(No Model.)

C. NEWBOURG.

PORTABLE DESK.

No. 327,816. Patented Oct. 6, 1885.

Fig. 1.

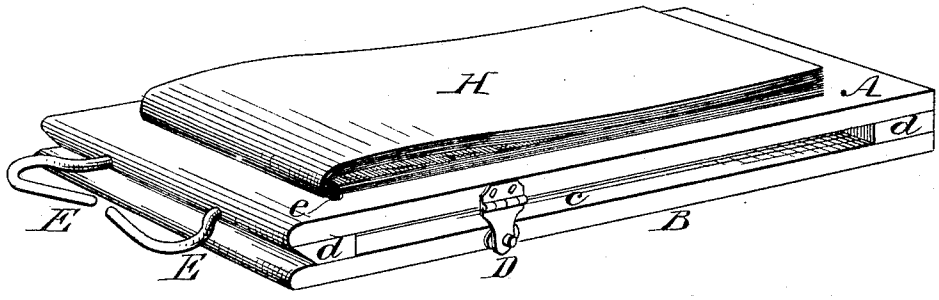
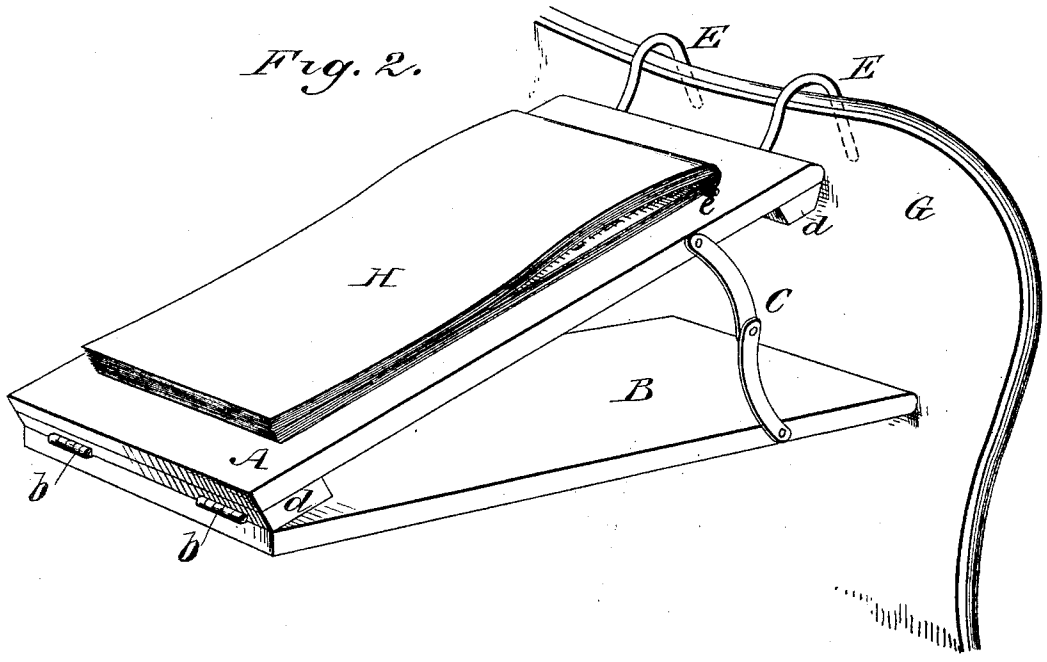


Fig. 2.



WITNESSES:

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

CHARLES NEWBOURG, OF BROOKLYN, NEW YORK.

PORTABLE DESK.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 327,816, dated October 6, 1885.

Application filed October 23, 1884. Serial No. 146,283. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, CHARLES NEWBOURG, of Brooklyn, in the county of Kings and State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Portable Desks, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description.

This invention has for its object the production of a portable disk, which, when not in use, may be readily folded flat, and if only of a small or moderate size be carried in the pocket, and which, when adjusted for use, is made self-supporting and readily attachable to the back of a chair or pew, or to other articles of furniture, and with its upper surface at a proper inclination for either writing or reading.

