

S. Maltby.
Letter Box.
N^o 43,594. Patented Jul. 19, 1864.

Fig: 1

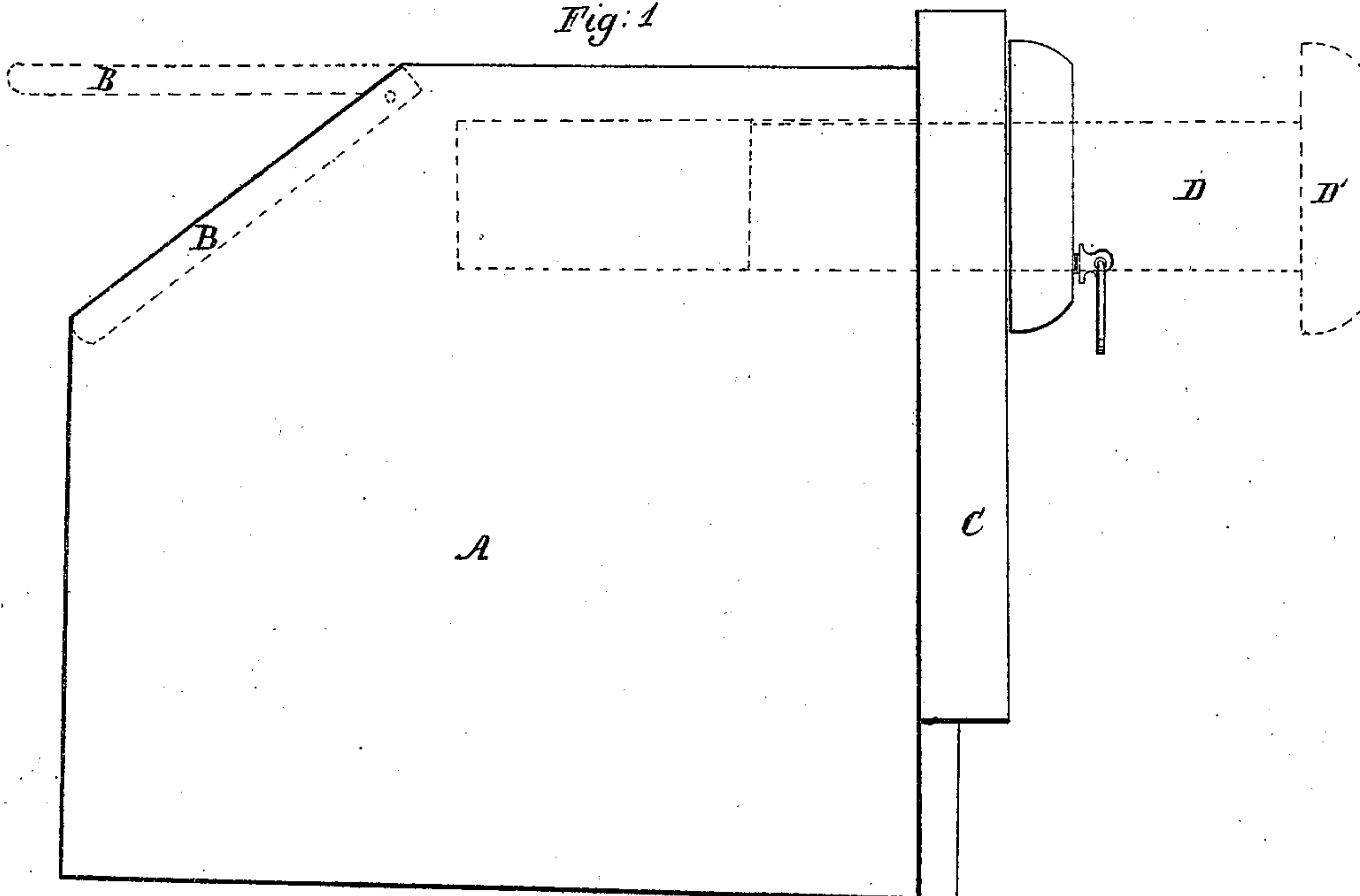
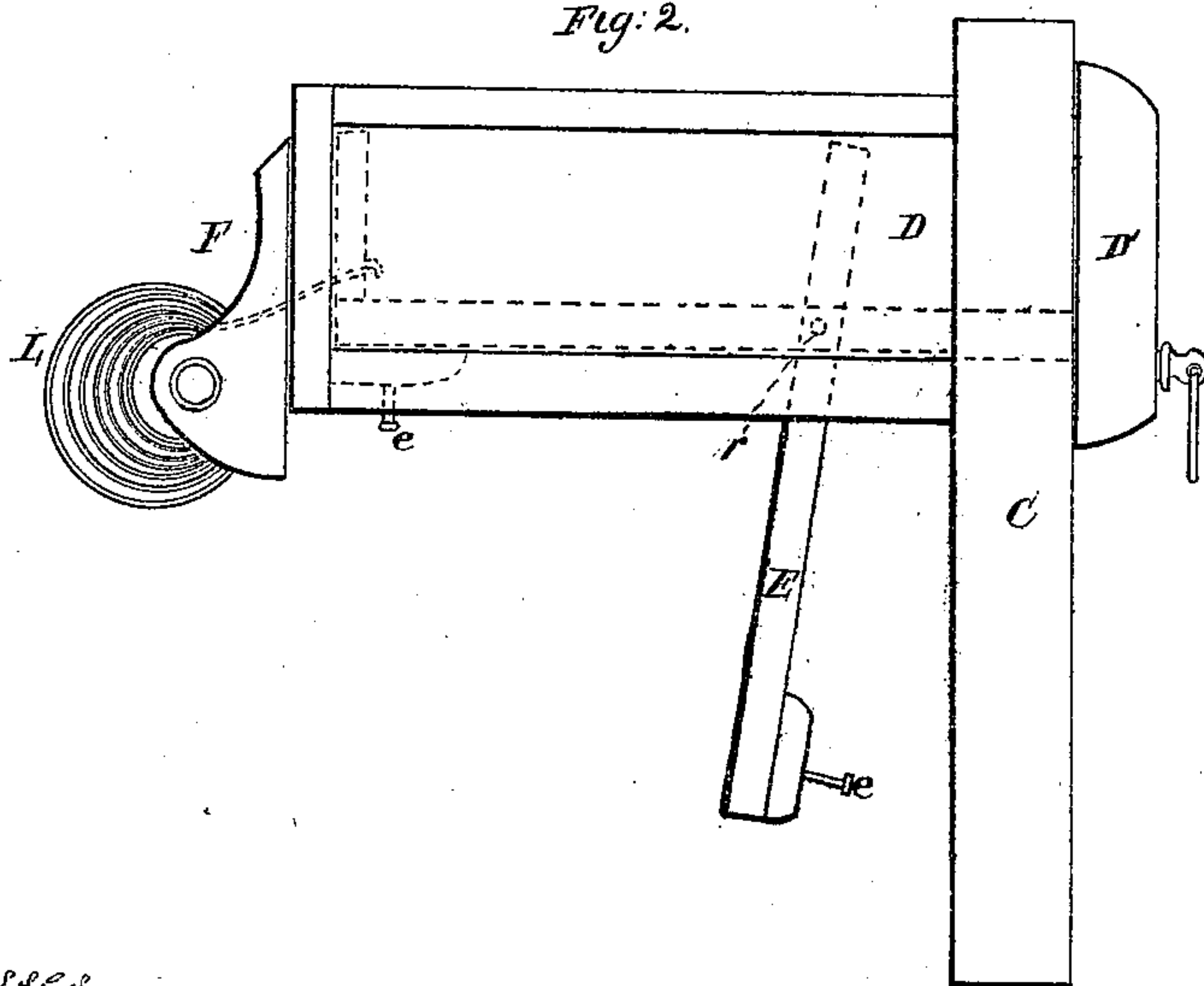


