

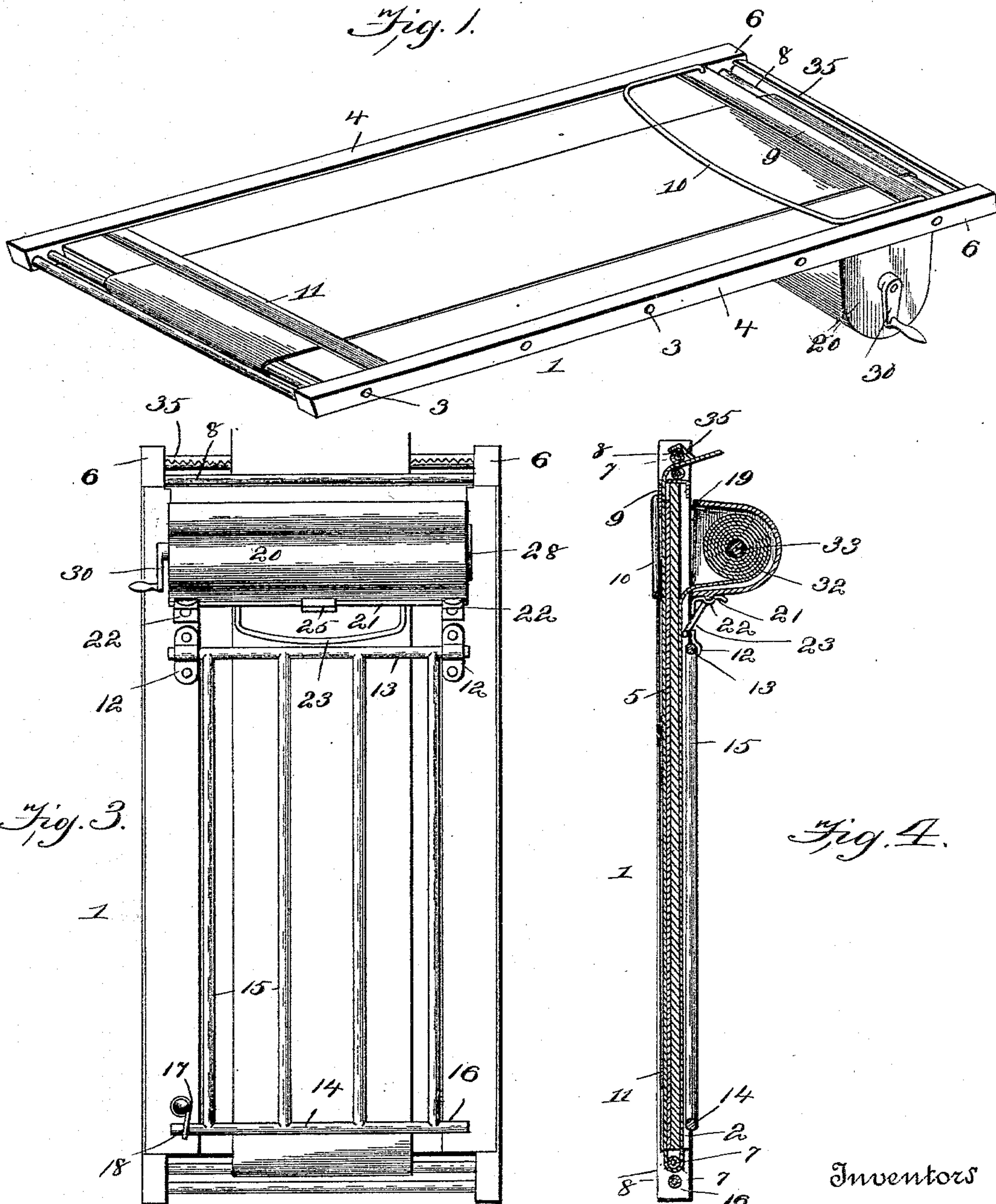
(No Model.)

2 Sheets—Sheet 1.

B. F. STUART & F. W. WILLSON.  
COMBINED DESK AND COPY HOLDER.

No. 511,031.

Patented Dec. 19, 1893.



