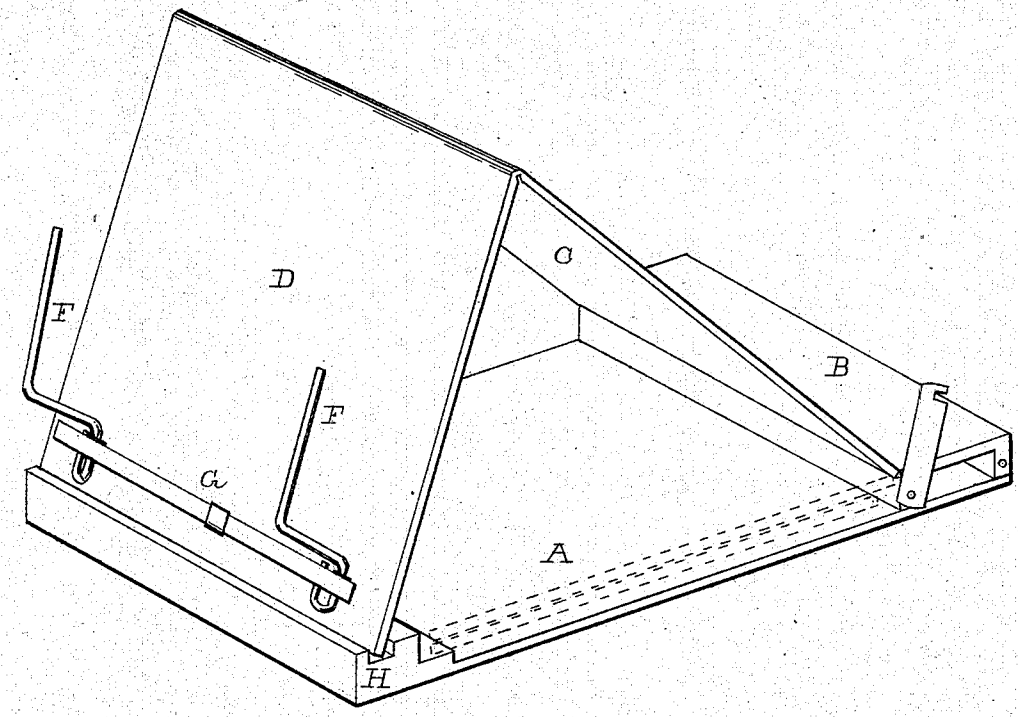
B. PICKERING.

BOOK SUPPORT.

No. 284,228. Patented Sept. 4, 1883.



Witnesses.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

BARTON PICKERING, OF DAYTON, OHIO.

BOOK-SUPPORT.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 284,228, dated September 4, 1883.

Application filed October 26, 1877.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, BARTON PICKERING, of the city of Dayton, in the county of Montgomery and State of Ohio, have invented a new and useful improvement—viz., a Book-Support—which improvement is fully set forth in the following specification and accompanying drawing, in which the same is represented in perspective.

The figure is an oblique view of the book-support.

The object of my invention is to construct a book-support which will fold compactly, and the rear end thereof to form a case for pencils and pens.

A represents the base, which preferably is of tar-board, (a heavy paper,) and to the rear is glued a block or ledge of wood, B, grooved throughout its length. This block serves the double purpose—that of supporting the part C and forming a receptacle for pens and pencils. A pivoted lid (shown in vertical position) serves to close the case.

The block or ledge H is glued onto the front end of the base. It has a groove near its front edge, that forms a bearing for the part D, and serves to support a pen or pencil when the support is folded. The rear of this block is notched to form a bearing, so that when the parts are folded the upper surface of the support presents a plane surface.

The part C serves as a brace to the part D, which it holds in oblique position. It is connected to the rear block or case by muslin or other flexible material, and in the same manner it is connected to the part D. This part forms the principal part of the book-support, as when in use the back of the book rests against it, while the lower edge of the book rests in the brackets F.

The part D, with the spring-actuated brackets, will hold a book open from any position slightly oblique from the vertical to the horizontal, and may be held in any suitable frame, or may be simply suspended against a wall or otherwise, or laid on a desk or table. These brackets are of wire, of the form shown in the drawing, and are held to the support or back by fastenings that embrace the shank, the same passing through the back, and are clinched on the opposite side. The lower ends of the brackets curve on themselves, and thereby form a bearing, that the flat spring G, which is secured to the back at its center, may act on the brackets to hold them down against the back or against any book or paper which may be placed beneath them. In the drawing, the bracket to the left is shown as turned out from the back, and that to the right as lying against the back.

The essential feature of my invention is the relation of the brackets to the back, that the brackets may be pressed back against the object being supported, and that the whole may be folded compactly. The pencil-case is a material part of the invention, and is added as a convenient attachment. When the parts are folded, as illustrated by dotted lines, a small button connected with the block H holds the parts together.

The operation may be thus described: Raising the parts, the back is brought to rest within the groove, the brackets are drawn out, and an open book is placed against the back and within the brackets, the same pressing back against the leaves with the force of the spring; or, if the spring is not used, the friction within the fastenings serves to hold the brackets against the leaves, and thus is held a book for the purpose of study.

I am aware that it is not new to construct a book-rest composed of a horizontal base, upon which inclined hinged adjustable sections are mounted and held up and open by a supporting-ledge, the said base-piece also being provided with a ledge containing adjustable fingers for holding open the leaves of a book, and the sections being so arranged that they can be folded against each other and the base to render the device compact and portable. I consequently disclaim such device as being of my invention.

What I claim as my invention is—

1. In a device for holding the leaves of an open book, the back D, brackets F F, provided at their lower ends with bent portions, and the flat spring G, the several parts combined substantially as and for the purpose specified.

2. The combination of the back D, brackets F F, spring G, brace C, and base A, with front and rear ledges, substantially as set forth.

BARTON PICKERING.

Witnesses:

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