

HENRY R. RUSSELL.
Improvement in Desk-Lid Props.
No. 127,519. Patented June 4, 1872.

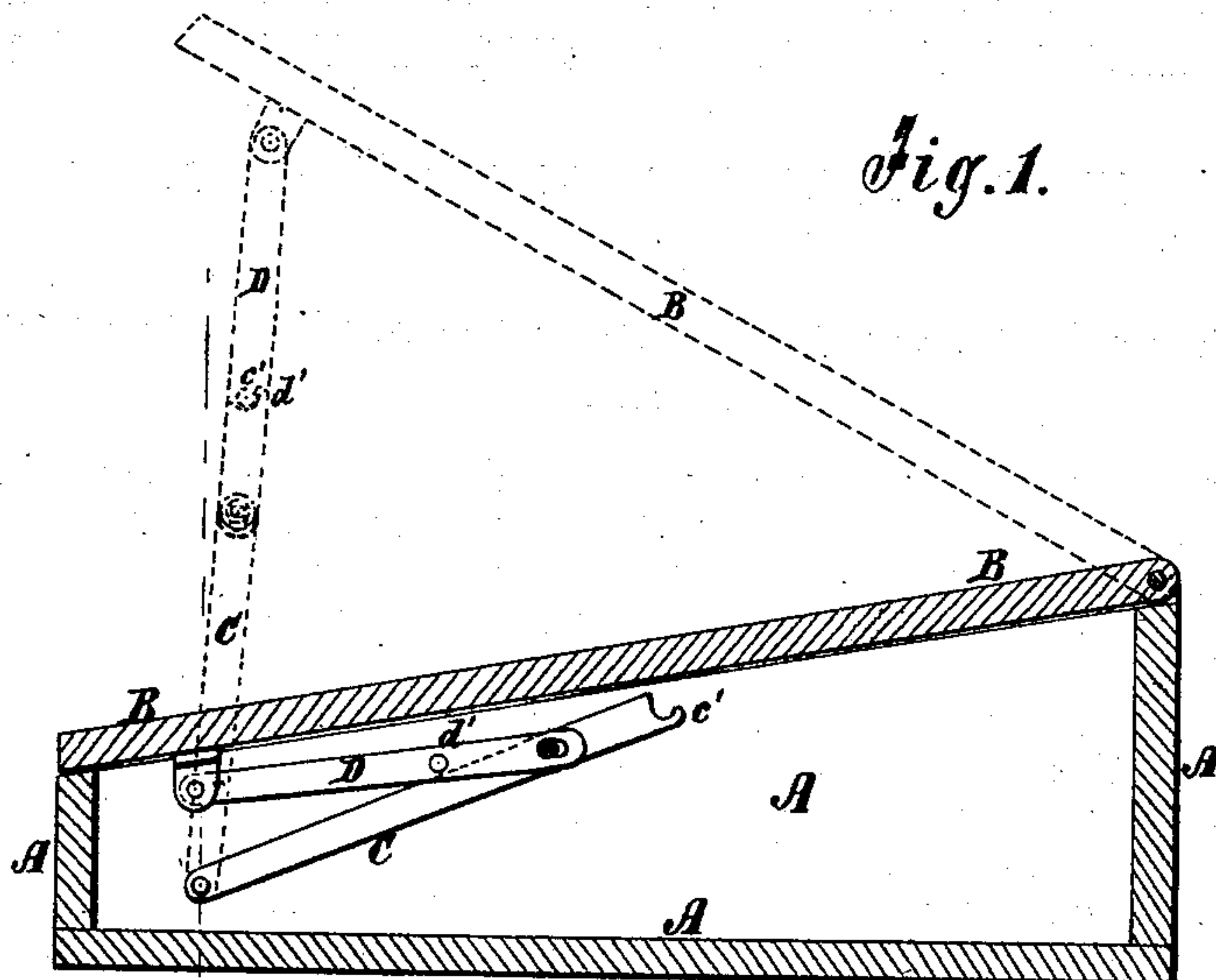


Fig. 1.

