

W. W. UNDERHILL.
Accountant's or Bookkeeper's Desk.

No. 232,784.

Patented Sept. 28, 1880.

Fig. 1.

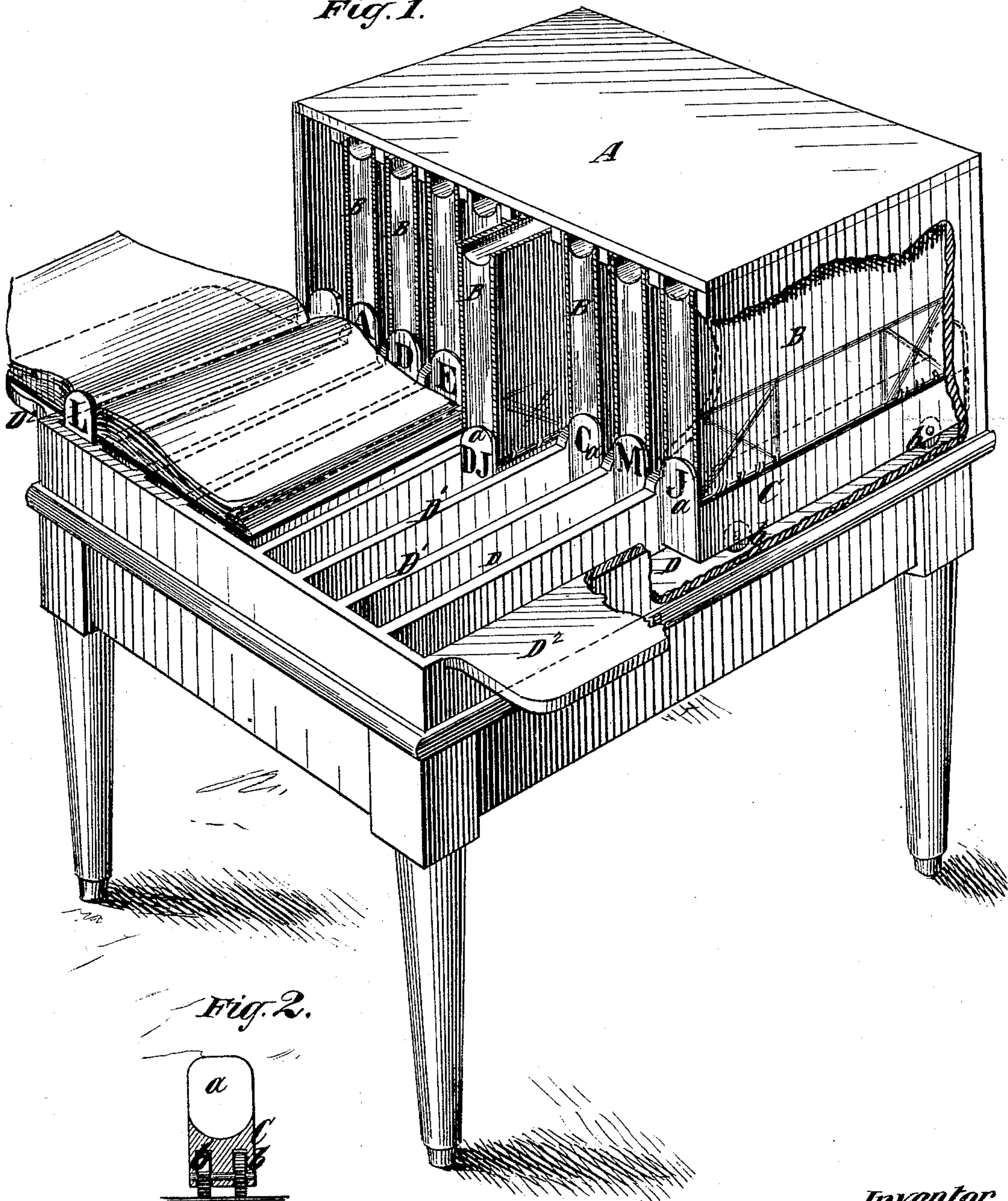
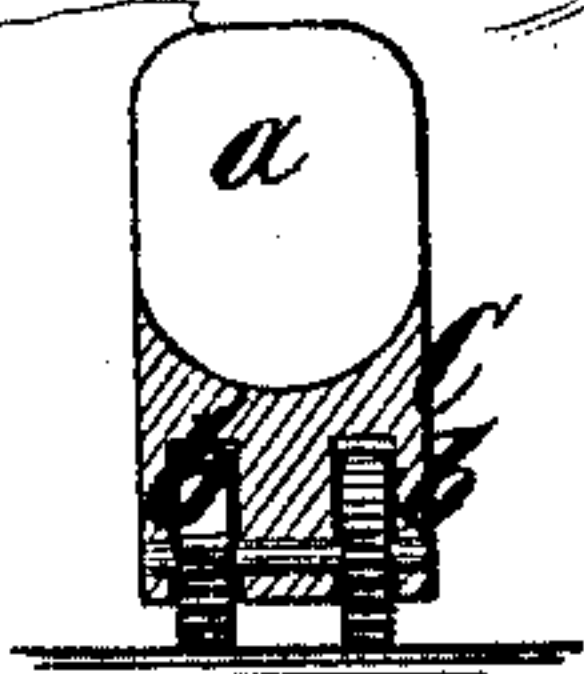


