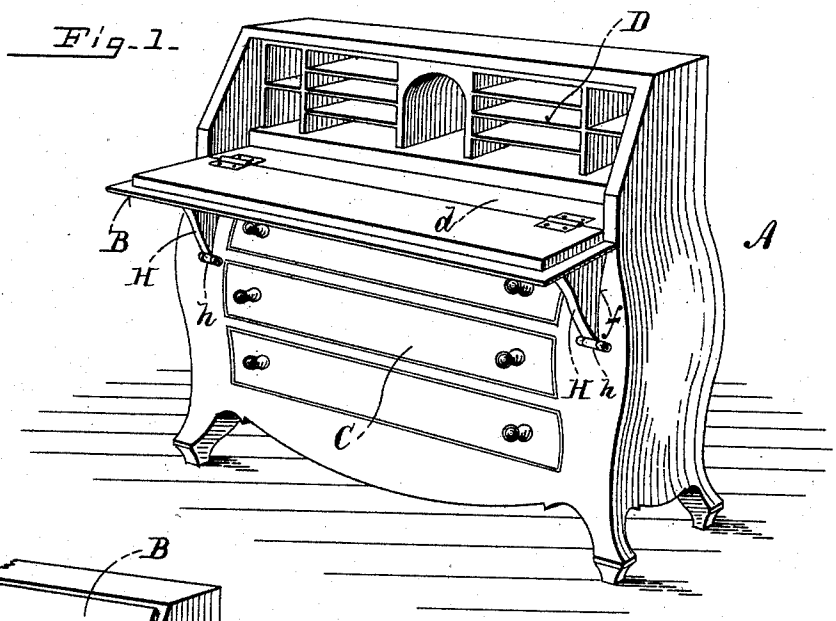
(No Model.)

T. McCARTHY.

DESK.

No. 522,849. Patented July 10, 1894.

Fig. 1.



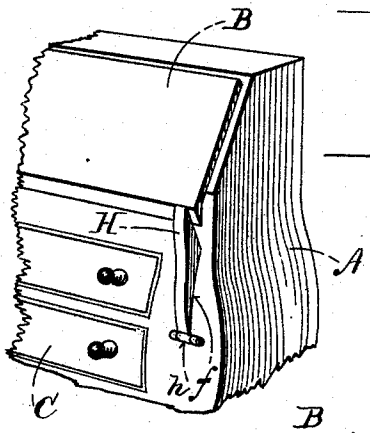


Fig. 3.

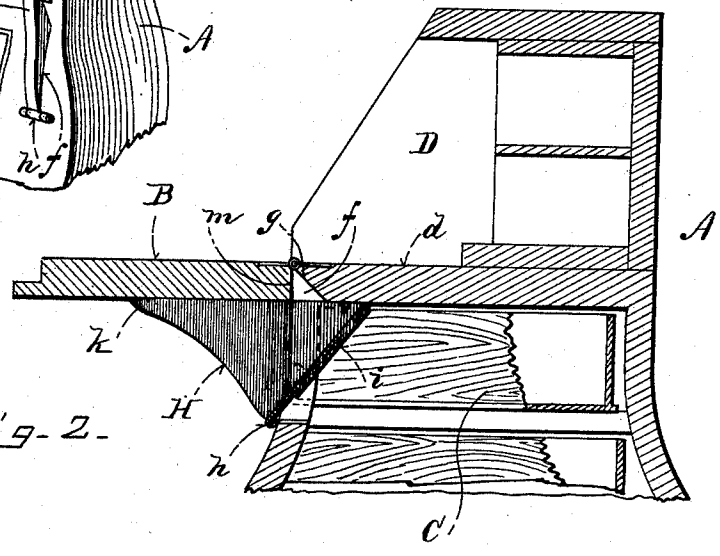


Fig. 2.

WITNESSES:
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

THOMAS McCARTHY, OF BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS.

DESK.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 522,849, dated July 10, 1894.

