(No Model.) 2 Sheets—Sheet 1.

# B. B. NICHOLS.

## BOOK SUPPORT OR MUSIC STAND.

No. 395,715. Patented Jan. 8, 1889.

Fig. 1.

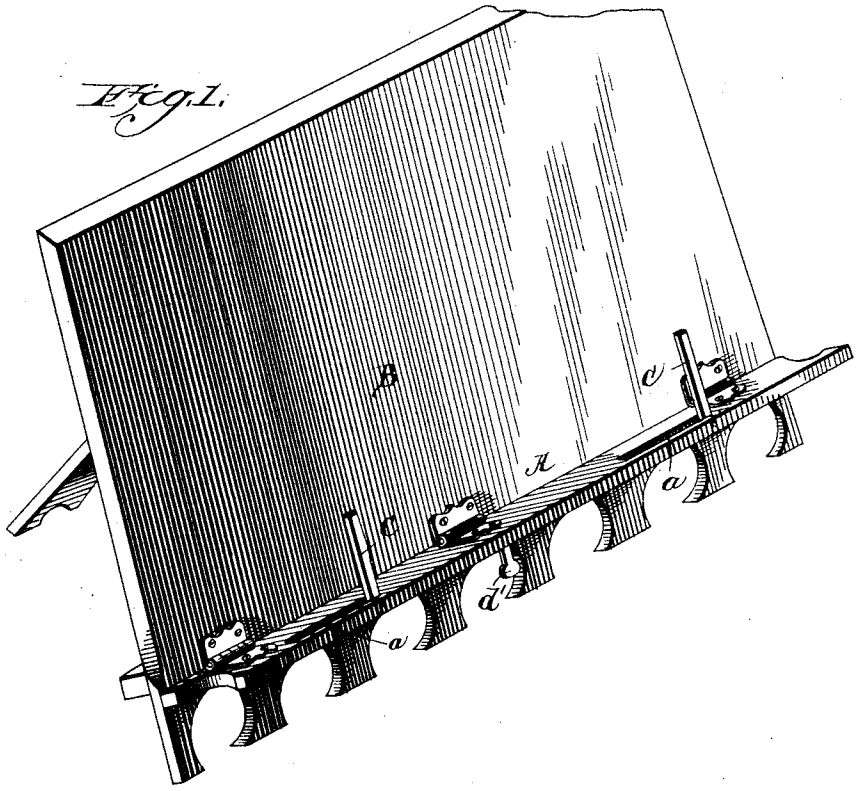



Fig. 2.

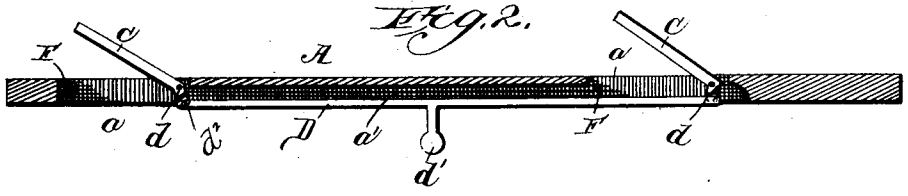
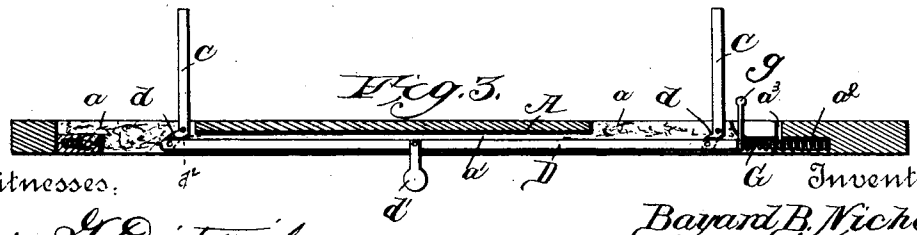



Fig. 3.




Witnesses.

Henry G. Dieterich

H. F. Riley

Inventor.

Bayard B. Nichols.

By his Attorneys

C. A. Snow & Co.

N. PETERS, Photo-Lithographer, Washington, D. C.

(No Model.) 2 Sheets—Sheet 2.

# B. B. NICHOLS.

## BOOK SUPPORT OR MUSIC STAND.

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Fig. 4.

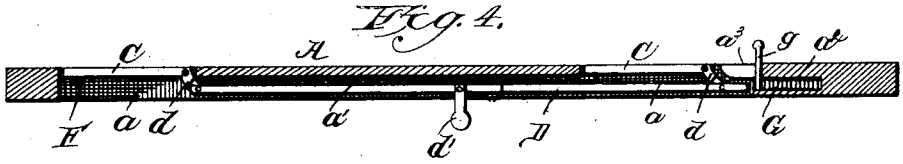



Fig. 5.

