

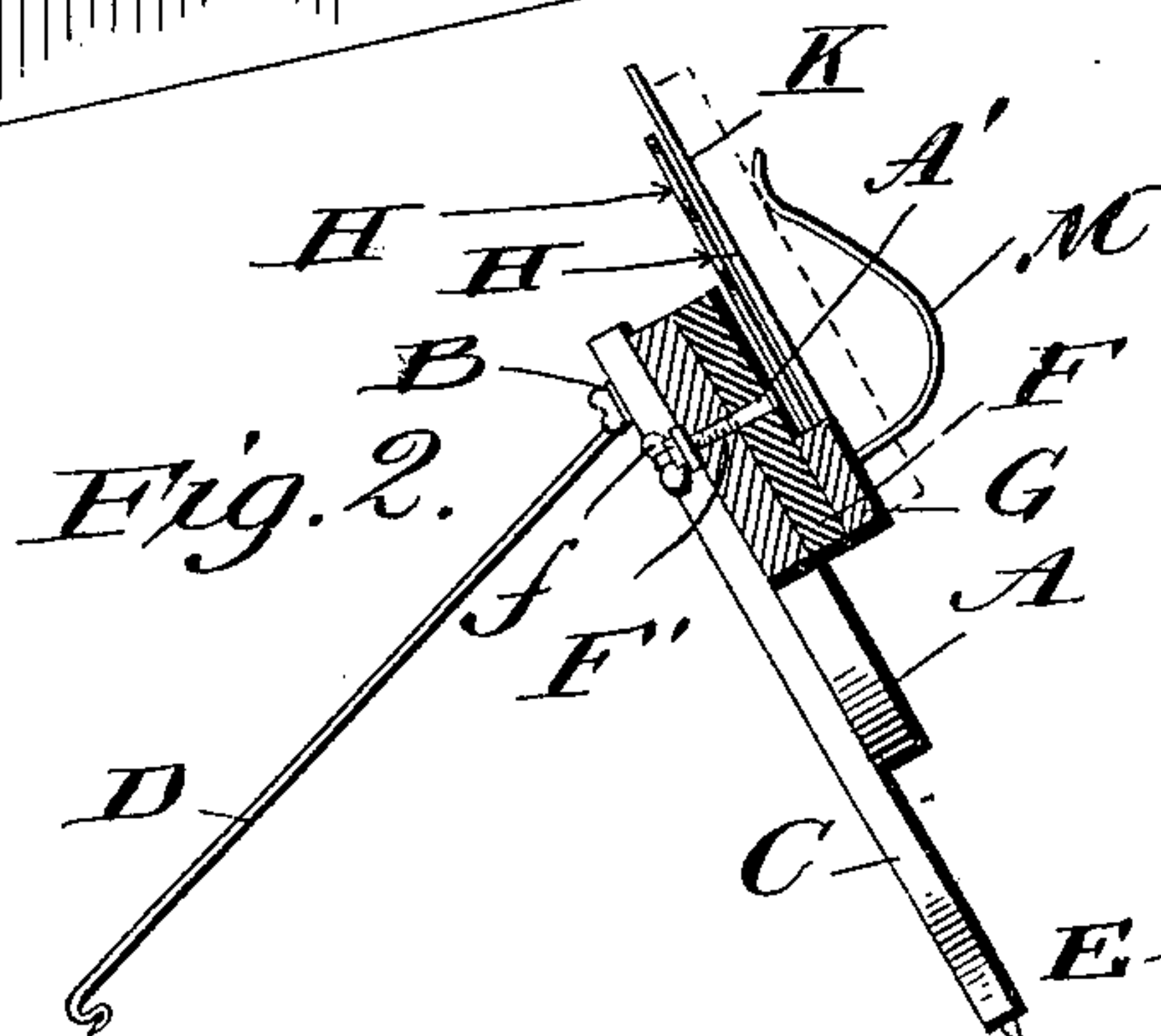
