

(No Model.)

J. C. LANG.

PAPER FILE.

No. 353,953.

Patented Dec. 7, 1886.

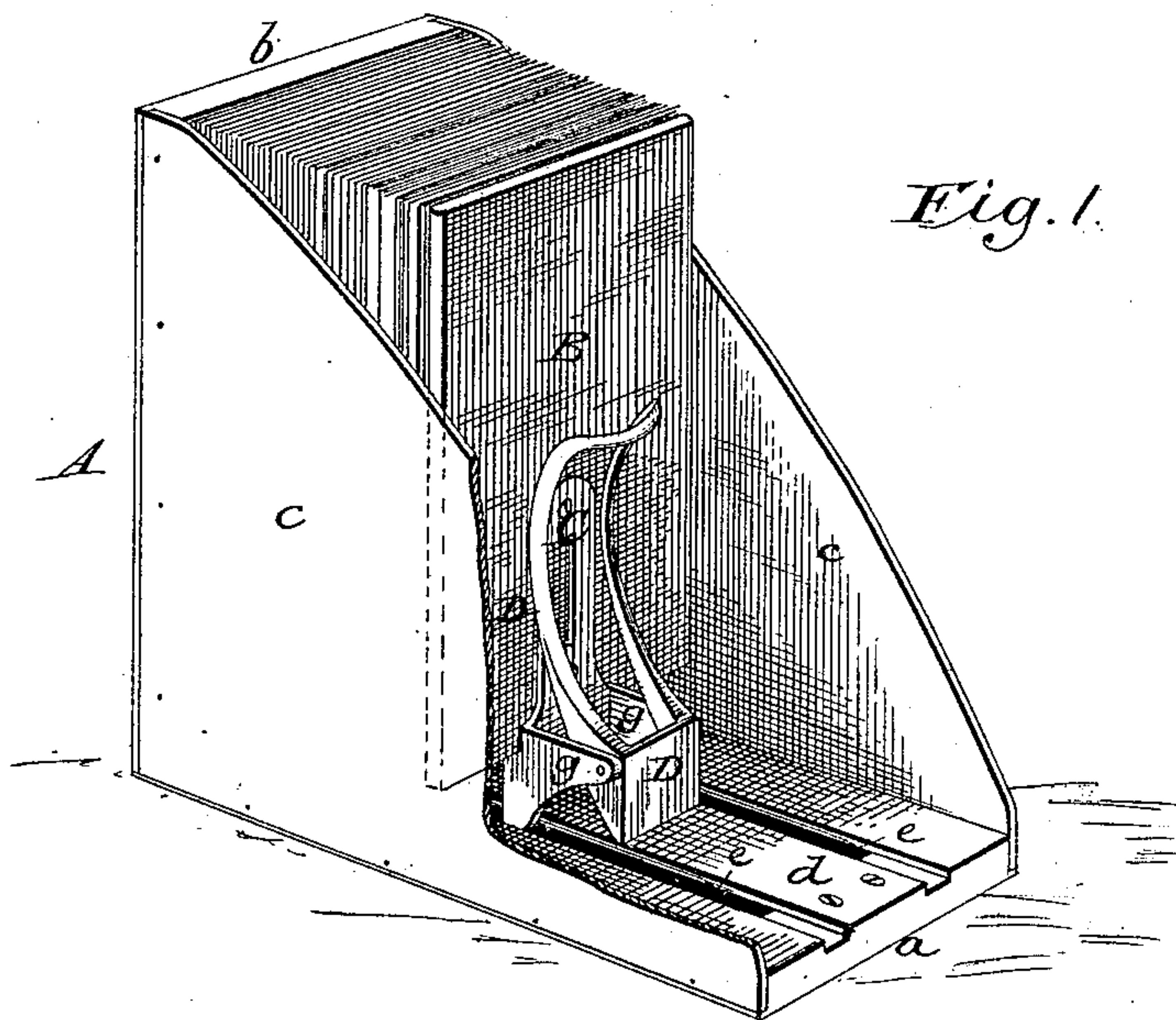


Fig. 1.