Fig: 2.



Witnesses
G. Breed

Inventor,
Sidney Maltby
by his attorney
Daniel Breed.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

SIDNEY MALTBY, OF WASHINGTON, DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.

LETTER-BOX.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 43,594, dated July 19, 1864.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, SIDNEY MALTBY, of Washington, in the county of Washington and District of Columbia, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Letter-Boxes, and I do hereby declare that the following is a full and exact description thereof, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and to the letters of reference marked thereon.

The chief feature of my invention is a tilting drawer-bottom, shelf, or other support, which may be drawn out to receive the letters or other mail-matter, and which will close automatically and drop the letters beyond the reach of a person from the outside. At the same time I have made use of a common receiving-box, which may or may not accompany my invention.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is a side view of a letter-box and drawer with my improvements attached. Fig. 2 is a view of the drawer separate from the box proper.

In these drawings, A represents an ordinary box for receiving letters. This box may have a lid, B, so as to be locked, if necessary.

In both figures, C represents a portion of a door or partition, through which the drawer D works. The bottom E of the drawer is pivoted at *r*, Fig. 2, so as to drop or tilt down by its down weight when the drawer is shut, as seen in Fig. 2. As the drawer is pulled out, the bottom returns to its proper place, riding on the board or partition C. The letters being

placed in the drawer, a coiled spring, L, connected to the drawer by a cord, F, pulls the drawer home, when the tilting shelf or drawer-bottom E falls, depositing the letters below, and beyond reach from the outside. Instead of the coiled spring, a weight or other suitable means may be employed to pull the drawer home. One or more stops, *e*, prevent the drawer from sliding out or completely through the board or door C. A door-plate may be put on the front of the drawer D'.

The details of construction may be somewhat varied without departing from my invention.

Having thus fully described my invention, what I claim, and desire to secure by Letters Patent of the United States, is—

1. A tilting drawer-bottom, shelf, or support, as above described, the same being so arranged as to rise and receive letters when drawn out and then tilt down and deposit or drop the letters when pushed or drawn in, substantially as set forth.

2. The use of the automatically-closing drawer for receiving and depositing letters, substantially as specified.

3. The combination of the box A with the tilting support, and also with the automatically-closing drawer, substantially in the manner and for the purposes specified.

SIDNEY MALTBY.

Witnesses:

DAN. ROWLAND,

JNO. C. SINNURD.