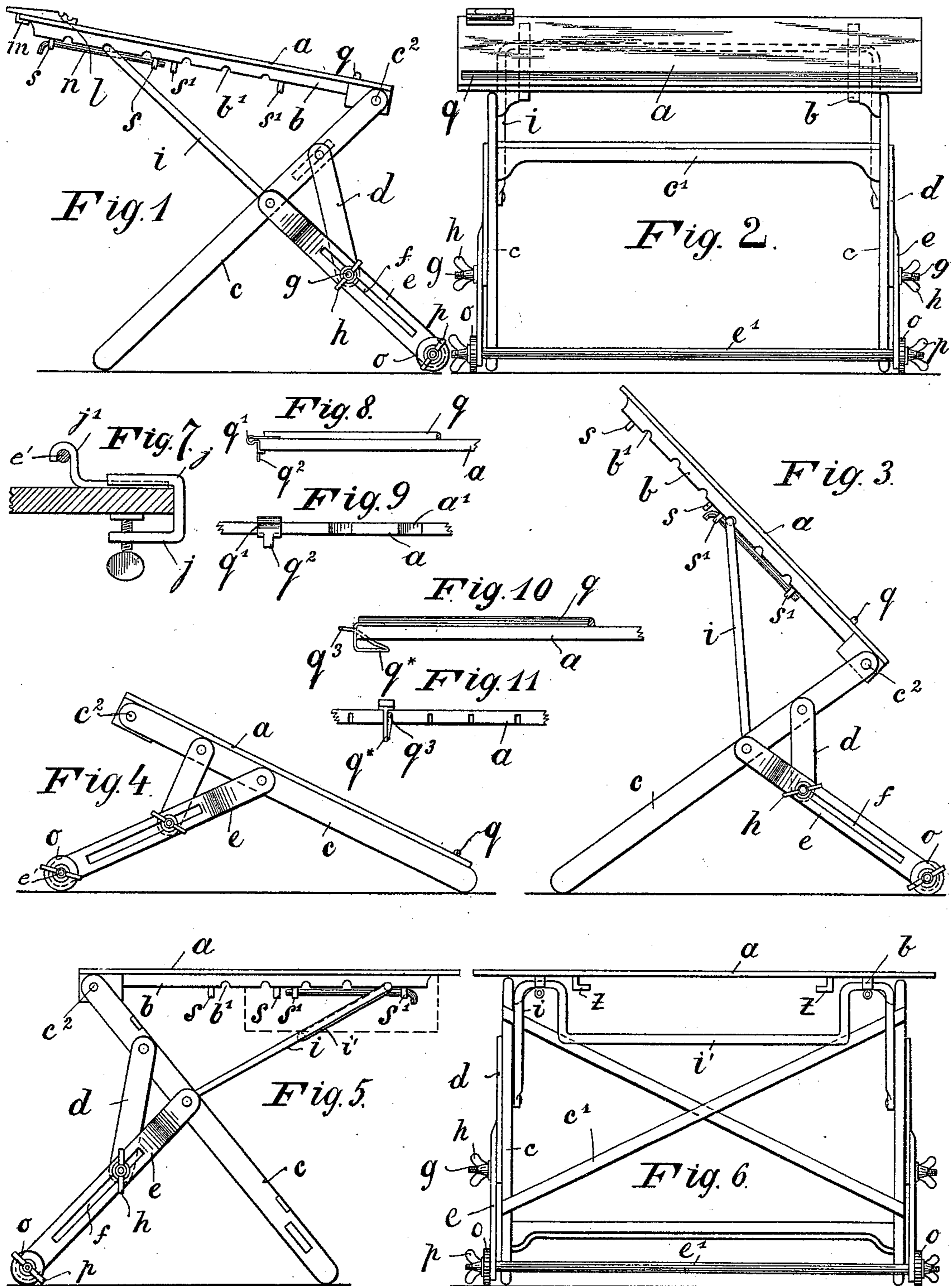


(No Model.)

L. ATZERT.  
ADJUSTABLE DESK.

No. 519,655.

Patented May 8, 1894.



Witnesses:  
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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

LOUIS ATZERT, OF CASSEL, GERMANY.

