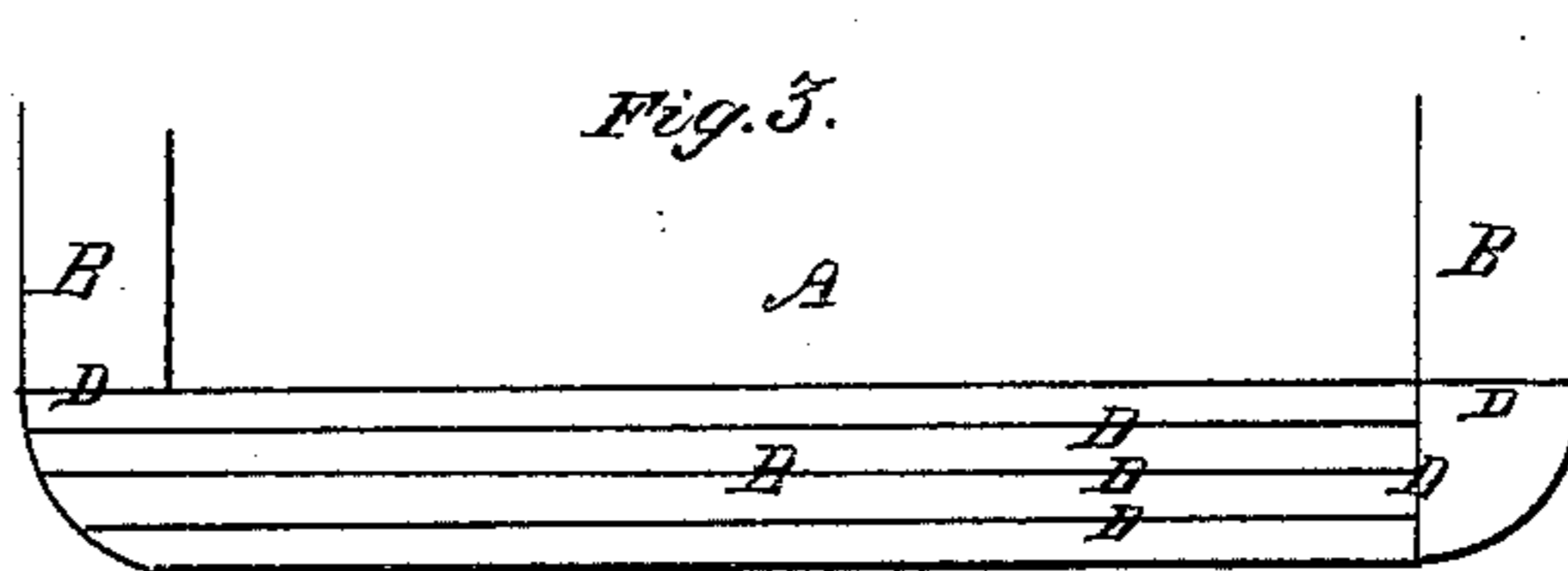
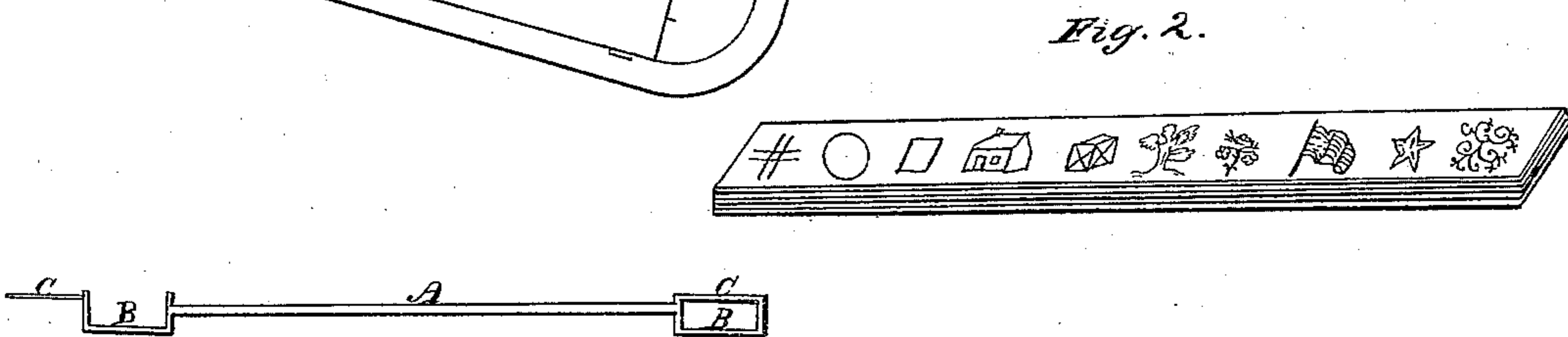
