

(No Model.)

2 Sheets—Sheet 1.

D. C. LEHMAN.  
BOOK REST.

No. 490,569.

Patented Jan. 24, 1893.

FIG. 1.

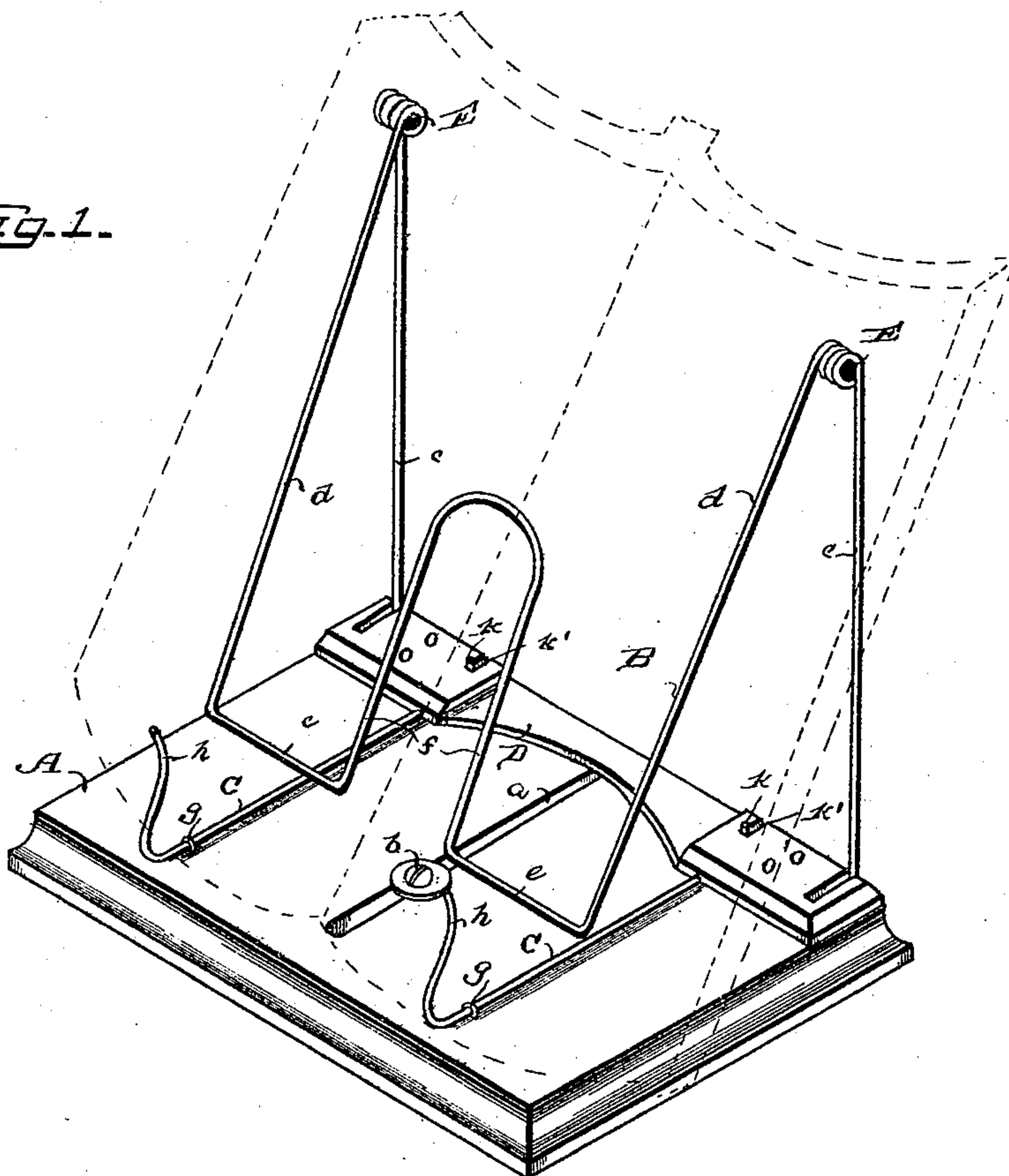


FIG. 3.

