

(No Model.)

J. R. PRUYN.  
TELEPHONE TABLET.

No. 492,587.

Patented Feb. 28, 1893.

Fig 1

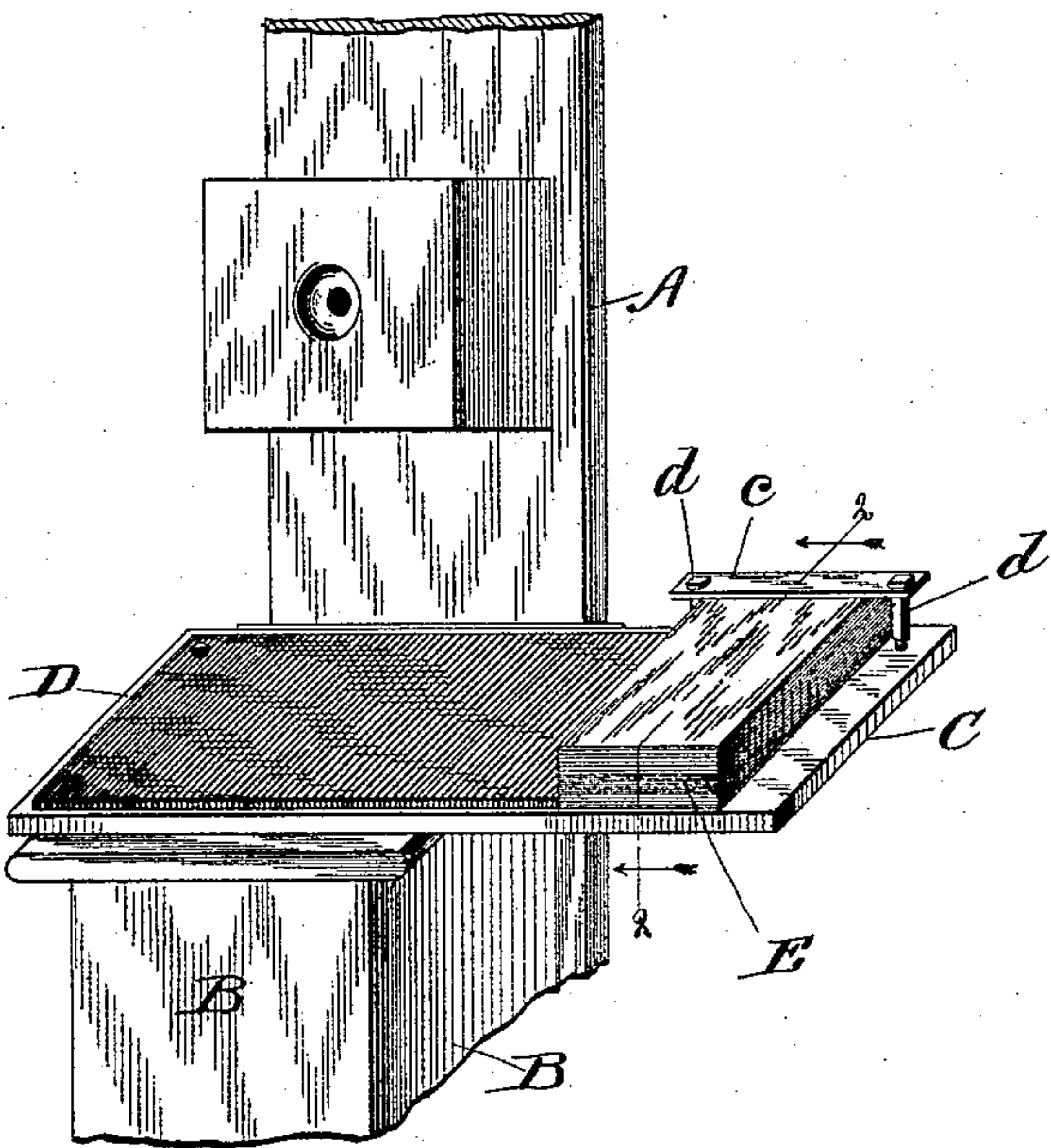


Fig 2

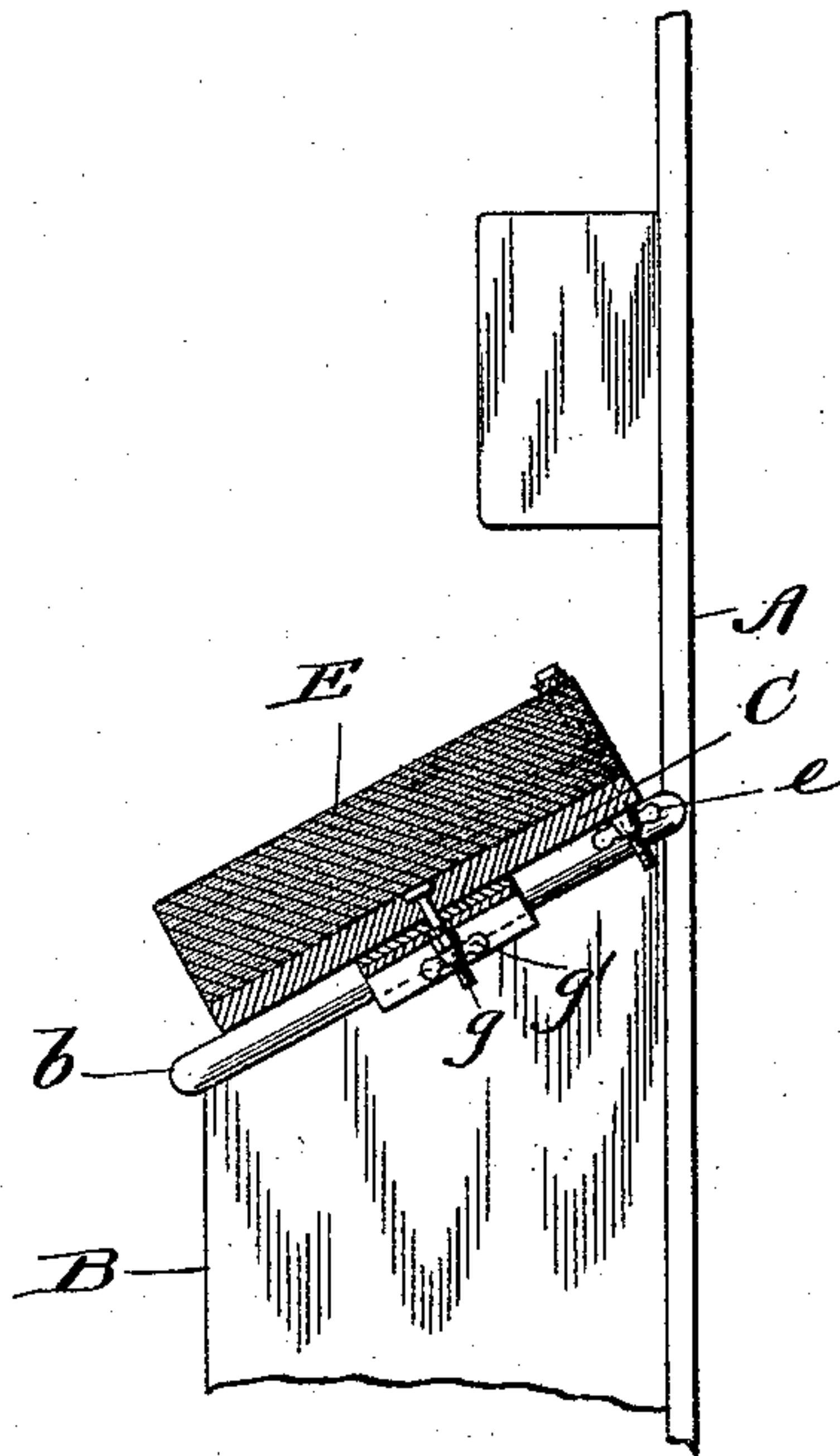


Fig 3.

