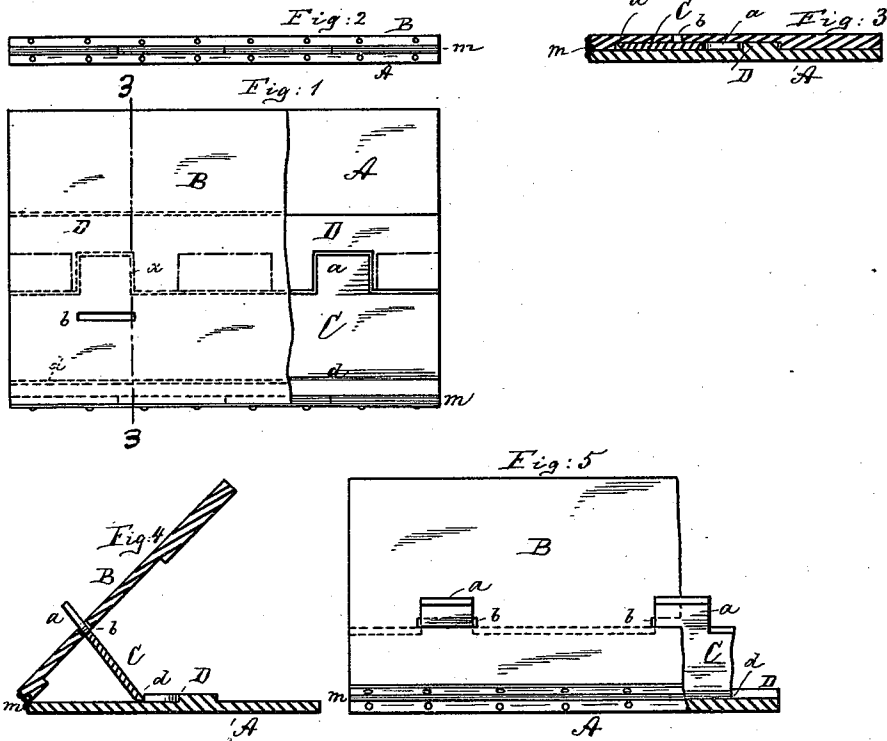


(No Model.)

J. E. H. KUNZE.
FOLDING DESK.

No. 558,285.

Patented Apr. 14, 1896.



Witnesses:

William Schulz
Theodore Becker.

Inventor:

Johann Ernst Hermann Kunze
by his attorneys
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOHANN ERNST HERMANN KUNZE, OF LEIPSIK, GERMANY.

FOLDING DESK.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 558,285, dated April 14, 1896.

Application filed July 18, 1894. Serial No. 517,865. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOHANN ERNST HERMANN KUNZE, of Leipsic, in the Kingdom of Saxony, Germany, have invented an Improved Folding Desk, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to a reading-desk which may be folded together similarly to a book and which may be adjusted to different inclinations.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is a plan of my improved reading-desk, showing it folded. Fig. 2 is an end view thereof; Fig. 3, a section on line 3 3, Fig. 1; Fig. 4, a vertical cross-section through the desk, showing it open; Fig. 5, a sectional plan of Fig. 4.

My improved reading-desk consists, essentially, of three parts—viz., a base-plate A, a book-supporting plate B, and a diagonal brace C. The plates A and B are composed of wood, cardboard, metal, or other material and are connected at one edge by a hinge *m*. Within the upper side of the base A there is formed a mortise adapted for the reception of the brace C. This brace, when placed flat within the mortise, is countersunk or flush at its upper face with the surface of the plate A, and in this way the plate or cover B may be folded down upon the base A, and will then confine the brace C as within a pocket. The brace C consists of a long and narrow body and of two or more fingers *a*, extending in a parallel direction from one of the edges of such body. These fingers are adapted to be

projected through slots *b*, formed in the cover B.

When the book-rest is to be opened, the cover B is raised and the brace C taken out of its pocket and placed in an inclined direction, with its base *d* against the wall or edge D of the pocket, Fig. 4, so that the fingers *a* project through the perforations *b*. In this way the cover B will rest against the upper edge of the brace C and will be held in an inclined position, while the outwardly-projecting ends of the fingers *a* will form the book-rest proper.

It will be seen that my improved book-rest can be readily folded up into a small and compact form and that it can be quickly opened when it is to be put to use.

What I claim is—

A book-rest consisting of a base-plate having a mortise, a brace having fingers, and a perforated cover hinged to the base-plate, all being so constructed that the brace when folded down is received within the mortised base-plate, and that when folded up it abuts against the edge of the mortise and projects with its fingers through the perforated cover, substantially as specified.

In testimony whereof I have signed my name to this specification in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

JOHANN ERNST HERMANN KUNZE.

Witnesses:

MAX MATTHÄI,
RUDOLPH FRICKE.