

J. W. & J. D. Smith.

74015

MAIL BOX.

PATENTED

FEB 4 1868

Fig 1.

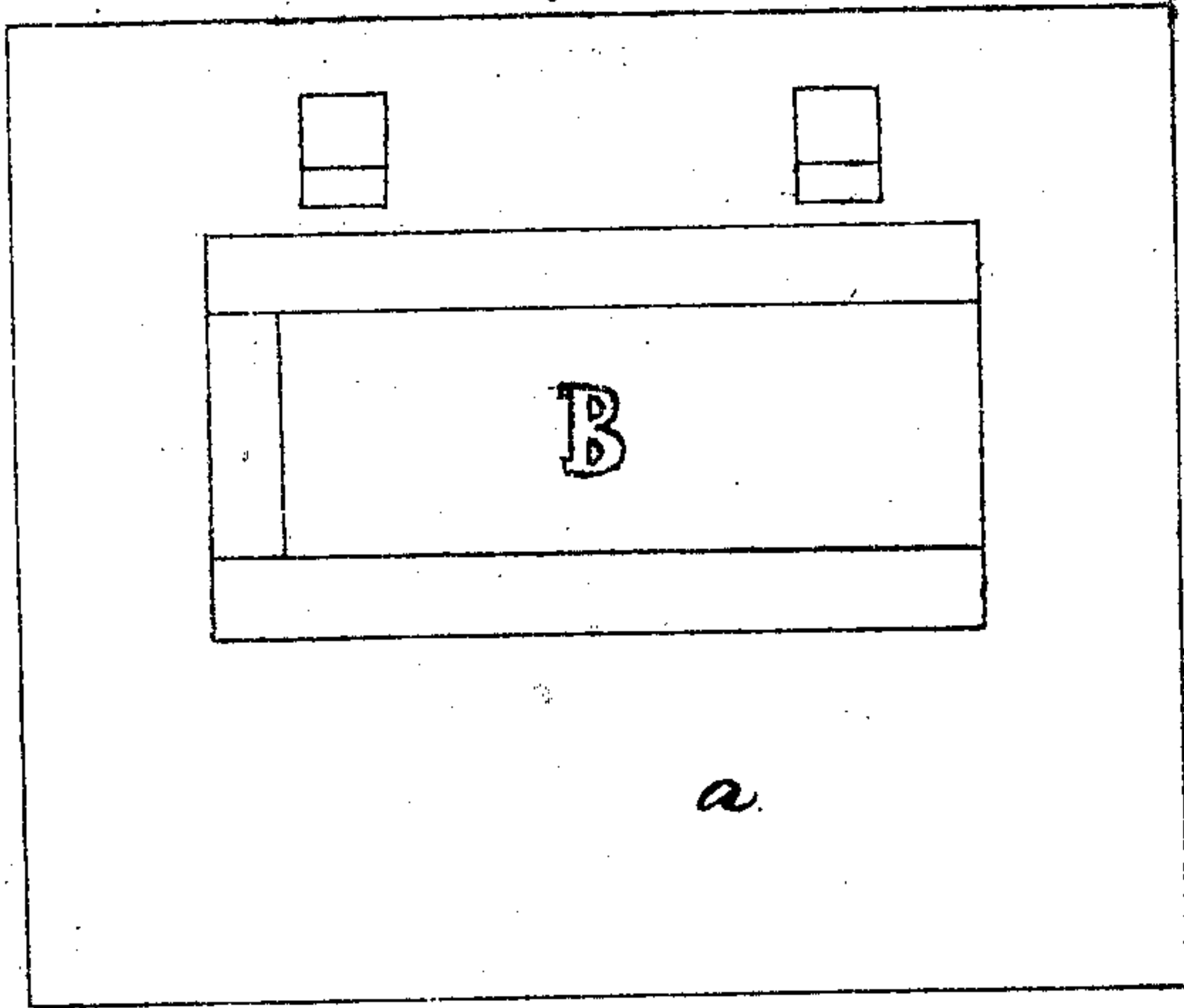


Fig 2.