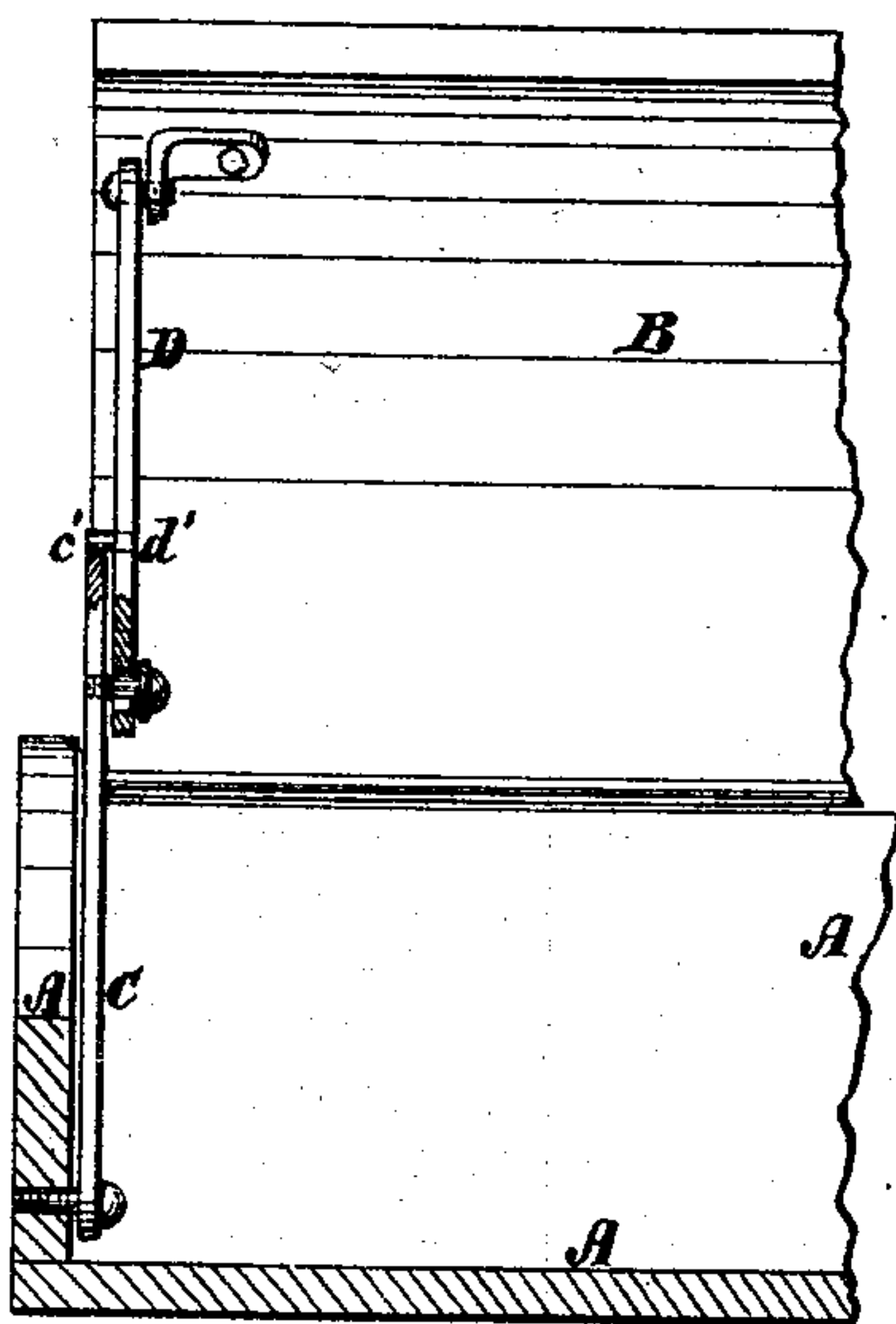


Fig. 2.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

HENRY R. RUSSELL, OF WOODBURY, NEW JERSEY, ASSIGNOR TO HIMSELF
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IMPROVEMENT IN DESK-LID PROPS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 127,519, dated June 4, 1872.

Specification describing a new and useful Improvement in Prop for Desk-Lids, invented by HENRY R. RUSSELL, of Woodbury, in the county of Gloucester and State of New Jersey.

In the accompanying drawing, Figure 1 is a detail vertical cross-section of a desk to which my improvement has been applied, and showing in dotted lines the position of the parts when the desk-lid is raised. Fig. 2 is a front view of the same, the lid being raised and partly in section through the line *x x*, Fig. 1.

Similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts.

My invention has for its object to furnish an improved prop for desk-lids, especially intended for school-desks, but equally applicable for other desks, and which shall be so constructed as to hold the lid securely and prevent it from being raised higher than necessary, and which shall be automatic in its action; and it consists in the prop constructed and combined with the body and lid of the desk, as hereinafter more fully described.

A represents the body, and B the lid of a desk, which is hinged to the said body in the ordinary manner. C is the lower arm of the prop, the lower end of which is pivoted to the inner forward part of the end of the desk-body A. To the upper part of the arm C at a little distance from its upper end is pivoted the lower end of the upper arm D of the prop. The upper end of the arm D is pivoted to the under side of the forward part of the lid B, as shown in Fig. 1, a little nearer the hinge of the lid than the vertical line that passes through the pivoting point of the lower end of the lower arm C. In the upper end of the lower arm C is formed a notch, *c'*, to receive a stop or catch pin, *d'*, attached to the arm D

in such a position as to enter the notch *c'* when the lid B is raised sufficiently to bring the arms C D in line with each other. The hole in the arm D through which the pin passes that pivots the arms C D to each other is slightly elongated or enlarged, as shown in Figs. 1 and 2, to allow the arms C D to have sufficient longitudinal movement upon each other to allow the pin *d'* to readily enter and leave the notch *c'* when the lid B is fully raised, and to allow the said pin to seat itself securely in said notch when the prop is supporting the said lid.

With this construction, when the lid B is raised to its full extent and lowered quickly, the pin *d'* will drop into the notch *c'* and securely support the lid. If the lid be raised sufficiently to relieve the catch, and lowered slowly, the inclination of the prop C D will allow the attraction of gravity to act upon the arms C D, and cause them to drop or bend so much that the pin *d'* will not seat itself in the notch *c'*, allowing the lid B to be lowered or closed, the prop C D thus acting automatically. This construction enables the lid to be operated with one hand, leaving the other hand free to hold the object or objects that have been taken out of the desk, or that are to be put into it. The arms C D may be cushioned with rubber, if desired, to prevent noise.

Having thus described my invention, I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent—

The prop C *c'* D *d'*, constructed and operating in connection with the body A and lid B of a desk, substantially as herein shown and described, and for the purposes set forth.

HENRY R. RUSSELL.

Witnesses:

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