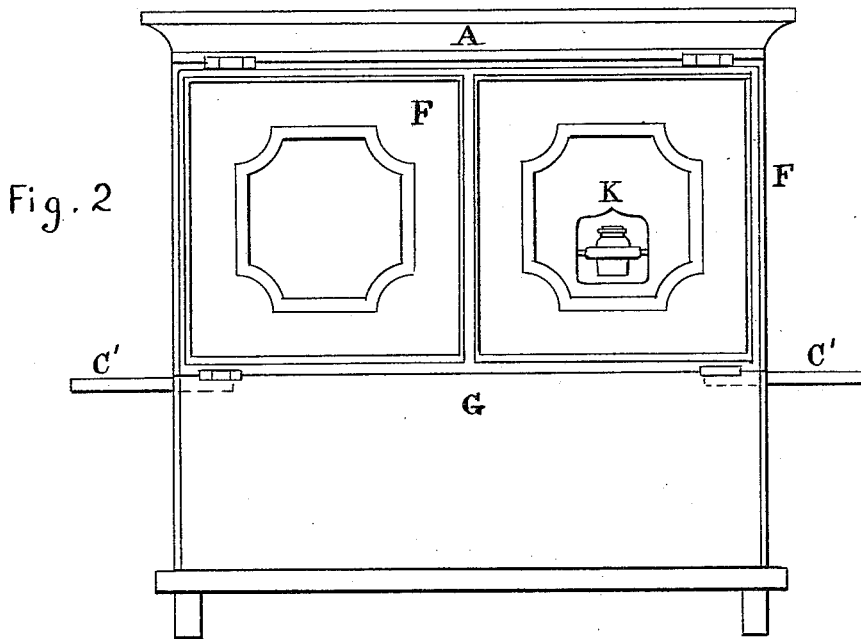
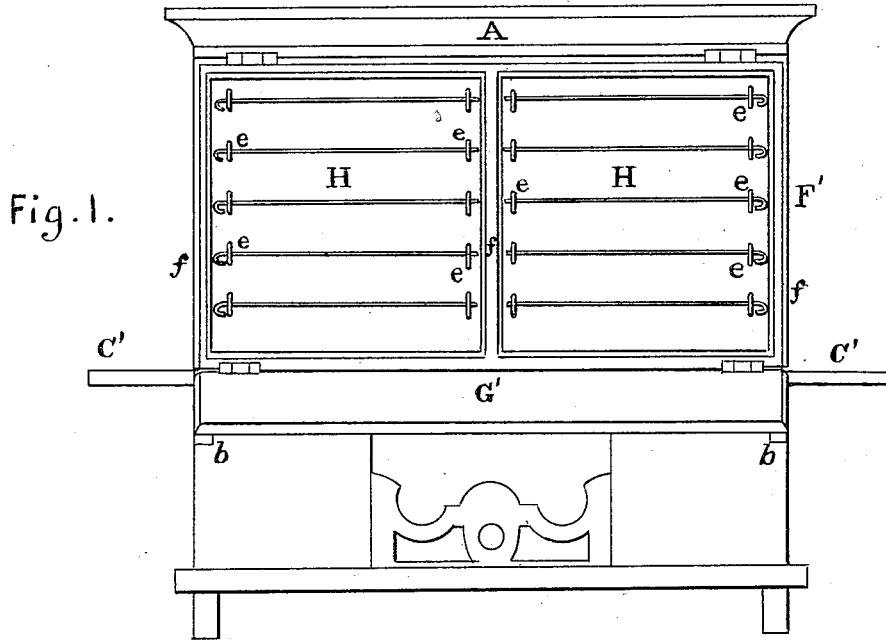


ELIZABETH W. STILES. 2 Sheets--Sheet 1.  
Reading and Writing Desk.

No. 167,586.

Patented Sept. 7, 1875.



Witnesses :

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*G. B. Towles*

Inventor :

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By *M. Purris Atty.*

ELIZABETH W. STILES.  
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Fig. 3.

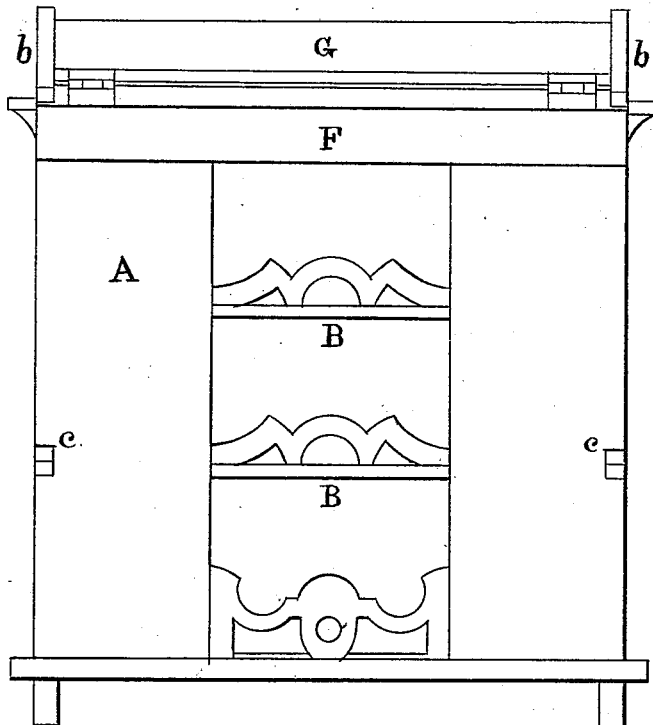


Fig. 4.