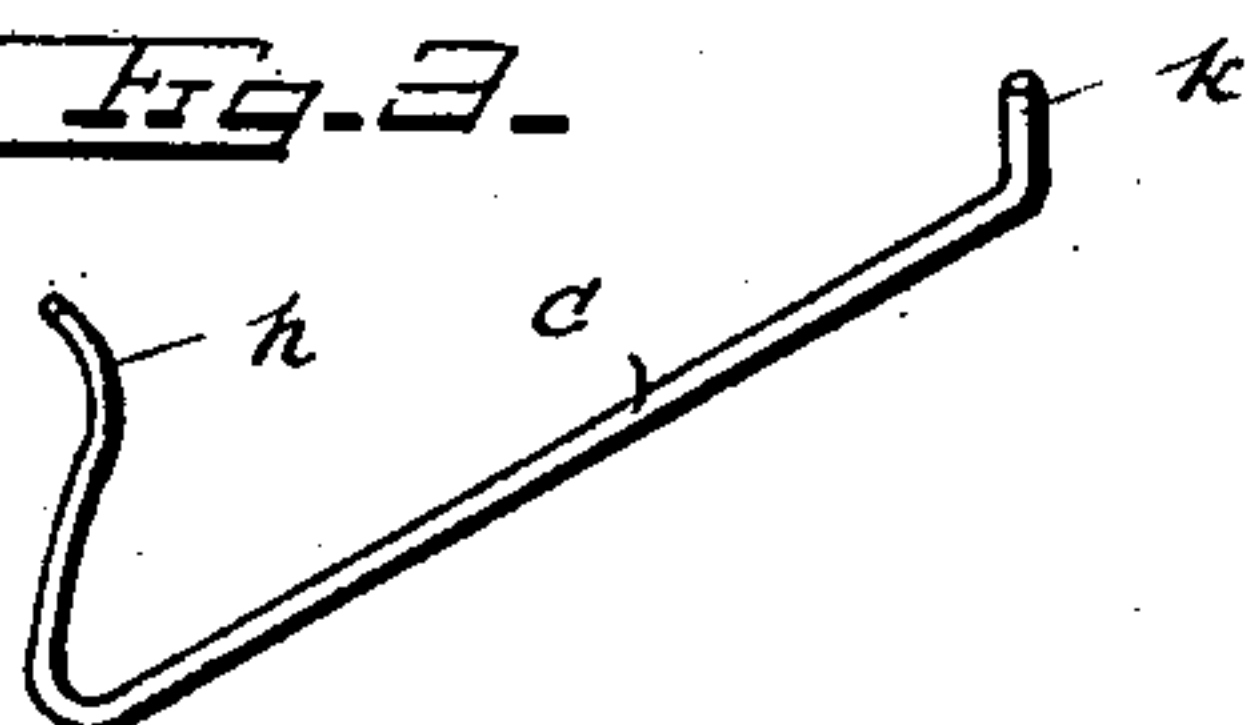
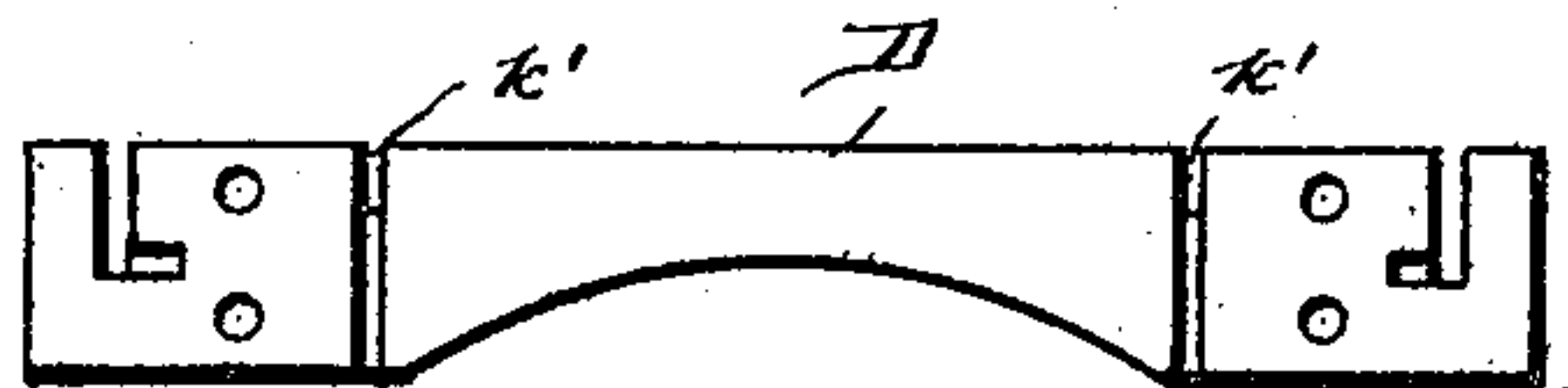


FIG. 4.

FIG. 5.



Witnesses:

Jesse Heller.  
Phileas Mass.

Inventor.

D. C. Lehman,  
by Edward W. Smith  
his Attorney.





# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

DANIEL C. LEHMAN, OF FULTONVILLE, NEW YORK.

## BOOK-REST.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 490,569, dated January 24, 1893.

Application filed June 30, 1892. Serial No. 438,579. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, DANIEL C. LEHMAN, a citizen of the United States, and a resident of Fultonville, in the county of Montgomery and State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Book-Rests; and I do declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and to letters of reference marked thereon, which form a part of this specification.

Figure 1 of the drawings is a perspective view of the book rest. Fig. 2 is a perspective view of same in folded position. Fig. 3 is a perspective view of one of the holders. Fig. 4 is perspective detail of lower rear portion of rest B. Fig. 5 is a bottom view of the notched plate. Fig. 6 is a view of cushion on under side of base. Fig. 7 is a perspective view of rest in modified form.

