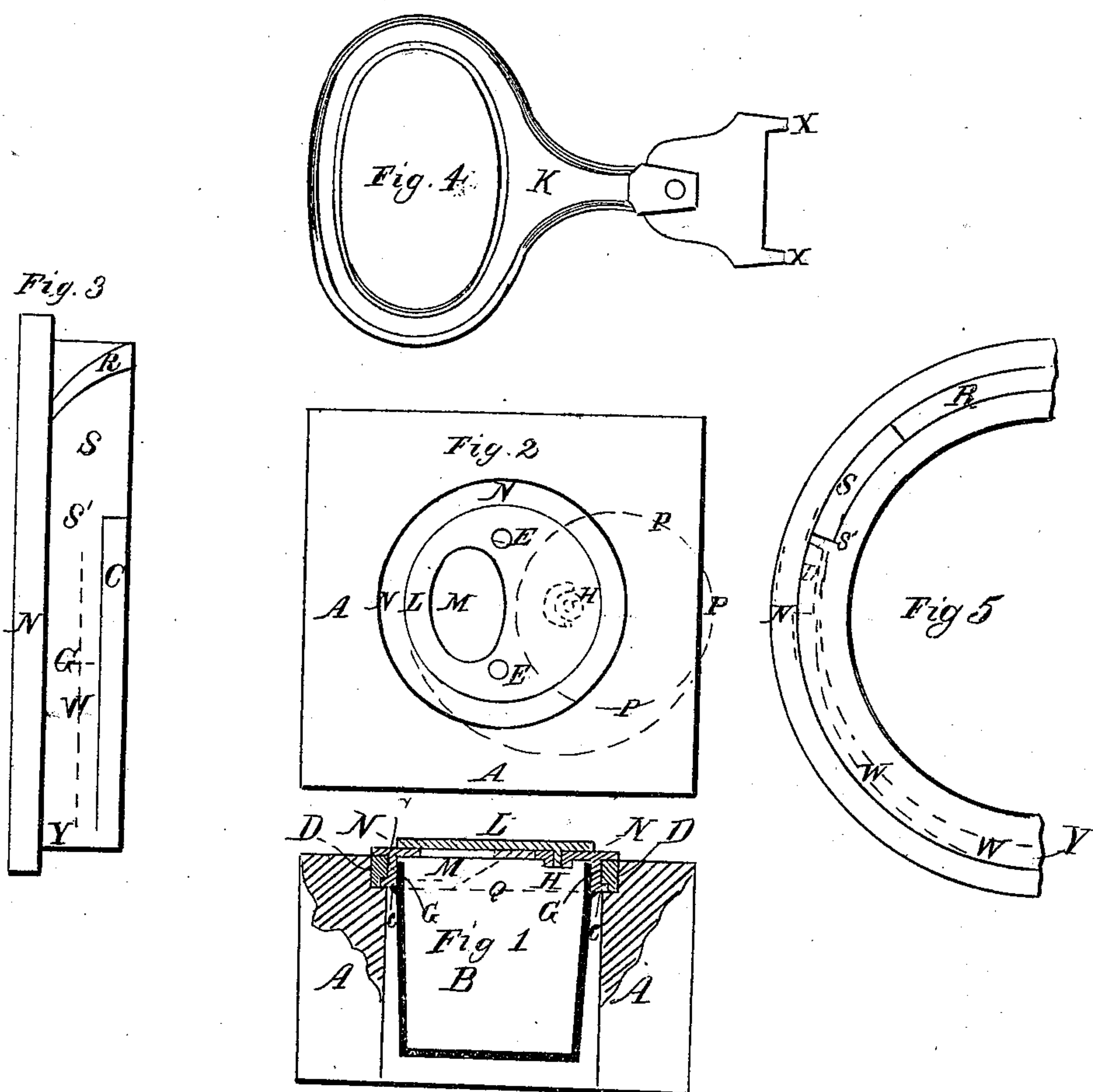


*F. C. Brownell.*  
*Inkstand.*

*No. 41,136.*

*Patented Jan. 5. 1864.*



*Witnesses*  
*E. D. Barker*  
*W. H. McIntire*

*Franklin C. Brownell*

# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

FRANKLIN C. BROWNELL, OF BROOKLYN, NEW YORK.

