

LETTER HOLDER.

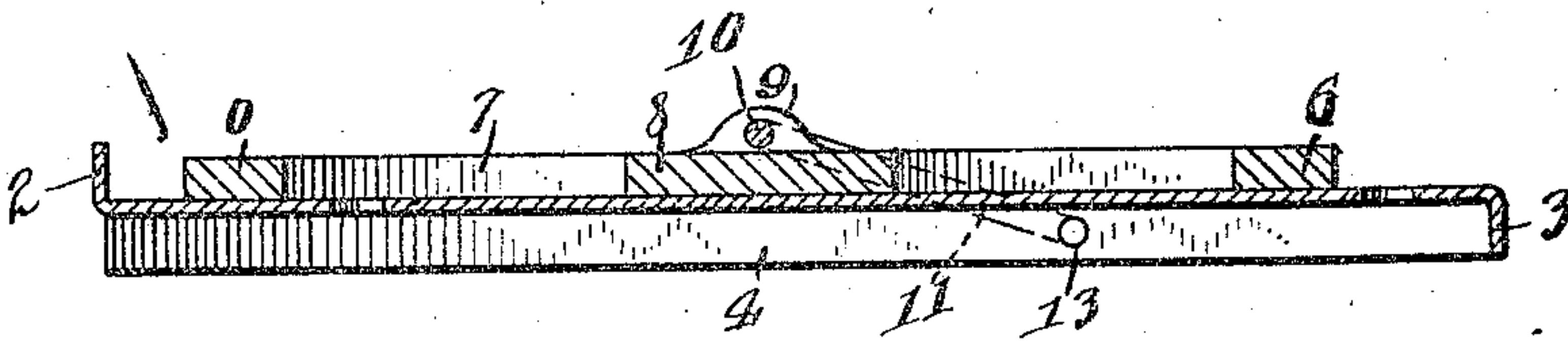
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929,370.

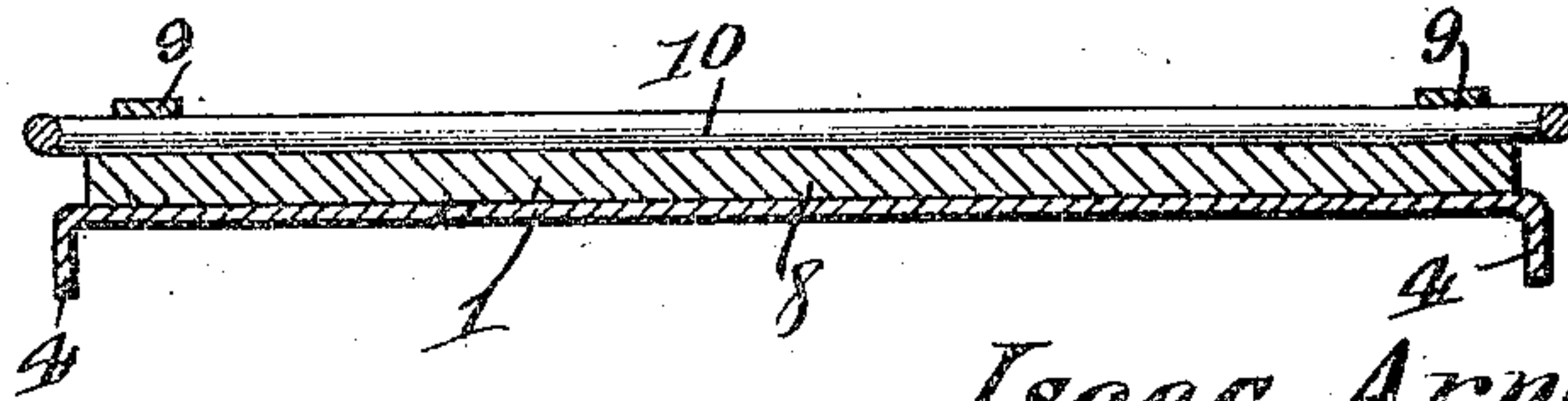
Patented July 27, 1909.



Fig. 2.



*Fig. 3.*



Inventor

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Witnesses

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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ISAAC ARNOLD, OF OTTAWA, KANSAS.

## LETTER-HOLDER.

No. 929,370.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented July 27, 1909.

Application filed April 15, 1909. Serial No. 490,111.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, ISAAC ARNOLD, a citizen of the United States, residing at Ottawa, in the county of Franklin and State of Kansas, have invented new and useful Improvements in Letter-Holders, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to letter holders, the object in view being to provide a device in the nature of a holder for letters and other mail matter to be collected by the postman, the device providing for the display of letters in a position where they will be readily noticed by the postman and also embodying means controlled by the action of gravity for holding the letters securely in place while adapting them to be readily removed by the postman. The device is also adapted for the delivery of letters by the postman at any place.

With the above and other objects in view, the nature of which will more fully appear as the description proceeds, the invention consists in the novel construction, combination and arrangement of parts as herein fully described, illustrated and claimed.

In the accompanying drawings:—Figure 1 is a front elevation of a letter holder embodying the present invention, illustrating in dotted lines a letter held thereby. Fig. 2 is a vertical longitudinal section through the same. Fig. 3 is a horizontal section thereof.

The device comprises essentially a back or base 1 preferably formed of sheet metal having the lower edge thereof bent outward to form a bottom stop flange 2 against which the letters are adapted to rest at their bottom edges as indicated by dotted lines in Fig. 1. The remaining edges of the sheet metal back are bent to the opposite or back side of the base to form a top marginal flange 3 and side marginal flanges 4. All of these flanges serve to brace and reinforce the base or back 1.

Arranged in front of the back or base 1 is

a follower 5 which is shown for convenience in the form of a disk or wheel-shaped plate embodying an outer annular rim 6 and spokes 7 connected together centrally as shown at 8. This follower is provided at opposite places with bearings or eyes 9 through which passes the shaft portion 10 of a bail-shaped hanger embodying a pair of arms 11 embracing the opposite side edges of the base and provided with inbent pintles 12 which are inserted through openings 13 provided therefor in the side marginal bracing flanges 4.

By means of the construction above described, the bail-shaped hanger is adapted to swing on the pintles 12 as a center and the follower 5 is also adapted to swing or turn on the hanger by means of the bearings 9. By reason of the fact that the pivot points 12 are arranged in rear of the plane of the follower 5, the latter is caused to swing by gravity toward the base or back 1 thereby holding any letters or mail matter against the base which may be placed between the follower and the base.

I claim:—

1. A letter holder comprising a base, a follower, and a swinging hanger connecting the follower and base and pivotally connected to the base to cause the follower to move by gravity toward the base, the follower being pivotally supported on the hanger.

2. A letter holder comprising a base embodying an outwardly projecting stop flange, a follower, and a swinging hanger connecting the follower and base and pivotally connected to the base to cause the follower to move by gravity toward the base.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature in presence of two witnesses.

ISAAC ARNOLD.

Witnesses:

MAUDE CONARD,  
S. A. HESTER.