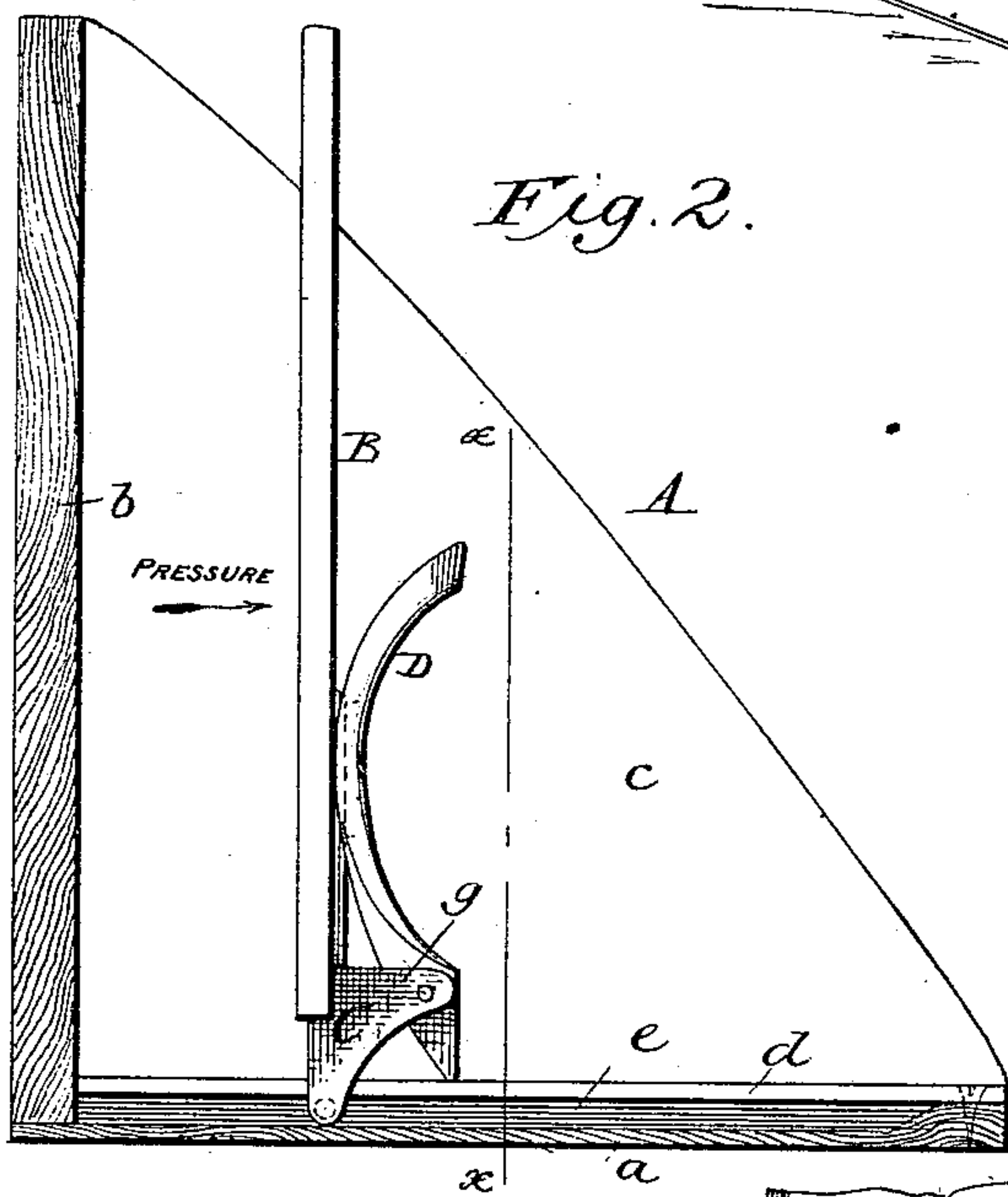


Fig. 2.