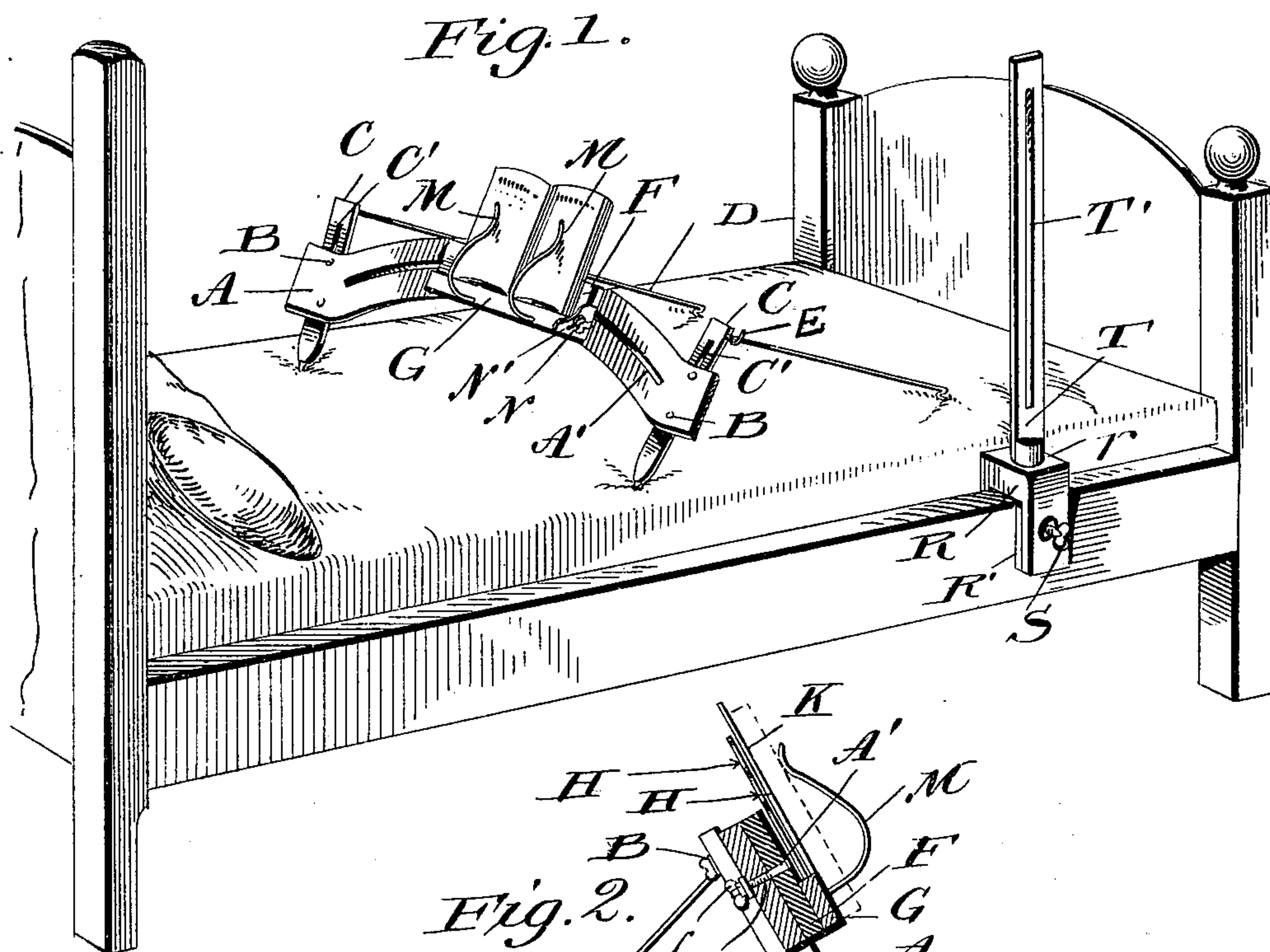
No. 631,512.

