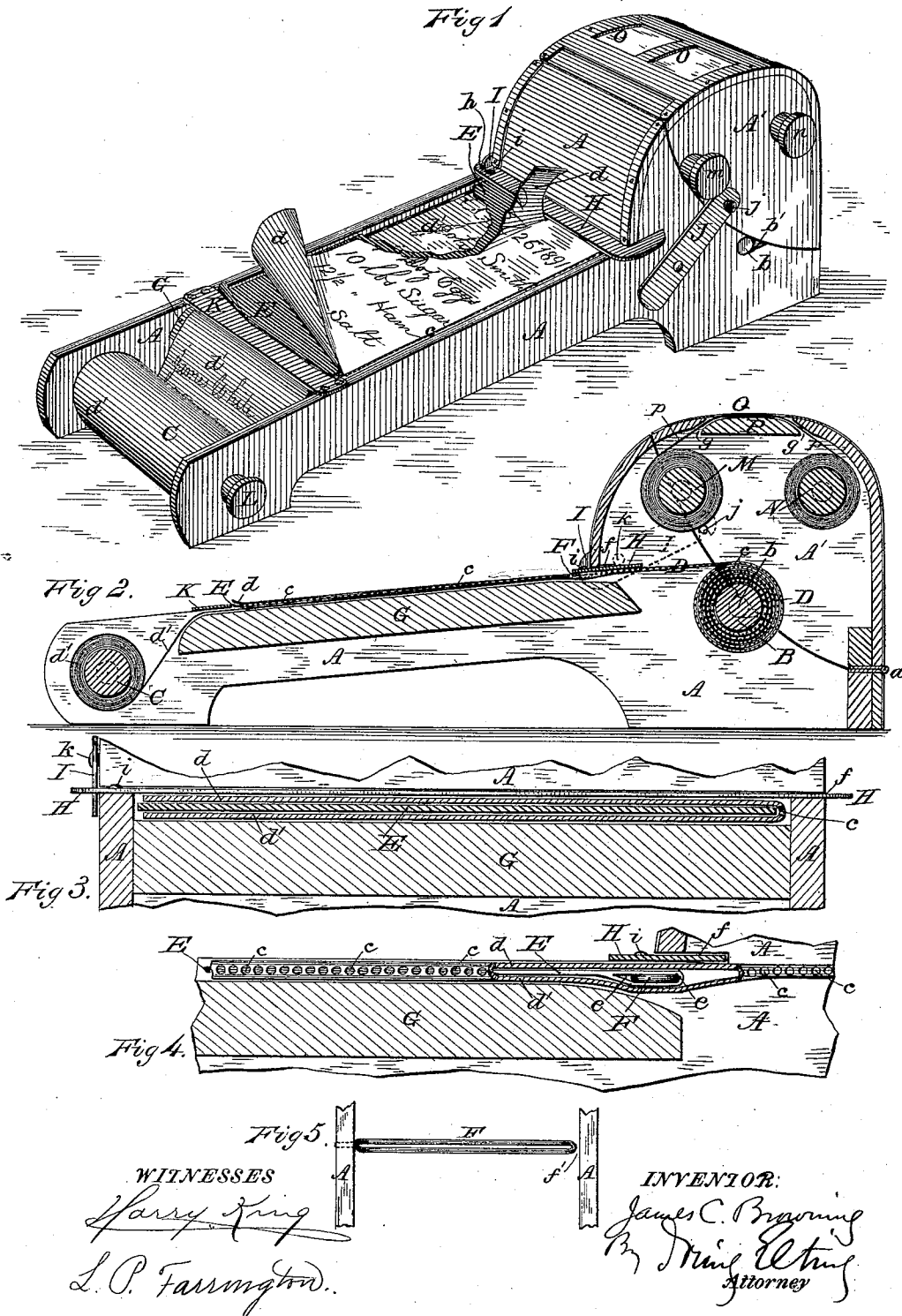


(No Model.)

J. C. BROWNING.
DUPLEX COPYING AND RECORDING TABLET.

No. 464,292.

Patented Dec. 1, 1891.



UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JAMES C. BROWNING, OF POUGHKEEPSIE, NEW YORK.

DUPLEX COPYING AND RECORDING TABLET.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 464,292, dated December 1, 1891.

Application filed May 4, 1891. Serial No. 391,461. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JAMES C. BROWNING, a citizen of the United States, residing at Poughkeepsie, in the county of Dutchess and State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Duplex Copying and Recording Tablets; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same.

My invention relates to copying and recording tablets, in which continuous sheets of paper are used above and beneath a carbon-sheet or inked ribbon for the purpose of securing a perfect autographic copy of an order, or any writing of which it is desired to retain a facsimile record; and the objects of my improvements are, first, to provide a tablet for the duplex recording of business transactions by the use of a single dispensing-reel and a single receiving or recording reel, and, secondly, to produce a uniform and accurate movement of the upper and lower sheets as they pass above and beneath the carbon-sheet, without the aid of friction-rolls or similar appliances. I attain these objects by the device illustrated in the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of my device, showing a written upper sheet, partly broken away, to better show the carbon-sheet underneath and the relation of the various parts. Fig. 2 is a vertical longitudinal section of my device, showing the interior and general arrangement of the parts. Fig. 3 is an enlarged vertical cross-section of the tablet, showing the paper with perforated edge in its relation to the carbon-sheet. Fig. 4 is an enlarged side view of a portion of the tablet, having the side of the frame next the perforated edge of the paper removed and having a portion of the perforated edge broken away to show the arm for holding the carbon-paper and the carbon-sheet attached to the arm; and Fig. 5 is a detached view of the arm by which the carbon-sheet is held in place, showing its rigid connection with one side of the frame.

