

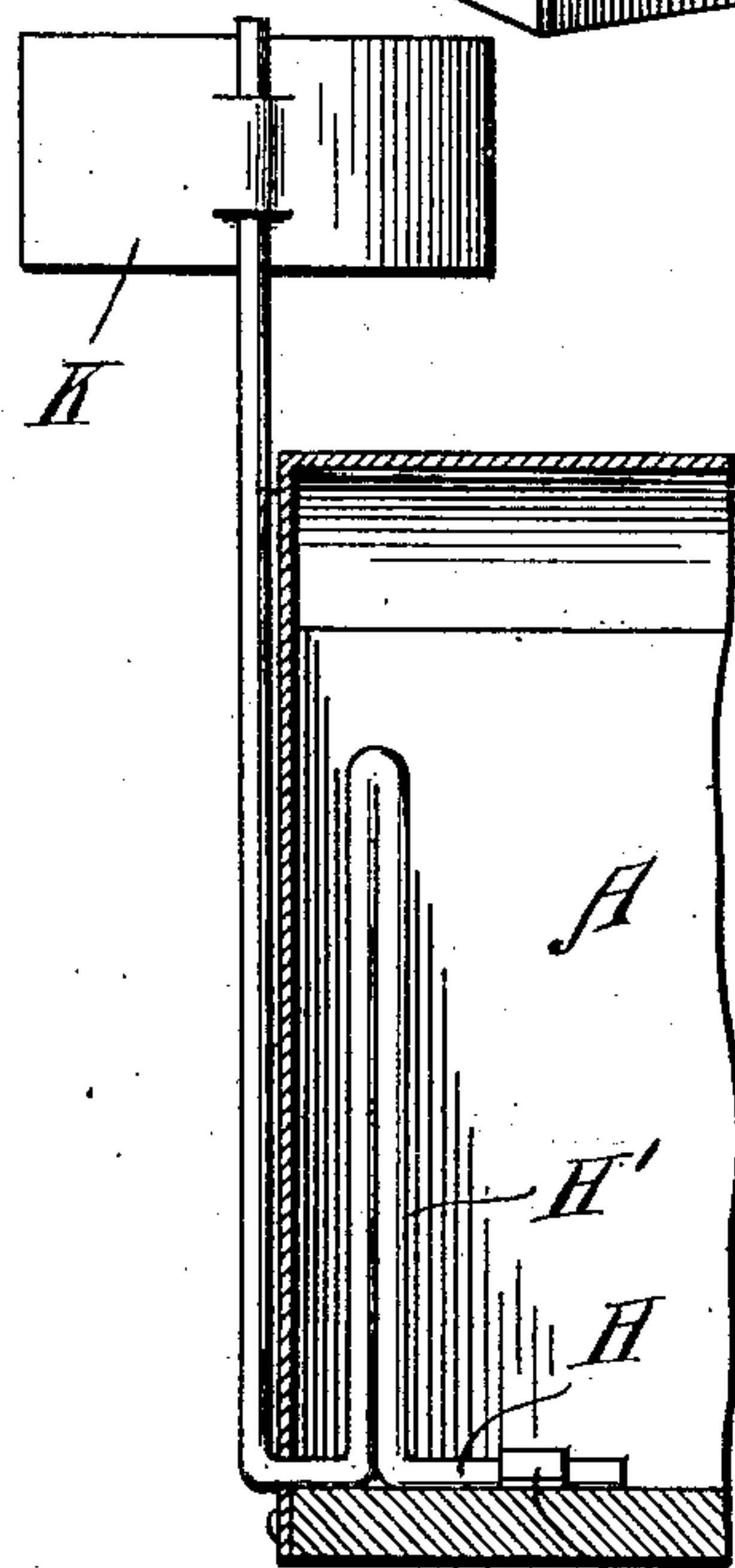
