No. 754,414. PATENTED MAR. 15, 1904.

W. F. BOSSERT.

OUTLET BOX FOR INTERIOR CONDUITS.

APPLICATION FILED DEC. 19, 1903.

NO MODEL.

Fig. 1.

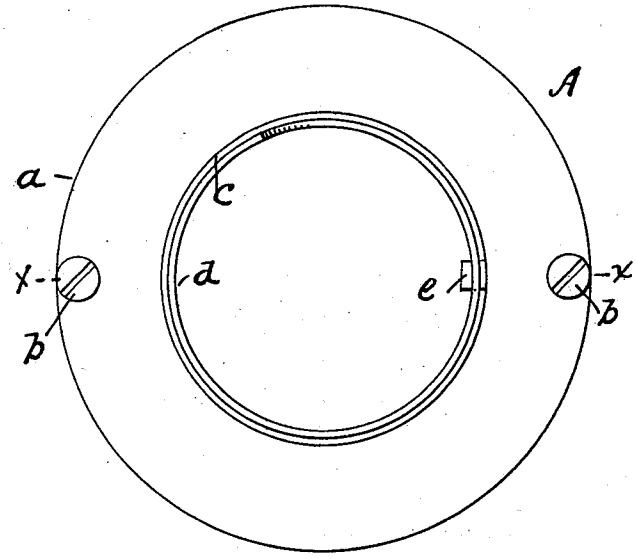


Fig. 3.

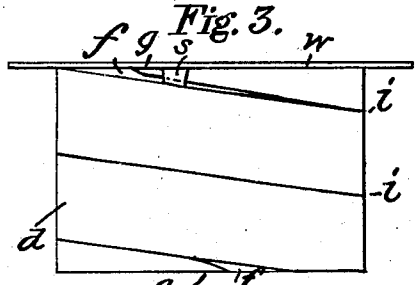
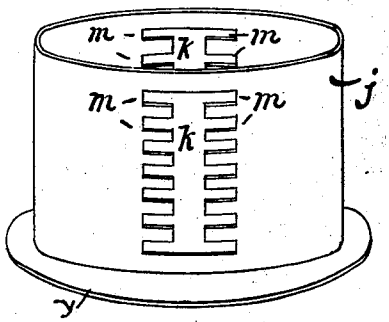


Fig. 4.



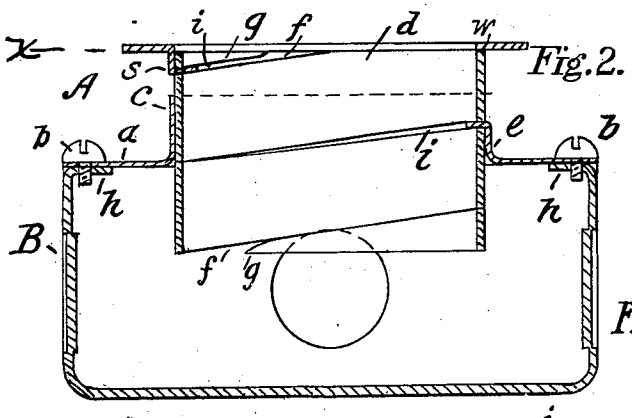


Fig. 2.

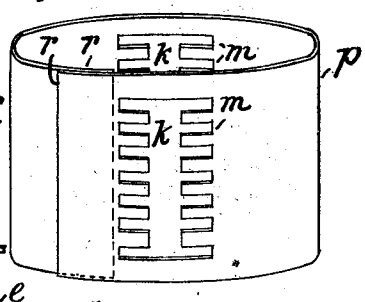


Fig. 6.

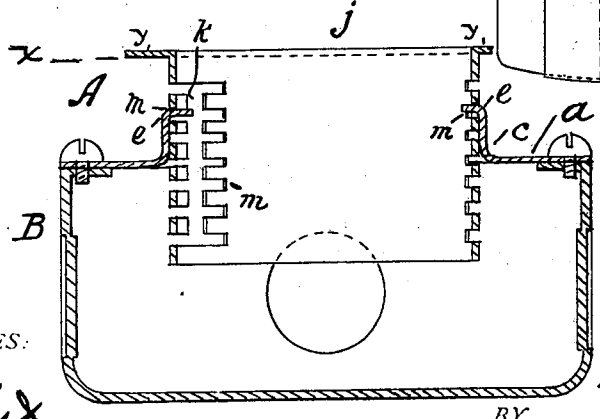


Fig 5.

WITNESSES:

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No. 754,414. Patented March 15, 1904.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLIAM F. BOSSERT, OF UTICA, NEW YORK, ASSIGNOR TO THE BOSSERT ELECTRIC CONSTRUCTION COMPANY, OF UTICA, NEW YORK.

OUTLET-BOX FOR INTERIOR CONDUITS.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 754,414, dated March 15, 1904.

Application filed December 19, 1903. Serial No. 185,793. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM F. BOSSERT, residing at Utica, in the county of Oneida and State of New York, have invented certain Improvements in Outlet-Boxes for Interior Conduits, of which the following is a specification.

The present invention relates to improvements in outlet-boxes for interior conduits, and has special reference to means for adjusting the outer face of outlet-boxes after they are in position in a wall or partition with the surface of the plastering. As is well understood, the outlet-boxes and the connecting-conduits are secured in place before the lathing and plastering are laid on, and while allowance is made for the usual thickness of the plastering it frequently happens that it is spread in the vicinity of the outlet-box very unevenly, sometimes twice the necessary thickness, thus leaving the outer face of the box quite a distance comparatively from the surface of the plaster. Various devices are resorted to by workmen to obviate the trouble, mostly of a temporary and makeshift order.

