

No. 697,266.

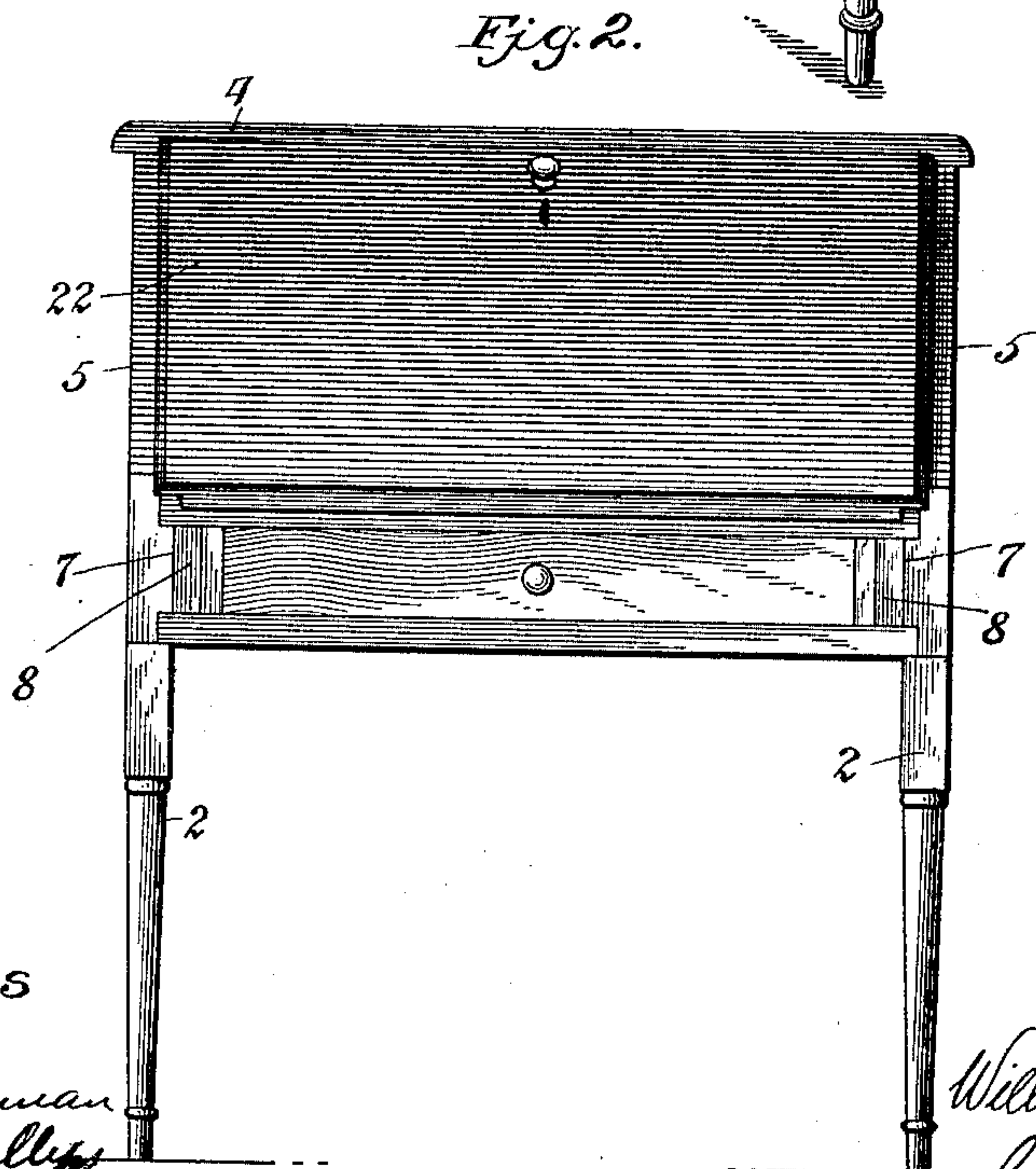