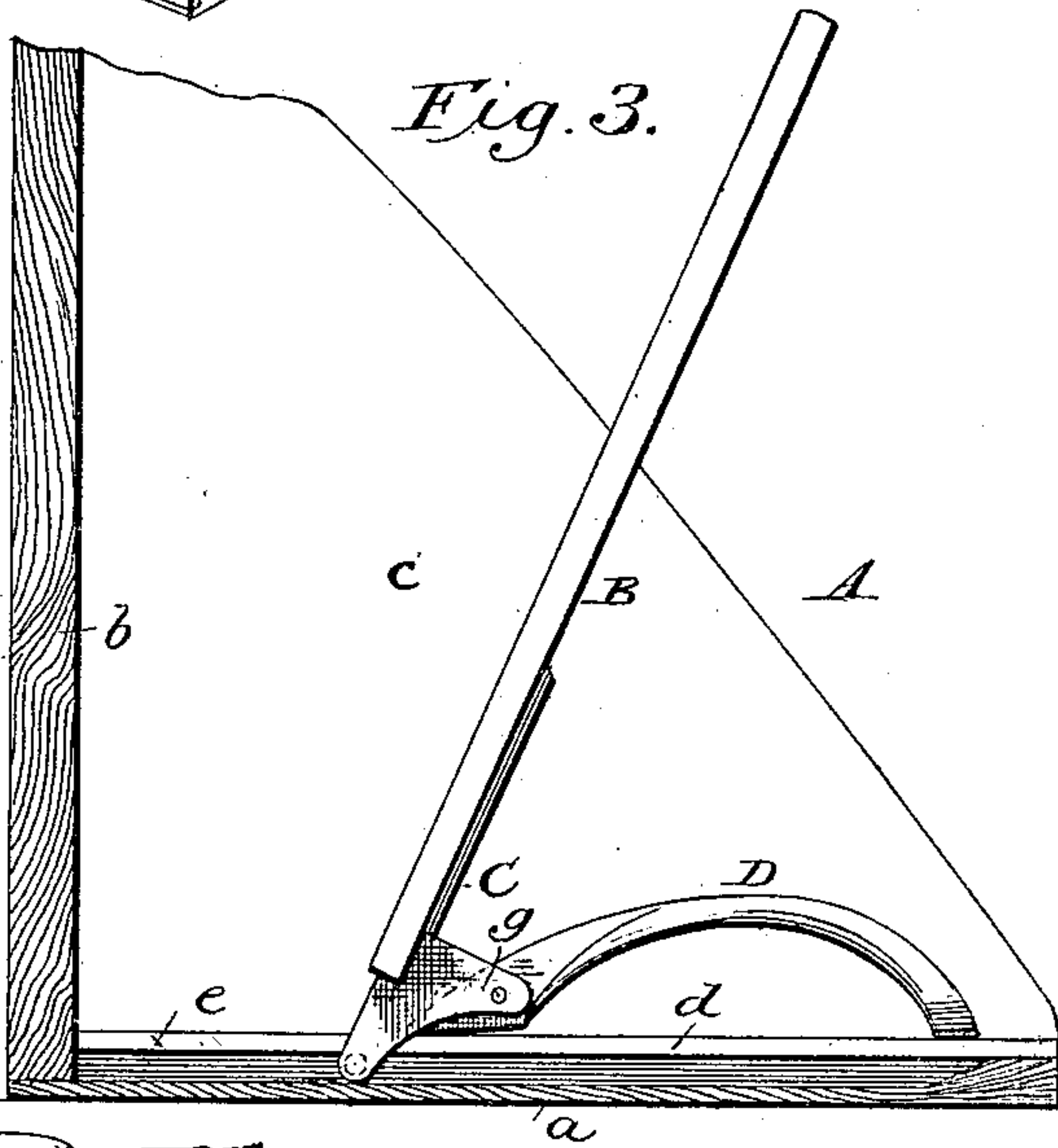