Witnesses:

*John C. Shaw.*  
*W. S. Duwall.*

*Frederick W. Willson.*

*Benjamin F. Stuart.*

*by C. H. Snow & Co. Attorneys.*



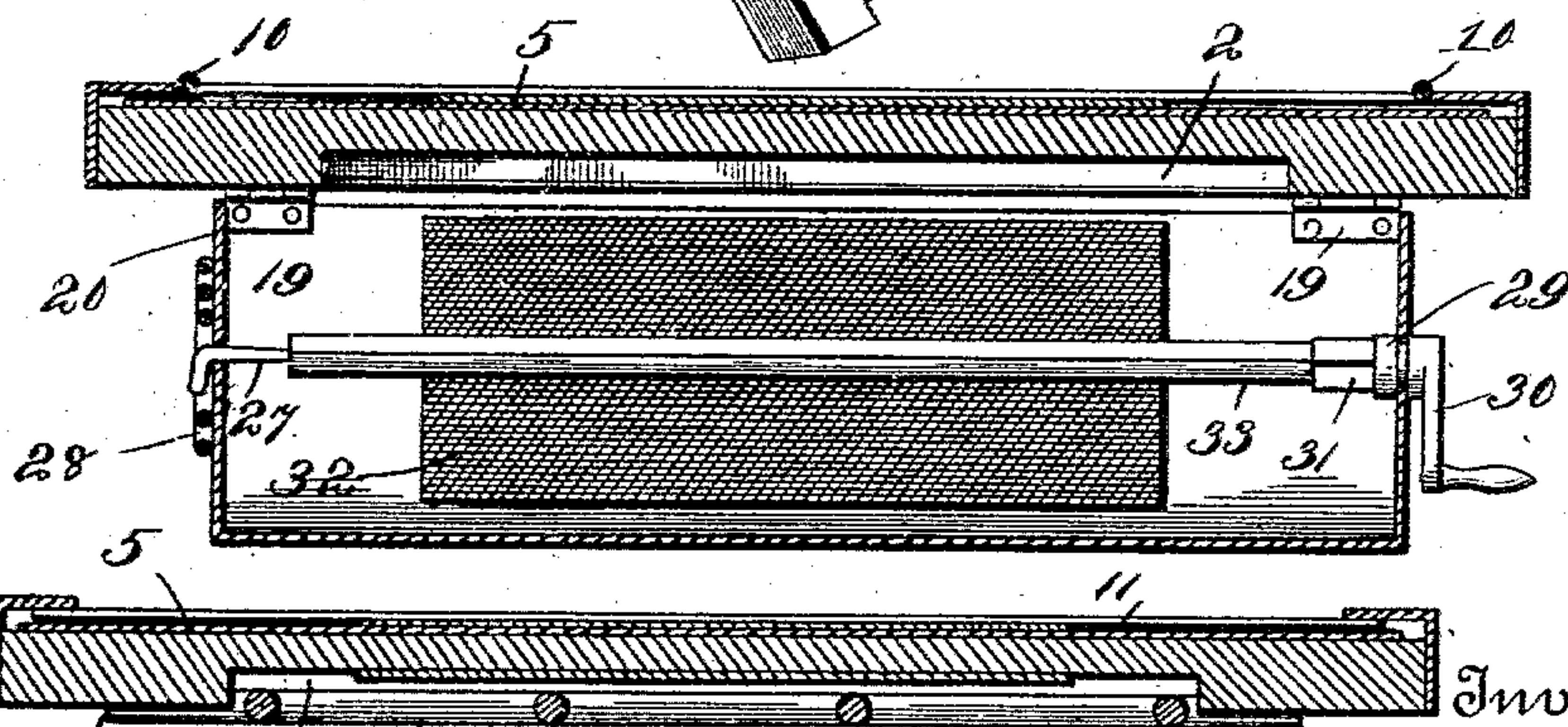
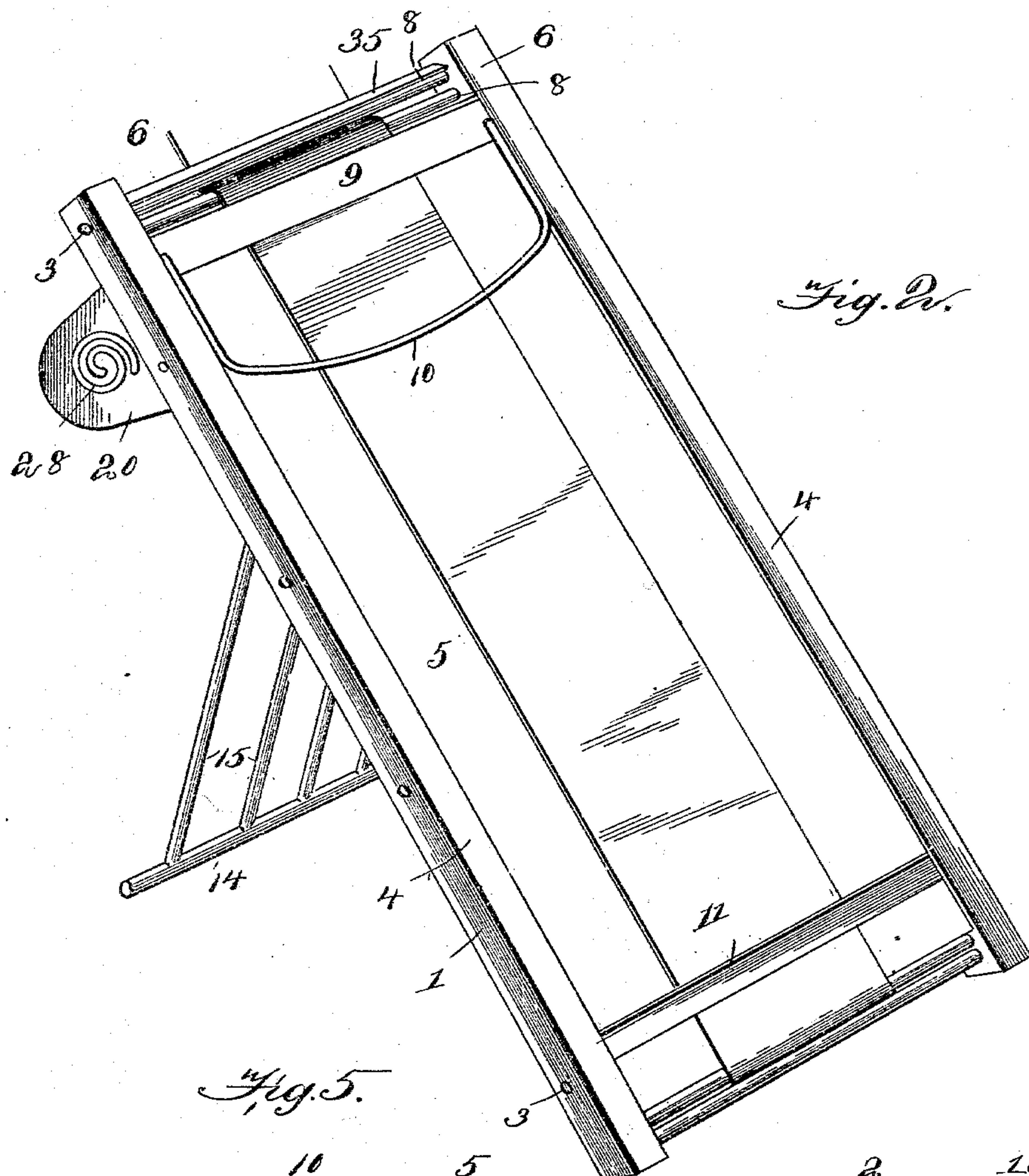
(No Model.)

