

No. 639,857.

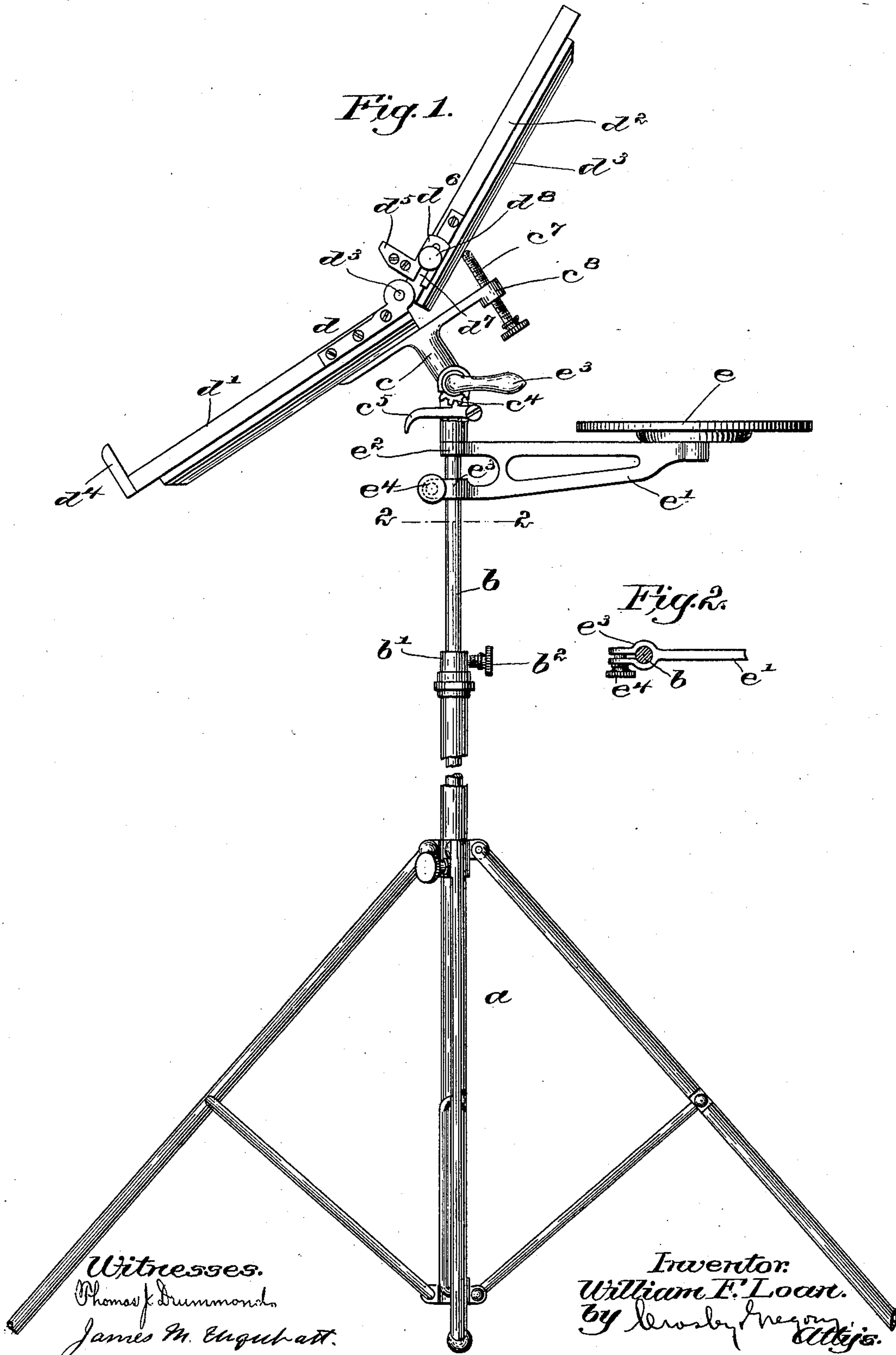
Patented Dec. 26, 1899.

