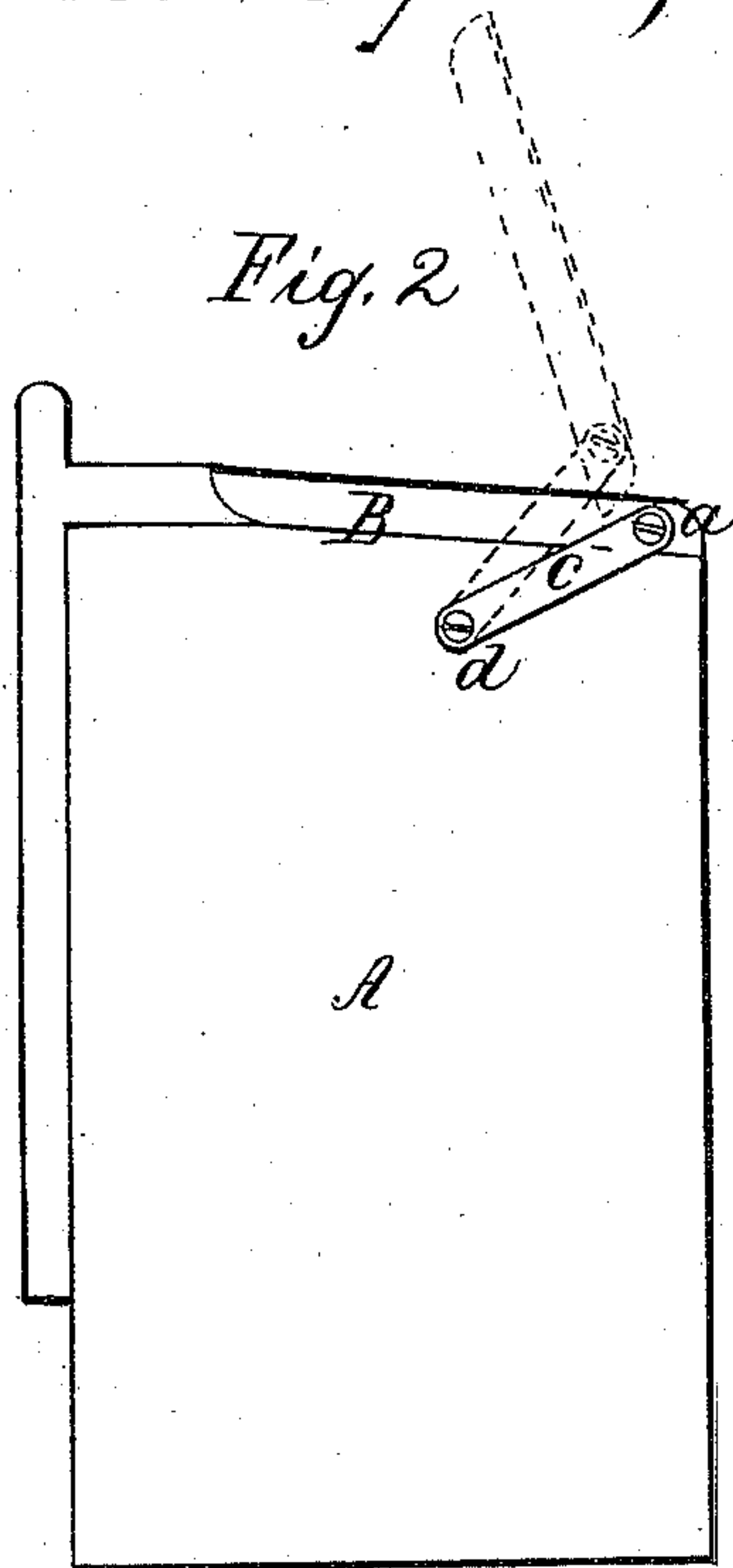
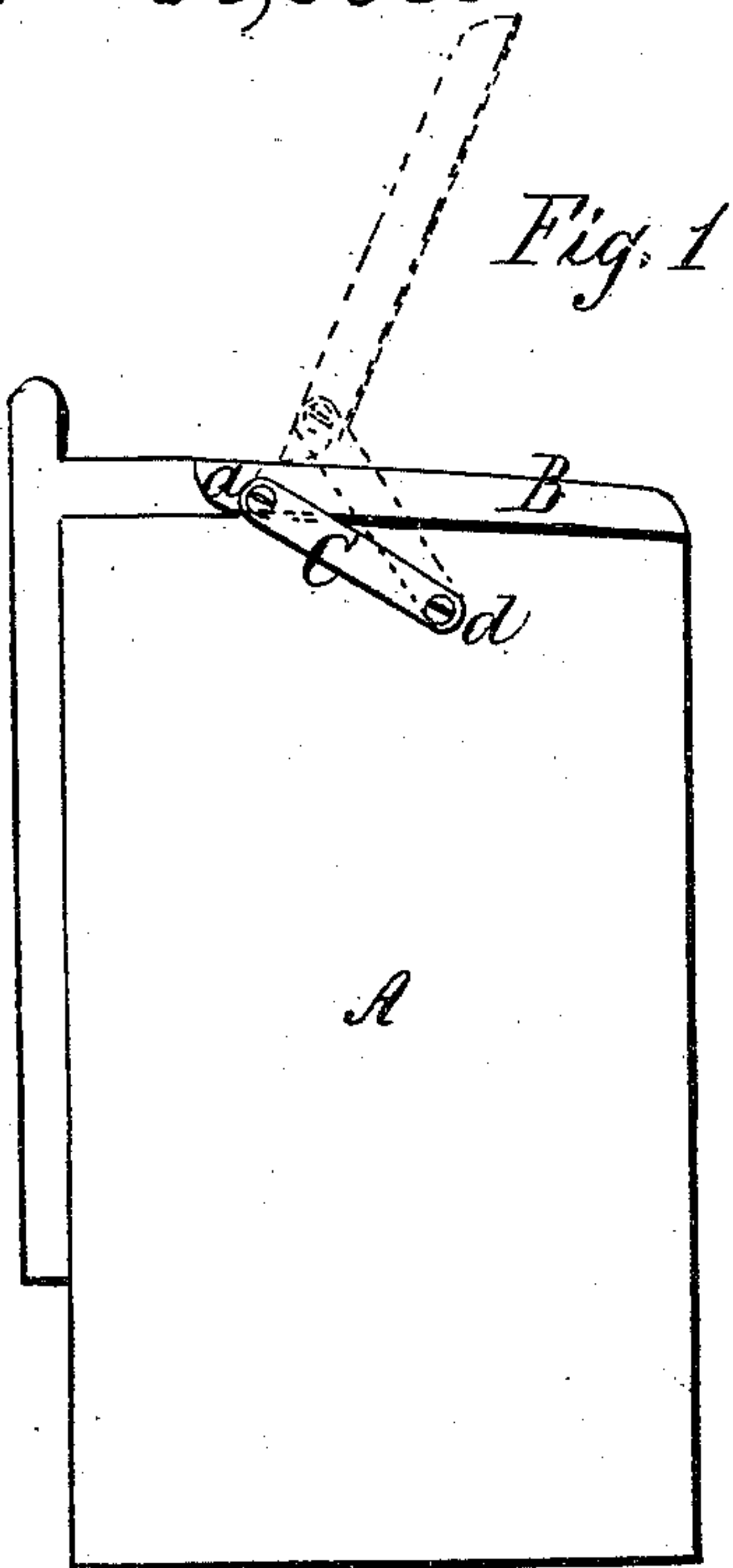


