No. 896,028. PATENTED AUG. 11, 1908.

H. M. LEESE.

DESK.

APPLICATION FILED MAR. 12, 1908.

3 SHEETS—SHEET 1.

Fig. 1

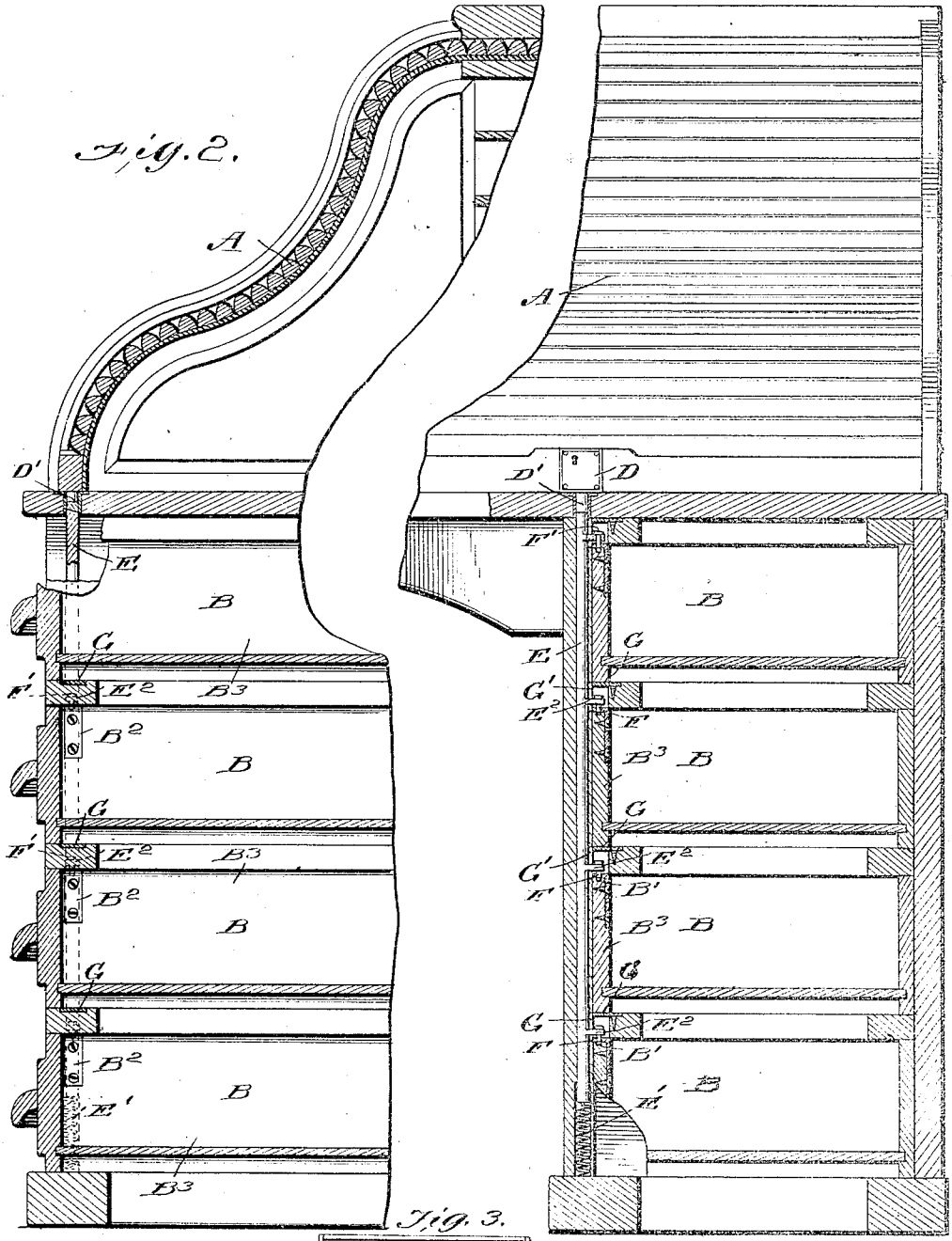
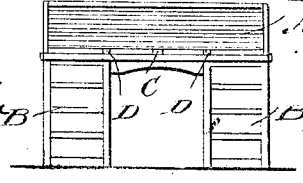


Fig. 2.

Fig. 3.