W. F. LOAN.
READING STAND.

(Application filed Jan. 23, 1899.)

(No Model.)

2 Sheets—Sheet 1.



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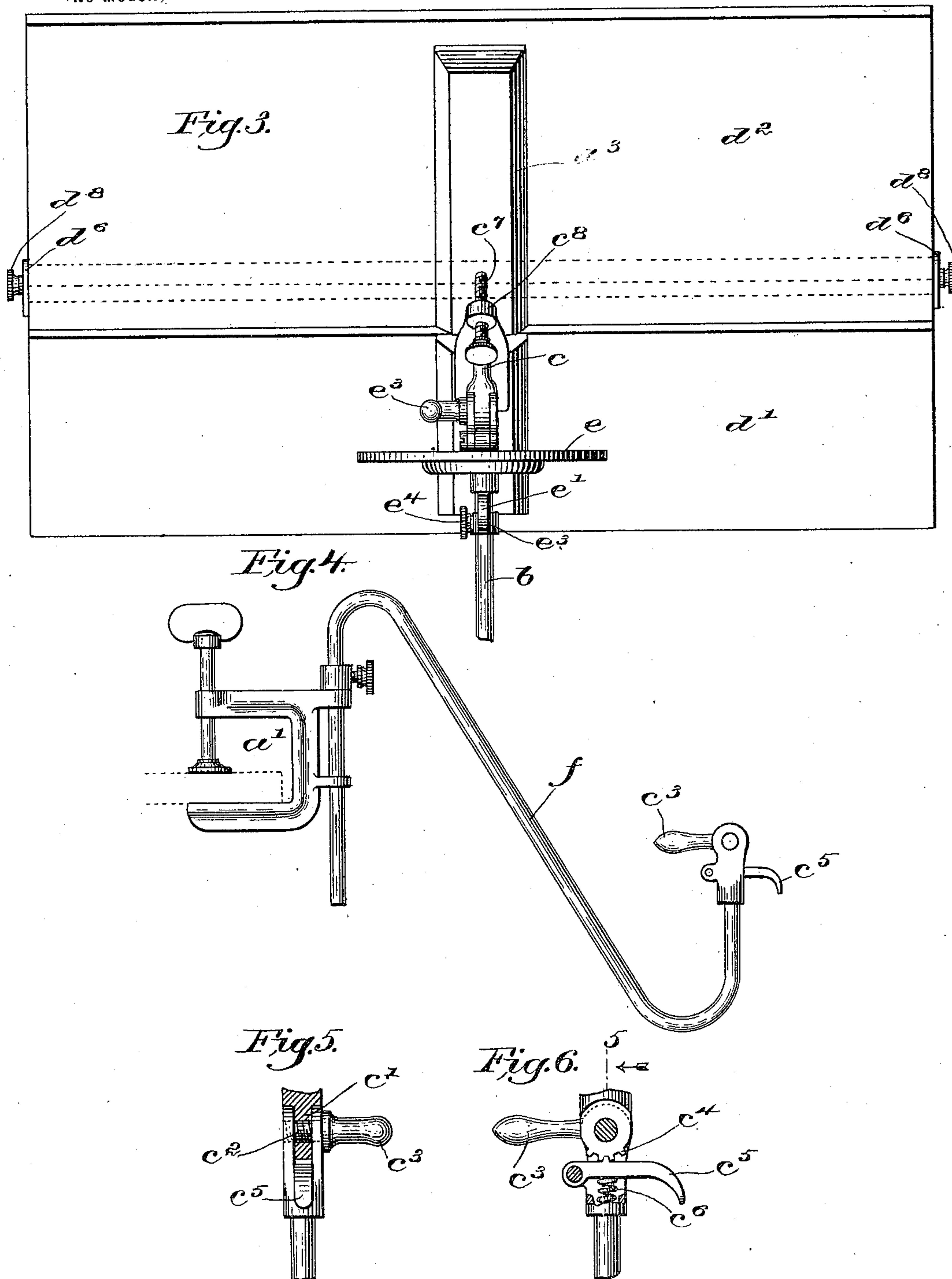
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(No Model.)

