

W. Johnson,
Book Support,
N^o 51,727, Patented Dec. 26, 1865.

Fig. 1.

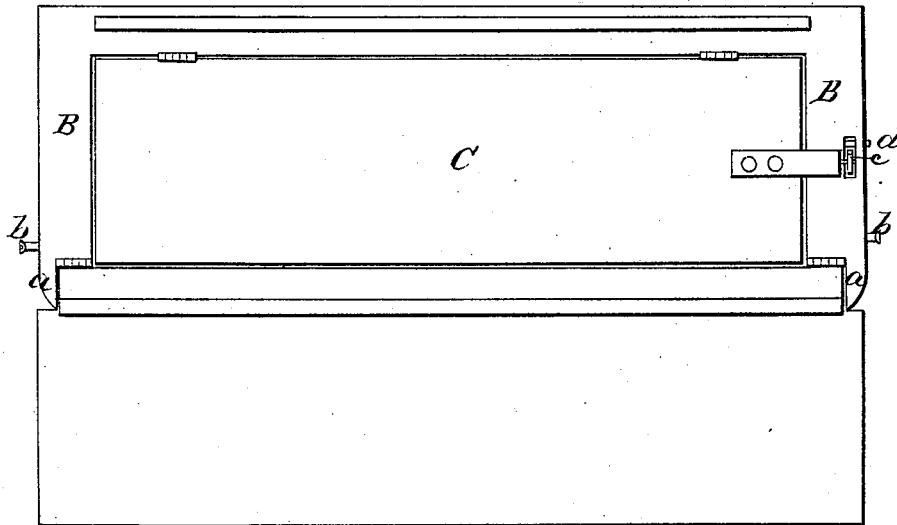
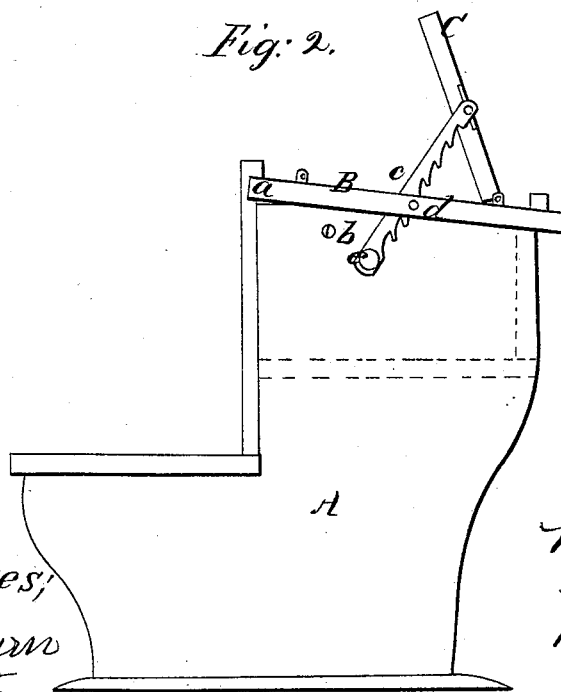


Fig. 2.



Witnesses;
J. M. Brown
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

W. JOHNSON, OF TOPSHAM, MAINE.

SCHOOL-DESK.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 51,727, dated December 26, 1865.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, W. JOHNSON, of Topsham, in the county of Sagadahoc and State of Maine, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Desks; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description thereof, which will enable those skilled in the art to make and use the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, forming part of this specification.

With school-desks as ordinarily constructed there is not sufficient provision made for such a change of position of the book or slate or other article upon which the student may be engaged to enable him to essentially change the position of the body from a stooping or bending posture to an upright one and still continue his study or work.

Therefore the object of my invention is to provide a desk with an adjustable book-rest, which may be raised and held at any required angle, and thus permit the desired change in the position of the student.

My invention consists in the combination, with the top or lid of a desk, of a book-rest adapted for adjustment in the manner hereinafter described.

To enable others to understand my invention, I will proceed to describe it with reference to the drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a top view of a school-desk with my invention applied to it. Fig. 2 is an end elevation of the same.

Similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts.

The body A of the desk is constructed in the usual or any suitable manner. The drawings illustrate a desk and seat combined, the seat being intended for the scholar or scholars facing another desk of similar construction.

B is the lid of the desk, which is arranged to be raised or opened in the usual manner, it

being prevented from falling too far back by projections *a a* on its ends, which bear against stops *b b*, as shown more particularly in Fig. 1.

In the top of the lid B, I arrange the part C, which is to form the adjustable rest for the book, slate, or other article, the same being hinged or otherwise secured near the front of the lid of the desk, so as to open upward or toward the student, which of course gives the desired angle to the book or other article resting thereon.

c is a rack suitably connected with the rest C, and so arranged that its teeth will rest upon a stop or pivot, *d*, said rack having on its lower end a knob, *e*, by which it may be forced up for the purpose of raising the rest C or disengaged from the stop *d* when it is desired to lower or change the angle of the said adjustable rest C.

I have represented my adjustable rest as applied to a school-desk having a lid which may be opened or raised to permit access to the interior thereof; but it will be readily perceived that my rest may be equally as well applied to a desk having a firm or immovable top, access to its interior being had through an opening in the front or elsewhere, as expediency may suggest; or, indeed, the adjustable rest may itself constitute the lid of the desk.

I do not claim an adjustable book-rest either separate from or attached to a school or any other desk; but

I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent—

The combination and arrangement of the hinged book-rest C, rack *c*, stop or pin *d*, and lid B, as and for the purposes herein described.

W. JOHNSON.

Witnesses:

T. E. JOHNSON,
CHARLES E. WHITE.