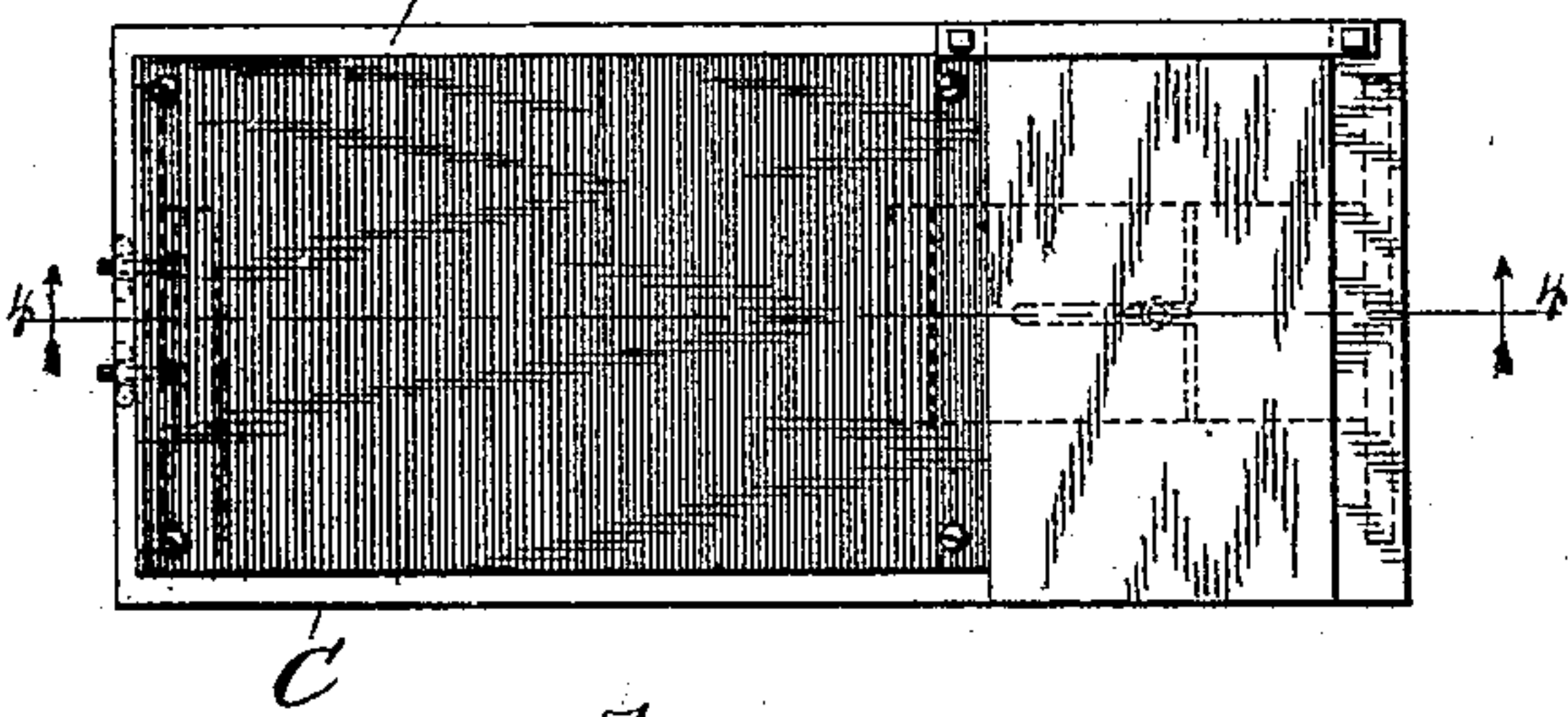


Fig 5

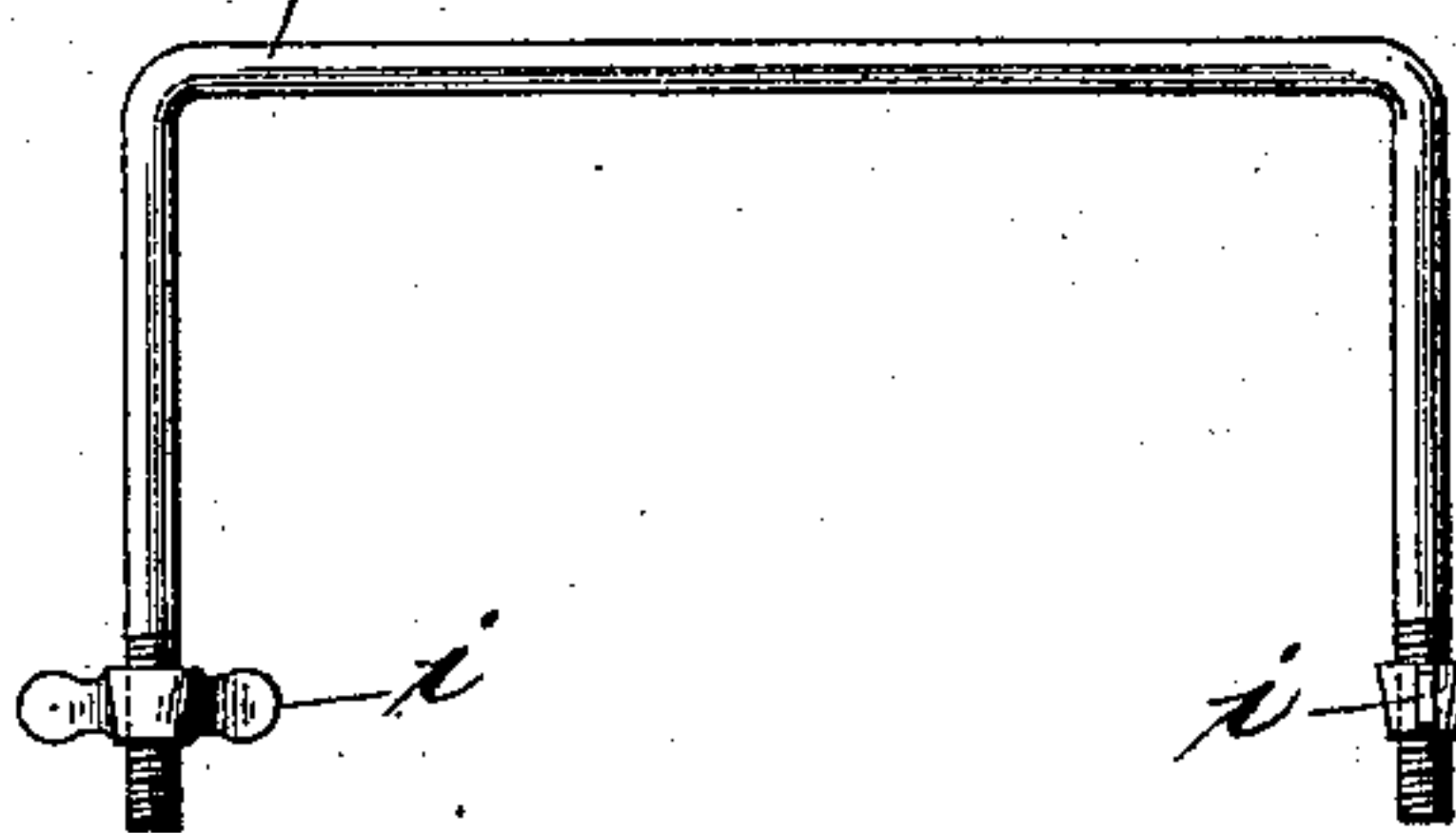


Fig 4.