2 Sheets—Sheet 2.



Witnesses.
Thomas J. Drummond.
James M. Blagichart.

Inventor:
William F. Loan.
by Leasby Gregory
Attys.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLIAM F. LOAN, OF BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS.

READING-STAND.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 639,857, dated December 26, 1899.

Application filed January 23, 1899. Serial No. 703,010. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM F. LOAN, of Boston, county of Suffolk, and State of Massachusetts, have invented an Improvement in Reading-Stands, of which the following description, in connection with the accompanying drawings, is a specification, like letters on the drawings representing like parts.

My invention is a stand or rest especially intended for the use of artists, students, and the like where it is desired to support a plurality of books, sketches, or articles in convenient position for reference and use.

In carrying out my invention I provide a suitable base of any convenient kind, and on this I mount a table having means for carrying two or more books or articles or series thereof capable of disposition at various angles to each other and the whole table being provided with means for body adjustment to different angles, and behind this table I arrange an adjustable lamp-support in position to hold a student's lamp, for instance, so as to give the best light effects for the purpose.

The details of construction of my invention will be more particularly pointed out in the course of the following description, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, which illustrate a preferred embodiment of my invention, and the latter will be more particularly defined in the appended claims.

In the drawings, Figure 1 represents my invention in side elevation, parts being broken away for clearness of illustration. Fig. 2 is a transverse horizontal sectional view on the line 2 2, Fig. 1. Fig. 3 shows the upper part thereof in rear elevation. Fig. 4 represents in side elevation a modified form of support. Fig. 5 is a sectional view on the line 5, Fig. 6, showing the upper end of the standard in rear elevation. Fig. 6 is a side elevation of the parts shown in Fig. 5, broken away to exhibit the internal construction.

Any suitable base may be employed in connection with my invention, Fig. 1 showing a base *a*, such as is commonly used in portable music-stands, and Fig. 4 showing a base *a'* in the form of a clamp for attachment to a table or convenient ledge.

The standard *b* is shown as a rod sliding in the base and carrying a sleeve or stop *b'*, pro-

vided with a set-screw *b*², which operates to fix the apparatus in desired adjustment. At its upper end the standard carries a bracket *c*, provided on its under part with an ear *c'*, 55 pivoted on a bolt *c*², herein shown as threaded and having an operating-handle *c*³, by means of which the bracket *c* may be clamped rigidly in any adjustment desired. Preferably, also, the ear *c'* is notched, as indicated at *c*⁴, 60 to receive the tooth of a dog *c*⁵, held by a spring *c*⁶, normally in locking engagement with the bracket.

A table *d* is supported on the bracket *c*, this table comprising a plurality of parts, herein 65 shown as two in number—a lower part or member *d'*, fixed rigidly on the bracket *c*, and an upper member *d*², hinged to the part *d'* at *d*³ and angularly adjustable relatively thereto by means of an adjusting hand-screw *c*⁷, op- 70 erating in an arm *c*⁸ of the bracket *c* against a wear-plate *d*³ of the table. The lower edge of the table is provided with a stationary flange or rest *d*⁴, and the upper member *d*² of the table has a movable rest *d*⁵, which constitutes an important novelty of my inven- 75 tion, this rest extending across the table, as indicated in dotted lines in Fig. 3, and being provided at its opposite ends with a hook-like plate *d*⁶, which extends upwardly, as shown in 80 Fig. 1, being slotted longitudinally at *d*⁷ to fit over a thumb-screw *d*⁸, which clamps the same in any position required. The rest *d*⁵ is at the lower ends of the plates *d*⁶, and the construction being such as is clearly shown in 85 Fig. 1 it follows that this rest can be adjusted up or down along the slot *d*⁷ and may be turned into any angular position on the screws *d*⁸ as pivots, so that it may be turned, if desired, at a very acute angle to the member *d*² of the ta- 90 ble, as would be desirable, for instance, in holding a sheet of music or a pattern or copy. Moreover, the plates being hook-like permit of the rest being quickly taken off entirely from the table. 95