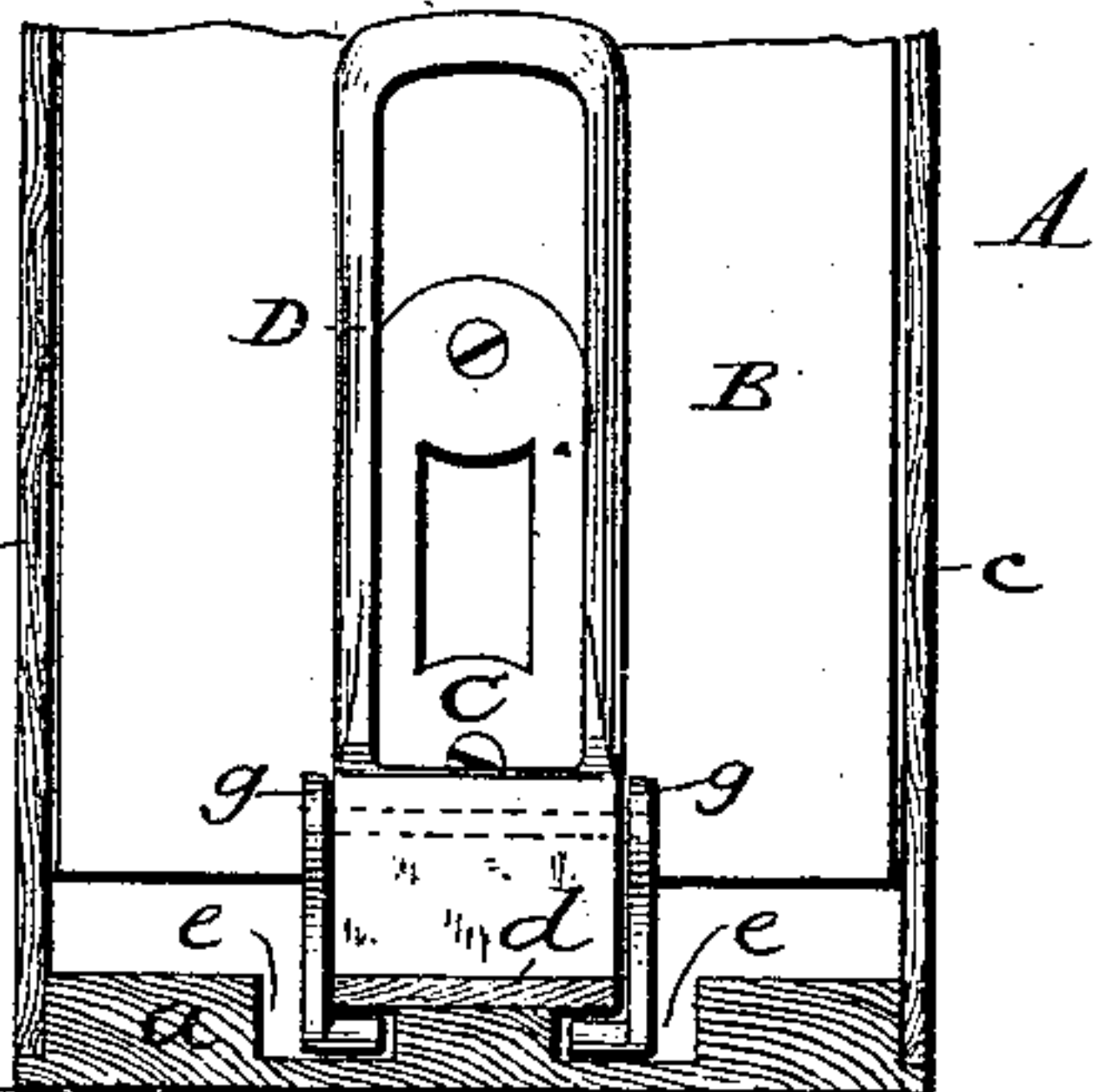