Patented Aug. 22, 1899.

A. J. REID.  
BOOK HOLDER.

(Application filed June 16, 1899.)

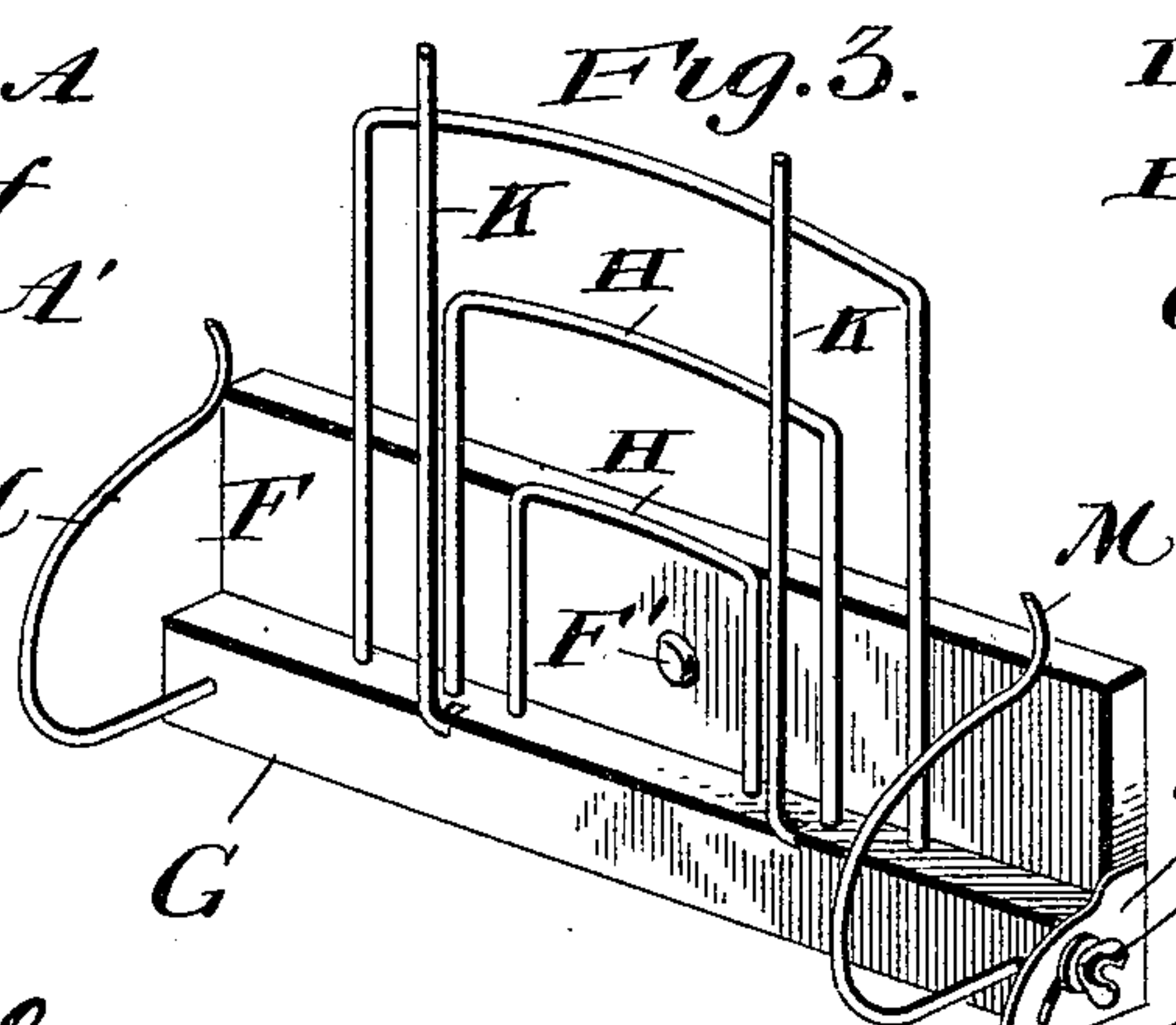
(No Model.)