WITNESSES

F. C. Bailey

Perry B. Turpin

INVENTOR

HARRY M. LEESE

BY Munn & Co.

ATTORNEYS

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Fig. 4.

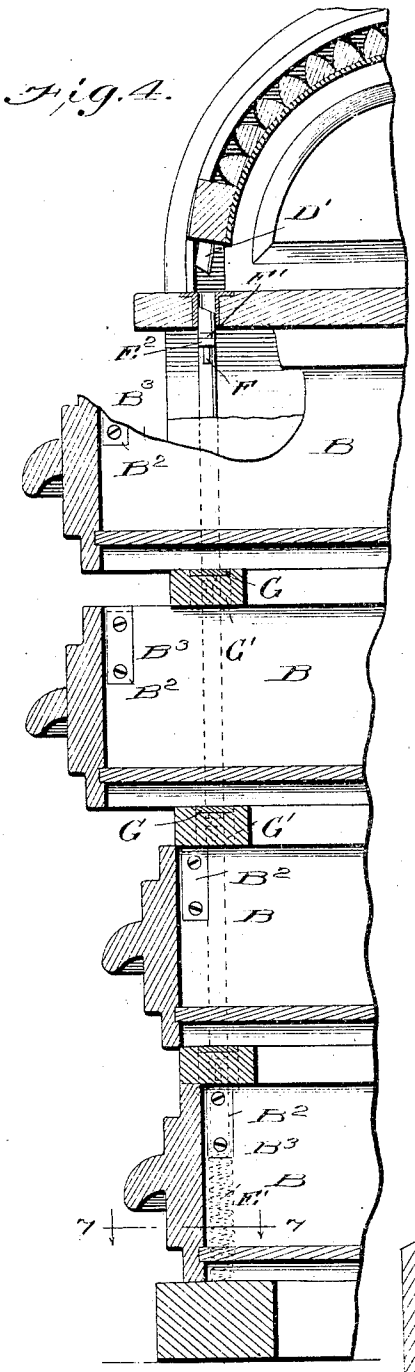


Fig. 5.

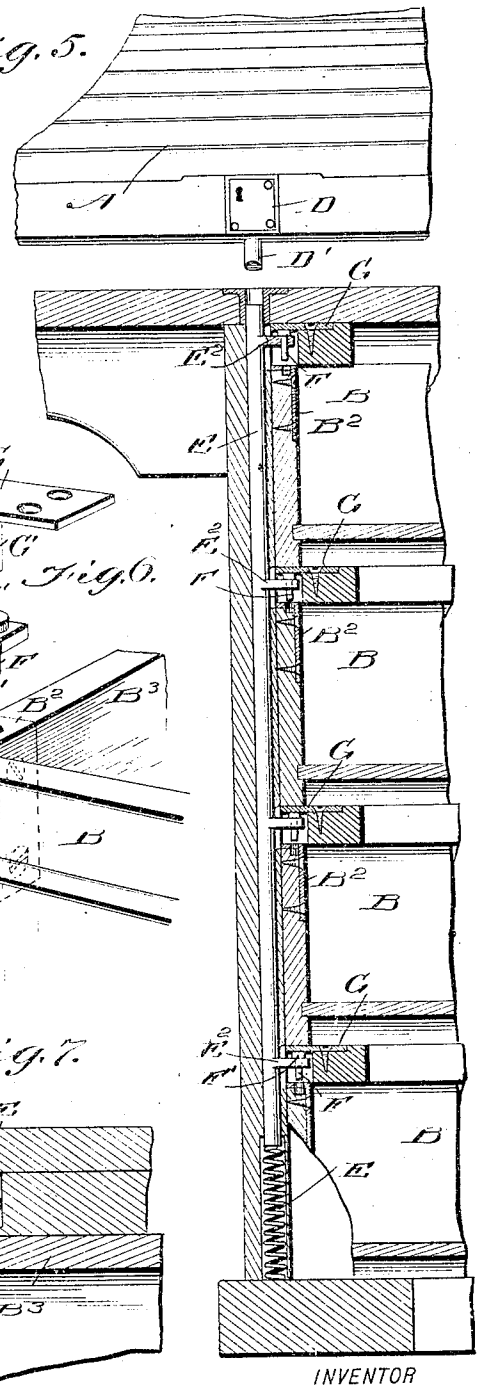
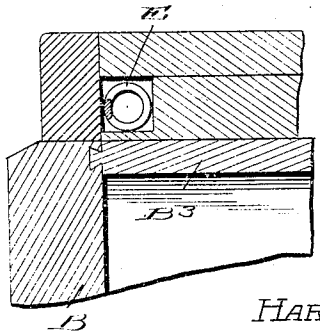


Fig. 6.

