(No Model.)

J. G. PLOWMAN.
CHALK RACK.

No. 304,233.

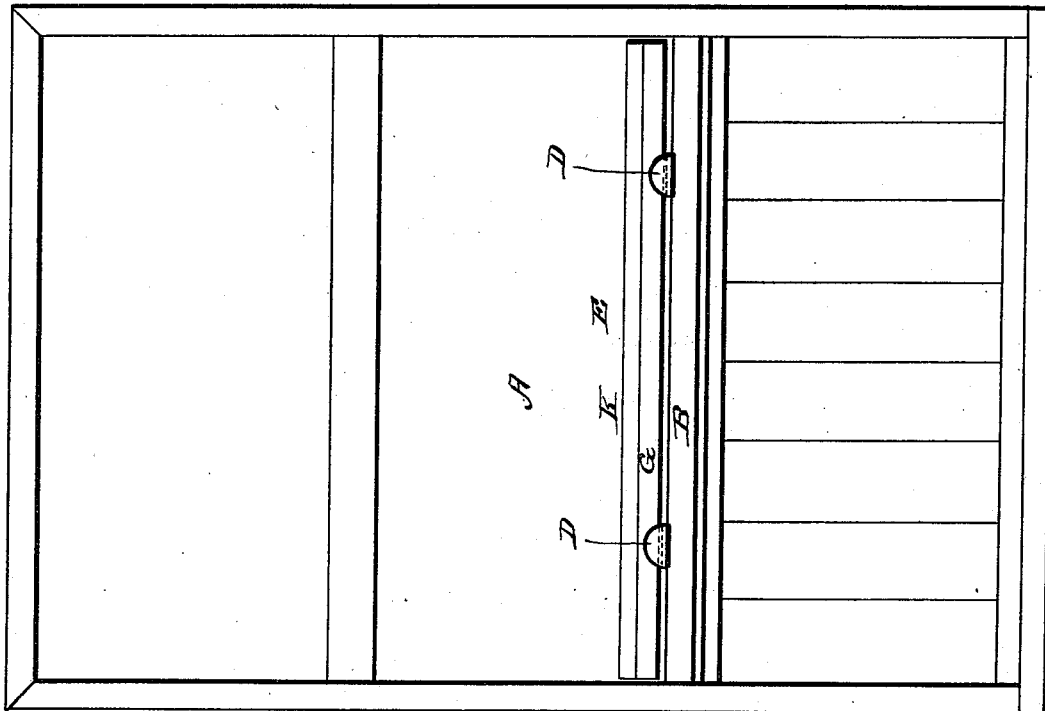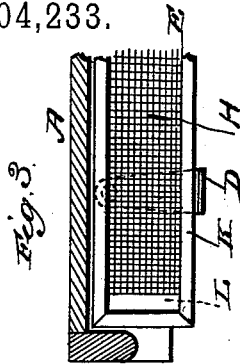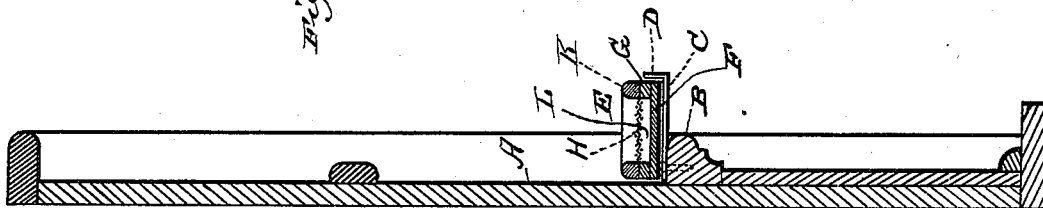Patented Aug. 26, 1884.

Fig. 3.

Fig. 2.

Fig. 1.

WITNESSES

E. H. Bates

P. C. Masi.

INVENTOR

J. G. Plowman

By Anderson & Smith

his ATTORNEYS

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOSEPH GEE PLOWMAN, OF WHITE PIGEON, MICHIGAN.

CHALK-RACK.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 304,233, dated August 26, 1884.

Application filed April 10, 1884. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOSEPH G. PLOWMAN, a citizen of the United States, residing at White Pigeon, in the county of St. Joseph and State of Michigan, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Chalk-Racks; 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 or figures of reference marked thereon, which form a part of this specification.

Figure 1 of the drawings is a vertical sectional view of my device. Fig. 2 is a front view of the same, and Fig. 3 is a detail longitudinal sectional view.

This invention has relation to chalk racks or shelves for blackboards; and it consists in the construction and novel arrangement of a removable elongated narrow trough, carrying above its bottom a false bottom of wire-cloth or other material having interstices through which the chalk-dust can descend, and held in position against the lower edge of the blackboard by swinging brackets, which can be turned aside out of the way when the chalk-trough is removed, all as hereinafter set forth.

In the accompanying drawings, the letter A designates the ordinary school-blackboard, attached to or forming a part of the wall, and B is the lower marginal ledge thereof.

C C represent swinging arms or brackets pivoted to said ledge, and having the end flanges, D. The width of these bracket-arms is about equal to that of the ledge B, and their length is sufficient to space the width of the chalk-trough.

E designates the chalk-trough, which is of sufficient length to extend along the entire lower edge of the blackboard; or it may be made in sections, which are arranged to abut end to end. The trough as constructed usually consists of a flat recessed base portion, F, upon the marginal walls G of which is se-

cured the false bottom H, of wire-cloth or other interstitial material. Upon the edges of this interstitial false bottom are laid the margin-strips K, which extend upward sufficiently to form a guard for the pieces of chalk and the rubbers. Nails or screws, extending through the strips K and the edges of the wire-cloth into the base, serve to secure the parts together. Between the wire-cloth and the bottom of the trough is a chamber, L.

The chalk-trough is designed to rest on the bracket-arms when they are turned outward, and is prevented from slipping away therefrom by the end flanges of said arms. The object of this wire-cloth false bottom is to allow the chalk-dust to sift through and settle below it and to hold the chalks and rubbers above the level of the chalk-dust, so that they will be kept therefrom. Without this interstitial rest, the chalks, being placed in the trough, get full of the chalk-dust, and when used in this condition this dust is caused to permeate the air of the school-room, which is thereby rendered uncomfortable and unwholesome.

When the school-room is to be used for other purposes, the chalk-trough can be removed and the bracket-arms turned back upon the ledge out of the way.

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

The combination, with the marginal ledge of the blackboard and a removable chalk-trough having a false bottom of wire-cloth, of the swinging bracket-arms pivoted to said ledge, and adapted, when the chalk-trough is removed, to be turned aside out of the way, substantially as specified.

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

JOSEPH GEE PLOWMAN.

Witnesses:
  R. F. JARNETT,
  BIRDSEY PECK.