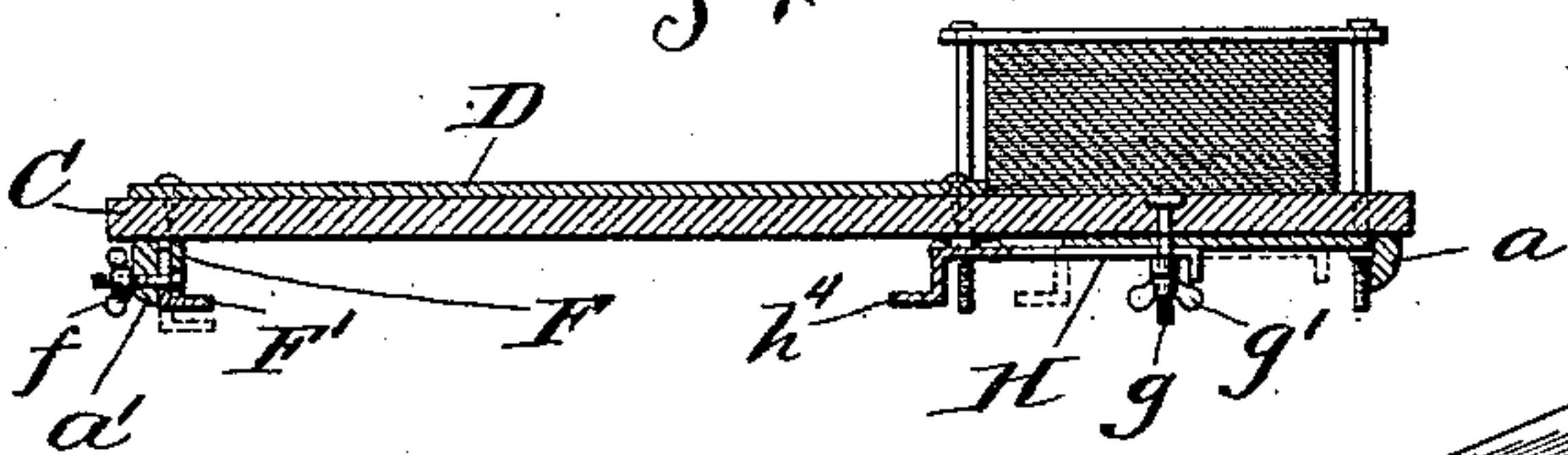


Fig 6