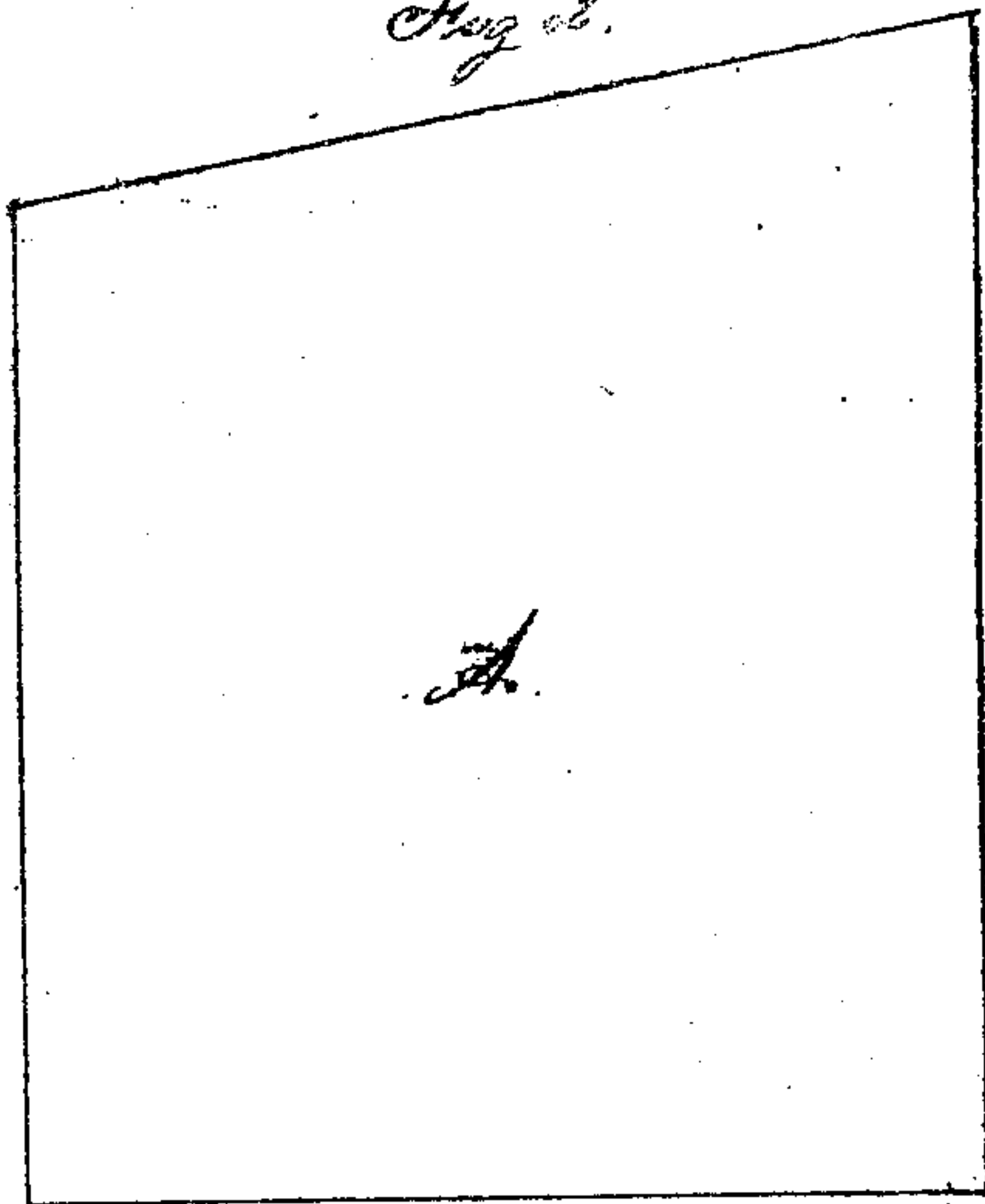


Fig 7.



Fig 3.

