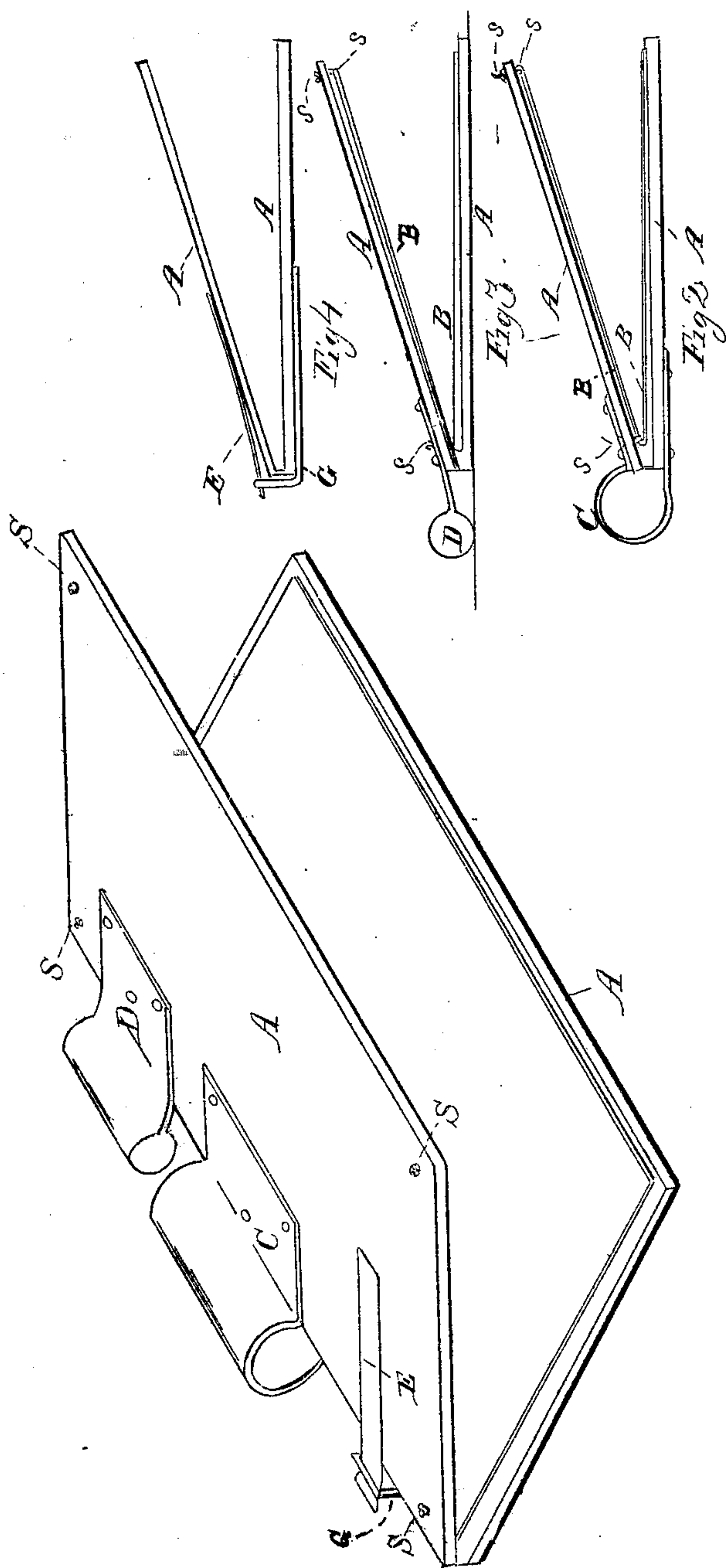


J. E. Billings.
Blotter.

No 69616.

Patented Oct. 8 1867.



Witnesses.
Chas. F. Fleeger.
Charles D. Bryan

Inventor
Jos. E. Billings.

United States Patent Office.

JOSEPH E. BILLINGS, OF BELMONT, ASSIGNOR TO HIMSELF AND FREDERIC H. MOORE, OF BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS.

Letters Patent No. 69,616, dated October 8, 1867; antedated September 12, 1867.

AUTOMATIC BLOTTER.

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, JOSEPH E. BILLINGS, of the town of Belmont, in the county of Middlesex, and State of Massachusetts, have invented a new and improved Automatic Blotter; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description of the construction and operation of the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, making a part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of the blotter, showing three different arrangements for opening it.

Figure 2 is an end elevation of the blotter, showing a spring-opener.

Figure 3 is an end elevation of the blotter, showing a balance-opener.

Figure 4 is an end elevation of the blotter, showing a spring and clasp-opener.

My invention consists in so constructing and arranging a blotter in a book form that it will be a convenient article for the table or desk, on which it will lie with its covers apart, ready to receive the paper from which the surplus ink is to be removed, and will automatically return to its original position after using.

In the said drawings, A represents the book covers, which may be made of any suitable material, B the blotting-paper, s strings, passing from end to end inside the covers, to hold the blotting-paper in place, E a spring attached to one cover, and playing freely in a clasp, G, on the other cover, (figs. 1 and 4.)

This blotter is operated by placing the paper to be blotted between the covers, and pressing them together, when the blotting-paper will take up the surplus ink, and upon the removal of such pressure, the covers will separate by means of the spring, allowing the paper to be removed. This, in my opinion, is the best form of spring, but it is obvious that other forms may be used; for instance, the spring E, instead of being of metal, as shown, may be of rubber, secured to the clasp G or its equivalent at one end, and to the cover at the other, or the spring C (figs. 1 and 2) may be substituted, or the cover may be balanced by the weight D, (figs. 1 and 3.)

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

The combination of the covers, the blotting-paper, and the spring or its equivalent, substantially as and for the purpose specified.

JOS. E. BILLINGS.

Witnesses:

HAMMATT BILLINGS,
P. E. TESCHEMACHER.