(No Model.)

J. W. KNAGGS.

BLOTTING PAD HOLDER AND PROTECTOR.

No. 371,507. Patented Oct. 11, 1887.

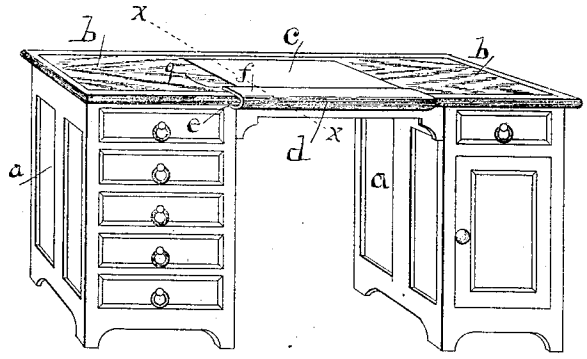


Fig. 1.

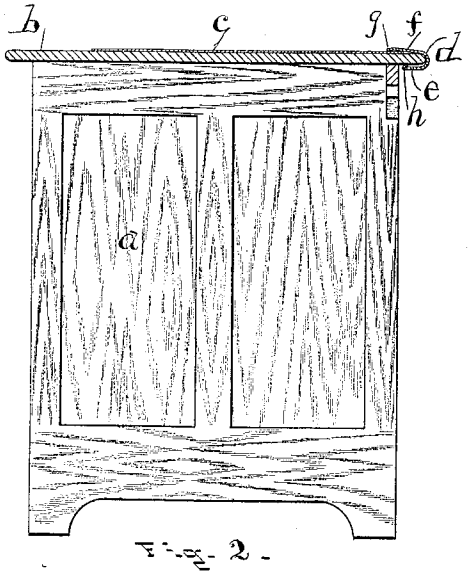


Fig. 2.

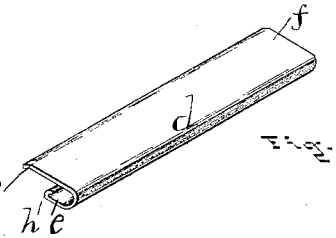


Fig. 3.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOHN W. KNAGGS, OF BAY CITY, ASSIGNOR TO ALBERT C. HAVEN, OF WEST BAY CITY, MICHIGAN.

BLOTTING-PAD HOLDER AND PROTECTOR.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 371,507, dated October 11, 1887.

Application filed June 3, 1887. Serial No. 240,178. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOHN W. KNAGGS, a citizen of the United States, residing at Bay City, in the county of Bay and State of Michigan, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Blotting-Pad Holders and Protectors; and I do 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, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and to the letters and figures of reference marked thereon, which form a part of this specification.

This invention relates to an improved device for securing and retaining a blotting-pad to the desk, and also for protecting the edges of the same from wear and mutilation.

It is a common practice with business men to use a large blotting-pad or other cover of a similar nature temporarily secured to their desk, usually for protecting the cloth cover thereon, and also for forming a clean, smooth, and suitable surface for supporting the writing-paper. This blotting pad or cover is commonly secured to the desk by tacks or pins passing through the corners and edges thereof, leaving the portion between the pins or tacks on the front edge of the desk unprotected and liable to be caught by the paper and sleeve of the writer and become worn away and mutilated, which causes great annoyance and inconvenience; and, also, the blotting-pad being rigidly secured to the desk by pins or tacks causes the pad to shrink in the dry atmosphere, and whenever the atmosphere becomes somewhat moist or damp the blotting-pad absorbs the moisture therefrom and becomes wavy and wrinkled, whereupon it then becomes necessary to remove the tacks and readjust the pad; and the object of this invention is to overcome these difficulties and objections by producing a device by means of which the blotting-pad may be easily and firmly secured to the front edge of the desk, and also protected on its front edge from the wear and mutilation, and allowed to contract and expand from the effects of the dry and damp atmosphere without becoming wrinkled or waved, and also to produce a device for this purpose which will have an ornamental appearance and by means of which the blotting-pad may be quickly and easily turned from side to side, as desired.

The invention consists in a U-shaped holder formed of sheet metal of suitable elasticity, one portion of the U being of greater width than the other and suitably arranged to be placed upon the front edge of the desk with the narrower portion of the U reaching beneath the desk-top and the wider portion of the U reaching upon the surface of the desk-top and catching over the edge of the blotting-paper.

My improved device is illustrated in the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of a desk with my improved pad-holding and protecting device thereto attached. Fig. 2 is a vertical section view of the same at X X. Fig. 3 is an enlarged perspective view of the holding and protecting device detached.

Similar letters refer to similar parts throughout the several views.

a represents the body of the desk. *b* is the top thereof, and *c* is a blotting-pad placed upon the surface of the top.

d is the holding and protecting device, and is formed of a thin sheet of metal of suitable elasticity bent parallel with its length to a U form, having a narrow portion, *e*, which reaches beneath the desk-top, and formed with its inner edge, *h*, turned upward and inward in such a manner that it will impinge directly upon the under side of the top *b* near the body *a*.

f is a wider portion of the U, and is arranged to reach over the surface of the desk, and with its edge *g* catching upon the front edge of the pad *c*. The edge *g* may, if desired, be turned slightly downward, and thereby be caused to impinge more directly upon and press into the pad and make thereby a smooth and even connection therewith; and, also, with this construction the points of bearing of the holder are at the edge *g* and at the edge of the desk-top, while the portion *h* impinges upon the under side of the top *b* at a point between the bearings of the portion *f* which holds the device by the elasticity of the U shape securely in

position without liability of displacement. Furthermore, this device, reaching over and securing the front edge of the blotter, prevents any wear of the edge thereof by the arms of the user and makes a smooth bearing for the arms and forms a neat and handsome finish for the desk-front. Another great advantage is that the blotter secured in this manner is free to expand and contract with the changes of the atmosphere, and may be easily changed or removed by withdrawing the holding device or replacing the same.

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

1. A blotting-pad holder and protector consisting of a thin sheet of metal bent parallel with its length to a U form, and having one portion of the U extended to a greater width than the other, and having the edge of the narrower portion of the U turned inward toward the wider portion, substantially as set forth.

2. The combination, with a desk and a blotting-pad upon the surface of the desk, of a sheet of metal, as *d*, bent parallel with its side edges to a U form and placed upon the front edge of the desk, with the edge *g* of one portion of the U reaching over and impinging upon the blotter, and with the upturned edge *h* of the other portion of the U reaching beneath and bearing against the under side of the desk-top, substantially as set forth.

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

JOHN W. KNAGGS.

Witnesses:

ALLEN G. PLUM,

JAS. E. THOMAS.