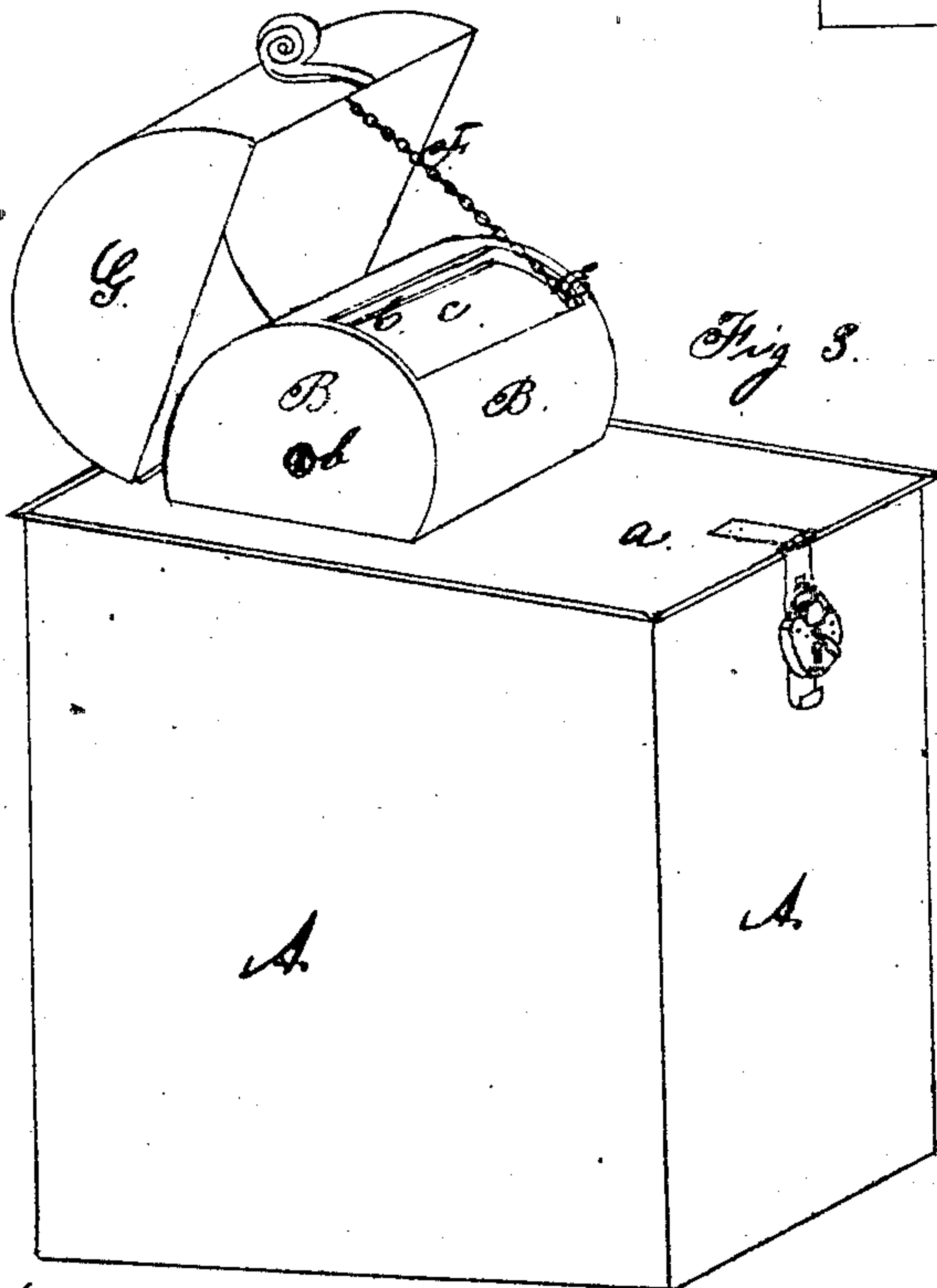


Fig 6.



Fig 4.