Behind the table I secure a lamp-support *e*, carried by an arm *e'*, provided with a perforated ear *e*², sliding on the standard *b*, and a split ear *e*³, also sliding on and embracing said standard, said ear being clamped by a thumb- 100 screw *e*⁴ into pinching engagement with the standard for holding the lamp-support at any

height required, according to the work being done on the table. This lamp-support co-operates with the table to cast a mellow light on the drawings or other work being done and, as shown in the drawings, is of a construction and style adapted to support a usual student's lamp, and it will therefore be understood that the size, height, and construction of this lamp-support will vary according to the kind of lamp it is intended to use with it.

In Fig. 4 the standard instead of being straight, as shown at *b* in Fig. 1, is bent, as indicated at *f*, so as to coöperate with the special holding-clamp *a'* before described.

Having explained the constructional details of my invention, I will now set forth the operation and a few advantages thereof.

If an artist is using my improved stand, he first adjusts the standard *b* on the base *a* by loosening the hand-screw *b*² and raising and lowering the standard to suit his exact requirements, and then loosens the clamp *c*³ and depresses the dog *c*⁵, whereupon the table is tilted as a whole to the exact angle required for the work and desired by the artist. Thereupon he releases the dog *c*⁵, which instantly locks the table in position. It will be understood that either the dog or the clamp *c*³ alone will hold the table as required; but it is desirable, especially when using the device in connection with a lamp, that there should be no possibility of accidental tipping of the table, and therefore I prefer to employ these two devices together, whereby an absolute, positive, and certain locking of the parts is insured. The table having been adjusted at the general angle required, the lamp may be placed on the support *e*, and then the upper part *d*² of the table will be adjusted by means of the thumb-screw *c*⁷, so as to bring the sketch, painting, or other work which the artist has in hand at the precise angle for the best light and for proper observation as the work progresses on the lower part *d'* of the table. If the work being copied is in a large volume or portfolio, it will be necessary to adjust the rest *d*⁵ in substantially the position shown in Fig. 1; but if the work being copied is a single sheet or a very thin book then it would be desirable to turn the rest *d*⁵ back almost against the member *d*² of the table, thereby holding the copy or study firmly in position.

For some purposes it will be desirable to have the members *d'* *d*² of the table extending out flat in one and the same plane, and this is readily accomplished by turning back the screw *c*⁷. It will also be understood that the table may, if desired, be absolutely horizontal

for use, for example, as a sick-table or for the purposes of an ordinary table.

Various other advantages of my invention and capabilities of use thereof will be apparent without further description.

I do not intend to limit myself to all the details of construction herein shown, inasmuch as they may be variously modified within the spirit and scope of my invention.

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

1. In a device of the kind described, a standard, a bracket pivoted thereon, a table carried by said bracket, said bracket having an ear adjacent its pivot, notches in said ear, a dog carried by said standard, a spring normally holding said dog in engagement with said notches, and a clamp adjacent said dog for locking said bracket in any adjustment, substantially as described.

2. In a device of the class specified, a standard, a bracket pivoted thereon, said bracket having an ear adjacent its pivot, notches in said ear, a dog carried by said standard, a spring normally holding said dog in engagement with said notches, a clamp adjacent said dog for locking said bracket in different adjusted positions, and a table consisting of two hinged sections one of which is mounted for angular adjustment relatively to the other, and means for securing said table to said bracket.

3. A device of the class specified, comprising a standard, a bracket adjustable vertically and angularly thereon, a table consisting of two sections hinged directly to each other edge to edge, an adjusting-screw carried by the bracket and bearing against the upper section of the table, means for positively holding the bracket in its adjusted positions, a rest fixed to the lower section of the table, a second rest connected with the upper section of the table and including two plates fitting against the outer edges of said upper section and having open slots and set-screws extending through said slots and into the upper section of the table and adapted to engage the plates and hold the same in different adjusted positions.

In testimony whereof I have signed my name to this specification in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

WILLIAM F. LOAN.

Witnesses:

JAMES M. URQUHART,
FREDERICK L. EMERY.