This invention has relation to certain new and useful improvements in book rests, and it consists in the novel construction and combination of parts, all as hereinafter specified.

In the accompanying drawings, the letter A designates a wooden base or support, having therein a central elongated slot *a*, through which is inserted a screw *b*, by means of which said base is secured to a desk or table. Said screw works loosely in the slot, so that the holder may be adjusted nearer to or farther away from the user, as may be desired. This feature may however be omitted, and the base left unfastened, as shown in Fig. 7.

The holder proper in the construction shown in Fig. 1 consists of three pieces of wire, one piece B forming the rest for the back of the book, and the other two pieces C, C, forming the holder for the lower front portion of the book. The wire B is bent to form the two parallel vertical arms *c*, *c*, having angular lower portions *c'* loosely or pivotally secured one at each side to the rear corner of the base by a notched metallic plate D, as shown. At the upper end of each arm *c*, *c*, is formed a small spring coil E, and from each of these coils, the wire extends downwardly and forwardly to form the oblique arms *d*, *d*, the lower ends of which extend nearly to the base, where they are connected by the transverse portion *e*,

which at its central portion is bent upwardly to form an inverted U-shaped loop *f*. The wires C, C, are located one near each lateral edge of the base, being secured thereto at their rear portions by passing loosely under the plate D, and at their forward portions by small staples *g*. At their forward ends they are each bent upwardly and slightly rearward to form the curved arms *h*, *h*. The book is held with its lower edge between the said arms *h*, *h*, and the spring loop formed by the arms *d*, *d*, and their connecting portion, said loop also supporting the back of the book. Owing to the spring character of this loop it is enabled to hold books of different thicknesses.

For convenience in packing, and in order that it may occupy less space when not in use, I have designed the parts to fold into close contact with the base as indicated in Fig. 2. In order to accomplish this the spring loop or support is pressed back between the arms *c*, *c*, and the whole is then folded over forwardly upon the base. The wires C, C, which are loosely held to the base, as above stated, are also folded by turning them inwardly toward each other, with the arms *h*, *h*, in horizontal position. For the purpose of holding these arms vertical when the rest is in use, I provide the rear ends of the wires C, C, with angular portions *k*, which upon a forward endwise movement of said wires, are drawn into engagement with small slots or notches *k'* in the rear edge of the plate D. Before said arms can be turned down into folded position, it is therefore necessary to disengage the portions *k* from said notches or slots. The under surface of the base may be provided with cushions *p* to prevent injury to the surface of the desk or table. In Fig. 7 I have shown a rest of similar form, with the exception that it is not adapted to collapse or fold, and can therefore be formed from a single piece of wire. This wire is secured to the base by bending angular horizontal portions *m* therein, over which are driven staples *m'*, as indicated. In this form the spring coils are omitted, the inherent elasticity of the wire aided by the bends *u*, which connect said loop to the vertical arms *c*, *c*, giving the loop sufficient spring.

The invention will be found of great benefit to scholars, and others for the following



reasons: It serves to hold the book, or other printed or written matter at the proper distance from the eyes, obviating the necessity of bending over to fix the eyes thereon, which  
5 is the great cause of the prevalence of myopia and round shoulders in the young. It also does away with the necessity for the scholar to constantly handle the book, thereby causing the book to remain in good condition for  
10 a longer time. It also gives more room upon the desk for writing, and other purposes. The cost of manufacture is but slight.

Having described this invention, what I claim and desire to secure by Letters Patent  
15 is:

1. The herein described book rest, comprising the base board or block, the horizontal wires C, C, secured thereto, one near each lateral edge, and terminating at their forward  
20 ends in upwardly turned arms h, h, serving to hold the lower front portion of the book, the vertical parallel single wire arms c, c, rising from said base, and an integral transverse spring loop connecting the upper ends of said  
25 arms, said loop extending downward and forward obliquely to within a short distance of the arms h, h, and serving as a support for the back of the book, said loop being free at its lower portion, whereby it may yield to receive

different sizes of books, substantially as specified.  
30

2. The combination of the base, the arms c, c, loosely secured thereto, said arms having the spring coils at their upper ends, the spring  
35 loop depending from the upper end of said arms and extending forwardly therefrom, and the wires C, C, loosely secured to the base and formed at their forward ends with upwardly  
40 turned arms h, h, said parts being designed to collapse or fold in the manner as specified.

3. The combination with the base having means whereby it may be adjustably secured to a desk or table, and the notched plate D secured to the rear edge thereof, of the wire  
45 arms c, c, loosely secured to the base by said plate, the depending oblique spring loop carried by said arms, and the wires C, C, loosely held to the base and formed with the arms h, h, said parts being arranged to fold or collapse as specified, and means for locking the  
50 arms h, h, in upright position while in use, substantially as specified.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature in presence of two witnesses.

DANIEL C. LEHMAN.

Witnesses:

LORENZO V. PEEK,  
O. F. CONABLE.