Fig. 7.



WITNESSES

H. E. Barry

Perry B. Lupin.

INVENTOR

HARRY M. LEESE

BY Munn & Co.

ATTORNEYS

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H. M. LEESE.

DESK.

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3 SHEETS—SHEET 3.

Fig. 12.

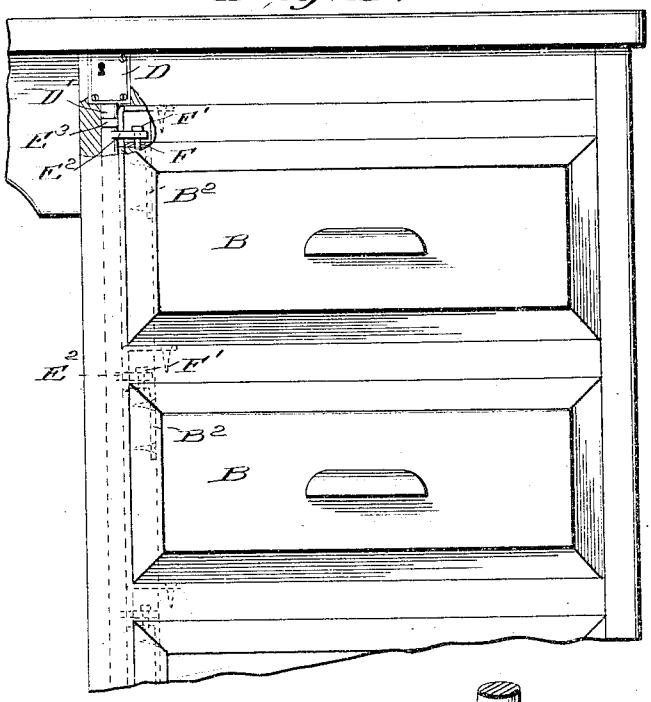


Fig. 13.

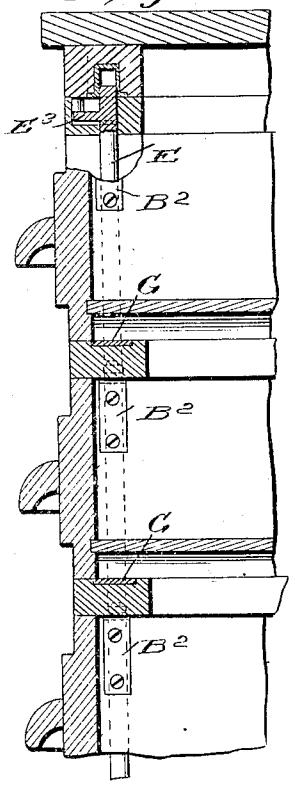


Fig. 11.

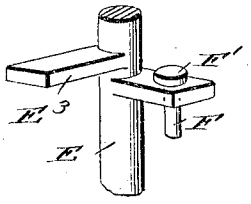


Fig. 8.

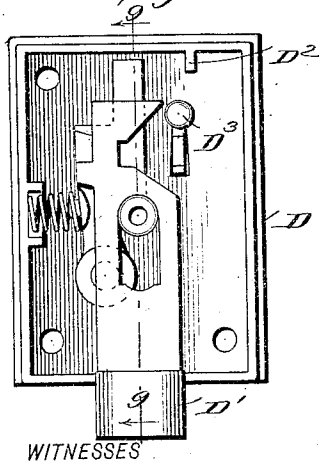


Fig. 9.

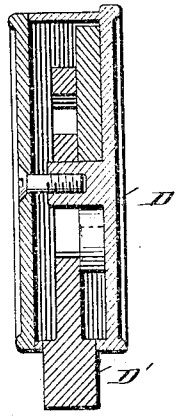
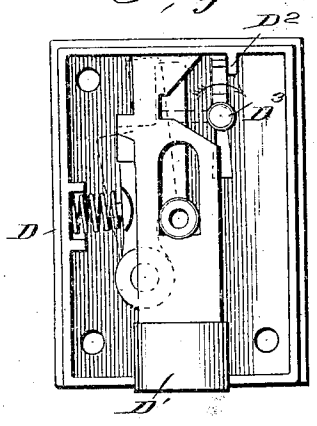


Fig. 10.