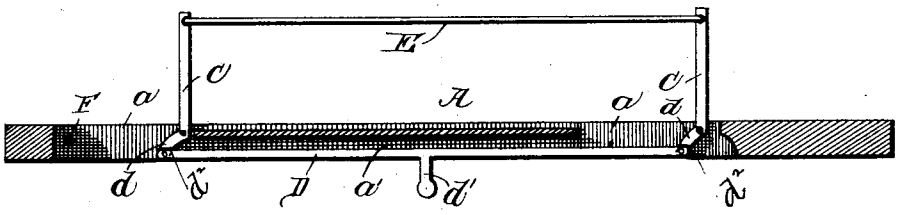



Fig. 6.

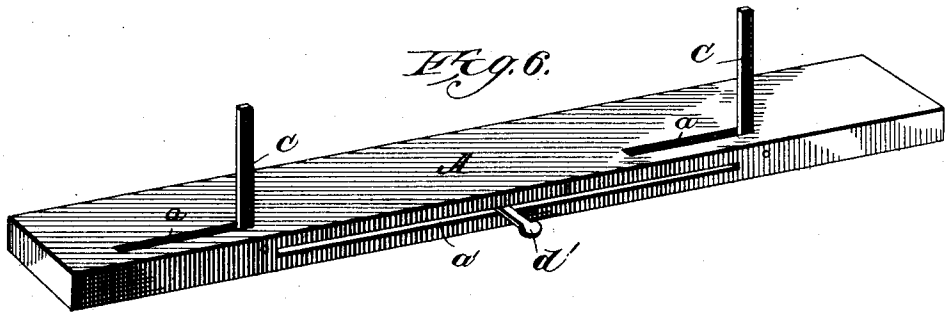
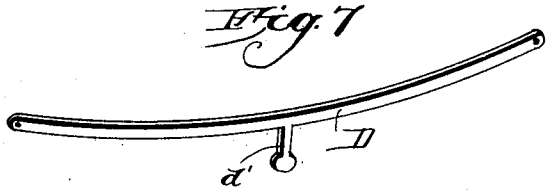



Fig. 7




Witnesses

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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

BAYARD BOYD NICHOLS, OF CHICAGO, ILLINOIS.

## BOOK-SUPPORT OR MUSIC-STAND.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 395,715, dated January 8, 1889.

Application filed May 21, 1888. Serial No. 274,530. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, BAYARD BOYD NICHOLS, a citizen of the United States, residing at Chicago, in the county of Cook and State of Illinois, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Book-Supports or Music-Stands, of which the following is a specification.

The invention relates to improvements in book-supports or music-stands such as are designed to be attached to pianos, organs, and the like.

Heretofore book-rests have been constructed with pivoted uprights connected by a rod, which causes the uprights to be elevated or depressed; but difficulty has been experienced in their operation, especially in those in which parts are concealed when not in use.

The object of the present invention is to obviate the above objection and produce a support of great simplicity and cheapness, capable of concealment when not in use, and of holding a book and of being readily operated to release or grasp such to enable the leaves to be rapidly turned.

The invention consists in the novel combination and arrangement of parts, hereinafter fully described, illustrated in the accompanying drawings, and pointed out in the claims hereto appended.

In the drawings, Figure 1 is a perspective view of a book or music rack constructed in accordance with this invention. Fig. 2 is a longitudinal sectional view of the shelf, the uprights being slightly inclined, and showing the arrangement of the kerf-slots and the kerf-recess that connect them. Fig. 3 is a view similar to Fig. 2, illustrating the uprights held in a vertical position by a spring. Fig. 4 is a longitudinal sectional view illustrating the manner in which the spring is held out of engagement with the connecting-rod. Fig. 5 is a detail view of the uprights, showing the upper ends connected by a rod. Fig. 6 is a perspective view of the shelf, showing a modification of the invention. Fig. 7 is a detail view showing a modification of the connecting-rod.

In the accompanying drawings, A designates a rack or shelf designed to be attached to pianos, organs, music-stands, or the like.

In Fig. 1 of the drawings I have illustrated the outstanding shelf or rack A hinged to the back B of an easel, to form a book-support or music-stand. The said shelf A is provided with similar longitudinal kerf-slots, $a$, which are connected together by a kerf-recess, $a'$, in the lower side of the shelf, the slots being about twice as wide as the recess $a'$.

The uprights C are constructed of suitable material, preferably metal, and are provided at their inner ends with arms $d$ $d$, extending from them at suitable angles, through which angles they are pivoted in the corresponding longitudinal kerf-slots $a$, near one end, and the arms $d$ $d$ in that case extending leftward from the uprights C.

The uprights C are connected by the rod D, which is pivoted to the ends of the arms $d$ $d$ and slides in the kerf-recess $a'$, and is provided with a central handle, $d'$, which projects downward. This central handle, $d'$, is generally constructed integral with the connecting-rod D; but it may be made of a separate piece of metal and be pivoted to the connecting-rod, whereby it is made capable of being parallel with the connecting-rod D, to effect entire concealment of the operative parts of the device.

The uprights C rest normally in the longitudinal kerf-slots $a$, where they remain concealed; but by means of the central handle, $d'$, and the connecting-rod D, they may be raised vertically, and they are prevented inclining to the right, or in the direction in which they move to assume a vertical position, by the shoulder $d^2$ coming in contact with the connecting-rod D, the shoulder being formed at the angle by the arm $d$ being thinner than the upright C.

