

C. Lewis,
Letter Box.

No. 111,461.

Patented Jan. 31. 1871.

FIG. 1.

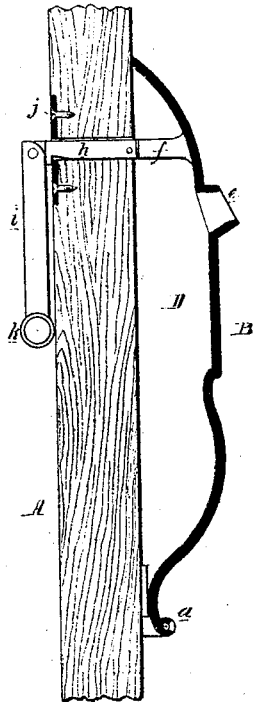


FIG. 2.

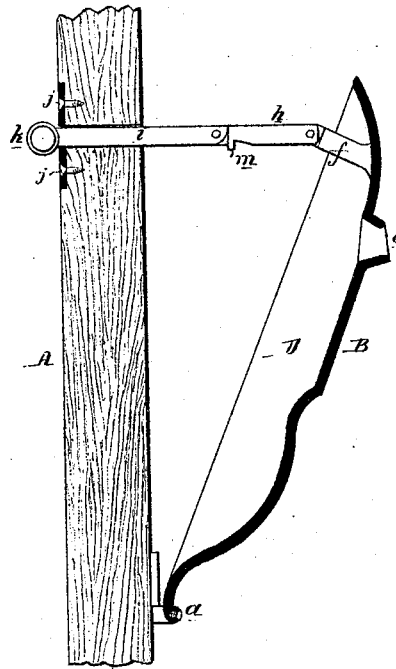
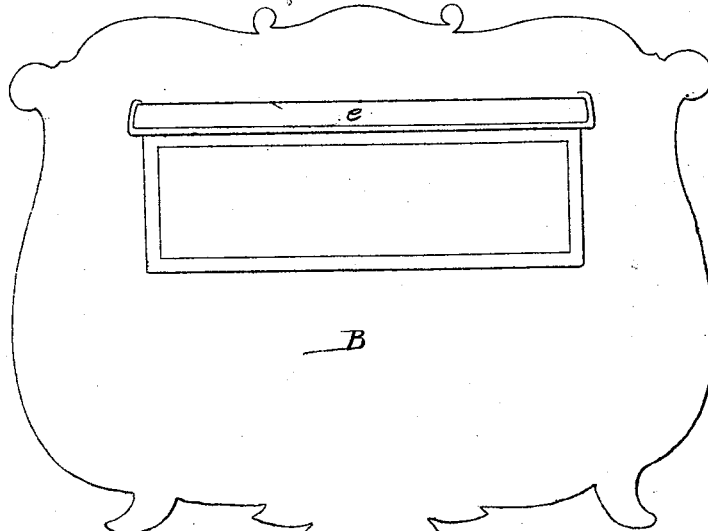


FIG. 3.



WITNESSES

Wm. B. Harding
John Parker



Cyrus Lewis
by his atty
Howe and son

United States Patent Office.

CYRUS LEVIS, OF PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA.

Letters Patent No. 111,461, dated January 31, 1871.

IMPROVEMENT IN LETTER-BOXES.

The Schedule referred to in these Letters Patent and making part of the same.

I, CYRUS LEVIS, of Philadelphia, county of Philadelphia, State of Pennsylvania, have invented an Improved Letter-Box, of which the following is a specification.

Nature and Object of the Invention.

My invention relates to a letter-box, consisting of a concavo-convex plate, arranged to be hinged to the outside of a door or door-frame, and controlled by a link and pivoted arm adapted to an opening in the said door or frame, all of which will be fully described hereafter.

Description of the Accompanying Drawing.

Figures 1 and 2 are vertical sections illustrating my improved letter-box in different positions; and Figure 3 is a front view of the box.

General Description.

A represents, in section, a street door or other door or frame, to which it is desirable to attach a letter-box, and to the exterior of which the box B is hinged, at *a*, in the manner shown or in any other convenient manner.

The box B consists of a simple concavo-convex plate, formed in the present instance of cast-iron, which, when in contact with the face of the door, incloses with the latter a space, D, as shown in fig. 1, for the reception of letters or papers, which are inserted through an opening, *e*, near the upper end of the plate. The opening *e* may be arranged in any position and at any angle in the plate, and may, if desired, be furnished with a lid.

To the inside of the plate, near the top of the same, is hinged a link, *h*, to which is jointed a rod, *i*, the latter passing freely through an opening in the door and through a plate, *j*, secured to the rear of the same, the rod being furnished at its outer end with a suitable handle or knob, *k*.

When the plate is elevated, as shown in fig. 1, a hook or catch, *m*, on the link *h* overlaps the lower edge of the opening in the plate *j*, and the link is depressed, owing to weight of the arm *i*, which hangs vertically downward at the rear of the door. When the link is thus depressed, its hook *m* catches on the lower edge of the plate *j*, and retains the plate B in its elevated or closed position.

In order to depress the plate B, and thus open the box, it is only necessary to raise the link by means of the arm *i*, and disengage its catch *m* from the lower edge of the plate *j*, when the link will pass through the opening in the door, as will also a portion of the arm *i*, the handle *k* of the latter striking the plate *j*, and preventing the arm from passing entirely through the opening in the door and the plate B from being opened to too great an extent.

The above arrangement is exceedingly simple, and can be produced at a trifling cost and applied to any door. It is also perfectly safe, as it cannot be opened from the outside of the door, or except through the medium of the link *h* and arm *i*.

It will be evident that the hinge *a* and locking devices might be arranged at the sides of the plate B, instead of at the bottom and top of the same.

Claim.

A letter-box, consisting of a plate, B, hinged to the outside of a door or door-frame, and controlled by a hinged link, *h*, and arm, *i*, adapted to an opening and plate, *j*, of the said door or frame, all substantially as described.

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

CYRUS LEVIS.

Witnesses:

WM. A. STEEL,
F. B. RICHARDS.