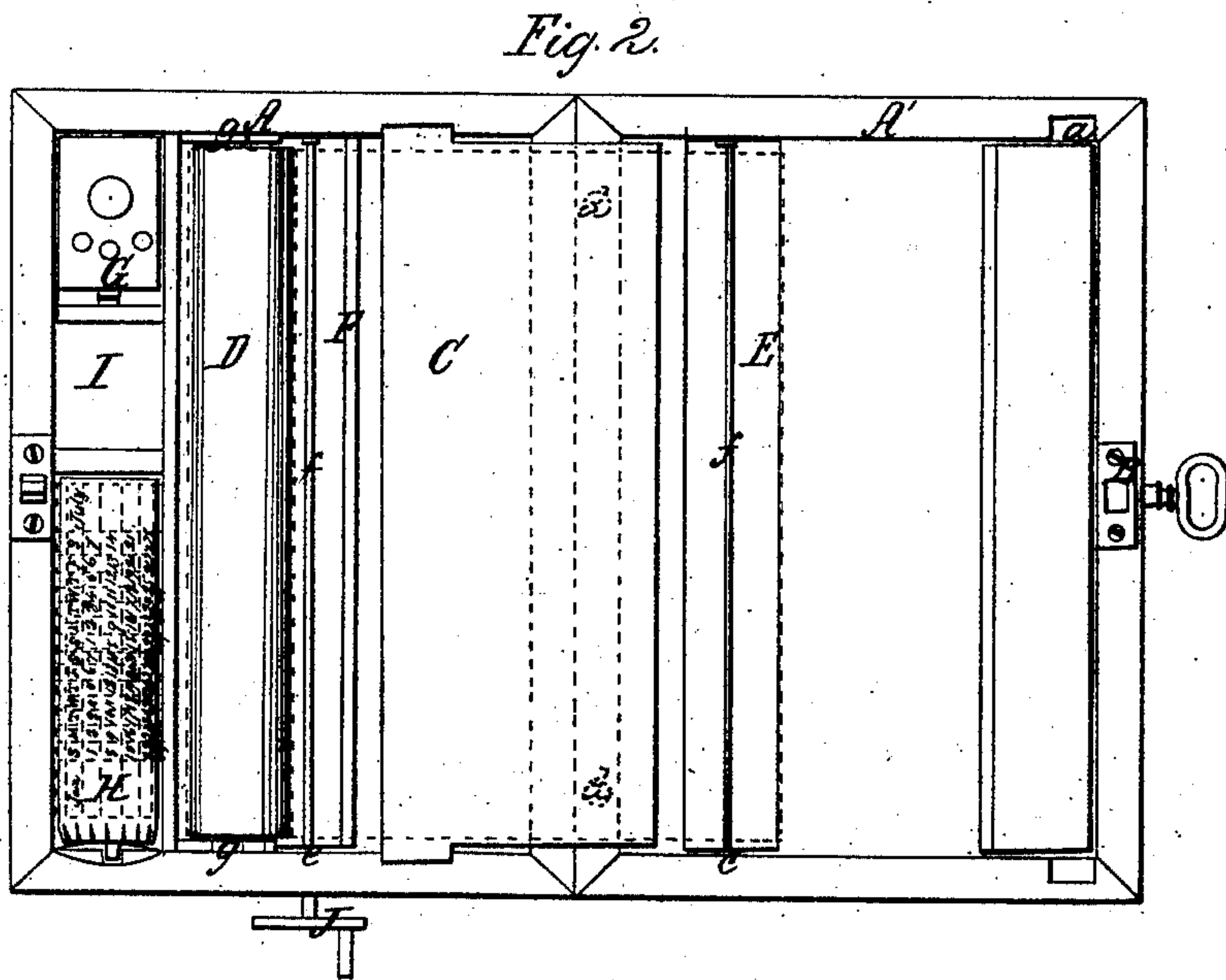
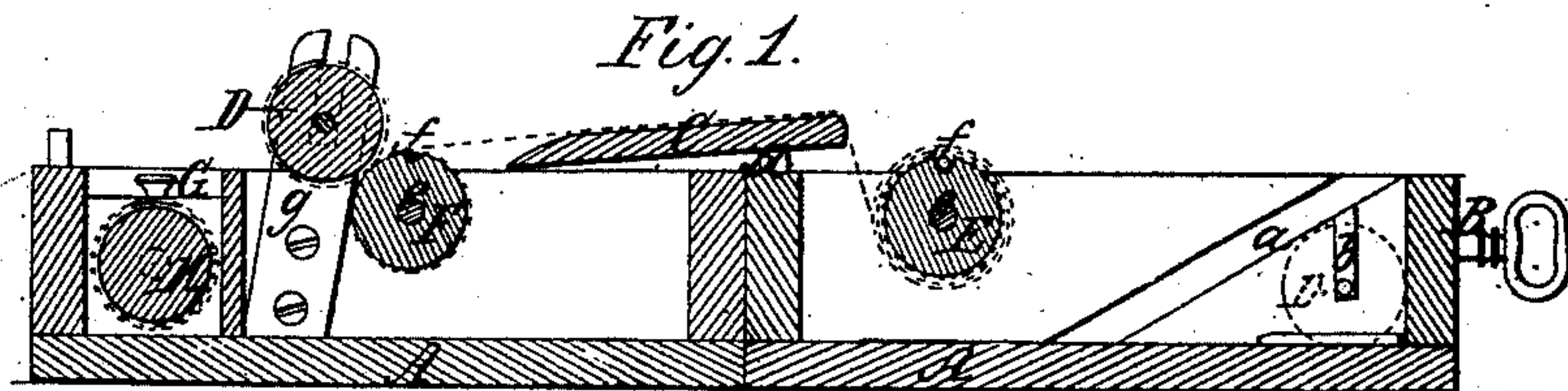