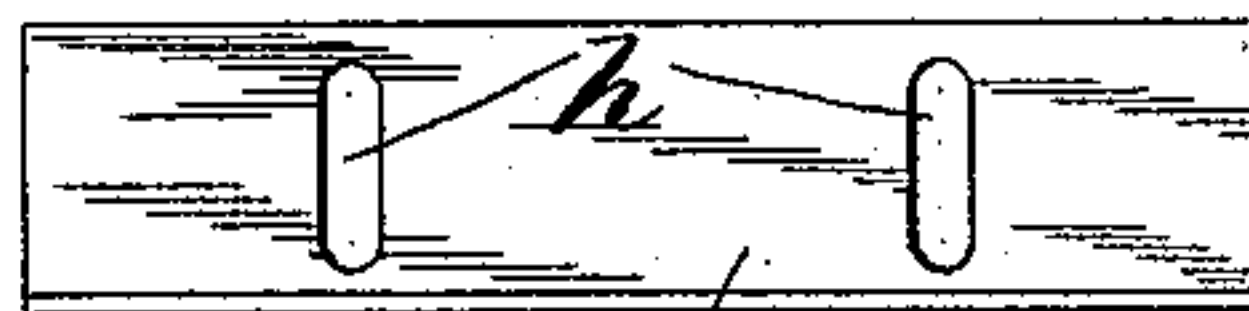
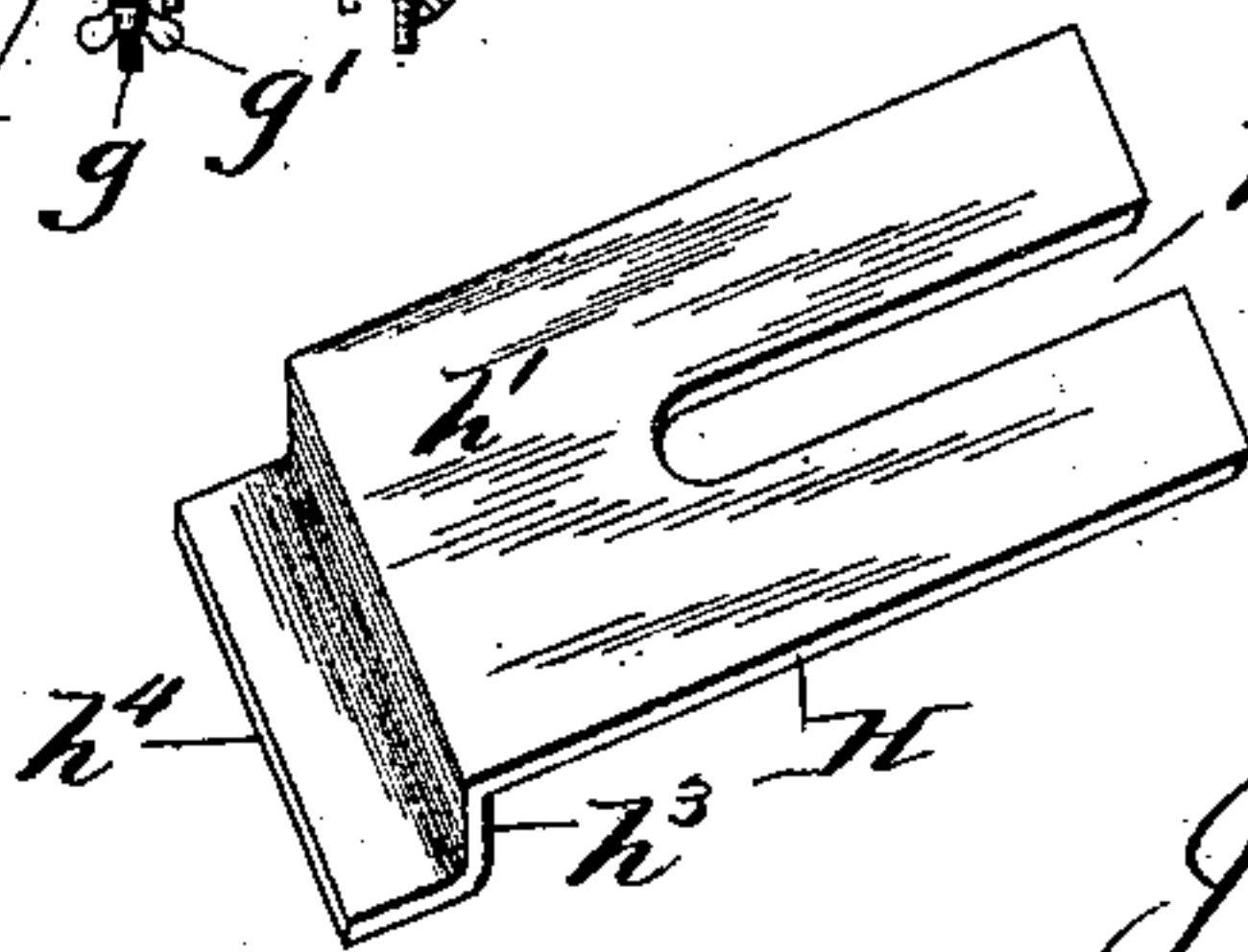