## ADJUSTABLE DESK.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 519,655, dated May 8, 1894.

Application filed June 14, 1893. Serial No. 477,542. (No model.) Patented in England June 24, 1890, No. 9,789.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, LOUIS ATZERT, merchant, a subject of the Emperor of Germany, and a resident of Cassel, in the Empire of Germany, have invented a certain new and useful Improved Adjustable Desk which can be Adapted for a Number of Purposes, (for which I have obtained Letters Patent in Great Britain, No. 9,789, dated June 24, 1890,) of which the following is a specification.

This invention refers to an improved adjustable desk which can be placed on tables or other objects, and which can be arranged at different heights or inclinations, so as to be adapted for various purposes, as, for instance, a writing or reading desk, a music stand, painter's easel or an invalid's or ordinary table.

The construction shown in the accompanying drawings and particularly described in the following specification, has for its chief object to provide a desk which can be readily and safely fixed in every position, so that it can be used in a raised or lowered position as reading desk, music stand or easel, and to avoid tedious or difficult manipulation in fixing the same when arranging it for different purposes. There are also arrangements provided so that the desk can be converted into an invalid's or ordinary table, and, if necessary, a drawer can be connected with same. Furthermore, this invention comprises improvements for the safe arrangement of the desk, or fixing it to a table, and the attachment of adjustable ledges on same, so as to put a book on the plate at different heights.

Referring to the drawings which form a part of this specification, Figure 1 is a side view of the desk arranged as a writing or drawing desk. Fig. 2 is a front view of same. Figs. 3 and 4 show the desk as a raised and lowered reading desk. Figs. 5 and 6 are side and front views respectively of the desk with horizontal panel serviceable as a table, for which purpose a drawer is connected with the panel or plate. Fig. 7 shows a clamping device or attachment for securing the desk to a table. Figs. 8, 9, 10 and 11 are details of different devices for adjustably attaching a ledge to the panel.

The improved desk consists essentially of a rectangular wooden plate or panel *a* pro-

vided with side frames *c* connected by the cross bar *c'* and forming supports hinged at *c''* to the panel *a*. About the middle of the frame *c* two supporting arms *e* are pivotally connected on the outer sides, the free ends of which are furnished with disks *o*, of leather, rubber or other suitable material, and coupled by means of a rod *e'*, secured by fly nuts *p* so that an adjustment of the supporting arms *e* can be effected simultaneously. The respective position of the arms *e* is secured by means of links *d* pivoted to the frame *c* of the desk above the points at which the arms *e* turn, and provided with threaded projections or pegs *g* projecting through slots *f* of the arms *e* on which pegs fly nuts *h* can be screwed in order to secure the position of the links *d*. A bent wire rod *i* projects with its ends through holes in the frame *c* or forms the pivots of the arms *e*, such rod *i* serving as a support for the plate *a* in such a way that the horizontal part of the rod enters the notches *b'* of ledges *b* fastened on the underside of the plate *a* in such manner that such notches are arranged oppositely, so that by raising or lowering the bent wire rod *i* a more or less inclined or evenly horizontal position of the plate *a* can be secured, as shown in Figs. 1, 3 and 5 respectively of the drawings. By thus adjusting the plate *a*, the desk can be used for writing on, music stand, reading desk, or drawing board. If the desk is arranged as in Fig. 4, the bent rod *i* is not used, and is folded against the plate *a* which is also the case with the frame *c*, so that the desk rests with one edge on the table or other object on which it is placed, and is only supported by the arms *e* and links *d* which are in this way directed rearward. In order to prevent the rod *i* when inserted in the notches *b'* coming out of such notches, a pin *n* is threaded into the loops *s* *s'* fixed in the rack *b* in such way that the bent rod *i* is secured in its position; if desired, such attachment can be arranged on both racks on each side. The small wooden block *l* in Fig. 1 which can be fixed anywhere on the edge of the plate by means of a suitable hook or spring *m*, may be used for carrying an inkstand, &c.