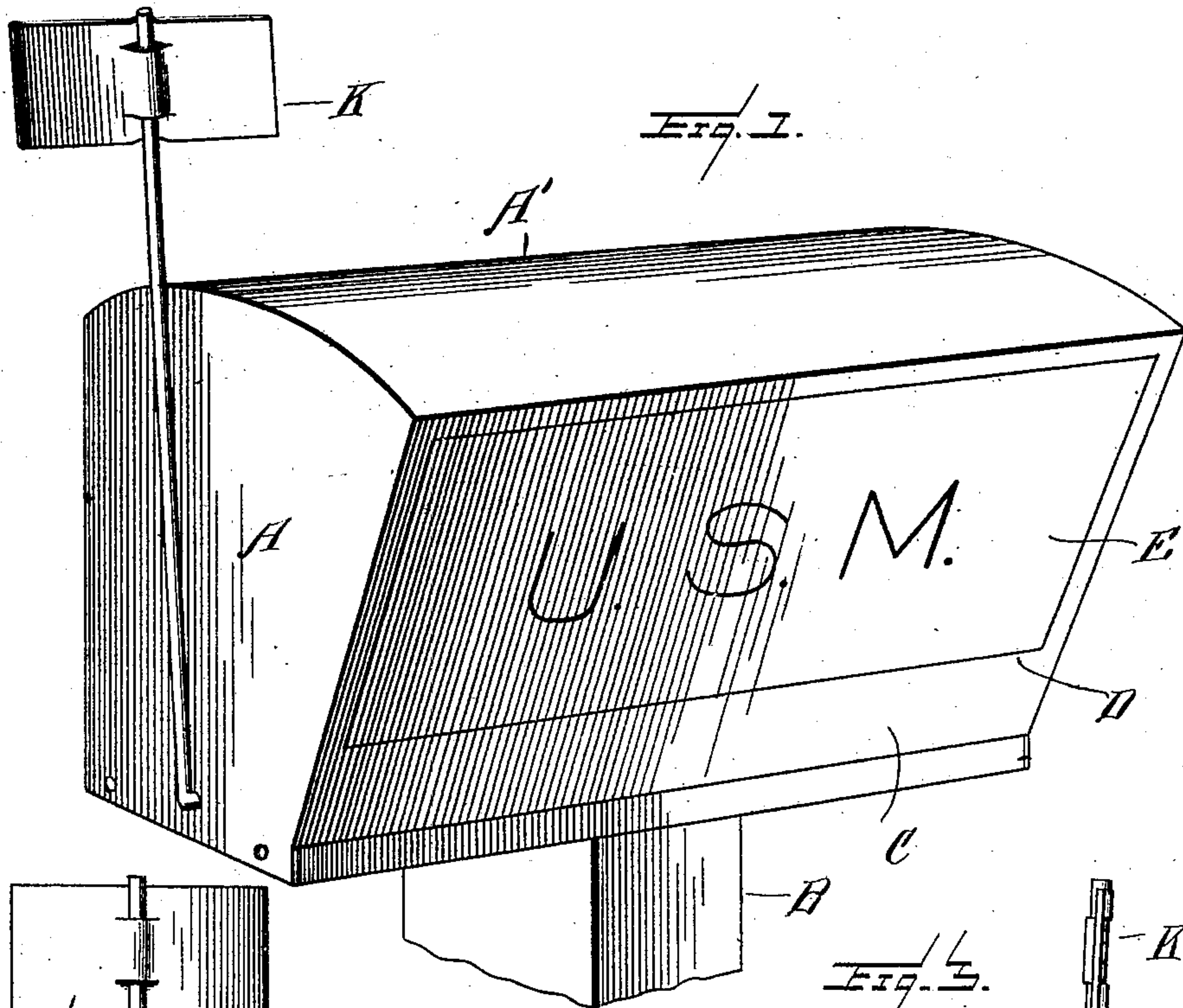
N. M. CANNADY.