2 Sheets—Sheet 2

**B. F. STUART & F. W. WILLSON.**  
COMBINED DESK AND COPY HOLDER.

No. 511,031.

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Witnesses: 16 2 14 15

John C. Shaw.  
W. S. Durall.

*Fig. 6.*

Frederick W. Willson  
Benjamin F. Stuart.

by C. A. Snow & Co. Attorneys.



# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

BENJAMIN FRANKLIN STUART, OF BOSQUEVILLE, AND FREDERICK WILLIAM WILLSON, OF WACO, TEXAS.

## COMBINED DESK AND COPY-HOLDER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 511,031, dated December 19, 1893.

Application filed April 25, 1893. Serial No. 471,827. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that we, BENJAMIN FRANKLIN STUART, residing at Bosqueville, and FREDERICK WILLIAM WILLSON, residing at Waco, county of McLennan, State of Texas, citizens of the United States, have invented a new and useful Combined Desk and Copy-Holder, of which the following is a specification.

Our invention has for its object the provision of a combined desk and copy-holder, especially adapted for use by stenographers, amanuenses, &c.; to so construct the same as to form a convenient desk for supporting a continuous roll of paper, for retaining the same in position to be written upon; to provide for a feed of the paper as the same is consumed, for a tearing off of the same after such consumption and after a transcribing of the notes thereon, and for a convenient storing of the paper, and finally to adapt the device to be raised and supported in an inclined position convenient to the transcriber.

With these and other objects in view the invention consists in certain features of construction hereinafter specified and particularly pointed out in the claims.

Referring to the drawings:—Figure 1 is a perspective view of a combined desk and copy-holder, the same being constructed in accordance with our invention and shown in position for use by an amanuensis. Fig. 2 is a reverse perspective, the device being in position to serve as a copy-holder. Fig. 3 is a rear elevation. Fig. 4 is a longitudinal sectional view. Fig. 5 is a transverse sectional view through the roll-casing. Fig. 6 is a transverse sectional view below the roll-casing.

Like numerals of reference indicate like parts in all the figures of the drawings.

In constructing the device we employ an oblong board or base 1, the same being of suitable dimensions, and channel the back of the base between its edges, making a shallow longitudinally-disposed depression 2 extending from end to end thereof. The opposite longitudinal sides of the base have secured thereupon by means of tacks or screws 3, L-shaped sheet-metal strips 4, whose upper edges overlap the upper side of the base and

are raised a slight distance from the surface thereof, whereby there may be slid thereunder and over the surface of the base a suitable yielding covering or pad 5, preferably of paper, the same producing a smooth surface upon which the web of paper upon which the notes are taken is supported. The upper ends of the metal strips 4 project beyond the ends of the base 1, and are bent over metal bearing posts or studs 6, between each pair of which there is located a pair of parallel ribs 7 each carrying a loose sleeve or roller 8, slightly spaced apart to permit of the passage therethrough of the paper. Secured to the opposite side strips 4 at the upper end of the device is a flat transverse sheet metal strip 9, the same having its ends only secured to the side strips and therefore adapted to permit of the passage thereunder of the paper. A spring-wire bail 10 has its ends secured to the ends of the strip 9, the said bail lying flatly upon the writing surface 5, and serving to retain the same in position. A line-indicating strip 11 of sheet metal has its ends inserted under the overlapping edges of the strips 4, and may be slid up and down over the writing surface 5, and thus employed for indicating to the eye the lines of writing when the device is employed as a copyholder during a transcribing of the notes.

In a pair of transversely opposite bearings 12 secured to the under side of the base 1 at each side of the channel 2, there is loosely journaled the upper transverse end bar 13 of a wire-frame, which frame, in addition to the end bar, consists of an opposite transverse end-bar 14 at the lower end of the frame, and a series of connecting longitudinal bars 15. The lower end-bar 14 has its extremities resting in half-notches 16 with which the base is provided, and a spring-wire 17 engages into a notch 18 formed in the extremity of said lower end-bar, whereby the frame may be locked against the underside of the base, or unlocked and permitted to swing down to form a standard for supporting the base in an inclined position.

Hinged as at 19 to the under side of the base beyond the standard just described is



the rear or upper edge of a U-shaped hood 20, the same being designed to receive and support a roll of paper. The outer side of the hood is provided with a longitudinal rib 21 which is designed to be engaged by a pair of spring-clips 22 secured to the under side of the base in transverse alignment with each other, and thus be locked in a closed position. A spring bail 23 extends from the free edge of the hood, and a finger-lug 25 is secured to the exterior of the hood. The hood is bored at its opposite ends, and through one of the same extends a bearing-pin 27, which is formed at the free end of a convolute spring 28 secured upon the exterior of the hood or casing. A shaft 29 occupies the opposite end of the casing, is provided at its opposite end with a crank 30, and at its inner end with a triangular socket 31.