It is desirable that the rod *e'* (Figs. 2 and 4) which connects the two arms *e* can be easily withdrawn; for this purpose fly nuts *p* are

employed, which can be easily unscrewed, when it is required to draw out the rod  $e'$ ; if this is done, no further transverse connections between the arms  $e$  and lower parts of the frame  $c$  exist, so that the desk can then be readily and securely placed over the bed of a sick person for use as invalid's table.

Figs. 5 and 6 represent a modification—the employment of the desk as a table, for which purpose a drawer can be arranged under the plate. In order to provide room for such drawer, the transverse rod  $i$  is bent at right angles forming the centrally depressed portion  $i'$ , the drawer being supported by suitable guides or ledges  $t t$ , as shown in Fig. 6.

For securing the desk to a table and preventing its being moved when in use, a fastening or clamping device can be used, which grasps the transverse rod  $e'$ . A suitable device for this purpose is shown in Fig. 7, according to which the hook  $j'$  which engages with the rod  $e'$  is adjustably attached to the cramp  $j$  which is provided with a thumb screw as usual.

In order to use the desk as a book or music stand, a supporting ledge is preferably fitted on the plate, which can be fastened by pins entering holes or recesses in the table.

The arrangements shown in Figs. 8, 9, 10 and 11 have the advantage that the ledges can be moved at will up or down on the plate without providing holes or recesses for receiving pins or other attachments of the ledge.

As shown in Fig. 9 which is an edge view of Fig. 8, the edges of the plate  $a$  are supplied with grooves or recesses  $a'$  entered by the springs  $q'$  which are attached to the ends of the ledge. For adjusting the ledge, it is only necessary to pull outward the nose  $q^2$  and after so releasing the springs from the recesses of the plate, move the ledge up or down into the required position, when the springs again automatically enter the recesses they are opposite. The modification of such device shown in Figs. 10 and 11 consists of a wire spring  $q^*$  which is bent backward in such a manner as to form a part which can enter the notches or recesses in the edge of the plate, whereas by a downward pressure on the protruding end  $q^3$ , this device can be released.

The desk described in the foregoing specification which is characteristic for its manifold uses, can be subjected to many modifications in its details, without departing from the nature of this invention.

Having now described my invention, what I claim as new, and wish to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. In an improved desk which can be employed for a variety of purposes, the combination, with the plate, of a frame arranged under such plate and pivotally connected

with same, supporting arms pivotally attached thereto, links adjustably connected with such arms and pivotally connected with the said frame, and of a bent rod for supporting the plate, which is provided on the under side with racks or notched ledges for receiving such supporting rod, substantially as described and shown.

2. The combination of the plate or panel  $a$ , a frame pivotally connected thereto, the supporting arms adjustably secured to the said frame, and a link pivoted at its upper end to the said frame and having its lower end adapted to slide upon one or both of the supporting arms for securing the plate  $a$  in different positions relative to the frame, substantially as described.

3. In a desk, the combination of the plate  $a$ , the supporting frame to which it is pivoted, and the pivoted rod  $i$  for sustaining the plate at an angle to the frame, provided with a centrally arranged depressed portion  $i'$ , substantially as and for the purposes set forth.

4. In combination with a desk having a cross or transverse rod constituting a part of its support, a table upon which said desk rests a hooked clamp adapted to engage with the said transverse rod, and with the table substantially as and for the purposes set forth.

5. In combination with a desk having a transverse rod constituting a part of its support, a clamping device for securing the desk to a table, consisting of a hook  $j'$  adapted to engage with the said transverse rod, and a clamp  $j$  to which the said hook is adjustably secured, substantially as described.

6. In a desk, the combination with the plate  $a$  having the notches or recesses along its edge, of an adjustable ledge provided with the spring catches adapted to engage with the said recesses, substantially as and for the purposes set forth.

7. In a desk, the combination of a plate, a supporting frame to which it is pivoted, the pivoted rod for sustaining the plate at an angle to the frame, the supporting arms adjustably secured to said frame at about its center, and a link pivoted at its upper end to the frame and having its lower end adapted to slide upon one or both of the supporting arms whereby the said plate is raised or lowered to any desired position, substantially as set forth.

In witness whereof I have hereunto signed my name in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

LOUIS ATZERT.

Witnesses:

W. HAUPT,  
L. A. EDWARDS.