



# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

CHARLES H. PARMENTER, OF OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA, ASSIGNOR OF ONE-HALF TO G. V. BLACKMAN, OF SAME PLACE.

## COMBINED DOOR-PLATE, LETTER-BOX, AND BELL-PULL.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 264,561, dated September 19, 1882.

Application filed January 31, 1882. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, CHARLES H. PARMENTER, of Oakland, Alameda county, State of California, have invented a Combined Door-Plate, Letter-Box, and Bell-Pull; and I hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description thereof.

My invention relates to a combined door-plate, letter-box, and bell-pull; and it consists in a box placed upon the inside of the door, to which access from outside is had by pulling out a drawer or chute fitting through the door, the front of which is adapted to receive a name, and which, by its movement, rings a bell or gong, by means of suitable intermediate mechanism, all of which will hereinafter be more fully described, reference being made to the accompanying drawings.

Figure 1 is a vertical longitudinal section. Fig. 2 is a perspective view of a portion of the device.

Let A represent a section of a door, having an opening, *a*. To the door, upon the inside, is secured a box, B, access to which from the inside may be had by a door in the box or by any suitable means. Upon the inside of the box are inclined guides CC, between which slide the side arms of the drawer or chute D, which extends through the opening *a*. The bottom of this drawer does not extend its length, and is not intended to receive the letters, but simply to act as a guide for them when the drawer is pulled out. Any suitable spring will keep the drawer closed. I have here shown a spiral spring, *b*.

The front *d* of the drawer is made in any suitable ornamental shape for a door-plate, and is provided with a projection, *e*, underneath for a finger-hold to pull it out. This front I adapt for a door-plate, as follows: Its center is cut out, as shown, thus making it a frame, and a piece of glass introduced, behind which a card, having the name thereon, is fitted and a back plate, E, placed behind the card, as in framing a picture.

The plate E and the inclined bottom K of the drawer I prefer to make in one piece, and in order to hold them in place I make grooves *e* in the sides of the drawer D and small studs *o* upon the ends of the bottom, which, by fitting the grooves *e*, hold the bottom and back plate, E, in place against the card in front.

By slipping the back plate, E, off another card may be substituted. Thus when one tenant removes from a house he will take out his card, and the new tenant insert his own.

In order to prevent the drawer D from being pulled out too far, I have a stop, *m*, upon the inside of the door, against which a cross-piece, F, upon the drawer may be adapted to strike and prevent the drawer from moving farther.

Within the top of the box B is a gong, G, which is struck by a hammer, H, pivoted to a support, as shown, and held against the gong by a spring, *h*.

In a support, *f*, extending from the cross-pieces F, upon the sliding drawer, is pivoted a trigger, J, with its heavier end down, so that it will always stand erect and ready to engage with the depending end of the hammer H when the drawer is moved out, by which means the gong is struck.

The operation of the device is as follows: A postman passing catches sight of the name in the door-plate, and, having a letter to drop, catches hold of the door-plate, and pulls the drawer D out. He then drops the letter into the drawer, and it is guided by the bottom into the box B, into which it falls. In opening the drawer to insert the letter the trigger J trips the hammer H and rings the gong G, thus giving notice to the inmates of the house.

I am aware that the combination of devices I have shown is not new, and I do not claim such broadly; but

What I do claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

A combined door-plate, letter box, and bell-pull, consisting of the box B, adapted to be secured to the inside of a door, and a sliding drawer or chute, D, adapted to be pulled out and having a front, *d*, and back plate, E, adapted to receive and exhibit a card, and the inclined bottom K, attached to the back plate, and the gong G, adapted to be rung by means of the hammer H and trigger J when the drawer is pulled out, substantially as herein described and shown.

In witness whereof I hereunto set my hand.

CHARLES H. PARMENTER.

Witnesses:

C. D. COLE,  
J. H. BLOOD.