Similar letters refer to similar parts throughout the several views.

In the drawings, A represents the main portion of the frame of my improved tablet, and A' a supplementary portion of the frame,

which preferably is hinged at *a*, and held in position when closed by the arm J, pivoted to A and having a slot to engage with the stud *j* upon A'. A', when closed, as shown in Fig. 1, serves to lock or hold in position the ends *b* of the dispensing-reel B as they rest in the slotted bearings *b'* of the frame. This permits of the easy removal of the reel B when it is necessary to add to it a new roll of paper D. This paper D may be wound upon the reel B when needed; or, if preferred, it may be wound upon a paper-cylinder, which can be quickly slipped over B and made friction-tight, or the reel in any other way prevented from moving.

The paper D as it leaves the reel B is double, having perforations *c* along the folded edge, and it is adjusted so that the upper sheet *d* and the lower sheet *d'*, respectively, pass above and below the carbon-paper or inked ribbon E, which is attached to and held in position by the rigid arm F. Just over this arm F and lying close upon the top of *d* is the plate H, to serve as a cutting-edge for separating that portion of the upper sheet *d* which has been used for a memorandum. For convenience in inserting a new roll of paper, the plate H may be pivoted in one side of the frame and constructed with a slot *h*, to engage with a stop I at the other side of the frame, and to hold the plate securely in place after the insertion of the roll D. Underneath *d'* and between the sides of the frame A is the tablet G, upon which the writing is done as the paper is drawn forward to the receiving or storing roll C, which is turned by the ordinary thumb-nut L. G is rounded downward as it nears C to facilitate the movement of the sheet *d'* from it to the reel C. At the bottom of the level surface of G is placed the cross-strip K, having between it and G space enough to permit the insertion of *d'* and the lower edge of the carbon-paper E. The carbon-sheet is thereby held smoothly upon *d'* and is kept in its position upon the tablet by the arm F, to which it is attached at its upper end, as before described. When the carbon-sheet becomes worn by repeated use it may be readily removed from the arm F, and a new sheet put in its place.

To operate my device it is only necessary to turn the thumb-nut L until the upper sheet *d* is drawn far enough below the cutting-plate H to receive the desired memorandum, but in

no case farther than the lower cross-strip K. Any memorandum—such as a record of sales—may be written in pencil upon *d*, as shown in Fig. 1. It is at once transferred by the carbon-sheet E in fac simile to the lower record-strip *d'*, and *d* may be quickly and neatly torn off against the cutting-edge of H and along the perforated fold *c*. Farther turning of the reel C by the thumb-nut L draws the lower record-strip *d'* upon C for preservation, and at the same time draws the upper strip of paper *d* forward to receive a new memorandum, and so on. The storing-reel C may be removed; filed away, and a new one inserted whenever the reel is full, or in a store-record as each day's sales are completed.

It is evident that my device by the folding and the perforation of the folded edge of the impression-sheets enables me to dispense with all kinds of friction-rollers, such as have been found necessary to carry both sheets forward in other recording-tablets, the two sheets being drawn as one sheet from a single reel until the perforated edge is severed after the memorandum and its fac-simile have been made.

In connection with the novel device described above, I sometimes use, for the sake of convenience, a supplementary register, upon which I make no claim, but which is shown in Figs. 1 and 2 of the drawings as a part of the frame-cover A'. It consists of the ordinary storing-reel M and a dispensing-reel N, moved by thumb-nuts *m* and *n*, and a paper strip *p* running over the tablet-bar P, above which are openings O to divide the register into two parts, upon one of which may be put the amount of each cash sale and upon the other the amount of each sale to be charged on the firm books. This may be used as a conven-

ient addition to my invention, but is not an essential feature of it.

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

1. In a recording or copying tablet, the combination, with a feeding device, of a storing-reel, and a folded paper perforated at the folded edge, substantially as and for the purpose described.

2. A recording or copying device consisting of a folded paper perforated at the folded edge, a dispensing-reel, a storing-reel, and a copying-sheet retained between the upper and lower folds of the paper, operated as and for the purposes described.

3. In a recording or copying device, a copying-sheet E, retained in position by an arm F, in combination with a folded paper drawn forward on either side by the copying-sheet, by the mechanism described, and the cutting-edge H for severing the upper fold of the paper, substantially as set forth.

4. A duplex copying and recording tablet consisting of a frame A, the reels B and C mounted therein, a folded paper perforated at *c*, attached to the reels and passing over the tablet G, a copying-sheet E, retained by the arm F between the folds of the paper, the cutting-edge H, and the thumb-nut L for operating the device, as and for the purpose described.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature in presence of two witnesses.

JAMES C. BROWNING.

Witnesses:

BENJ. M. FOWLER,
IRVING ELTING.