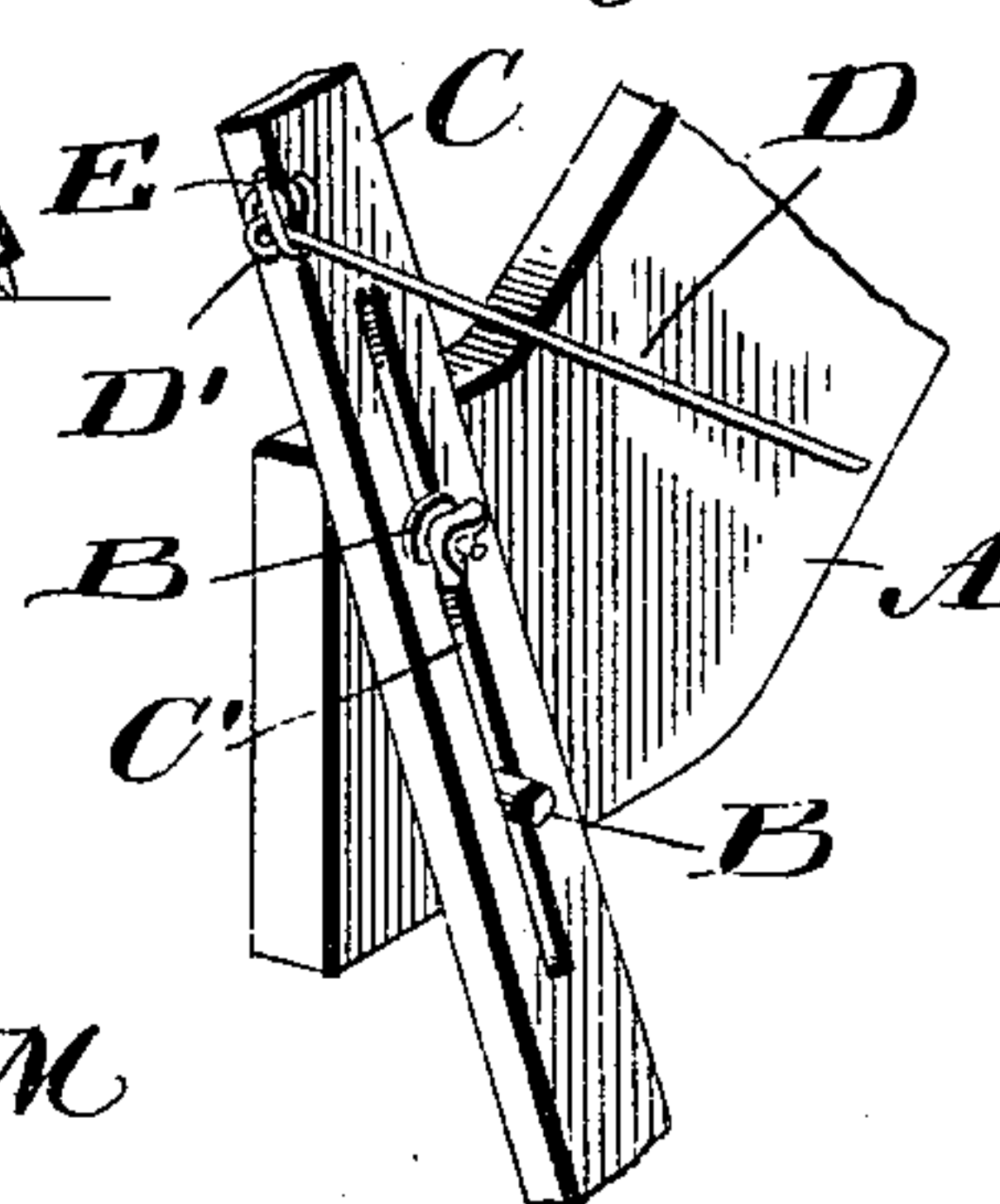
*Fig. 4.*



*Fig. 3.*



*Fig. 5.*



Witnesses:  
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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ALFRED JESSE REID, OF FRIENDSHIP, GEORGIA.

## BOOK-HOLDER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 631,512, dated August 22, 1899.

Application filed June 16, 1899. Serial No. 720,835. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, ALFRED JESSE REID, a citizen of the United States, residing at Friendship, in the county of Sumter and State of Georgia, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Book-Holders; 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 the letters of reference marked thereon, which form a part of this specification.

This invention relates to new and useful improvements in book-holders, and especially to an adjustable holder or rack which is designed especially for use in holding books at a convenient angle to a person lying either in a recumbent or in an upright position.

More specifically the present invention consists of a book-holder or adjustable rack having a board which has a slot formed on the arc of a circle, said rack being provided with slotted standards, through which slots pins or bolts carried by the board are passed and held in a fixed position by means of a thumb-screw, while suitable brace-rods are connected to the upper ends of said standards, their lower ends being adapted to catch into the clothing of the bed.

Another feature consists in the book-rack, which is adjustably held to the board, being capable of adjustment, and held at different locations along the board, having a curved slot therein, said book-rack also capable of a lateral adjustment to hold the book at different angles to a horizontal plane.

To these ends and to such others as the invention may pertain the same consists in the novel construction, combination, and adaptation of parts, as will be hereinafter more fully described and then specifically defined in the appended claims.

My invention is clearly illustrated in the accompanying drawings, which, with the letters of reference marked thereon, form part of this application, and in which—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of my book-holder shown as adjusted for use. Fig. 2 is a vertical cross-section through the book-holder. Fig. 3 is an enlarged detail view of

the book-holding rack. Fig. 4 is a sectional view through the hinged portions of the book-holding rack; and Fig. 5 is a detail in perspective, showing the manner of supporting the back of the rack.

