No. 635,515. Patented Oct. 24, 1899.

M. T. SHARP.

TABLET.

(Application filed Feb. 14, 1898.)

(No Model.)

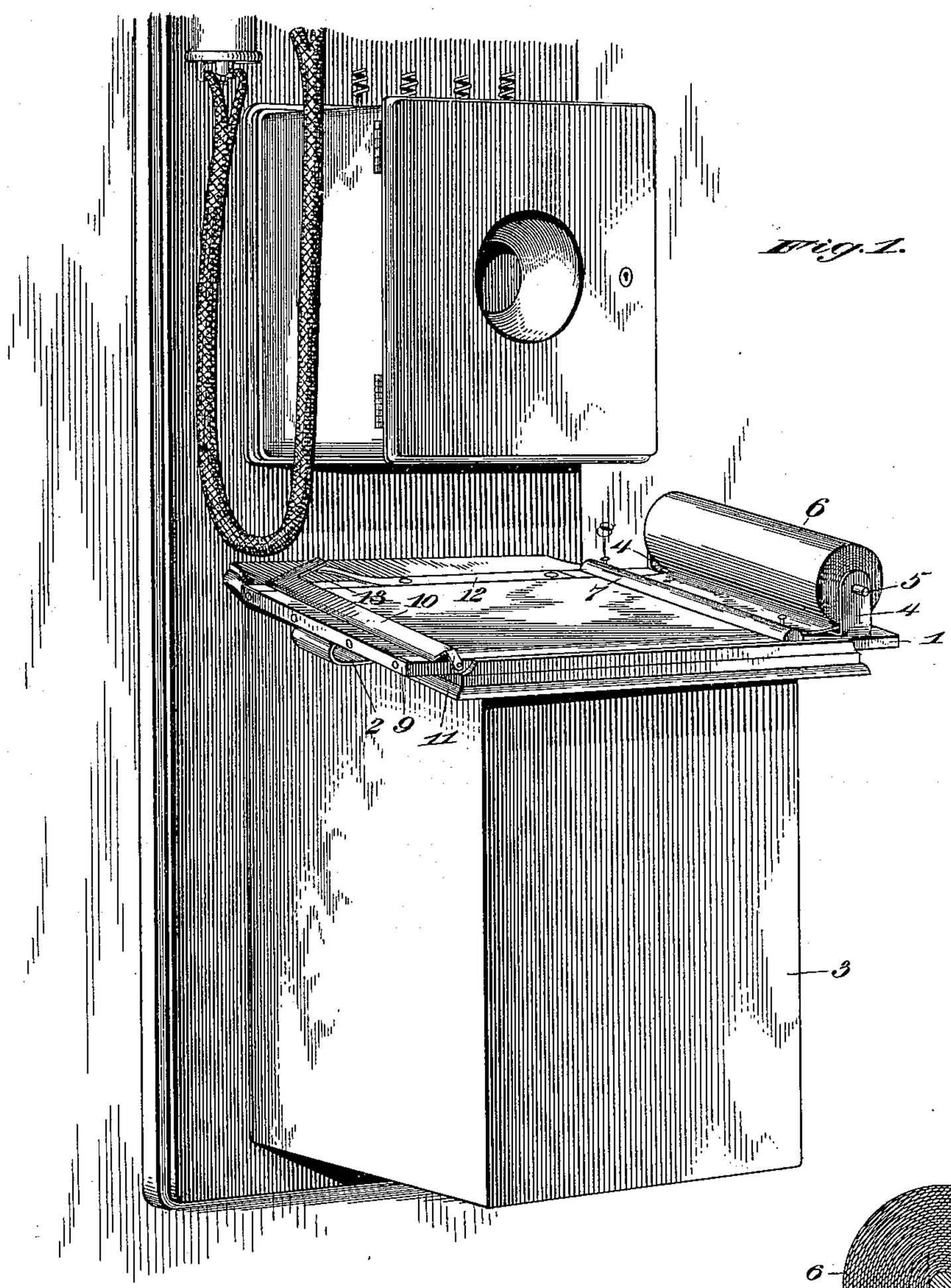

Fig. 1.