*J. E. Blair*

*School Desk.*

*N<sup>o</sup> 63,839.*

*Patented Apr. 16, 1867.*



*Inventor*

*J. E. Blair*

*By his atty*

*John E. Earle*

*Witnesses*

*John T. Shuman*  
*A. J. Libbets*

# United States Patent Office.

JAMES E. BLAIR, OF NEW HAVEN, CONNECTICUT.

*Letters Patent No. 63,839, dated April 16, 1867.*

## IMPROVED SCHOOL-DESK.

The Schedule referred to in these Letters Patent and making part of the same.

### TO ALL WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

Be it known that I, JAMES E. BLAIR, of New Haven, in the county of New Haven, and State of Connecticut, have invented a new improvement in School-Desks; and I do hereby declare the following, when taken in connection with the accompanying drawings and the letters of reference marked thereon, to be a full, clear, and exact description of the same, and which said drawings constitute part of this specification, and represent, in—

Figure 1 an end view, showing the cover of the desk one side up; and in

Figure 2 a similar view, the cover reversed.

This invention consists in preparing one side of the desk cover so as to give to it a slate or similar enamelled or plated surface, and the reverse side simply the ordinary wood surface, and the said cover so hinged to the desk that the cover may be turned so as to present either side uppermost.

To enable others to construct my improvement, I will proceed to describe the same as illustrated in the accompanying drawings.

A is the desk form of common construction; B the cover. One side of the said cover (as denoted by the darkened line, the under side in fig. 1) I coat with any composition, which, when finished, shall present a smooth enamelled or slate surface, or, if preferred, a plate of common slate may be secured thereon, yet, for practical purposes, the coating is best; the other or reverse side (which is the upper side in fig. 1) I finish in the ordinary manner for school-desks. I hinge the said cover B to the form A by a bar, C, upon either end, pivoted to the cover at *a* and to the form at *d*, that is to say, at such point that by raising the cover, as denoted in red, fig. 1, turning it over, as denoted in red, fig. 2, the cover will drop into the position denoted in fig. 2, presenting the reverse or enamelled side of the cover, and returned to the position, denoted in fig. 1, by raising the cover, as denoted in red, fig. 2, then returning it, as seen in fig. 1.

The object of this improvement is to dispense with the use of the common school-slate, which is a source of great annoyance in schools from the noise made by the scholars in their use. When the scholar requires the slate, turn the cover to present the slate or enamelled surface uppermost, as seen in fig. 2, and when no longer required reverse the cover, as before described; thus the slate becomes a fixture, not liable to be broken or to the many objections which exist to the use of the common slate.

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

A school-desk cover, reversible in the manner substantially as described, having one of its surfaces coated or plated, as herein set forth.

JAMES E. BLAIR.

Witnesses:

JOHN E. EARLE,

JOHN H. SHUMWAY.