Reference now being had to the details of the drawings by letter, A designates a board which has an elongated curved slot A', and said board is preferably cut away on its lower edge, so as to allow the board to be adjusted over the body of a person who is lying in bed. Near each end of said board are mounted pins or bolts B, which extend beyond one face of said board, and the upper of said projecting bolts or pins on each end are threaded and designed to be passed through the elongated slot C' in the standards C, while the lower of said pins on each end are adapted to bear against the edge of the standards. The lower ends of each of said standards are pointed, so as to prevent the holder slipping when it is adjusted for use. In order to hold the board, which is mounted on standards, at any desired angle to the top of the bed, I provide the braces D, which have eyes at their upper ends, which are connected to the staples D', carried at the upper ends of said standards. The portions of said braces adjacent to their free ends are bent in S shape, with their ends terminating in points designed to engage in the clothing of the bed in order to hold the board supporting the book-rack at any desired angle. Mounted on the rear face of each of said standards is a hook E, in which the upper ends of the braces are designed to be held from swinging out beyond the standards. Mounted on the said board is the book-rack formed of the two sections F and G, which are hinged together, and said portion F carries a bolt F', the shank of which passes through the elongated curved slot in said board A and is held at an adjusted position by means of a thumb-screw f, which is screwed onto the threads of said bolt F. The section G of the rack carries the book-cover and leaf-engaging wire bails H, which serve to hold a book open, and the upright wires K, which hold the book open, while near each end of said section are the arms M, which may be swung over the faces of the leaves and hold the same back as may be desired. In order to hold the section G at different angles to



the section F, I secure a plate N to the end of the section F, said plate having a slot, through which passes a threaded pin N', carried at the end of the section G, and on said threaded pin is mounted an adjusting thumb-screw and washer, whereby as the said section G is brought to the desired angle the thumb-screw may be tightened and the book-holder held in the position desired. If it is desired to shift the sections F and G forming the book-rack to one end or the other of the curved slot in the board A in order to adapt the rack in the proper position to hold a book to be read conveniently lying on one side or the other, it will be noted that the rack may be readily pushed from one end of the board to the other and held in an adjusted position.

If it is desired to use my improved book-holder in connection with a chair or table, or if it is desired to use it in connection with a bed and dispense with the standards with spur ends and the pointed braces, I may dispense with said standards and braces and employ the clamping-block R, which is slotted and has an adjustable plate R', which is actuated by means of a thumb-screw S, passing through one of the arms of the clamping-block, whereby said plate may be forced forward against the edge of the bedstead or whatever article to which the block is clamped. The upper end of said block is apertured, as at *r*, to receive the lower end of the standard T, which has an elongated slot T' to receive one of the threaded bolts or pins carried at the end of the board A.

From the foregoing description, when taken in connection with the drawings, the utility of my invention and its manner of adjustment will be readily understood.

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

1. A book-holder, comprising a slotted board, an adjustable rack mounted on said board and standards on which the ends of said board are adjustably held, and braces connected to said standards, as set forth.

2. A book-holder, comprising a board having an elongated curved slot therein, a book-rack having a bolt passing through said slot, and held in an adjusted position by means of a thumb-screw, slotted standards and threaded bolts, one at each end of said board, which bolts are adapted to be passed through the

elongated slots in said standards and wing-nuts mounted on the ends of said bolts and adapted to hold the board in an adjusted position with reference to said standards, as set forth.

3. A book-holder, comprising a board having its under edge cut away and slotted as shown, the standards having elongated slots therein, threaded bolts carried by the board and passing through said slots, the pins or bolts carried by the board, and designed to engage in the slots of said standards, the wing-nuts mounted on the threaded bolts, the lower ends of the standards having spurs, and the brace-rod connected to the upper ends of the said standards, the loops or hooks in which the upper portions of the braces are held, the free ends of said braces being pointed, and the book-rack adjustably held on said board, as set forth.

4. A book-holder, comprising in combination with the board, slotted as described, with standards for supporting the same, a book-rack made up of sections hinged together, one of said sections having a bolt, the shank of which passes through the slot in said board, and a wing-nut for holding said section in a fixed relation at different locations on said board one of the sections of the book-rack having bail-shaped members and wires for holding the cover and the leaves open, as set forth.

5. The combination with the board slotted as described and standards for supporting the same, the book-rack made up of two sections hinged together, one of which is adjustably held to the board, the other having the book-cover and leaf-engaging members, the plate having a curved slot and secured to the section which is bolted to the board, a threaded bolt carried by the swinging section of the book-rack, and passing through a curved slot in said plate, the wing-nut carried on said bolt, and the swinging arms mounted on the hinged section adapted to hold the leaves open, as shown and described.

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

ALFRED JESSE REID.

Witnesses:

A. C. SPEER,  
JOE. CHAMBLESS.