Fig 7.



Witnesses:-  
M. Mait  
E. A. Duggan.

Inventor:-  
John R. Pruyne.  
by Chas. C. Tidman  
his Atty.



# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOHN R. PRUYN, OF CHICAGO, ILLINOIS, ASSIGNOR OF ONE-HALF TO  
CHARLES J. MILLER, OF SAME PLACE.

## TELEPHONE-TABLET.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 492,587, dated February 28, 1893.

Application filed December 16, 1892. Serial No. 455,351. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, JOHN R. PRUYN, a citizen of the Dominion of Canada, residing at Chicago, in the county of Cook and State of Illinois, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Telephone-Tablets, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to improvements in tablets or writing attachments for telephones, and it consists in certain peculiarities of the construction, novel arrangement, and operation of the various parts thereof, as will be hereinafter more fully set forth and specifically claimed.

The objects of my invention are first, to provide an adjustable or attachable shelf or desk, which is provided on its upper surface with writing material, and which may be readily attached or detached from the lid of the telephone battery-box; and second, such a device which shall be simple and inexpensive in construction, yet strong and durable, and by reason of its form will afford a more extensive surface and other conveniences than are presented by the lid of the battery-box, which is ordinarily used as a rest upon which writing is done.

In order to enable others skilled in the art to which my invention pertains to make and use the same, I will now proceed to describe it, referring to the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1, is an isometrical view of my tablet, and a portion of the telephone, as it appears when in position thereon and ready for use. Fig. 2, is a sectional view, taken on line 2, 2, of Fig. 1. Fig. 3, is a plan view of the tablet detached from the telephone. Fig. 4, is a longitudinal sectional view of the tablet, taken on line 4, 4, of Fig. 3. Fig. 5, is an enlarged detail view of a modification of the paper-tablet securing device. Fig. 6, is an enlarged detail view of one of the adjustable securing plates. And Fig. 7, is a similar view of the other securing plate.

Similar letters refer to like parts throughout the different views of the drawings.

A, represents a telephone-transmitter or receiver, which is supplied as usual with a battery-box B, and is designed to be secured to the wall of a room or other supporting sur-

face. The box B, is provided with a lid or top *b*, which is slightly inclined from its rear portion toward its front, and has its perimeter somewhat extended over the sides and front of the box B, as is shown in the drawings.

My tablet or writing attachment is designed to rest partially on the top of the lid *b*, and to engage with the sides of said lid, as will be presently explained.

The tablet or attachment is composed of a board C, which may be made of any suitable size, form and material, but preferably of wood, and substantially of the form illustrated in the drawings.