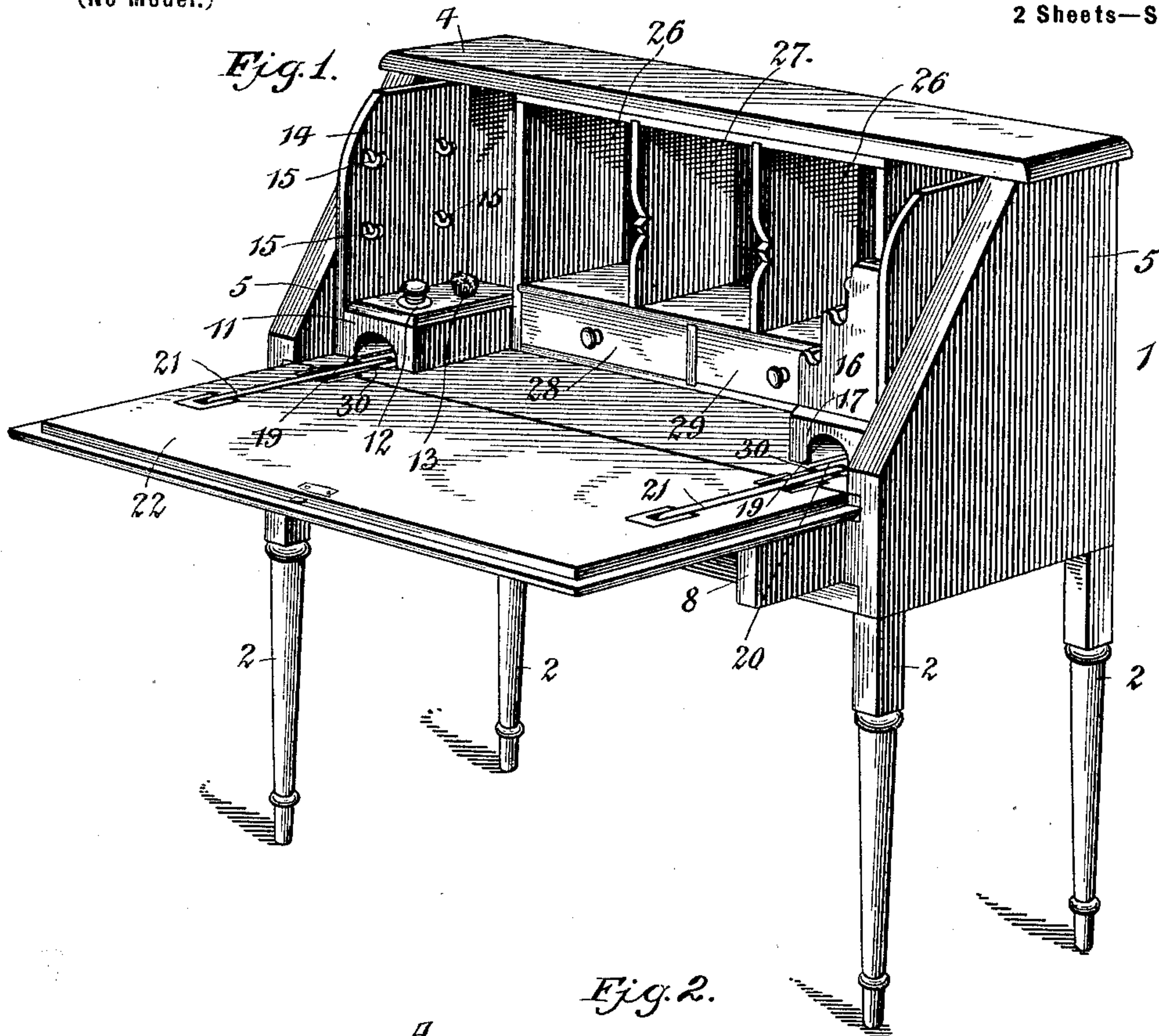
Patented Apr. 8, 1902.