When a book or the like has been placed upon the shelf A and opened at any place, the uprights C can be quickly and readily raised, and will prevent the leaves from turning. By sliding the handle $d'$ to the right the uprights C can be quickly depressed to permit the turning of the leaves.

There may be any desired number of the uprights C to insure successful holding of the book; or it may be preferable to construct the device as illustrated in Fig. 5 of the accompanying drawings, in which figure the outer ends of the uprights are shown connected by

a strip of metal or other suitable material, E. By this construction books of any size will be held with equal facility and effectiveness.

The uprights, when not in use, rest in the longitudinal kerf-slots *a*, and to prevent them sinking too far down into the slots *a*, a pin or stop, F, is provided in one of the longitudinal kerf-slots, upon which pin or stop F the uprights C rest, and to render the working of the device noiseless the pin is covered with rubber or felt, and the sides of the longitudinal kerf-slots *a* and recess *a'* are lined with the same material. Instead of employing a pin, F, to form a stop to keep the uprights from sinking too deep in the slots, a piece of rubber or other suitable sound-deadening material may be secured in the slot *a*.

In order to maintain the uprights C in a vertical position, the connecting-rod may be slightly bowed, as shown in Fig. 7, whereby it will be caused to bind against the sides of the kerf-recess *a'*, or, as shown in Fig. 3 of the accompanying drawings, a spring, G, may be provided, which is secured in a groove, $a^2$, of the shelf A, and acts against an end of the connecting-rod D and forces the uprights C into a vertical position, and there retains them until it is released from engagement with the connecting-rod D by withdrawing it by means of the handle *g*, and held out of engagement by inserting the handle *g* into a notch, $a^3$, in the spring-groove $a^2$, adapted for its reception.

In Fig. 6 of the drawings I have illustrated a modification of the invention, showing the kerf-recess *a'* that connects the kerf-slots *a*, made in the outer edge of the shelf A, instead of in the bottom, whereby, when the connecting-rod D is inserted in the recess *a'*, the handle *d'* will extend out horizontally in the direction of the shelf A. These kerf-slots and grooves *a* and *a'* may be cut in a piano or organ and the device secured to it instead of to a shelf, A Especially this latter form—viz., that shown in Fig. 6—is applicable to this use, and the uprights and connecting-rod may be pivoted to the outer edge of any shelf of a music-stand, book-rest, or the like, and they will be equally effective.

From the foregoing description and the accompanying drawings the construction, operation, and advantages of the present invention will be readily seen, and I desire it to be understood that I do not limit myself to the precise details of construction herein shown and described, as I may without departing from the spirit of the invention make any minor changes therein.

Having thus fully described the invention, what I claim is—

1. The combination, with the shelf of a music-stand, book-support, easel, or the like, of the uprights pivoted to said shelf, and the rod connecting the uprights and provided with a handle depending therefrom and capable of elevating and depressing the uprights, substantially as described.

2. The combination, with the shelf of a music-stand, book-support, easel, or the like, of the uprights pivoted to it, the rod connecting the uprights and capable of elevating and depressing the uprights, and a spring designed to act against the end of the connecting-rod to retain the uprights in a perpendicular position, substantially as described.

3. The combination, with the shelf of a music-stand, book-support, easel, or the like, of the pivoted uprights provided with arms, and rods connecting the uprights above and below the pivotal points, the lower one of said rods being provided with a handle depending therefrom, substantially as and for the purpose described.

4. The combination, with the shelf of a music-stand, book-support, easel, or the like, of the uprights pivoted to it, the rod connecting the uprights and capable of elevating and depressing the uprights, and a handle pivotally secured to the connecting-rod to operate the device and designed to be turned parallel with the connecting-rod, substantially as and for the purpose specified.

5. The combination, with the shelf of a music-stand, book-support, easel, or the like provided with the kerf-slots and a kerf-recess connecting the kerf-slots, of the uprights pivoted in the kerf-slots, and the connecting-rod secured to the uprights and sliding in the kerf-recess and provided with a depending handle, substantially as and for the purpose described.

6. The combination, with the shelf of a music-stand, book-support, easel, or the like provided with the kerf-slots and a kerf-recess connecting the kerf-slots, of the uprights pivoted in the kerf-slots, the connecting-rod having a depending handle and secured to the uprights and sliding in the kerf-recess, and a stop secured in one of the kerf-slots, whereby the uprights are prevented sinking too deep in the kerf-slots, substantially as described.

7. The combination, with the shelf of a music-stand, book-support, easel, or the like provided with the felt or similarly-lined slots and connecting-recess, of the uprights pivoted in the slots, and a connecting-rod secured to the uprights and sliding in the kerf-recess, substantially as and for the purpose described.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing as my own I have hereto affixed my signature in presence of two witnesses.

BAYARD BOYD NICHOLS.

Witnesses:
REGINALD H. WORTH,
CHAS. W. SMITH.