The means provided by my invention consists of a sleeve of metal provided with openings on its sides which are adapted to engage with one or more inwardly-extending fingers formed on the cover of the box by means of which the face of the box can be easily and quickly graduated to the surface of the plastering, the device itself being very simple and inexpensive.

In the drawings which illustrate the invention, Figure 1 is a plan view of an outlet-box. Fig. 2 is a section on line *x x* of Fig. 1. Fig. 3 is a side view of the form of adjusting-sleeve shown in the previous figures. Fig. 4 is a perspective view of a modified form of sleeve. Fig. 5 is a section of an outlet-box, showing the said sleeve in position. Fig. 6 is a perspective view of modification of the sleeve shown in Figs. 4 and 5.

Referring to Figs. 1, 2, and 3, A represents the complete outlet-box, consisting of the portion B, provided with lugs *h h*, the cover *a*, secured to the portion B by the screws *b b*, which are screwed into the lugs. The cover *a* has a central orifice surrounded by the collar *c*, which has a section on one side bent inward to form a finger *e*. More than one finger may be so bent inward, if desired. A sleeve *d* is represented as fitting easily in the collar *c* and extending into the interior of the box. This sleeve is made of a ribbon of thin flat steel wound in helical form, with its edges *i* touching one another, and the ends of the sleeve are cut square and at right angles to its axis, and the tapering ends of the ribbon are cut away to form a space *f*, leaving stout hooking-terminals *g*.

When the box is about to be assembled, the sleeve *d* may be secured in the cover *a* before it is screwed to the part B or afterward, as may be convenient. To attach the sleeve to the cover, the space *f* is placed over the finger *e*, so that the hook-terminal *g* comes under the finger, and then the sleeve is turned around, so that the finger separates the edges of the helices as the sleeve is screwed in between them. When the box is in position in a wall or partition, the sleeve can be turned inward or outward, so that it will be level with the plastering, as will be readily understood, and owing to the resiliency of the ribbon helices the finger *e* is held between them firmly in any position, so that it will not be displaced.

In Figs. 4 and 5 a sleeve *j* is shown consisting of a closed cylinder provided on each side with perforations consisting of a vertical slot *k*, from which on each side extend the narrow horizontal slots *m m*. To insert this sleeve in the orifice of the cover of the box, one side is hooked over the finger *e*, so that the latter extends into the vertical slot *k*, and if a second finger *e* is employed, as shown in Fig. 5, the opposite side of the sleeve is compressed until the finger is passed into the vertical slot *k* adjacent thereto. The sleeve can then be moved up or down to adjust the height thereof, and when this is determined it is turned in either direction, so that the opposite fingers enter the slots adjacent thereto.

The sleeve shown in Fig. 6 is made from sheet steel or iron and the slots punched therein, and then the ends *r r* of the sheet are lapped over each other and inserted into the cover *a*

of the box, and the adjustment is made as indicated of the sleeve in Figs. 4 and 5, while the resiliency of the metal causes the sleeve to expand and fill the orifice of the cover.

To provide a suitable finish for the opening of the box, I provide a collar for the external face of the sleeves, and in Figs. 2 and 3 *w* represents a detachable and adjustable collar provided with a finger *s*, adapted to enter the slit *i* and be turned around therein until the under side of the collar comes in contact with the face of the plastering *x*, (represented by a dotted line.)

In Figs. 4 and 5 the sleeve *j* is provided with a flange *y*, which is integral with the sleeve itself, and its adjustment to the face of the plastering *x* will be understood from the foregoing description of these figures.

I claim as my invention—

1. The combination of an outlet-box having an open space on its front and a supporting-finger extending partly across the same, with an adjustably-supported metal sleeve in said space having an opening in its side through which the said finger projects, as set forth.

2. The combination of an outlet-box having an open space on its front, of a metal sleeve in said space provided with an opening in its side, with a metal finger extending partly across said space and through said opening adapted to adjustably support the sleeve, as set forth.

3. The combination in an outlet-box provided with a cover which has a central opening surrounded by a collar, and a supporting-finger extending partly across the opening from the collar, with a metal sleeve in said opening having an opening in its wall through which the finger extends to adjustably support the sleeve, as set forth.

4. The combination in an outlet-box having a circular opening on its front, a finger extending partly across the opening, with a cylindrical metal sleeve in said opening having perforations in its wall through which the finger projects to adjustably support the sleeve, as set forth.

5. The combination in an outlet-box having a circular opening in its front, a finger extending partly across the opening, with a sleeve in said opening consisting of a metal plate of cylindrical form and having perforations in its wall through which the finger projects and on which the sleeve is adjustably supported, as set forth.

6. The combination in an outlet-box having a circular opening on its front, one or more fingers extending partly across the opening, with a cylindrical metal sleeve in said opening having perforations in its wall to receive said fingers to adjustably support the sleeve, consisting of a vertical perforation from which extend horizontal perforations, as set forth.

7. The combination in an outlet-box having a circular opening on its front, a finger extending partly across the opening, with a sleeve in said opening cylindrical in cross-section provided with a flange at its outer end and with perforations in its wall through which the finger projects and on which the sleeve is adjustably, supported, as set forth.

In testimony whereof I have signed my name to this specification, in the presence of two subscribing witnesses, this 15th day of December, 1903.

WILLIAM F. BOSSERT.

Witnesses:

FREDERICK T. FOXENBERGER,

THOMAS P. MURPHY.