

No. 842,018.

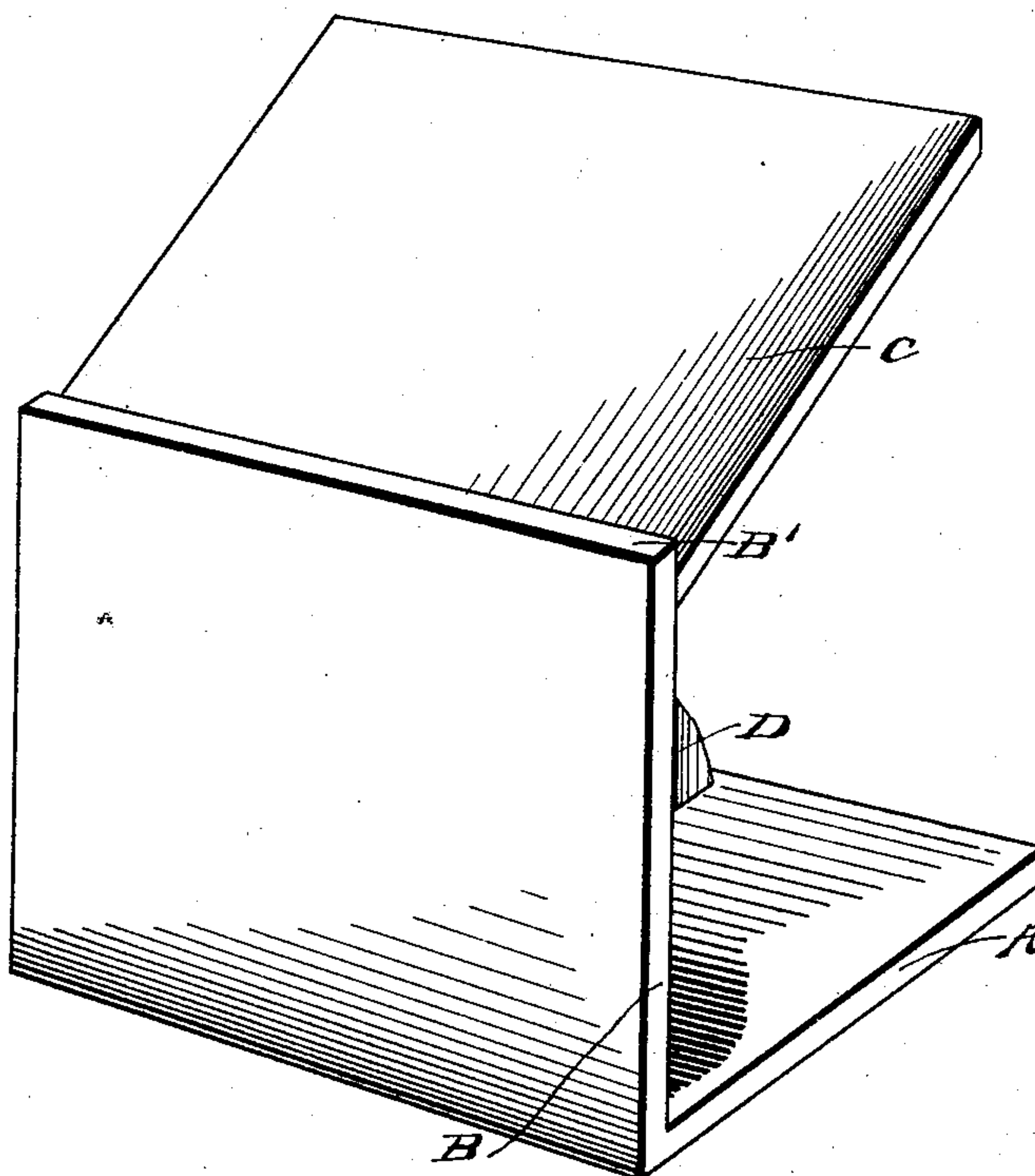
PATENTED JAN. 22, 1907.