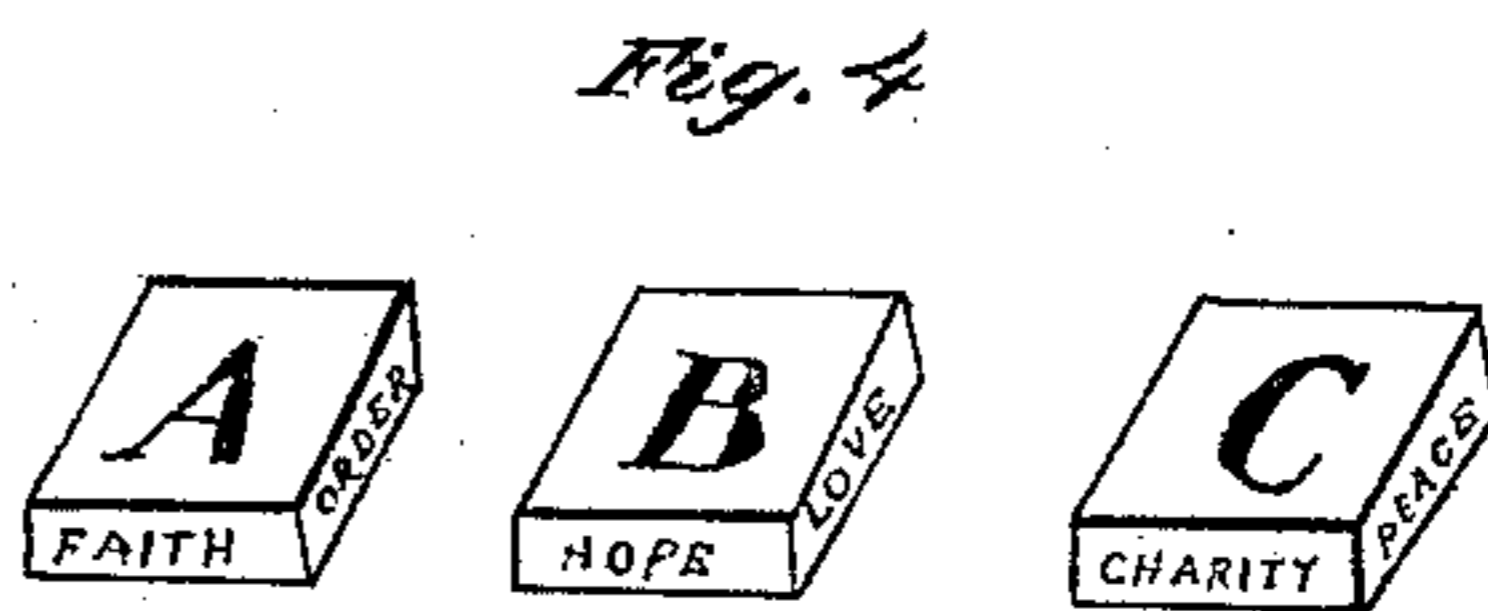
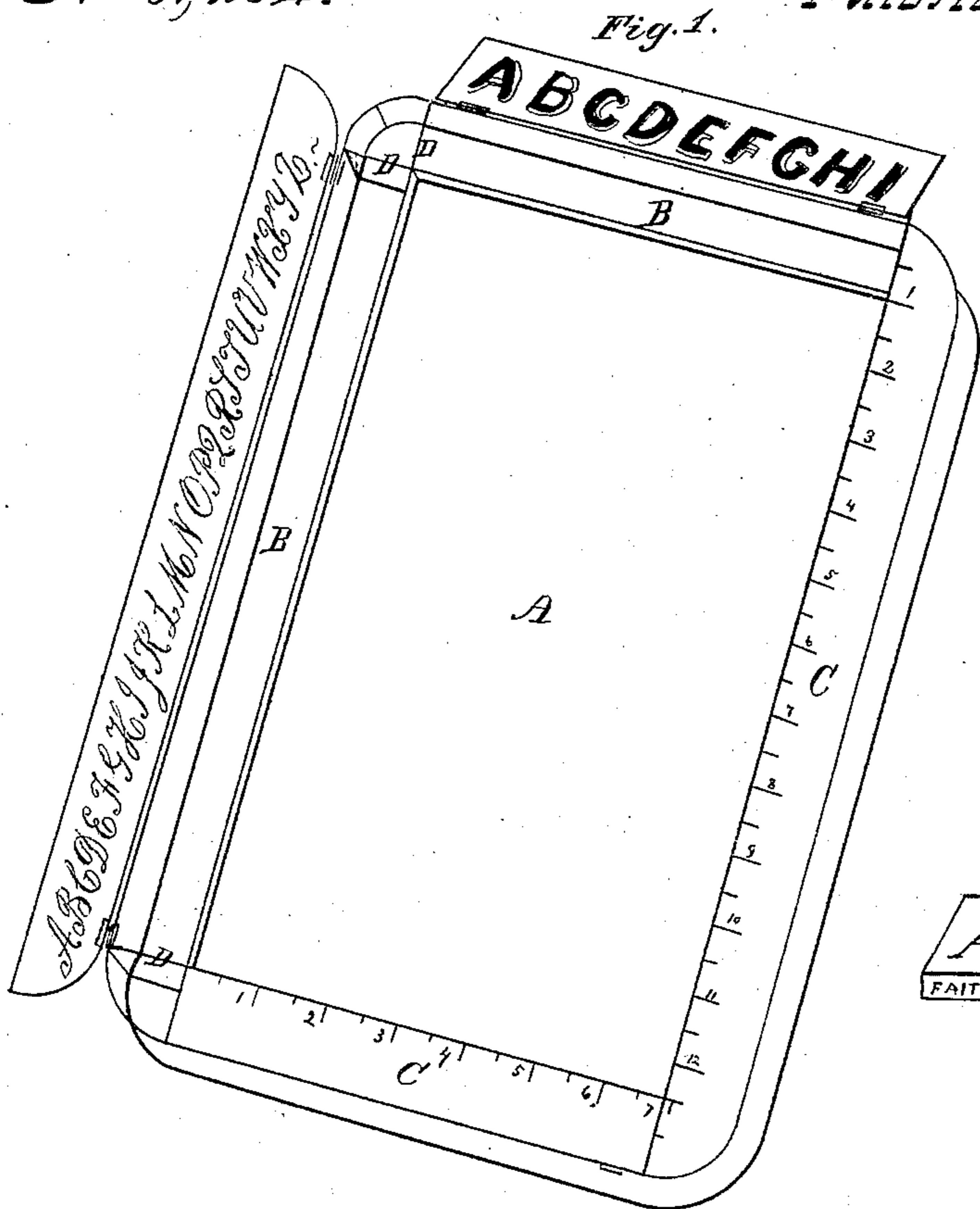


