chute and means for preventing the removal of the band controlled by a removable key lock.

13. In a mail chute, the combination of a metal channel or band, as described, removable means adapted to be controlled by a key for preventing the removal of the channel or band from the back.

14. In a mail chute, the combination of a back, a support, means for fastening the back to the support, a channel or band engaging the chute, a member controlled by a removable key lock for preventing the removal of the band and also preventing access to the fastening device for the back.

15. In a mail chute the combination of a back, a support, means for fastening the back to the support, a channel engaging the chute and extending over the fastening devices and a removable part controlled by a key lock cooperating with the band and preventing its removal and also the removal of the fastening devices.

16. In a mail chute, the combination of a detachable channel, a back, locking and fastening devices applied respectively to each and means actuated by a key for effecting the locking together of the parts.

17. In a mail chute, the combination of a detachable channel, a back and removable means preventing the removal of the channel from the back actuated by a key.

18. The combination with a wall or base, a bracket secured thereto and a mail chute engaging the bracket, of a member for preventing the removal of the chute from its bracket, a movable part controlling the removal of said member and a removable lock adapted to be unlocked by a key for preventing the unauthorized removal of said part.

19. The combination with a mail chute having attaching portions thereon, of a support adapted to receive said attaching portions, securing means for the attaching portions and a member controlled by a lock for concealing said securing means.

20. The combination with a mail chute having attaching flanges, of a support adapted to receive the flanges, securing devices for attaching the flanges to the support, and a removable member controlled by a lock for concealing the securing devices.

21. The combination with a mail chute having attaching portions, of a support adapted to receive said attaching portions, securing means for the attaching portions, a member cooperating with a part of the chute and having portions for concealing the said securing means and devices controlled by

a lock for preventing unauthorized removal of said member.

22. The combination with a mail chute having attaching portions, of a support adapted to receive the said portions, securing means for said attaching portions, a member adapted to embrace a part of the chute and having portions arranged to conceal the said securing devices and lock controlled means for preventing unauthorized removal of said member.

23. The combination with a mail chute embodying two or more superposed sections having flanges at their abutting ends, of a support having a recess adapted to receive said flanges and prevent relative movement thereof and a member controlled by a lock for preventing the disengagement of said flanges.

24. The combination with a mail chute embodying two or more superposed sections having flanges at their abutting ends, of a support adapted to receive said flanges, securing devices for said flanges, a removable member concealing the joint between the adjacent flanges and having portions covering the flange securing devices and lock controlled means for preventing unauthorized removal of said member.

25. The combination with a support, of a mail chute embodying a plurality of separately removable sections, means for securing said sections to the support, a cover for said securing means and a key lock securing said cover in position.

26. The combination with a support, of a mail chute, means for securing said chute to the support, a cover for said securing means and a key lock for securing said cover in position.

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