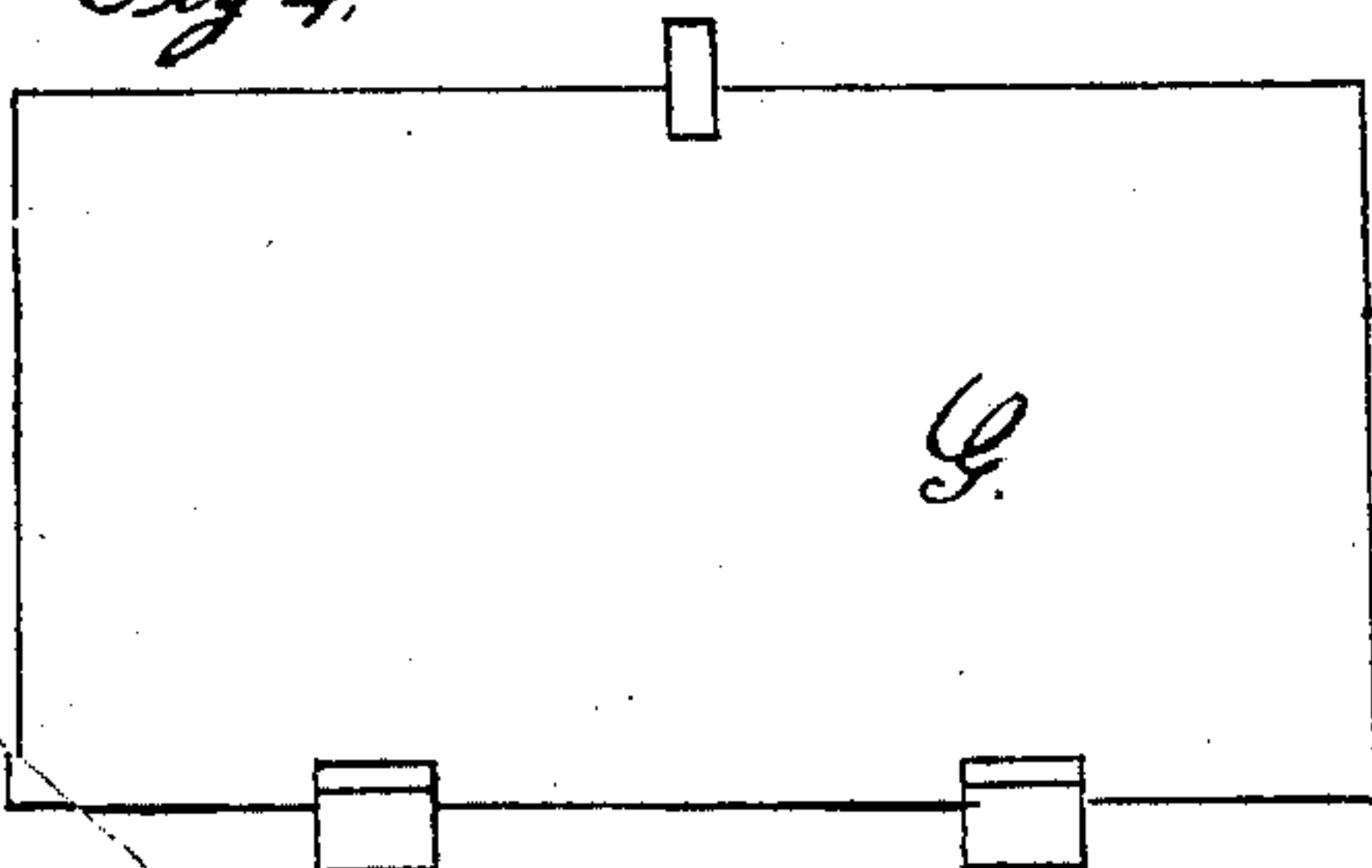
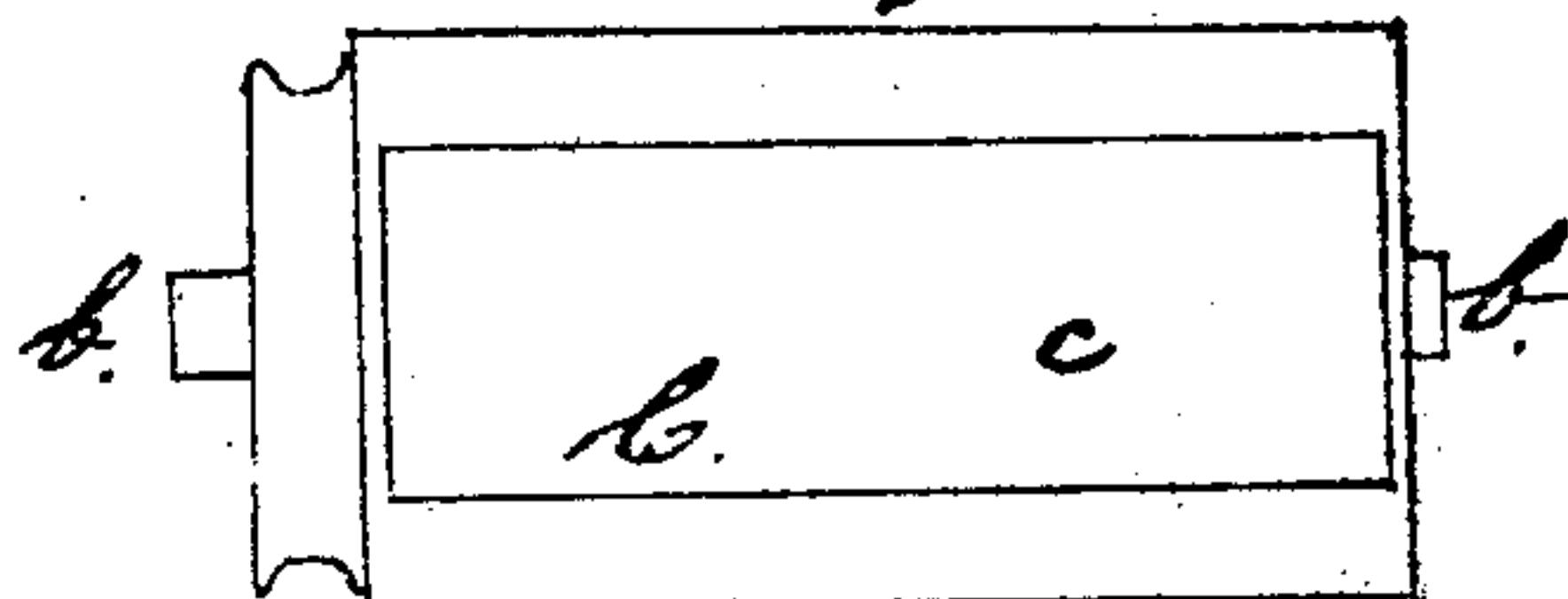