## IMPROVEMENT IN INK-WELLS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 41,136, dated January 5, 1864; antedated 1 December 30, 1863.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, FRANKLIN C. BROWNELL, of Brooklyn, in the county of Kings and State of New York, have invented a certain new and useful Improvement in Ink-Wells; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description of the nature and operation thereof, reference being had to the annexed drawings, making a part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 is a vertical section of my ink-well as in place for use. Fig. 2 is a plan of the same. Fig. 3 is a side view of that portion of the said well which is above the dotted line Q in Fig. 1, which may be called the "top" or "cap" of the well when separate. Fig. 4 is a side view of the key employed in attaching said well to the desk or stand or in removing it therefrom. Fig. 5 is the bottom view of a section of that portion of the well represented by Fig. 3.

Similar letters of reference indicate the same parts.

My said invention is specially adapted to school-desks, because the ink-well sets down nearly or entirely level with the surface of the desk, and is thus out of the way and is securely fastened to the desk, thus preventing the accidental spilling of the ink by upsetting, while at the same time it can be easily removed, when desired, for cleaning or other purposes.

The nature of my said invention consists in the employment of an irregular or gradually-contracting groove around the exterior of the well, with openings to admit lugs, and a socket having one or more lugs adapted to enter the said groove, and a key for the purpose of turning the well, in order to fasten it by wedging it into the socket, against the lugs, or to loosen it therefrom.

In the drawings, A A represent a portion of a desk or other article perforated for a socket to receive the ink-well B, which may be made of metal, hard rubber, glass, or any suitable material.

C C is a flange around the well, forming one side of the groove G, which is contained between the said flange C C and the top or upper surface of the well N N.

W represents the contracting portion of the said groove, and is equivalent to a curved

wedge lying in and partially filling the groove, with its point toward S, as similar wedge being on the opposite side of the well, or to an oval form of this portion of the well.

The dotted lines in Fig. 5 show the form of the wedge W, which at the point Y nearly or entirely fills the groove G.

D D are opposite lugs, fastened to or forming part of the socket in A A and entering the groove G through the spaces S S' in the flange, as shown in Fig. 3.

L is a circular lid covering the mouth M of the well and turning on a pivot at H. The dotted circle P in Fig. 2 shows the position of this lid when the well is open. The line surrounding M in Fig. 2 represents the mouth or orifice for filling the well and dipping the pen.

E E are holes admitting the prongs X X of the key K, Fig. 4, by which the well is turned in the socket. R R are opposite flanges crossing the groove diagonally above the spaces S S' for the purpose of raising the well to facilitate its removal. The parts essential in forming the groove G are the flanges C and the wedge W, or some equivalent.

When the well thus made is placed in the socket prepared in A A, the lugs D D enter the groove G through the spaces S S'. If then the prongs X X of the key K are placed in the holes E E, and the well is turned in the proper direction, the wedge or oval portion W will press against the lugs D D and effectually fasten the well, so that it cannot be moved without the use of the key. When it has been turned back and loosened, the well cannot be raised until the lugs correspond with the spaces S S', and since the top of the well is level, or nearly, so with the top of the desk, the flanges R R are placed diagonally, so that as the well is turned back sufficiently these will rise upon the lugs and lift the well above the desk, where it may easily be taken in the fingers.

The same principle would be employed, and it is evident that the ink-well would be equally secured to the desk, by having an oval-shaped flanged socket and placing the lugs on the well, or by having the groove G contract vertically instead of horizontally, or by having a regular uniform groove and wedge-shaped lugs of sufficient length; but I prefer to make it as shown in the drawings herewith, and to



connect the lugs with a metal ring, thus making a solid metal socket, which I fasten within the perforations in the desk.

What I claim as my invention, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

The use of a contracting groove, G, or its equivalent, around the exterior of an ink-well or its top or cap, in combination with one or

more lugs, D D, fastened to or forming part of the socket for the ink-well, the same being constructed and operating substantially as and for the purposes specified.

FRANKLIN C. BROWNELL.

Witnesses:

J. A. CANFIELD,

J. S. KIRTLAND.