E. Hughes,

Writing Desk.

N^o 28,086.

Patented May 1, 1860.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ELISHA HUGHES, OF McCARTYSVILLE, CALIFORNIA.

WRITING-DESK.

Specification of Letters Patent No. 28,086, dated May 1, 1860.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ELISHA HUGHES, of McCartysville, in the county of Santa Clara and State of California, have invented a new and Improved Writing-Desk; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description of the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawing, forming a part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 is a transverse vertical section of my invention. Fig. 2 a plan or top view of ditto, when open and ready for use.

Similar letters of reference in both views indicate corresponding parts.

The object of this invention is to provide travelers with a box or valise which contains in a comparatively small space all the requisites for writing; paper, pen and ink, and the table even on which the writing can be done, and also a blotting roller, a ruler and an almanac, and my invention consists in arranging in a box or valise, two rollers to contain a continuous sheet of paper and another roller covered with blotting paper together, an adjustable table and inkstand, so that when the box is opened, and its parts adjusted, every requisite for writing is at hand, and that by turning one or the other of said rollers, the paper is made to travel over the table in either direction as may be desired, the whole being so arranged as to make a new article of manufacture.

To enable those skilled in the art to make and use my invention, I will proceed to describe its construction and operation.

A A' represents a box or valise, the two parts of which are hinged together, and precisely of the same depth, so that when the box is opened, the two parts lay down flat, as clearly shown in Fig. 1. When the box is closed, the part A forms the lid, and the part A' the body of the box, and both are fastened together by a lock B, in the usual manner. The body A' of the box is provided with grooves *a b* on both sides, the grooves *a*, to receive a table C, and the grooves *b* to receive the blotting roller D as shown in dotted lines in Fig. 1.

E is the paper roller, which turns on an axle *e*, the bearings of which, are in the sides of the body A' and the top edge of the inner end piece of the body A' is furnished with projecting pins *d* which serve to keep

the table in its place when the box is arranged for being used, as will be presently explained.

A roller F, similar to the roller E, turns on an axle *e*, which has its bearings in the sides of the lid A, and both the rollers E and F, are provided with spring catches *f*, to retain the end of the paper, and both these rollers are so arranged, that they can conveniently be rotated from the outside of the box, by means of a suitable handle J. Beyond the roller F, and rigidly attached to the sides of the lid are the slotted standards *g* which serve to receive the blotting roller D, as clearly shown in Fig. 1. The slots on these standards are of such a depth, that the blotting roller rests on the surface of the roller F, and that it rotates with the latter by friction.

The outside portion of the lid is partitioned off, so as to form a separate compartment for the inkstand G, and another compartment for a roller H that contains the almanac as clearly shown in Fig. 2. Between these two compartments is a space I, that serves to receive the handle J, if the box is not used.

The operation is as follows: When the box is to be used, the table C is withdrawn from the grooves *a* and placed on the top of the box as shown in the drawing. The paper from the roller E is now drawn over the table, and secured to the spring catch *f* of the roller F as represented in red lines in Fig. 1, and the blotting roller D is removed from the grooves *b* in the body A, and placed into the slots in the standards *g*. The paper, as it passes over the table C, is sufficiently strained to lay flat on the same, in the proper position to be written on, and as the writing proceeds, the roller F is turned in the direction of the arrow marked on the same, in Fig. 1. That portion of the paper, which is filled with writing, is thus rolled up on the roller F, and the wet writing is brought in contact with the surface of the blotting roller D, to prevent blotting. After the entire sheet has been unwound from the roller E, it may be drawn back on the same, by turning said roller in the direction marked thereon in Fig. 1, or it may be taken off from the roller F, and a new sheet put in its place.

The date can always be ascertained from

the almanac roller H, and the inkstand is kept in its place by a spring so that it can readily be removed whenever it becomes necessary to put in a new supply of ink.

5 When done writing, the inkstand is corked up tight, the blotting roller and the table are replaced to their respective places in the grooves *a* and *b* and the box is closed up and locked.

10 The expense of constructing such a box is very trifling and its convenience is obvious.

What I claim as new, and desire to secure

by Letters Patent, as a new article of manufacture is,

A writing box arranged as described with 15 paper rollers E and F, a blotting roller D, and a table C, in combination with an inkstand G, and with an almanac-roller H for the purpose specified.

ELISHA HUGHES.

Witnesses:

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