

(No Model.)

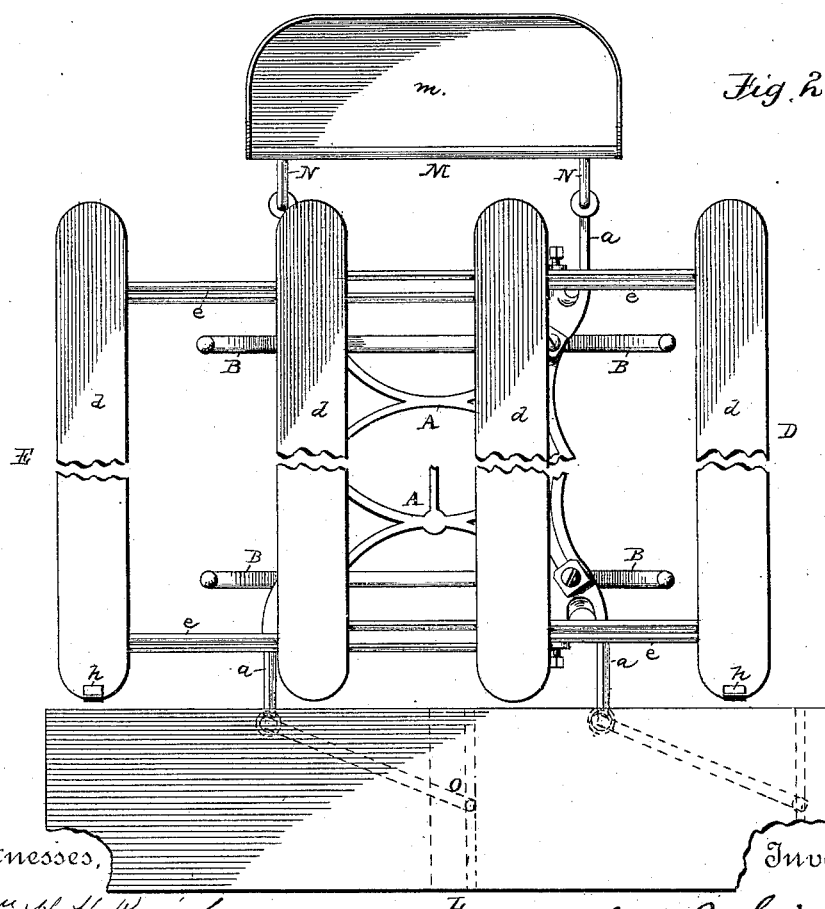
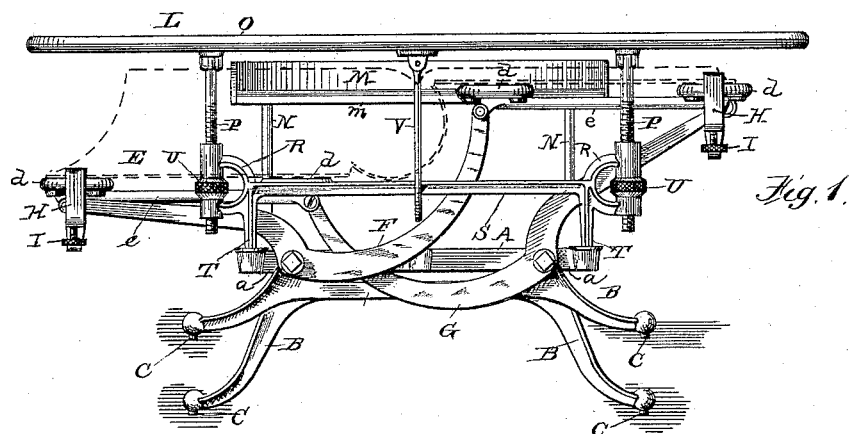
2 Sheets—Sheet 1.

J. B. CLINE.

BOOK SUPPORT.

No. 385,445.

Patented July 3, 1888.



Witnesses,

Wm. H. H. Knight,
F. T. Chapman.

Inventor,

Jno. B. Cline.
By his Attorney,
Phil. T. Dodge.

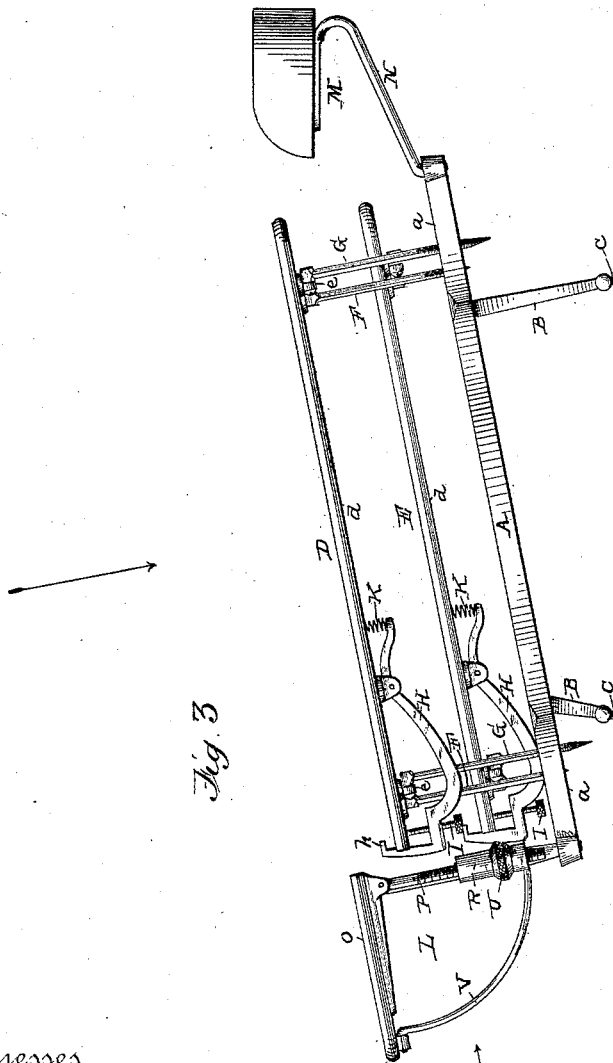
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOHN B. CLINE, OF JEFFERSON, IOWA.