W. J. McDEVITT.
DESK.

(Application filed May 11, 1899. Renewed Oct. 11, 1901.)

(No Model.)

2 Sheets—Sheet 1.



Witnesses

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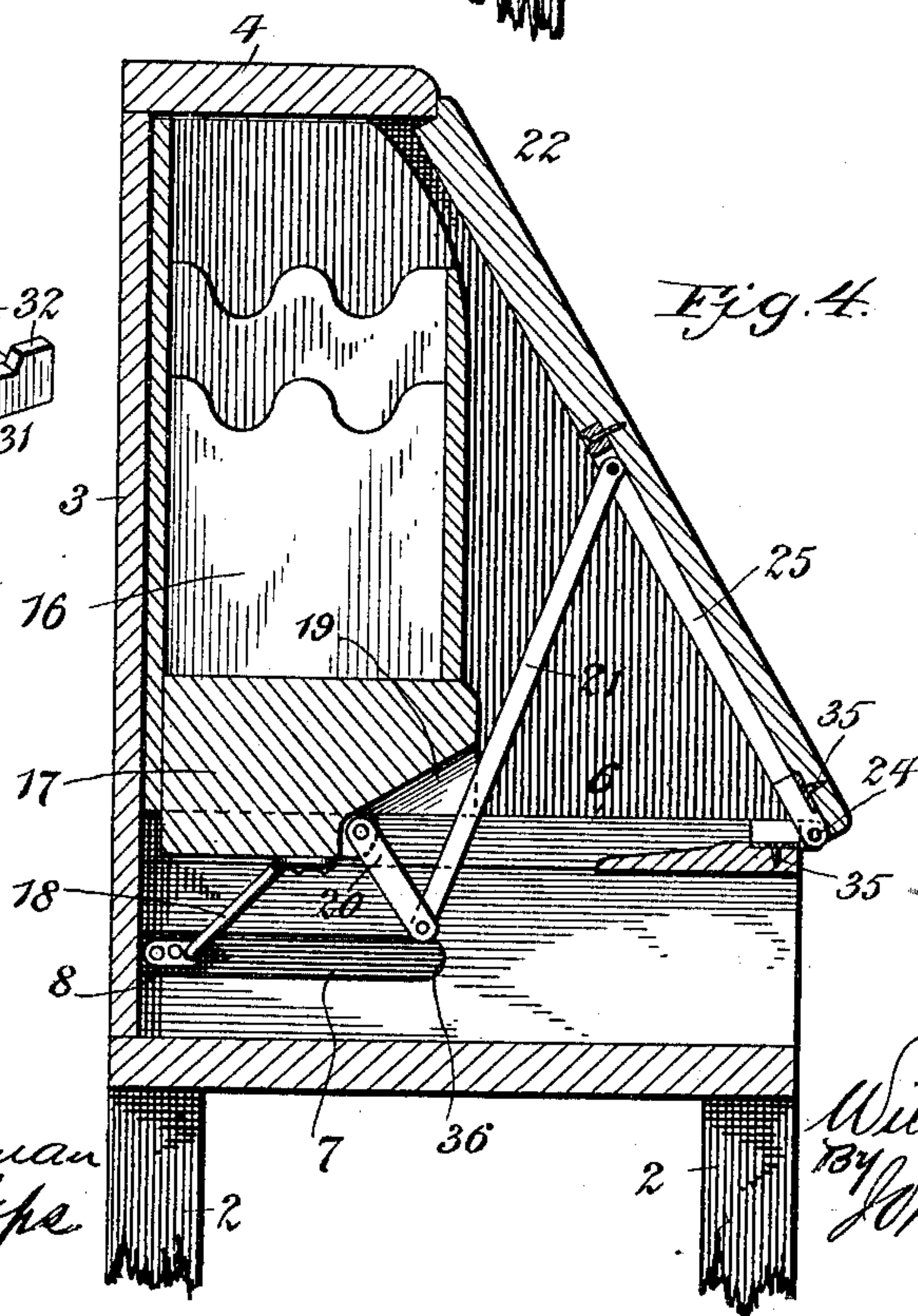
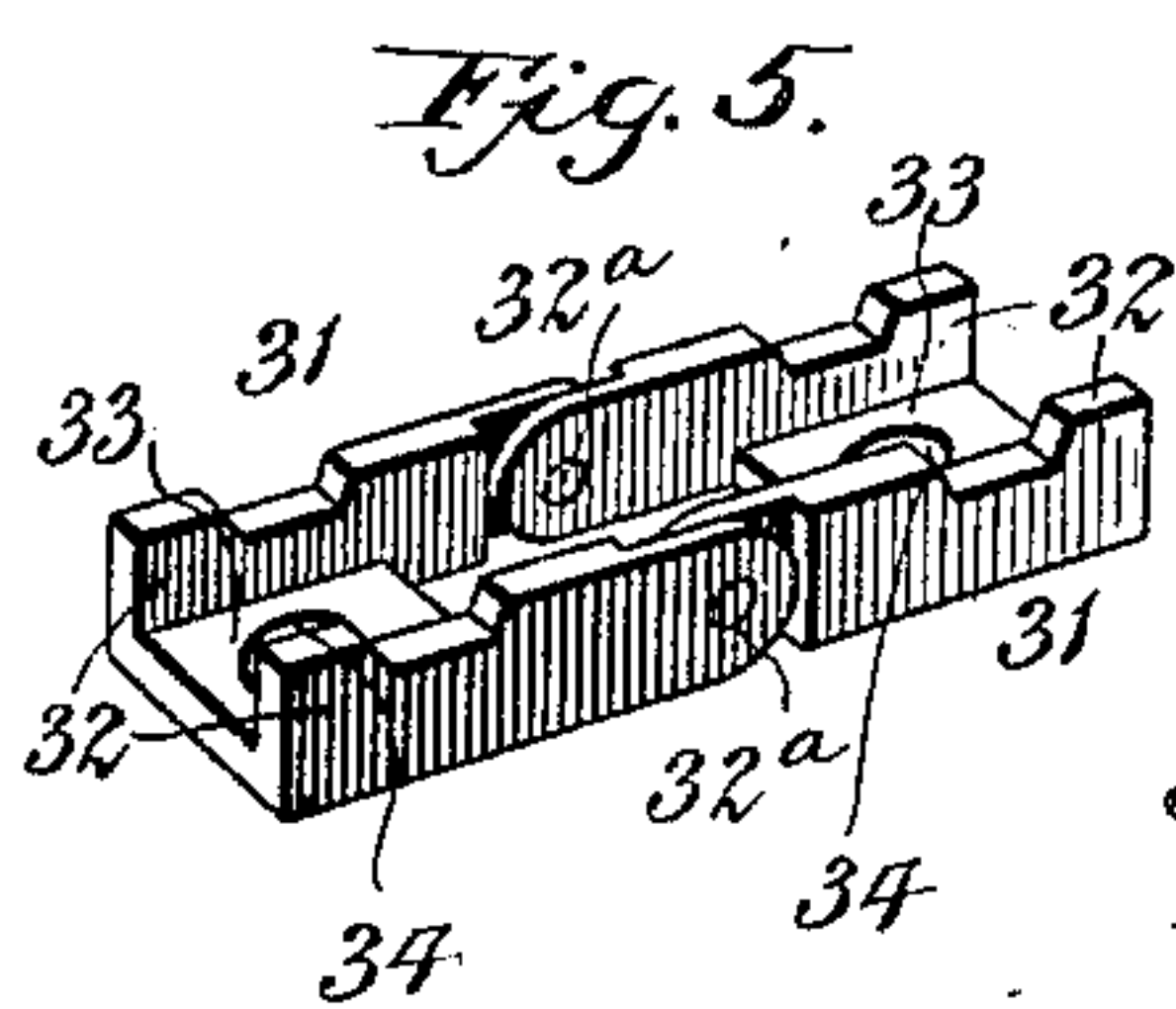
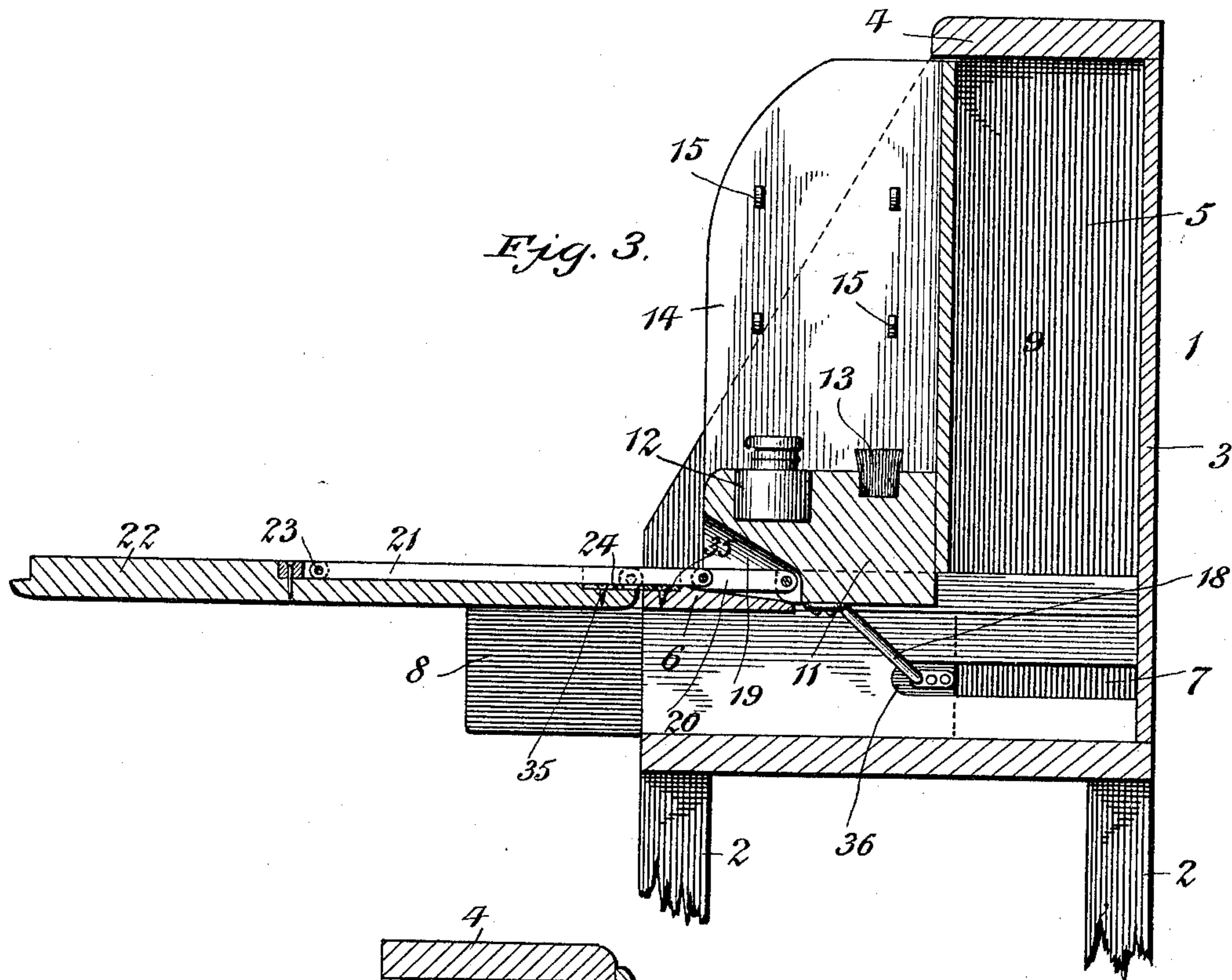
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLIAM J. McDEVITT, OF PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA.

