

J. A. HODGES.
DESK.

APPLICATION FILED DEC. 7, 1901.

NO MODEL.

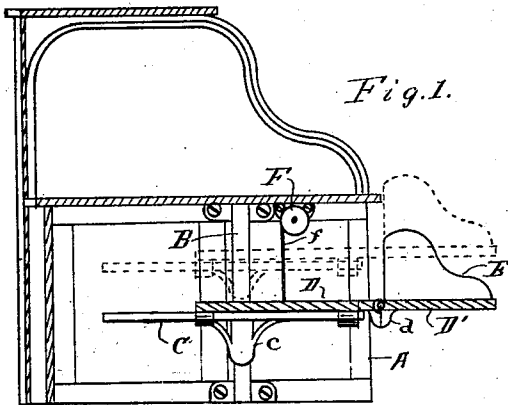


Fig. 1.

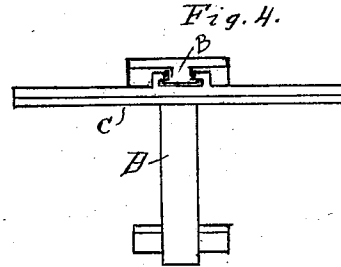


Fig. 4.

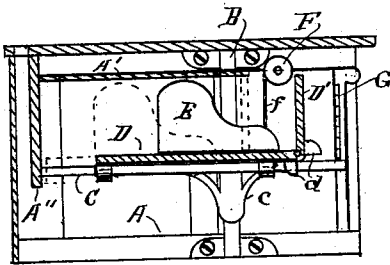


Fig. 2.

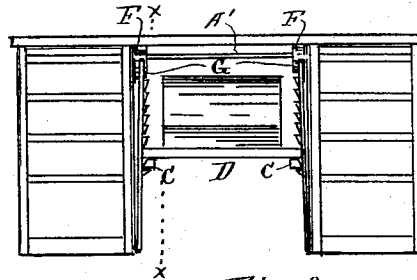


Fig. 3.

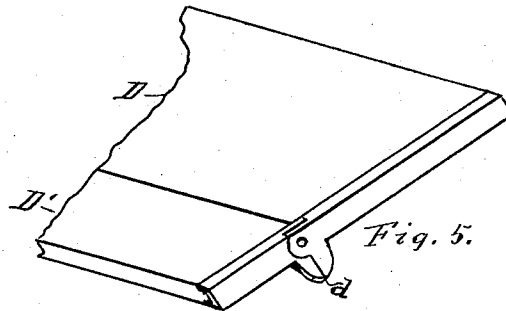


Fig. 5.

Witnesses.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOHN A. HODGES, OF GRAND RAPIDS, MICHIGAN.

DESK.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 718,627, dated January 20, 1903.

Application filed December 7, 1901. Serial No. 85,101. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOHN A. HODGES, a citizen of the United States, residing at Grand Rapids, in the county of Kent and State of Michigan, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Desks, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to improvements in type-writer desks; and its objects are, first, to provide a type-writer shelf or support that may be readily attached to any office-desk; second, to provide a type-writer shelf that may be readily adjusted vertically and laterally to adjust the type-writer to the desired position, and, third, to provide a type-writer shelf of the class herein stated that may be closed up practically dust-proof. I attain these objects by the mechanism illustrated in the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a vertical section of a desk on the line *xx* of Fig. 3 with my attachment in place. Fig. 2 is the same with the shelf passed back under the desk. Fig. 3 is a front elevation of a desk, showing the appliance for supporting the shelf at the desired height when in use. Fig. 4 is a perspective of the guide and guideway detached from the desk; and Fig. 5 is a perspective of a portion of the shelf and folding leaf, showing the construction and application of the hinge.

Similar letters refer to similar parts throughout the several views.

A represents the frame of the desk.

My invention consists in the shelf D, having the folding leaf D', which is hinged to the shelf D with a self-supporting hinge *d*, so arranged that it will hold the leaf and its load firmly when in active use. The shelf is slidably supported upon the guides or ways C, which are in turn vertically adjustable upon the vertical ways or guides B. By this arrangement the shelf is rendered laterally adjustable upon the ways C to draw the shelf and type-writer from under the desk to position for use and vertically adjustable upon the ways B to raise the shelf and type-writer to the proper height for convenient use, in which position it is secured temporarily by means of the notched supports G, engaging the ways C, as indicated in Fig. 3. The vertical adjustment of the shelf is facilitated by

the use of spring-balances F, (which indicate an ordinary spring-sash balance or its equivalent,) which should be sufficiently strong to easily raise the shelf and slide, but not strong enough to raise or support the weight of the shelf and the type-writer combined. By this means the shelf is always sure to raise uniformly even, though the weight of the type-writer is wholly upon the leaf D', and it may be readily raised to the position indicated by the dotted lines in Fig. 1, and as soon as the spring-catches G are pressed back out of the way the shelf will drop down by the weight of the writer to position to be slid under the desk, as indicated in Figs. 2 and 3.

A' represents an inner cover, and A'' represents a temporary back for use in desks having no permanent backs for the purpose of forming a dust-proof receptacle when the shelf is slid back to the full extent and the leaf is folded up under the top A', as indicated by the dotted lines in Fig. 2.

c represents a slide or guide to render the vertical adjustment of the ways C uniform and steady, and *f* indicates the cord or metal ribbon that connects the spring-balances and the shelf for facilitating the manipulation of the shelf.

I do not desire to restrict myself to the particular class of spring-balances herein shown, nor, in fact, do I desire to restrict myself to spring-balances, as others may be applied with equally good results, nor do I desire to restrict myself to the form of temporary supports herein shown and described, those having been shown as more convenient than other forms for illustration.

The guide B is securely screwed to the rails of the desk, as indicated in Figs. 1 and 2, and the guide C *c* is connected therewith by a flange-and-lip connection, substantially as shown in Fig. 4.

E represents the outline of a type-writer case used here for the purpose of illustrating the manner of adjusting the type-writer upon the shelf in the several positions it is to assume in the manipulation of my device.

This appliance may be adapted to and operated upon other articles than desks and for other purposes than as a type-writer support—as, for instance, a dictionary-shelf, &c.

Having thus fully described my invention, what I claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent of the United States, is—

In combination with an office-desk, vertical
5 guideways secured to the sides of the drawer-cases, lateral guides vertically adjustable thereon, a shelf laterally adjustable in said lateral guides, a folding leaf and door pivoted to said shelf, a counterpoise attached to the
10 desk above the shelf and connected to the

shelf, notched supports secured to the drawer-cases and a catch upon the shelf arranged to engage therewith, substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

Signed at Grand Rapids, Michigan, December 5, 1901.

JOHN A. HODGES.

In presence of—

NELLIE CILLEY,
I. J. CILLEY.