Fig. 3.

Fig. 4.
on x-x.



Attest.

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PAPER-FILE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 353,953, dated December 7, 1886.

Application filed September 28, 1883. Serial No. 107,636. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOHN C. LANG, of Boston, in the county of Suffolk and State of Massachusetts, have invented certain Improvements in Paper-Files, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to that class of file-holders in which the box or receptacle to receive the files or papers is provided with a movable follower or pressure-board designed to confine the papers.

It is the aim of the invention to provide a device of exceeding simplicity and cheapness, by means of which the papers may be firmly clamped, which will admit of their being readily released, and which will also admit of the follower-board being tipped backward when released at any point in the path of its movement, in order to permit convenient examination of the papers within the box.

To this end it consists, essentially, in combining with a follower-board, which is connected to the base in such manner that it may slide freely forward and backward and also tip backward at any point, a lever pivoted to the rearside of the follower-board and acting upon the base in rear of the same, the lever thus applied serving as a movable support to lock and maintain the follower in an upright position, and also as a means of automatically drawing the follower backward in the act of releasing the same.

Referring to the drawings, Figure 1 represents a perspective view of a box constructed on my plan; Fig. 2, a vertical longitudinal section of the same as it appears when in use, the follower-board being locked in its upright position. Fig. 3 is a similar view of the box with the follower-board released and tipped backward. Fig. 4 is a cross-section on the line *x x*, Fig. 2.

Referring to the drawings, A represents the box or receptacle which contains the papers. This receptacle, which may be made of any suitable form, is preferably composed, as shown in the drawings, of a horizontal base-board, *a*, an upright end board, *b*, and two triangular side boards, *c*, connected to the base and end boards, as shown, the whole constituting a triangular box. Lengthwise in the center of the base-board I form a groove or recess in which I place a guide-bar, *d*, sustaining

and securing the same at its ends in such manner as to leave the slots *e* along and beneath its two edges.

B represents the follower or pressure board, made of suitable size to fit transversely within the box, its lower end being connected to the guide *d* by means of a plate, C, to which the follower is screwed or otherwise firmly united. The plate C has its lower end provided with lugs or ears, adapted to extend downward and engage beneath the edges of the guide *d*, the form and arrangement of the parts being such as to admit of the board being moved freely forward and backward in an upright position, and also of its being tipped or tilted backward to an inclined position at any point in the length of the guide *d*.

If preferred, the lower end of the plate C may be made in the form of a loop or buckle to completely encircle the guide *d*; but in ordinary cases it is sufficient to have the same engage beneath the edges of the guide, as shown. On its rear face near the base-board the plate C is provided with two backwardly-extending arms, *g*, to and between which there is pivoted a lever, D, of the form represented in the various figures. Upon turning this lever to an upright position, as shown in Figs. 1 and 2, its lower end bears upon the guide *d* and serves as a support for the arms *g*, thereby maintaining the follower-board B in an upright position, as shown. It will be observed that when the parts are thus adjusted the follower-board is maintained, first, by the engagement of the plate C beneath the guide, and, secondly, by the lever D resting on top of the guide, in consequence of which the pressure or resistance of the papers against the forward face of the follower-board will cause the same to be locked firmly and rigidly in place in its upright position. The lever D has its upper end fashioned, as shown, to form a convenient handle, by which it may be manipulated. On turning the lever backward into the position represented in Fig. 3 it serves to draw the follower board backward, and at the same time, by lowering the arm *g*, permits the follower to tip or incline backward, as represented in Fig. 3. When thus released, the board may be moved forward and backward within the box with entire freedom.

In operating the parts, the papers are intro-

duced between the follower-board and the front part of the receptacle, the parts standing meanwhile in the position represented in Fig. 3. The operator, grasping the lever D, 5 pushes the same forward until the base of the follower-board is brought in contact with the papers, whereupon the lever is turned to an upright position until it bears against the rear face of the follower. As the lever is turned 10 upward its lower end bears upon the guide with a considerable degree of friction, in consequence of which the board is not only turned forcibly to its upright position, but at the same time urged forward against the papers before 15 it.

It is to be noted as an important feature of my device that the follower-board is permitted to tilt backward automatically upon being released, and this without the necessity of 20 moving it backward to the rear end of the receptacle.