LETTER BOX.

APPLICATION FILED SEPT. 18, 1908.

910,355.

Patented Jan. 19, 1909.



WITNESSES:

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NATHANIEL M. CANNADY, OF FRANKLINTON, NORTH CAROLINA.

LETTER-BOX.

No. 910,355.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Jan. 19, 1909.

Application filed September 18, 1903. Serial No. 453,613.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, NATHANIEL M. CANNADY, a citizen of the United States, residing at Franklinton, in the county of Granville and State of North Carolina, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Letter-Boxes; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and to the letters and figures of reference marked thereon, which form a part of this specification.

This invention relates to new and useful improvements in boxes especially adapted for use upon rural mail routes and comprises a signal adapted to be actuated by the movement of the door of the box to indicate when mail has been placed in the box or has been previously inserted therein to be collected by a carrier.

Another and important feature of the present invention consists in the construction of a box so arranged that a carrier in delivering the mail may conveniently place the mail within the box without stopping. As rural mail deliverers have long distances to cover in their routes, this matter of their having to stop when they come to a box, open the door, insert the mail and close it again is the means of a considerable hindrance and is obviated by the present invention.

The invention comprises various details of construction, combinations and arrangements of parts which will be hereinafter fully described and then specifically defined in the appended claim.

I illustrate my invention in the accompanying drawings, in which:—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of the box. Fig. 2 is a vertical sectional view longitudinally through a portion thereof, showing in elevation a signal moving member, and Fig. 3 is a cross sectional view through the box.

Reference now being had to the details of the drawings by letter, A designates a receptacle which may be of any shape or size and provided preferably with a convexed top A' in order to shed water and protect the device and may be mounted upon any suitable object, such as a post B. One side, design-

nated by letter C, is at an inclination and is provided with an opening D normally closed by the door E which is hinged at E'. Said door has a flange E² about its marginal edge adapted to bear against the inner face of said inclined side of the box so that, when the door is closed as shown in Fig. 3 of the drawings, the outer face of the door will be flush with said inclined face of the box.

Mounted in suitable bearings F in the bottom of the box is a rock shaft H which is bent upon itself forming an upright portion H'. Said shaft extends upward through an opening in one end wall of the box and has a signal flag K fastened thereto. Said signal flag when indicating assumes the position shown in solid lines in Figs. 1 and 3 of the drawings, in which it is vertically disposed with the portion H' parallel therewith. When the signal is in a non-indicating position, it is adapted to assume the position shown by dotted lines in Fig. 3.

In operation, when the signal is not in an indicating position and it is desired to throw it into an indicating position, it may be done by pushing in on the door E against which the portion H' normally rests when the signal is not indicating. An inward pressure upon said door will cause the portion H' and also the signal carrying standard to be thrown to an upright or vertical position, in which position it will remain until returned to the position shown in dotted lines. The signal is adapted to be set automatically by a person inserting mail in the box. For instance, if a carrier has mail to be delivered, he inserts it in the box throwing the signal to an upright position. If a person wishes to insert mail into the box to be taken up by the carrier, it is accomplished in the same manner.

From the foregoing, it will be noted that, by the provision of a box with signal apparatus as shown and described, a mechanism is afforded which will operate automatically and will be water tight to protect the mail within the box, the weight of the shaft, when in a tilted position as shown in dotted lines, bearing against the door and serving to further assist gravity in holding the door closed.

What I claim to be new is:—

A mail box having an inclined wall with an opening therein, a door mounted within

the box and adapted to normally close said opening, a shaft journaled in a bearing in the upper surface of the bottom of the box, a portion of said shaft being bent upon itself
5 within the box and in the path of said door adjacent to one end thereof, said shaft passing through the end wall of the box and having a bearing therein, and a signal mount-

ed upon an upright extension of said shaft, as shown and described. 10

In testimony whereof I hereunto affix my signature in the presence of two witnesses.

NATHANIEL M. CANNADY.

Witnesses:

A. L. HOUGH,
ADA R. FOWLER.