The invention consists in certain constructions and combinations of parts, substantially as hereinafter described, whereby these and other advantages are very perfectly secured.

Reference is to be had to the accompanying drawings, forming part of this specification, in which similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts in both the figures.

Figure 1 represents a perspective view of my improved desk in its closed condition, and as supposed to be of a size suitable for reporter's use with a reporter's book in place upon it. Fig. 2 is a perspective view of the same, showing the desk in position as adjusted for use and as attached to and supported by the raised back of a bench, pew, or chair.

A B indicate two boards or plates of approximately equal lengths and of any desired width hinged together at their one end, as at *b*, and which may be strengthened and kept apart, forming a space, *c*, between them, when closed, by inner cross end strips or projections, *d*, said space serving, if desired, to hold writing material or paper, either in a book form or otherwise.

C is a jointed brace, connecting the two boards A B near their opening or free ends, and here shown as arranged on the one side edge only of the boards, and serving to hold the boards at a proper angle in relation with each other to give an inclined writing or reading surface to the upper board when the desk is adjusted, as in Fig. 2, for use, and which readily shut down out of the way when the boards are closed, as in Fig. 1. Other suitable ties, braces, or props, flexible or not, may be used, if desired, and either on one or both side edges of the desk or at or near their forward ends.

D is a fastening (here shown as a hinged clasp) applied to the one side edge of the boards opposite the brace C, but which may be of any other suitable construction, and be otherwise arranged to hold the boards closed.

Attached to the forward end of the upper board, A, are two swivel-hoops, E E, arranged so that when turned to point downward, as in Fig. 2, they may be hitched over the top of the back G of a chair, bench, or pew to form a means of suspending or carrying the desk when in use, while the forward end of the lower board, B, rests against said back to firmly support or hold the desk in position. When said hooks, however, are turned, as shown in Fig. 1, into the same line or plane as the upper board, then they will not interfere with the close or flat closing of the desk for carriage in the pocket if the desk be of a suitable size for such purpose, or to facilitate packing away if of a larger size, and in any case serving to economize space in or during transportation. Said hooks, too, when thus adjusted may be used for suspending the desk by when not required for use.

If desired, only one hook, centrally arranged, may be used instead of two, and the hook or hooks which form a suspension means for the desk, when in use, as an attachment to an article of furniture, may be otherwise constructed and arranged. Thus it or they may be made to fold in between the boards when not in use.

A portable desk of pocket size, constructed as described, will be found very useful to stenographers or reporters at places of public meeting by hooking it over the back of a pew, bench, or chair in front, and the upper board may be provided with a cord or strap, *e*, for carrying a reporter's book, H. It will also be found very convenient to business men and others when traveling about the city or in railroad-cars and other vehicles, and by forming a steady support will conduce to legibility. Commercial travelers, doctors, invalids who are not able to move to a fixed table or desk, and clerks in offices where room

is restricted, will likewise find it very serviceable and convenient to make their necessary memoranda or writings upon. Its use, in fact, is not restricted to any particular class of persons for either writing or reading purposes, or as a music-stand, or as a desk, counter, or other like extension, and when not required to be suspended, as described, it may be used upon the knees or on a table as a simple desk having an inclined top or writing or reading surface.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. In a portable desk, the combination of the upper and lower boards hinged together at one end, and one or more hooks attached to and projecting from the free end of the upper board for use in suspending it, substantially as specified.

2. The combination, with the hinged boards A B, of one or more swiveling suspension-hooks, E, applied to the forward end of the upper board, A, of the desk, essentially as and for the purposes described.

3. The combination, with the boards A B, hinged together at their rear ends, and one or more projecting suspension-hooks applied to the forward end of the upper one, A, of said boards, of a brace for holding the boards at a proper angle in relation with each other when spread apart to form a desk, essentially as specified.

4. In a portable desk, the combination of the hinged boards A B, the swiveling hooks E E, the brace C, and the fastening D, substantially as and for the purposes herein described.

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Witnesses:
JNO. MATHEW RITTER,
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