Fig 5.



Witness
A. L. Studley
H. B. Proctor

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United States Patent Office.

JOHN W. SMITH AND JAMES D. SMITH, OF WASHINGTON, DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.

Letters Patent No. 74,015, dated February 4, 1868.

LETTER-BOX.

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

TO ALL WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

Be it known that we, JOHN W. SMITH and JAMES D. SMITH, of the city of Washington, and District of Columbia, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Mail-Boxes; and we do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description of the construction and operation of the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, making a part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 is a top or plan view of mail-box.

Figure 2 is a side view.

Figure 3 is a perspective view.

Figure 4 is a top view of trough-cover.

Figures 5, 6, and 7 are views, in detail, of cylinder, chain, and coiled spring.

Like letters in the different figures of the drawings indicate like parts.

The nature of our invention consists in providing the top of the lid or cover of a mail-box with a longitudinal trough, and the arrangement of a cylinder, coiled spring, pulley-chain, and cover, with the same, so that the entire inside space of the box may be used for the reception of the mail-matter.

In other boxes, the cylinder or dropping-plate being on the inside of the box, occupies a good deal of space in the same, and when the box has become filled up to the cylinder or plate with the mail-matter, it is therefore liable to interfere with a free movement of the cylinder or plate, and consequently tends to defeat the purpose of preventing intrusion.

To enable any one skilled in the art to make and use our invention, we will proceed to describe its construction and operation.

A is the box, made of any required size. We cast the top of the lid or cover *a* with a longitudinal trough, B, of nearly a circular shape, transversely, and place therein a cylinder, C, and attach it to the ends of the trough by pivots, *b b*. The cylinder is made with an opening or slot, *c*, large enough for the reception of newspapers, pamphlets, and other like matter. A coiled spring, D, is suitably enclosed at the end of the trough, and arranged to connect in a proper manner with the pivot of the cylinder. E is the pulley, attached to the end of the cylinder. F is the chain, which is properly fastened to the pulley, and to the cover G. The cover is made to fit close down over the trough.

Operation: When the lid is raised, the slot or opening of the cylinder, which was down in the box, is brought up by the chain moving the cylinder around, and, on depositing the newspaper or other matter therein, and as soon as the lid is let go of, the action of the spring will immediately close the lid G down on the box, and at the same time will return the cylinder to its original position, and the newspaper will be deposited or dropped therefrom in the box.

It will be seen that we accomplish this on the outside of the lid of the box, so that there will be no waste space on the inside of the same, thus allowing the whole space to be occupied with the mail-matter, and dispensing with doors on the sides of the box for the removal of the matter from the same.

We claim that our box, as constructed, will hold more mail-matter than others of the same size, and cost less.

Having thus fully described our invention, what we claim therein as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

The arrangement of the cylinder C, coiled spring D, pulley E, chain F, and cover G, with the trough B, when constructed on the top of the lid or cover A, substantially in the manner and for the purpose as herein set forth.

JOHN W. SMITH,
JAMES D. SMITH.

Witnesses:

T. C. CONNOLLY,
D. C. LAWRENCE.