BOOK-SUPPORT.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 385,445, dated July 3, 1888.

Application filed June 23, 1887. Serial No. 242,298. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOHN B. CLINE, of Jefferson, in the county of Greene and State of Iowa, have invented certain Improvements in Book-Supports, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to that class of book-supports in which the book-holder is automatically adjusted so as to maintain the upper surfaces of an open book placed thereon in substantially the same plane; and the invention consists in providing a book-support with a two-part adjusting book-holder, each part of which is connected at opposite sides to the ends of balance-levers.

The invention further consists in certain features of construction hereinafter set forth.

In the drawings, Figure 1 is an end view of the book-support. Fig. 2 is a plan view. Fig. 3 is a side view.

The main frame A may be of any suitable construction, and, as shown, is provided with legs B, preferably formed in pairs for convenience in casting, and secured to the frame by screws or other fastening devices. To sustain the frame in an inclined position, the rear pair of legs may be longer than the front pair, and to avoid slipping or marring the surface on which the support may be placed the feet are provided with elastic pads or cushions C.

The book-holder is composed of two frames, D and E, each formed of strips *d* and cross-pieces *e*, or otherwise, and connected at the ends by levers F and G, arranged one in front of the other in pairs at each end of the book-holder. The levers of each pair are pivoted to opposite sides of the frame A, and each lever is pivoted to both frames D and E at respectively opposite sides thereof. The arrangement of the levers is such that the two parts of the book-holder are free to move up or down in opposite directions, but are maintained at all times parallel one with the other.

The two frames of the book-holder being balanced, an open book placed thereon will be held with its upper surfaces in substantially the same plane, the holder automatically adjusting as the leaves of the book are turned to one side or the other.

Each frame D and E is provided with an adjustable book-holding clamp consisting of a le-

ver, H, pivoted to the under side of the frame to which it is attached, one arm of the lever being engaged by a spring, K, interposed between the frame and the said arm, and which tends to depress the arm, and the other arm of the lever extending upward and around the end of the frame of the book-holder and forming a clamping-finger, *h*, which is adapted to engage the edge of the cover of the book and hold it firmly on the frame to which the said clamp is attached. The clamp is operated by means of a thumb-screw, I, carried by the arm of the lever, provided with the clamping-finger, and which screw acts against the spring K.

The main frame A is provided at each end with arms *a*, terminating in sockets and serving as supports for a removable shelf, M, and an arm-rest, L, also preferably removable, the said shelf and rest being at opposite ends of the frame A.

The shelf M may be of any suitable construction, its purpose being to serve as a receptacle for writing material and the like, and, as shown, consists of a flanged table, *m*, having arms N, attached to the under side and adapted to the sockets on the arms *a* at one end of the main frame A.

The arm-rest, as shown, consists of a piece, O, hinged near one edge to the ends of rods P, threaded at the other ends. The rods P extend through eyes on the forked ends R of a bracket, S, the latter being provided with projections T, adapted to the sockets on the arms *a*. The rods P are provided between the eyes on the ends R of the bracket S with nuts U, on turning which the rods and the arm-rest carried thereby will be moved up or down. To the under side of the arm-rest is pivoted a pendent stop, V, which, engaging against the bracket S, holds the said arm-rest in the elevated position, but which may be swung against the rest and the latter be folded against the rods P and bracket S. When the arm-rest is lifted from the folded position, the pendant will fall and engage the bracket S, as stated. The adjustment of the arm-rest permits its upper surface to be quickly brought into line or even with the upper surface of the book whatever its thickness.

While the book-support is adapted to books of various kinds, it is designed more particu-

larly for use by book-keepers and accountants, who use large and heavy books.

The invention is not confined to the exact construction and arrangement of parts shown, as it is only essential that the levers at each end of the book-holder be placed one in front of the other, thereby making the device much more compact than if they were placed one above the other or otherwise arranged, and that the arm-rest be adjustable, so as to adapt it for use with books of different thicknesses.

The arm-rest shown in the drawings is adapted for double-page work, and for single-page work a shorter rest provided with swinging supporting-arms, as shown in dotted lines, Fig. 2, may be used, the said rest being moved to one side or the other, as required.

Having described the invention, what I claim is—

1. In a book-support, the combination, with a book-holder composed of two oppositely-movable parts, of connecting-levers arranged one in front of the other, and each lever connected to both parts of the book-holder at respectively-opposite sides thereof, substantially as described.

2. In a book-support, the combination, with a book-holder composed of two oppositely-movable parts, of centrally-pivoted connecting-levers, each lever connected at the ends to both parts of the book-holder at respectively-opposite sides thereof, substantially as described.

3. In a book-support, the combination of the main frame, the two-part book-holder, and the levers pivoted to the main frame at opposite sides thereof, and each lever pivoted to both parts of the book-holder at their respectively-opposite sides, substantially as described.

4. In a book-support, the combination, with the book-holder, of a clamp consisting of a spring-actuated lever provided with a clamping-finger and an adjusting-screw, substantially as described.

In testimony whereof I hereunto set my hand, this 7th day of June, 1887, in the presence of two attesting witnesses.

JNO. B. CLINE.

Witnesses:

P. J. GAWTON,
J. E. CLINE.