32 designates a roll or web of paper, which is wound upon a triangular shaft 33. One end of the shaft is pressed against the bearing-pin which yields by reason of the pressure and permits the remaining end of the shaft to be inserted into the triangular socket. The web it will be observed is now journaled within the casing. The leading end of the web passes down under the swinging standard to the lower end of the device, outwardly between the rolls at said lower end, then passes under the upper overlapping edges of the side strips, under the transverse strip 9, and backward between the upper pair of rolls. At any time this may be severed by being drawn against or across a serrated knife 35, which is secured to the upper standards beyond the uppermost roll.

When the device is employed simply as a desk, the paper as consumed may be drawn from the roll, and if desired severed into convenient sheets, but we prefer to continue the use of the paper in a single web until after the work has been accomplished, and then rewind the paper upon the roll. The swinging standard is then liberated so as to form the support for the device, and the leading end of the web may be drawn out a short distance, the line-indicator adjusted, and after transcribing that portion of the notes that lies between the leading end and the lower end of the base, the web may again be drawn out, the line-spacer readjusted, and so on, the web being advanced after the line-spacer has traveled from the upper to the lower end of the holder.

From the foregoing description, in connection with the accompanying drawings, it will be seen that we have provided a very simple and convenient combined desk and copy-holder for use by stenographers and others, and that the work is done on a continuous web, thus avoiding the necessity of the frequent turning of leaves, as is the case when taken upon note-books or separate sheets of paper.

Various changes in the details of our invention will readily suggest themselves, and we therefore do not limit the invention to the precise details that we have shown and described.

It will be observed that the hood 20 serves to support the copy-holder at an inclination when arranged as shown in Fig. 1, and when it is desired to give a greater inclination to the base, the frame 15 is brought into use.

Having described our invention, what we claim is—

1. The combination with the base, the opposite overlapping strips, the upper portions of which form guides, the interposed writing-surface, the transverse strip at the upper end of the base and secured at its ends to the guides and a spring-bail connected to the strip and resting on the writing surface of the upper and lower rolls, and supports for the same, at the ends of the base, substantially as specified.

2. The combination with the oblong base, the paper-guides at the sides thereof, of the U-shaped casing hinged at one edge to the under side of the base and having the transverse rib at its free edge, and the spring-catches arranged on the base for engaging the rib, substantially as specified.

3. The combination with the oblong base, the paper-guides, and paper-support, of the casing arranged over the support, and a spring-bail extending from the edge of the casing and bearing on the base in the path of the paper, substantially as specified.

4. The combination with the oblong base, of the roll-receiving casing hinged to the under side of the base, means for locking the same, perforations in the opposite ends of the casing, a shaft in one of the perforations, a crank at the outer end of the shaft, a socket at the inner end thereof, and a yielding bearing-pin at the opposite end of the casing, substantially as specified.

5. The base 1 having on each side the L-shaped sheet metal strips 4, one edge of which overlaps the upper side of the base and is raised a slight distance from the surface thereof, and a yielding covering or pad 5 slid under the strips and removable therefrom and supported on the base, substantially as described.

6. The base 1 having on each side the sheet metal strips 4, one edge of which overlaps the upper side of the base and is raised a slight distance from the surface thereof, a removable pad 5 slid under the strips and resting on the base, and the line indicator 11 inserted loosely at its ends under the strips 4 and adapted to be slid along the pad and held solely by the frictional engagement of its ends with the strips, substantially as described.

7. In a combined desk and copy holder, the base provided with a paper roll receiving



hood on the under side serving also as a support for the device to hold it in an inclined position, and a frame hinged to the under side of the base below the hood and supporting  
5 the base at a still greater inclination, as set forth.

In testimony that we claim the foregoing

as our own we have hereto affixed our signatures in the presence of two witnesses.

BENJAMIN FRANKLIN STUART.

FREDERICK WILLIAM WILLSON.

Witnesses:

W. G. ALLEN,

R. A. BURLESON.