*W. J. Rhees,*  
*Slate Frame.*

*N<sup>o</sup> 61,254.*

*Patented Jan. 15, 1867.*



*Witnesses.*  
*Edw. F. Brown*  
*Rufus Fairbanks*

*Inventor.*

# United States Patent Office.

WILLIAM J. RHEES, OF WASHINGTON, DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.

*Letters Patent No. 61,254, dated January 15, 1867.*

## FRAME FOR SLATES.

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

### TO ALL WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM J. RHEES, of Washington city, District of Columbia, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Frames for Slates; 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.

Figure 1 represents an ordinary school slate, A, enclosed by my improved hollow frame, B, consisting of boxes with hinged lids, C C C C, two of them closed and two shown open, each lid having a spring catch. Drawings or copies of letters are shown marked on the lids. The hollow box-frame may be divided into compartments, as shown by D D.

Figure 2 represents a number of copy-slips for insertion in the boxes B B.

Figure 3 shows a part of the box-frame divided by partitions, D D D D D D, to make compartments for holding pencils, ruler, sponge, &c.

Figure 4 shows blocks or cubes upon which letters, words, or drawings are made for insertion in the box-frame B.

To enable others skilled in the art to make and use my invention, I will proceed to describe the same.

The frames made according to my improvement consist of a box or boxes enclosing or holding securely the ordinary slate of argillaceous material, porcelain, board, metal, or other substance, used in schools, counting-houses, and elsewhere. These boxes thus formed are intended as receptacles for pencils, rulers, sharpeners, erasers, or other utensils; for books or slips on which copies are made for instruction in any branch of knowledge; for blocks, cubes, rollers, or other articles for instruction or amusement, or they may be used for currency, postage, and revenue stamps, labels, or for many other purposes. These boxes are shown on the drawing in fig. 1, B B, and are to be provided with a suitable covering attached to the frames by hinges and fastened, when closed, by a small spring catch. These covers or lids may also be made to slide in grooves, and one of them may in this case be used as a ruler. The lids may also be fastened by locks, and each may be opened separately, or by lapping one over another one fastening may be sufficient to keep all the lids closed. These lids may also all open on one side of the slate, or part on one side and part on the other.

The frames I have described may be made of tin, gutta percha, wood, or any suitable material, and they may be made of any shape, with either square or round corners, at the option of the manufacturer. On the covers or lids of the boxes, or on the bottoms or sides thereof, I propose to mark or attach copies for instruction, tables, calendars, or any information, and especially to mark measures of length for the purpose of training the eye and for guides in writing or drawing. The articles deposited in my hollow frames may be loose or placed in compartments, fig. 1, D, fig. 3, D D D D D D, or held by springs, catches, or other usual devices. To prevent noise, the boxes may be covered or suitably protected by cloth, rubber, or other soft material.

It will thus be seen that by my improvement many advantages are secured without adding materially to the expense of the ordinary frame, and while my hollow frames will be of general utility, it is believed they will be of special benefit to children in primary schools.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim, is—

### *Claim.*

1. Making the frame to a slate of a box or boxes, as and for the purpose substantially as described.
  2. Using the box-frame of a slate as a receptacle for pencils, rulers, sponge, or any other utensils or articles, substantially as described.
  3. Dividing the box-frame of a slate into compartments, as and for the purposes described.
  4. Making letters, drawings, and measures of length on the box-frame of a slate, either outside or inside.
- In testimony whereof I hereunto subscribe my name this tenth day of December, A. D. 1866.

WM. J. RHEES.

Witnesses:

EDM. F. BROWN,  
RUFUS FAIRBANKS.