F. C. RUSSELL.

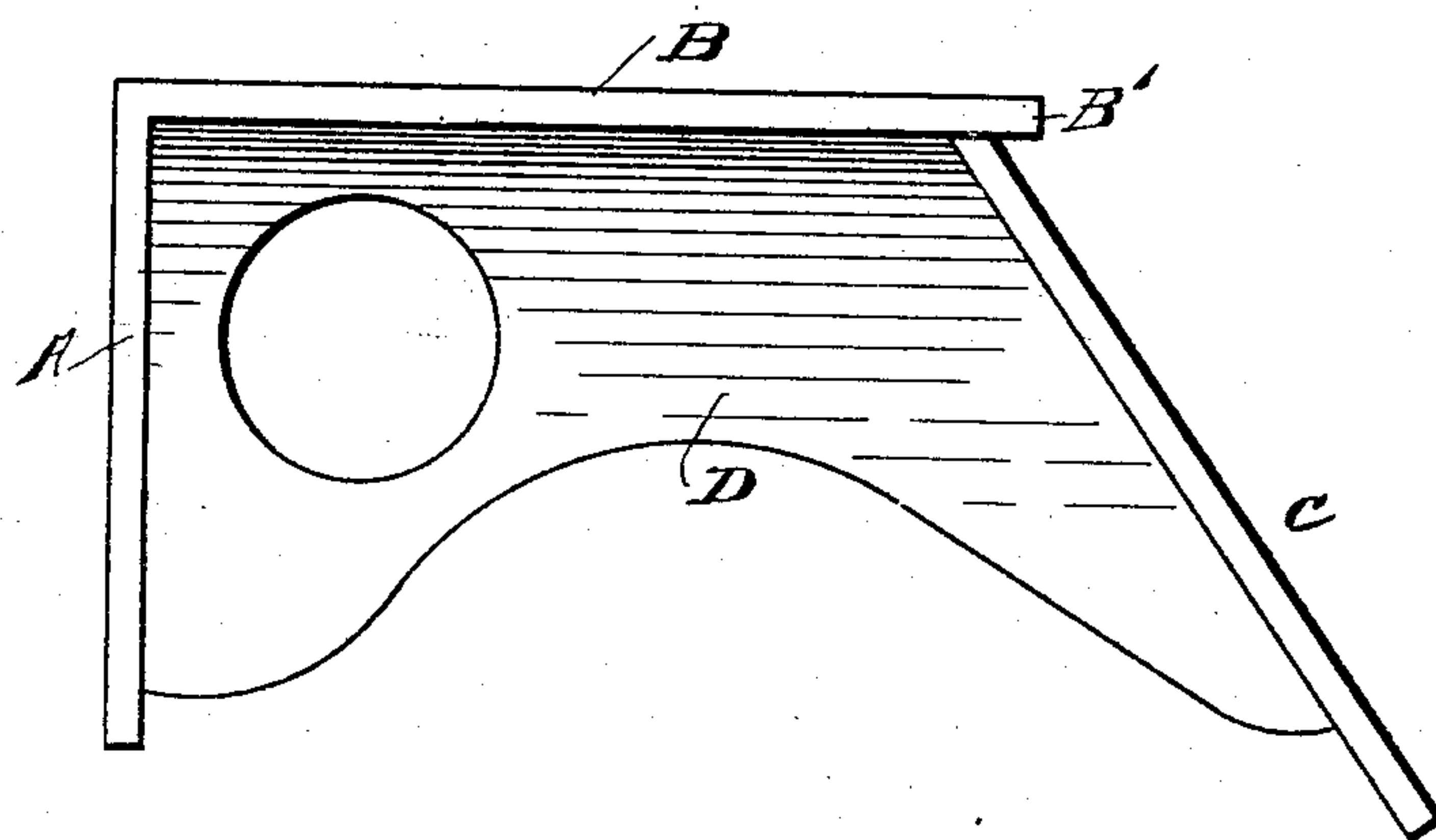
LAP DESK.

APPLICATION FILED AUG. 8, 1906.

*Fig. 1.*



*Fig. 2.*



Witnesses

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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

FRANCIS C. RUSSELL, OF CHICAGO, ILLINOIS.

## LAP-DESK.

No. 842,018.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Jan. 22, 1907.

Application filed August 8, 1906. Serial No. 329,741.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, FRANCIS C. RUSSELL, of Chicago, in the county of Cook and State of Illinois, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Lap-Desks, of which the following is a specification.

This invention has for its object to provide a desk or support for books, papers, &c., of convenient size, shape, and weight to be held in the lap, either as a reading or a writing desk.

The invention consists in a lap-desk having two supporting-surfaces, one of which is adapted to serve as a book-support and the other as a support for writing-paper, the said supporting-surfaces being arranged, respectively, so that a book resting on one is at the proper angle for convenient reading, while the other is in the proper position to enable the holder of the device to write conveniently upon paper supported by it.

Of the accompanying drawings, forming a part of this specification, Figure 1 represents a perspective view of my improved lap-desk in position for use as a reading-desk. Fig. 2 represents an end view of the same in position for use as a writing-desk.

The same letters of reference indicate the same parts in both the figures.

In the drawings, A represents the base portion of my improved lap-desk, the same being formed to rest upon the lap of the user when the device is in the position shown in Fig. 1.

B represents a flat member affixed to the base A and standing substantially at a right angle therewith.

C represents a flat member affixed to the

member B and standing at an obtuse angle with the latter. One edge of the member B preferably extends across the inner edge of the member C and constitutes a lip or stop B' to prevent a book from sliding off the member C when the latter is in the position shown in Fig. 1.

D represents a brace which is affixed to the inner surfaces of the parts A, B, and C.

The device is made of suitable size and weight to enable it to be conveniently supported on the lap of the user, and its parts are so arranged relatively to each other that when the base member A rests horizontally upon the user's lap the member B is in a substantially vertical position and the member C is inclined so that it may support a book at the proper angle relatively to the eyes of the user. When a substantially horizontal writing-desk is desired, it may be provided by turning the device to the position shown in Fig. 2, the edges of the members A and C resting on the user's lap and the member B being supported in a substantially horizontal position.

I claim—

A lap-desk comprising a base member, a writing-desk member affixed to the base member substantially at a right angle therewith, and a reading-desk member affixed to the writing-desk member at an obtuse angle with the latter.

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

FRANCIS C. RUSSELL.

Witnesses:

JOHN G. WILSON,  
C. H. GOODWIN.