WITNESSES

F. C. Barry

Percy B. Surpin

INVENTOR

HARRY M. LEESE

BY Munn & Co.

ATTORNEYS

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

HARRY M. LEESE, OF WASHINGTON, DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.

BEST AVAILABLE COPY

DESK.

No. 896,028. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Aug. 11, 1908.

Application filed March 13, 1908. Serial No. 420,717.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, HARRY M. LEESE, a citizen of the United States, and a resident of Washington, in the District of Columbia, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Desks, of which the following is a specification.

My invention is an improvement in desks, and particularly in the means for locking the drawers of desks, and the invention consists in certain novel constructions and combinations of parts as will be hereinafter described and claimed.

In the drawings, Figure 1 is a front elevation partly in section, and partly broken away of a desk embodying my invention. Fig. 2 is a vertical longitudinal section thereof. Fig. 3 is a front elevation on a reduced scale of a desk showing the arrangement of the lid lock, and of the locks on the opposite sides thereof for the drawers. Fig. 4 is a vertical longitudinal section of a portion of the desk with the locking bar in unlocked position. Fig. 5 is a front elevation partly in section, with the locking bar unlocked. Fig. 6 is a detail perspective view illustrating a portion of one of the drawers, the locking bar in unlocked position, and one of the guides for retaining the locking bar in proper relation to the drawers. Fig. 7 is a detail horizontal section on about line 7—7 of Fig. 4. Fig. 8 is a face view of one of the drawers locked with the bolt extended, the cover plate of the lock being removed. Fig. 9 is a sectional view on about line 9—9 of Fig. 8. Fig. 10 is a view similar to Fig. 8 with the bolt retracted. Fig. 11 is a detail perspective view of a portion of the locking rod employed in the construction shown in Figs. 12 and 13. Fig. 12 is a front elevation partly in section, and, Fig. 13 is a vertical longitudinal section of a portion of the desk shown in Fig. 12, Figs. 12 and 13 showing a somewhat different construction from that shown in the other figures as will be more fully described hereinafter.

In carrying out my invention, the desk may in general respects be of ordinary construction, and I have illustrated the invention as applied to a common type of desk having a slatted cover A, and drawers B in vertical tiers on opposite sides of the center of the desk. The slatted cover is provided midway between its ends with the usual lock C by which it may be locked as shown in Figs. 2 to 4, and on the opposite sides of this normal lock C I provide locks D illustrated in detail in Figs. 8, 9, and 10, and adapted to be operated to project their bolts D′, as shown in Figs. 8 and 9, and in Figs. 1 to 5, so the projecting bolts D′ may operate upon the upper end of the slide rod against the action of its spring E′. The bolts D′ are normally projecting as shown in Figs. 8 and 9 so that when the desk cover A is lowered the bolts D′ will operate upon the upper ends of the rods E and depress the same operating to lock the studs of the said rods into locking engagement with their respective drawers. The lock D is so constructed that its key D² can only be removed from the lock case when the bolt D′ is shot or projected to the position shown in Figs. 8 and 9, as when the key is turned to retract the bolt, it will be in engagement with the stop D³ in the lock case to prevent it from further turning in the direction of the arrow in Fig. 10, so the key cannot be inserted in or removed from the lock case except when the bolt is extended—see position shown in Figs. 8 and 9. Thus when the key is out of the lock D the bolt D′ projects as shown in Figs. 4 and 5, this being its normal position.

The lock is arranged at the lower edge of the cover A, and the bolt d′ projects below said edge of the cover so it will always operate upon the sliding rod E when the desk cover A is closed. Thus when the desk cover is closed it will depress the rod E causing the locking studs of the latter to enter the sockets in their respective drawers as more fully described hereinafter, and thus lock the said drawers when the latter are closed.

In their upper edges, the bars B, of which any suitable number may be provided, have sockets B′ which are reinforced by plates B³, as best shown in Fig. 6, and the slide rod E projects along side the drawers near the front edges thereof—see Figs. 4 and 5—, and is provided with laterally projecting arms E² which carry depending studs F which, when the slide rod E is depressed enter the sockets B′ and lock their respective drawers closed, as best shown in Fig. 1 of the drawings.