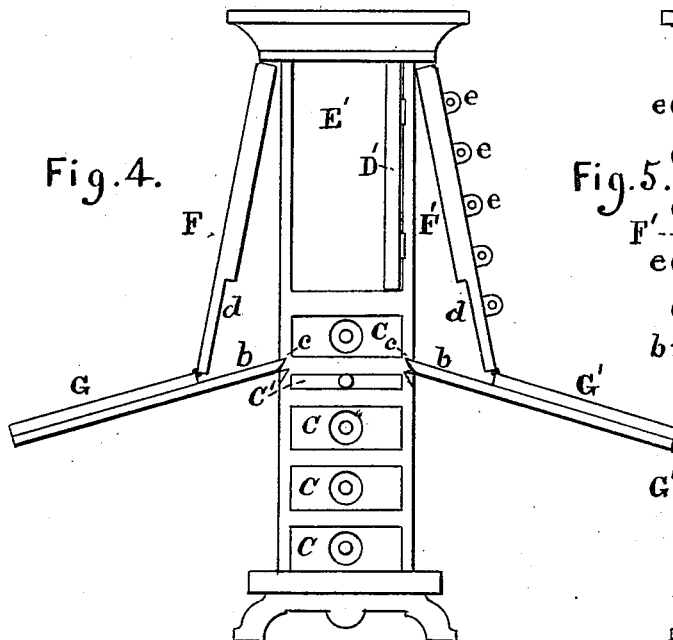
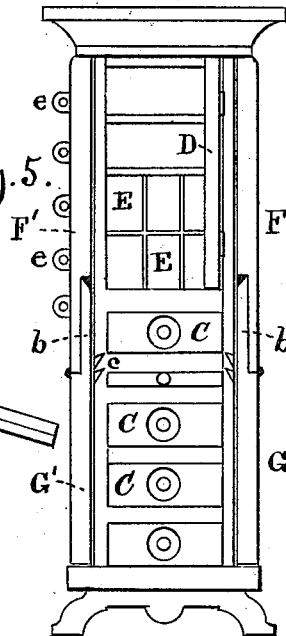


Fig. 5.



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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ELIZABETH W. STILES, OF PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA.

## IMPROVEMENT IN READING AND WRITING DESKS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 167,586, dated September 7, 1875; application filed March 24, 1875.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, ELIZABETH W. STILES, of Philadelphia, in the county of Philadelphia and State of Pennsylvania, have invented certain new and useful Combination of Paper-Racks and Reading and Writing Desks; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description thereof, which will enable others skilled in the art to which it pertains to make and use the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and to the letters of reference marked thereon, which form a part of this specification.

Figure 1 is a side elevation, showing the paper-rack and reading or writing, folding and sliding tables in position. Fig. 2 is a reverse side elevation, showing the swinging door and folding table closed. Fig. 3 is a view of the same side as Fig. 2, showing the swinging door and folding table turned up. Fig. 4 is an end view, showing the folding tables and end door opened; and Fig. 5 is a reverse end view, showing the end door opened and folding tables closed.

The object of my invention is to provide a combined book and magazine case, writing and reading desk, and paper-rack, constructed to be readily folded up and set aside when not in use, and especially adapted for reading-rooms, libraries, hotels, steamboats, &c.; and the invention consists of a case provided with shelves for books and magazines, drawers in the middle for writing materials, pigeon-holes, apartments for record-books, and sliding tables in the ends, and swinging doors and reading and writing folding tables in the sides, as hereinafter fully described.

In the drawings, A represents a case, the middle of which is provided with shelves B for books, magazines, old files of papers, or waste paper. The ends of the case are provided with drawers C for writing materials, sliding tables C' for writing or reading tables, and doors D D' inclosing pigeon-holes E for letters and files of papers, and space E' for record-books or magazines. F F' represent swinging doors, hinged at the top, and G G' represent folding shelves or tables, hinged to the bottom of the doors, and provided with arms b, forming braces to the tables, constructed and arranged to catch in notches or

ratchets c on the case, for holding the tables in position for reading or writing upon them. The edges of the doors F F' are provided with recesses d to receive the braces when the tables are folded up, as shown in the drawings. H H represent paper-racks on the front of door F', which racks are attached by means of metallic holders e, fastened inside of the columns f of the door, to receive and hold the rods h, forming the paper-files. The paper-files may be constructed and attached in any other convenient manner.

At K, in the panel of door F, an inkstand may be attached, arranged on pivots to keep it in proper position when the door is opened or closed.

The sliding tables C' may be provided with grooves for pencils and pens, and with small inkstands set in the tables.

The desk will be provided with casters, on which it may be readily rolled to any required position convenient for use, and moved back out of the way when not in use.

In reading-rooms and other suitable places both of the folding tables are opened, and both of the sliding tables may be drawn out, as shown in the drawings, so that both sides and both ends of the case may be used at the same time; and when the tables are folded and slid in place, as shown in Fig. 5 of the drawings, the whole case, desks, and paper-racks occupy very little room, and may be set aside out of the way.

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

1. The combination of paper-racks H with a case, A, and reading and writing folding tables G or G', substantially as and for the purposes described.

2. The book and magazine case A, having swinging doors F F', hinged at the top to the cabinet, and folding tables G G', hinged to the lower part of the said doors, and supported, when open for use, by braces b on the doors, and notches or ratchets c on the case, substantially as described and shown.

3. The combined book and magazine case, reading and writing tables, and paper-racks, constructed as described, consisting of a case, A, provided with notches or ratchets c, and having shelves B in the middle, drawers C,

sliding tables C', doors D D', pigeon-holes and space E E' in the ends, swinging doors F F', provided with recesses *d*, folding tables G G', provided with braces *b*, and paper files or racks H on the sides, substantially as and for the purposes described.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing as

my own invention I affix my signature in presence of two witnesses.

ELIZABETH W. STILES.

Witnesses:

A. J. KYNETT,

SAML. M. STILES.