Application filed October 27, 1891. Renewed February 4, 1894. Serial No. 499,207. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, THOMAS MCCARTHY, of Boston, in the county of Suffolk, State of Massachusetts, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Desks, of which the following is a description sufficiently full, clear, and exact to enable any person skilled in the art or science to which said invention appertains to make and use the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, forming part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of a secretary provided with my improved fall or lid stop and representing the same in use. Fig. 2 is a vertical transverse section of the same showing the stop in side elevation; and Fig. 3 a perspective view of a portion of the desk showing the fall closed.

Like letters of reference indicate corresponding parts in the different figures of the drawings.

My invention relates to an automatic stop or support for the "fall" or lid of that class of writing desks commonly known as secretaries; and it consists in certain novel features hereinafter fully set forth and claimed, the object being to produce a simpler, cheaper and more effective device of this character than is now in ordinary use.

The nature and operation of the improvement will be readily understood by all conversant with such matters from the following explanation.

In the drawings, A represents the desk considered as a whole. The desk may be of any ordinary form and construction and is provided with a hinged lid or fall, B, adapted to be turned downward into horizontal position in the usual manner.

In the lower portion of the desk drawers, C, are mounted, and a shelf, *d*, to the outer edge of which the fall, B, is hinged, forms the top of the drawer-case. The pigeon-hole case, D, is disposed on the shelf, *d*, and the fall, B, closes the top of the desk. In the front of the desk at each end of the upper drawer, C, a vertical slot, *f*, is formed opening through said front into the drawer case. The shelf, *d*, is beveled at, *g*, in the top of the slots, *f*. A stop, H, preferably a block or plate approximately triangular in form is pivoted by a corner at, *h*, in the bottom of each slot, *f*. The inner edges of the stops are provided with a counterbalance weight, *i*, tending to throw the stop inward.

When the fall, B, is closed as in Fig. 3, the outer corner, *k*, of the stops overlaps slightly the lower edge, *m*, of the fall. The weights, *i*, throw the stops inward so that their outer edges are substantially flush with the face of the desk. When the lid is turned downward, the end, *k*, of the stops being in engagement therewith, said stops are caused to swing outward until their counterbalanced ends engage the shelf, *d*. At this point the lid is in alignment with the shelf and is supported by said stops as shown in Fig. 2. The counterbalance, *i*, causes the stops to fall gradually inward as the lid is closed in a manner that will be readily understood by all conversant with such matters without a more explicit description.

It will be understood that I do not confine myself to employing the triangular plate or body, shown, for a stop as any construction of frame or arm hinged or pivoted in the desk body and adapted to be projected by and support the lid when open may be substituted if desired.

Moreover, instead of counterbalancing the inner corner of the stop, its outer end may be counterbalanced and arranged to be released and fall when the lid is lowered.

Having thus explained my invention, what I claim is—

1. A stop for desk lids comprising a body pivoted to swing vertically in the desk front, the ends of said body at opposite sides of its fulcrum respectively projecting within the desk in position to engage a stop and outwardly in continuous sliding contact with the outer face of said lid, substantially as described.

2. In a desk, the hinged lid in combination with a stop therefor comprising a body pivoted in a slot in the desk front, said body closing said slot when the lid is closed and projecting into constant sliding contact with the outer face of said lid; and a stop for a portion of the body out of contact with the lid whereby it may support the lid when open, substantially as described.

3. A stop for desk lids comprising a trian-

gular plate pivoted by a corner to swing vertically in the desk front, the inner end of said plate being provided with a counterbalance and projecting within the desk and its outer end being in sliding contact with said lid, substantially as described.

4. The desk, A, provided with the lid, B, and shelf, *d*, in combination with the pivoted stop, H, provided with a counterbalance, *i*, the outer end of said stop being in sliding contact with said lid and its inner end adapted to engage said shelf when the lid is opened, substantially as described.

THOMAS McCARTHY.

Witnesses:
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K. DURFEE.