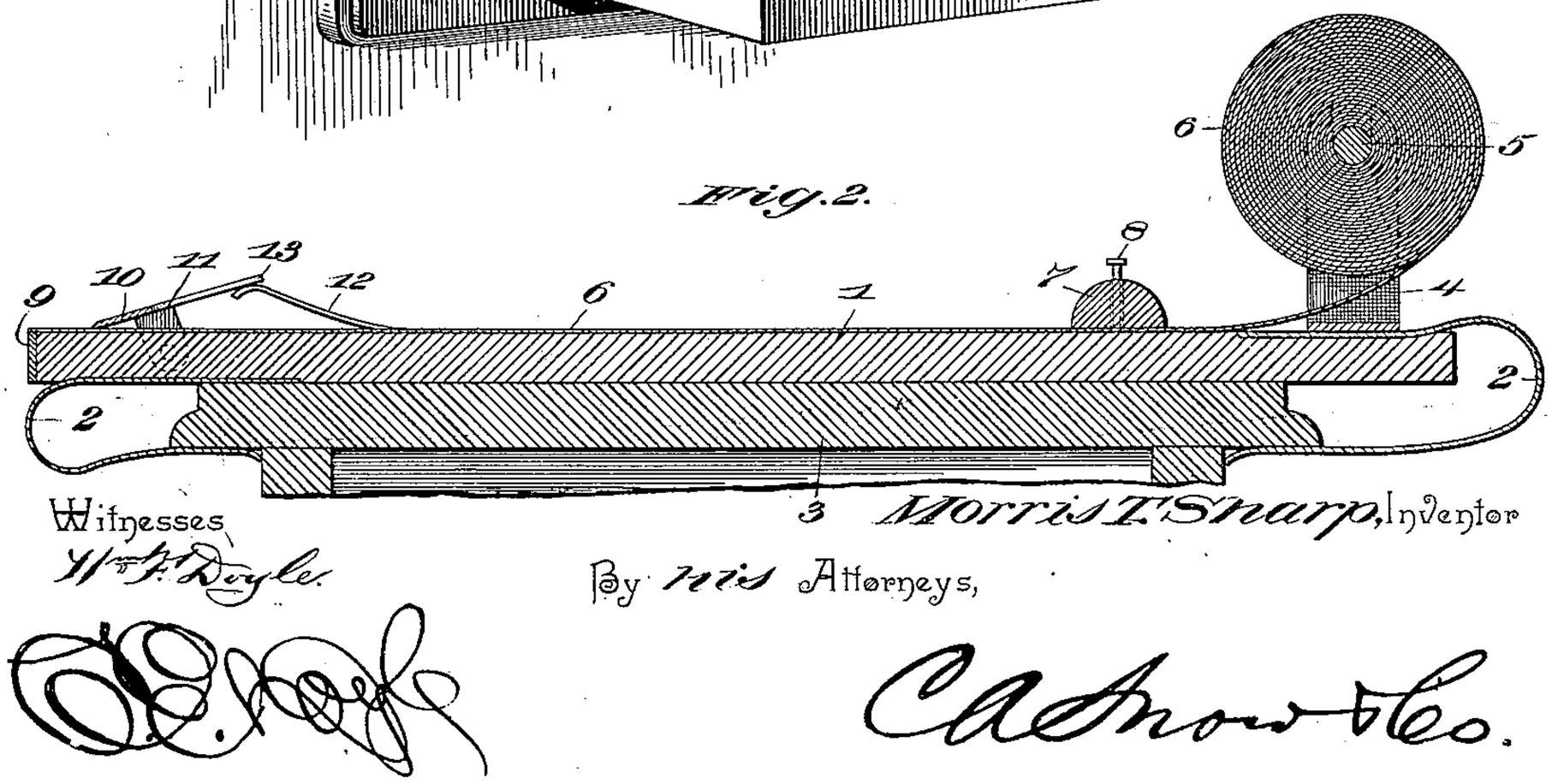

Fig. 2.

Witnesses
W. F. Doyle.
C. E. Hoyt

Morris T. Sharp, Inventor
By his Attorneys,
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

MORRIS THOMAS SHARP, OF MOUNT VERNON, OHIO.

TABLET.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 635,515, dated October 24, 1899.