It will be noticed that the several studs secure their respective drawers, and if the studs F were made rigid with their arms E², the several drawers of the vertical series would necessarily all be locked or unlocked at the same instant. I prefer, however, to provide for permitting any drawer to re-

main unlocked or partly opened and the remaining drawer or drawers to be locked, and in carrying out this feature of my invention the studs F are movable relatively to the arms E^2, being provided at their upper ends with heads F′ bearing above the arms E^2, and said arms E^2 being provided with openings through which said studs project, as best shown at the upper end of the rod E in Fig. 1. By this construction the studs F are movable with and independently of their carriers E, E^2, so that if the parts be arranged, as shown in Fig. 4, with the slide rod E in unlocked position any one or more of the drawers B may be opened, in which event their respective studs F would slide along the upper edge B^3 of the drawer, and the slide rod E may then be depressed by closing the cover A, or by manipulating the lock D corresponding to said slide rod and this operation will lock all of the drawers that are closed without interfering in any way with the drawers which are opened, which latter may be manipulated as desired until they are pushed into closed position in which event their respective studs F will drop into the sockets B′ and lock the drawer or drawers so closed.

The desk frame is provided with means for preventing the turning of the slide rods E to move their studs F out of alinement with the sockets B′. For this purpose I provide guide plates G secured to the desk frame and provided with depending spaced apart lugs G′ between which the arms E of the slide rod operate as will be understood from Figs. 1, 5, and 6 of the drawings. The plates G also form stops abutted by the heads F′ of the studs F when the slide rods E are in their uppermost position to limit the upward movement of the slide rod.

In the operation of the described construction, it will be noticed that the slide rods E are normally pressed upward by their springs E′ to unlocked position, and will immediately unlock the drawers B when the cover A is opened even slightly, such movement moving the bolts D′ away from the upper ends of the rods E so the latter may rise under the influence of their springs E′. If, however, it is desired to unlock the drawers without raising the cover A as may sometimes be desirable, the key may be inserted in its proper lock D and turned to retract the bolt D′ to the position shown in Fig. 10, in which event the corresponding drawers will be unlocked without requiring the cover A to be lifted.

The construction so far described is applicable to desks having covers which may be raised and lowered. For a flat top, as shown in Figs. 12 and 13 I provide the slide rod shown in Fig. 11 with an arm E^3 near its upper end projecting into the path of the bolt D′ of the lock D, the latter being arranged immediately below the top of the desk as will be understood from Figs. 12, and 13, the construction being otherwise substantially as shown in Figs. 1 to 10 inclusive.

I claim—

1. The improvement in desks herein described, comprising a desk frame, a vertical series of drawers slidable therein, a vertical locking rod, a series of studs carried by said rod and movable with the same, and also having a limited movement independent of the said rod whereby one or more of the locking studs may engage with their respective drawers, and the other stud or studs may be out of locking engagement with their respective drawers, lateral arms carrying said independently movable studs, guide plates secured to the desk frame and having depending lugs projecting on opposite sides of the lateral arms whereby to retain the locking bar in alinement, a cover for the desk, and a lock carried by the cover and having a bolt projecting when in locked position to engage with and depress the sliding rod when the cover is closed, all substantially as and for the purposes set forth.

2. The combination with a vertical series of drawers, a slide rod, and devices carried by the slide rod for locking the several drawers and movable independently of the slide rod whereby when the slide rod is adjusted to lock one or more of the drawers, the locking devices corresponding to other drawers may be out of locked position lateral arms on the slide rod and carrying the locking devices and guide plates overlying the locking devices and having lugs depending alongside their respective lateral arms, substantially as set forth.

3. The combination in a desk of a vertical series of drawers, a slide rod having means for locking the drawers, a sliding cover, a lock for securing said cover in closed position, and a lock having a bolt which may project to operate upon the slide rod when the desk cover is closed.

4. The combination in a desk, of a vertical series of drawers, a movable cover, a slide rod having means for locking the drawers, a lock carried by the cover and having a bolt which may be projected to operate the slide rod, said lock being arranged for operation from the outer side of the cover whereby the lock may be operated to project or retract the bolt without opening the cover.

HARRY M. LEESE.

Witnesses:
SOLON C. KEMON,
PERRY B. TURPIN.