To the upper surface of the board C, is secured by means of screws or other fastenings a slate or black-board D, which may cover the entire upper surface of the board C, or may extend over a portion only of said surface, as is shown, thus leaving a portion of the board C, uncovered by the slate, upon which uncovered portion may be placed a quantity, or tablet, of paper E, which is firmly secured at one end by means of a flat plate *c*, having in each of its ends openings to receive the securing bolts *d*, which bolts are passed through the openings in the plates *c*, and suitable holes or opening in the board C, near one of its ends and rear edge. The lower portions of the bolts *d*, are screw-threaded to engage with suitable set or thumb-screws *e*, which are placed beneath the board C, and when tightened draw the plate *c*, firmly down, and cross-wise of one end of the paper-tablet. In order to prevent the bolts *d*, from turning in the openings in the plate *c*, I form said openings and the upper portions of the bolts *d*, square, or of a form other than cylindrical.

To the lower surface of the board C, and near each end thereof, are transversely secured cleats *a*, and *a'*, which serve to strengthen the board, and to prevent the same from warping. To the inner surface and about the middle of the cleat *a'* is adjustably secured by means of set or thumb-screws *f*, a securing ing plate F, which is usually formed substantially L-shaped in cross-section, and is provided with one or more vertical slots *h*, through which the set-screws *f*, are passed, and by means of which the plate F, is adjustably secured to the said cleat. As is clearly seen in



Figs. 3, and 4, the plate F, is formed at its lower portion with a flange F', which flange extends inwardly from the cleat a', and is adapted to engage with the edge of the lid of the battery-box. My object in providing the plate F, with the vertical slots h, is to allow it to be adjusted to lids of different thicknesses, for it is obvious that by moving the plate vertically on the set-screws f, it can be made to engage or clamp boards or lids of various sizes.

At a suitable point and about mid-way longitudinally of the board C, is secured a set or thumb-screw g, which extends slightly beneath the lower surface of the board, and is adapted to engage the adjustable securing plate H, which is formed as shown in Figs. 4, and 7, with a flat plate h', having a longitudinal slot or opening h<sup>2</sup>, extending from its rear portion forward, and its front end bent downwardly at substantially a right angle with the plate h', as at h<sup>3</sup>, and then formed with a horizontal and inwardly extending flange h<sup>4</sup>, which, when the board is in position on the battery-box engages with the opposite edge of the lid b, from that clamped by the plate F.

As is seen and will be readily understood the plate H, is adjustable longitudinally by reason of its slot h<sup>2</sup>, within which operates the screw g, and may be also adjusted to lids of different thicknesses, or vertical, by means of the thumb-piece or nut g', which engages the lower end of the screw g, by loosening or tightening said nut, as is obvious.

In Fig. 5, I have shown a modification of the device for securing the paper tablet, which I may sometimes employ instead of the plate c, and bolts d, which consists of a piece of wire I, which may be either cylindrical in shape or rectangular, but preferably of the latter form, for the reason that it will then present a cutting edge to the paper. This wire is bent into substantially the form shown in Fig. 5, and has the lower portions of each of its ends screw-threaded to receive the thumb-pieces or nuts. When this modifica-

cation is used the piece I, is placed cross-wise the tablet E, with its two ends inserted through suitable openings in the board C, and is clamped down on the tablet by means of the nuts i, which are placed on the ends of the piece I, beneath the board C, as will be readily understood.

From the above description it is apparent that my tablet or writing attachment may be easily attached to the battery-box by placing the board on the top thereof, when the securing plate F, will engage one of its edges and the plate H, may be adjusted to its opposite edge, thus firmly securing the entire device in position and affording an extended shelf or rest upon which to write.

Having thus fully described my invention, what I claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. The combination of the board C, having the writing surface D, with the adjustable plates F, and H, secured to its lower surface, substantially as shown and described and for the purpose set forth.

2. The combination of the board C, having the writing surface D, and a tablet of paper E, secured to its upper surface, with the adjustable plates F, and H, secured to its lower surface, substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

3. The combination of the board C, having the slate D, secured to its upper surface and the cleats a, and a', to its lower surface, with the plate c, and securing rods d, having their lower portions screw-threaded, the thumb-screws e, to engage said bolts and adapted to draw the plate down on the tablet E, the plate F, having the flange F', and slots h, and thumb-screws f, to engage said plate, the plate H, having the slot h<sup>2</sup>, and flange h<sup>4</sup>, and thumb-screw g, substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

JOHN R. PRUYN.

Witnesses:

F. C. PENZIN,  
CHAS. C. TILLMAN.