Fig. 2.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLIAM W. UNDERHILL, OF BROOKLYN, NEW YORK.

ACCOUNTANT'S OR BOOK-KEEPER'S DESK.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 232,784, dated September 28, 1880.

Application filed September 19, 1879.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM W. UNDERHILL, of Brooklyn, in Kings county, and State of New York, have invented a certain new and
5 useful Improvement in Accountants' or Book-keepers' Desks, of which the following is a specification.

My invention consists in the combination, with a receptacle for books provided with fixed
10 vertical partitions for supporting the books independently of each other, of carriages for conveying the books in and out of said receptacle, tracks or ways extending horizontally from the receptacle, forming guides for the movement of
15 the carriages, and serving as a fixed support on which the side covers of the books can be laid and sustained in a convenient position for use.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 represents a perspective view of a desk embodying my improvements, and Fig. 2 represents a transverse section through one of the carriages for supporting the books.

Similar letters of reference designate corresponding parts in all the figures.

25 A designates a receptacle for books B, shown as divided, by fixed vertical partitions, into a series of compartments, each of a proper size to hold and support a single book independently of the others. These compartments have
30 openings at the front or one side to permit the withdrawal of books. Each of the said books is represented as supported on its back upon a small carriage, C, which is preferably hollowed or made concave upon its upper side, so
35 as to fit the round or convex back of a book. The said carriages are provided at their ends with upwardly-extending pieces *a*, adapted to bear upon the ends of a book to prevent its becoming displaced on the carriage, and such
40 pieces may bear upon them letters to designate the books, as clearly represented in Fig. 1.

D designates tracks or ways (here shown as consisting of surfaces extending from the bottom of the compartments in the receptacle A)
45 for supporting the carriages C, and partitions or ribs D', to guide the carriages in their movement.

The partitions or ribs D' form a fixed support for the side covers and leaves of the

books, supporting them in convenient position
50 for writing when drawn from their compartments and opened, as clearly represented by the book upon the carriage marked L in Fig. 1.

To support the outside book at each side of the receptacle I have shown wings or shelves
55 D², extending horizontally at each side of the desk level with the tops of the partitions D'.

In order to facilitate the insertion and removal of the carriages C into and from the compartments, I have represented them as
60 supported on wheels or rollers *b*, which in this example of my invention are secured to the carriages. In lieu of this, however, rollers might be supported in fixed bearings in the tracks or ways D and the bottoms of the car-
65 riages made plain.

If desirable, the carriages C might be provided with hinged side pieces adapted to be closed against the covers of the books when
70 the latter are shut, and in such case the partitions forming the compartments in the receptacle A might be dispensed with.

By my invention I furnish a desk for heavy account-books, such as bank-books, which occupies little space and is so constructed that
75 any one of the books may be brought into a position for writing thereon without lifting the same or dragging it out of its place and wearing out or marring the binding, and by which the books are well supported while open. 80

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

The combination, with a receptacle for books provided with fixed vertical partitions for supporting the books independently of each other,
85 of carriages for conveying the books in and out of said receptacle, and tracks or ways extending horizontally from the openings of the compartments, forming guides for the movement of the carriages and serving as a fixed support
90 on which the side covers of the books can be laid and sustained in a convenient position for use, substantially as specified.

W. W. UNDERHILL.

Witnesses:

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