Application filed February 14, 1898. Serial No. 670,283. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, MORRIS THOMAS SHARP, a citizen of the United States, residing at Mount Vernon, in the county of Knox and State of Ohio, have invented a new and useful Tablet, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to writing-tablets, and particularly to a tablet adapted for use in connection with telephones as a convenience in receiving orders and messages, the same having a continuous sheet applied in the form of a roll and adapted to be unreeled and detached as it is used.

The objects and advantages of this invention will appear in the following description, and the novel features thereof will be particularly pointed out in the appended claim.

In the drawings, Figure 1 is a perspective view of a tablet constructed in accordance with my invention applied in the operative position to a telephone battery-box. Fig. 2 is a longitudinal section of the same.

Similar numerals of reference indicate corresponding parts in both figures of the drawings.

1 designates the base of the tablet embodying my invention, and it is adapted to be secured by any suitable means, such as terminal clamps 2, to the inclined top of the battery-box 3 of an ordinary telephone. At one end of the base upon suitable standards 4 is mounted the spindle 5 of a roll consisting of a continuous sheet of paper 6, and the bearing in one of said standards is preferably open to provide for replacing the roll without detaching the base from the telephone.

Transversely spanning the base contiguous to the roll is a weighted holding-bar 7, loosely fitted contiguous to its extremities upon guide-pins 8, rising from the base and adapted to exert sufficient pressure upon the sheet of paper to prevent the accidental displacement thereof, while allowing sufficient freedom of movement of the paper to adapt it to be drawn out as it is used to bring a fresh portion of its surface between said holding-bar and the opposite end of the base. Said other end of the base in the construction illustrated is provided with a cutter or tearing edge consisting of a blade 9, although any substantial equivalent of this construction may be substituted. Mounted upon the base contiguous to this cutter and designed to hold the strip after the used portion thereof has been detached, and hence during the writing of a succeeding order or message, is a clamp consisting of a transverse bar 10, having an outer reduced edge to bear upon the surface of the paper strip and terminally provided with ears 11, which are pivotally mounted upon the base at its opposite edges, and an actuating-spring 12, terminally engaged with an arm 13 on one end of the clamp-bar. Obviously the reduction or sharpening of the bearing edge of this clamp-bar adapts the same to serve as a tearing edge in case the operator should attempt to detach the used portion of the strip by an upward instead of a downward pull, although the latter is preferable by reason of forming a projecting portion of the strip, which may be grasped subsequently to advance the strip after the completion of a succeeding message or order.

The operation of the apparatus forming the subject-matter of my invention will be clearly understood from the foregoing description. In the illustrated form thereof the supply-roll is arranged at the right-hand end of the base, whereby the detachment of the used portions of the strip is accomplished at the left-hand end, as by the left hand of the operator after replacing the receiver; but this arrangement of parts may be reversed to dispose the supply-roll at the inner or left-hand end of the base and the holding-clamp at the right-hand end.

The spring clamping-arms which bear terminally against the under surface of the telephone-battery-box top are arranged at their extremities in contact with the surfaces of the side walls of the battery-box to prevent displacement of the base in either direction parallel with the length of the sheet or strip of paper. In applying the base to the battery-box top it should be moved parallel with the side edges of the battery-box top, from the front edge thereof toward the back of the telephone, and after arrangement in the desired position forward displacement of the base is prevented by the frictional contact of the clamping-arms with the under surface of the battery-box top.

Various changes in the form, proportion,

and the minor details of construction may be resorted to without departing from the spirit or sacrificing any of the advantages of this invention.

Having described my invention, what I claim is—

A tablet for the purpose named, having a base provided with clamping devices for engaging the side edges of a telephone-battery-box top, a roll having its spindle mounted in bearings on the base parallel with one end edge thereof, a weighted holding-bar arranged transversely of the base parallel with and contiguous to said roll, and terminally mounted upon headed guide-pins perpendicular to the plane of the base, a fixed cutting-blade secured to the opposite end edge of the base with its cutting edge uppermost, and a spring-actuated clamp having a transversely-disposed pivotally-mounted bar, bearing at one edge upon the surface of a sheet extending thereunder, the bearing edge of said clamp-bar being arranged parallel with and spaced from said cutting-blade, substantially as specified.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing as my own I have hereto affixed my signature in the presence of two witnesses.

MORRIS THOMAS SHARP.

Witnesses:

JAMES L. LEONARD,

JOHNSON A. BARKER.