The essential requirements of my construction are that the follower-board shall be connected to the base-board and that the supporting-lever shall be pivoted to the follower-board in such manner as to sustain the same in an erect position. Provided the parts are adapted to operate as above described, they may be modified in form and arrangement as 30 desired.

The guide *d* may be of wood or of metal, and when of wood it may be made sufficiently thin to be slightly elastic, in order to permit the devices to interlock the more securely therewith. This elasticity is not, however, a necessary feature of the device. 35

It will be observed that by making use of the plate or standard, which is free to tip forward and backward, I am permitted to attach 40 the same rigidly to the follower-board, thus avoiding the necessity which exists under other constructions of hinging the follower-board centrally to the upper end of its supporting standard. It will also be observed that as my 45 follower-board tips backward from the lower end, instead of tilting upon a point midway of its height, it is not necessary to draw the standard backward to secure an inclination of the board, as in those structures which have the 50 board pivoted to the upper end of the standard.

While I have illustrated the follower-board as being made in an independent piece from the supporting plate or standard and screwed 55 thereto, the two may be cast complete in a single piece.

The form of the guide *d* in cross section and of the lower end of the plate or standard which engages with the guide may be modified as 60 desired, provided only the construction is such as to permit the standard to slide freely forward and backward, and also to tip or incline backward at any point in the length of the guide. The form of the hand-lever may also 65 be modified, provided only that it is adapted to act upon the rear side of the standard to sustain the same in an elevated position.

I am aware that a follower-board has been hinged to a locking-standard arranged to slide forward and backward and to tip backward 70 at the rear end only of the guide; also, that a follower-board has been hinged to the upper end of an upright standard provided with an eccentric locking-lever, the arrangement being such that the standard was retained permanently in a vertical position, and to such 75 constructions I lay no claim.

The present invention is restricted to those matters and things which are hereinafter claimed, and as to all matters which may be described and shown, but which are not claimed, the right is reserved to make the same the subject of a separate application. 80

I am aware that a standard having a broad base arranged to slide in a slotted guide has 85 been provided with an eccentric-lever by means of which the standard could be locked rigidly in position on the guide, and to such construction I lay no claim.

Having thus described my invention, what I 90 claim is—

1. In a paper-file, the box or receptacle having a guide or base, *d*, in combination with a sliding and backwardly-tipping standard having the follower-board attached and having 95 rearward arms or projections, and a lever acting between said projections and the base to maintain the standard in the required position.

2. In a paper-file, a guide or base, in combination with a standard or follower-board, 100 having a sliding connection therewith and free to tip backward at any point thereon, and a lever connected to the rear side of said standard and acting upon the base, substantially as described, to maintain the standard in an erect position. 105

3. In a file-holder, a receptacle having a base-board with a longitudinal guide therein and a rigid upright at one end to sustain the papers, in combination with a follower-board, 110 a standard rigidly secured to the board and adapted to both slide and tilt backward upon the guide, and a movable sustaining-lever pivoted to the rear side of the standard and acting at its lower end upon the guide or base at a point in rear of the standard, whereby said lever is caused to sustain and lock the standard, and also to draw the standard backward and permit its inclination in the act of unlock- 120 ing the same.

4. The combination of a box or receptacle provided with a guide, *d*, the standard having a sliding connection with said guide and adapted to incline backward as described, the 125 arms *g* on the rear of the standard, the follower-board rigidly attached to said standard, and the lever pivoted between said arms, as described and shown.

5. In a file-holder, a front board, in combination with a base or guide of a follower-board having a sliding and tilting connection therewith, and a brace connected by a hinged joint with the rear side of the follower-board 130

and arranged to bear at its lower end upon the brace or guide to sustain the follower in an upright position.

5 6. In a paper-file, a box or receptacle, a follower-board having a sliding and hinged connection therewith, the plate C, extending in rear of the follower-board, and a supporting-lever hinged to said plate, the parts being con-

structed as described and shown, to limit the backward tipping motion of the follower-board. 10

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Witnesses:

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