DESK.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 697,266, dated April 8, 1902.

Application filed May 11, 1899. Renewed October 11, 1901. Serial No. 78,392. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM J. McDEVITT, of Philadelphia, in the county of Philadelphia and State of Pennsylvania, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Desks, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to certain improvements in desks, and particularly to that class wherein the lid or cover is adapted to fold up to close the body thereof and when unfolded or lowered forms a table for the writer. Heretofore in desks of this character it has in some cases been customary to provide chains or jointed arms the respective terminals of which have been pivoted to the body of the desk and to the lid or cover, so that the latter when lowered may be given support; but the said chains or jointed arms have formed an obstruction to the free use of the lid when lowered, owing to the fact that they project outwardly from the body of the desk to a point near the front edge of the lid or cover, which confines the user to the space between said chains or jointed arms. Again, the chains or jointed arms above referred to have given but indifferent support to the lid or cover, not giving that rigidity or steadiness which is desirable. Now by my invention these chains or jointed arms are dispensed with and in their stead simple, inexpensive, and effective supports are provided whereby the lid or cover is rigidly sustained, said supports being so arranged that the entire surface of the lid is free from obstruction.

My invention consists of a desk of this character comprising a body having a convenient arrangement of compartments therein, a lid or cover therefor, movable supports adjacent said cover and upon which the latter rests when lowered for use, and means for automatically moving said supports in and out simultaneously with the closing and opening of the desk.

It further consists in the combination, with the desk, of movable repositories adapted to hold ink-wells, pen-wipers, stationery, and other paraphernalia, said repositories being moved into proper position for use when the lid is lowered and moved out of the way when the lid or cover is raised to close the desk.

It further consists of the novel features of construction and arrangement of parts, all of

which will be hereinafter fully described, and particularly pointed in the appended claims.

Figure 1 represents a perspective view of a desk constructed according to my invention, the same being shown open ready for use. Fig. 2 represents a front elevation of the same, showing the desk closed. Fig. 3 represents a central vertical section taken through the movable compartment wherein the ink-well and pen-wiper are held, the lid or cover in this instance being shown lowered and said compartment brought forward into position for use. Fig. 4 represents a similar view taken through the compartment wherein the stationery and other paraphernalia are held, the lid in this instance being closed and said compartment being moved out of the way. Fig. 5 represents a perspective view of one of the hinges for the lid or cover removed.

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

Referring to said drawings, 1 designates the body of the desk, supported upon the legs 2, both of which may be of any desired or ornamental character.

As shown in the drawings, the construction of the body 1 of the desk closely resembles that of desks of a similar character at present in use, the same being formed with a solid back 3, a top piece 4, and end pieces 5, which latter incline downwardly and outwardly from the top 4 to a point flush with the front edge of the table 6 and to which they are secured in any usual or convenient manner.

The table 6 is provided with horizontal guideways 7 adjacent the end pieces 5 and parallel therewith, said guideways being adapted to receive therein sliding bars 8, the outer ends of which form the supports for the lid or cover when the latter is lowered, as will be described.

The interior of the body 1 is provided at each end with compartments 9 and 10, respectively, the former being adapted to receive therein a movable block or base 11, which is provided with cavities to receive therein ink-wells 12 and pen-wiper 13, said block or base being further provided with a vertical extension 14, from which project hooks 15, thus forming a convenient and effective pen or pencil rack. The compartment 10 at the

opposite end of the body 1 is adapted to receive a repository 16 for paper, envelops, stamps, &c., said repository being mounted upon a base 17, similar in every respect to that 5 11 just described.

18 designates rods, the respective ends of which are secured to the blocks or bases 11 and 17 and to the bars or rails 8, so that when the latter are moved forward and backward 10 by mechanism to be described said blocks or bases 11 and 17 will be caused to move simultaneously with them.

The forward ends of the blocks or bases 11 and 17 are recessed, as shown at 19, to receive 15 therein links 20, which are pivoted therein and to arms 21, which latter are in turn pivoted to the lid or cover 22 at 23, so that when said cover or lid is moved upwardly upon its hinges 24 the rods 21 will cause the links 20 20 to move upon their pivots until said links shall have engaged the upper walls of the recesses 19, and a continued movement will cause the blocks or bases 11 and 17 to be moved rearwardly, and coincidentally there- 25 with the bars 8 through the agency of the rods 18 will also be moved rearwardly until their front ends will be in line flush with the front edge of the table 6, as best seen in Figs. 2 and 4.

30 The action of lowering the lid to open the desk will through the arms 21 and links 20 cause the blocks or bases 11 and 17 to be moved forward partially out of their respective compartments, so that access may be 35 readily had to the ink-well, pen-rack, and stationery-repository, as will be apparent.

The lid or cover 22 is provided with grooves 25 at or near each end thereof, which are preferably square in transverse section, and the 40 arms 21 are made correspondingly square, so that when the lid has been opened and assumed the position shown in Figs. 1 and 3 the arms will lie in the grooves flush with the lid, as will be apparent, thus providing a 45 perfectly level, unbroken, and unobstructed surface.

The space between the inner wall of the compartments 9 and 10 may be arranged, as shown, with compartments 26 and 27 and 50 drawers 28 and 29, although it is apparent that the same may be constructed differently without in any way interfering with the operation of or departing from the spirit of my invention.

55 Fig. 5 illustrates in perspective one of the hinges used to secure the lid or cover 22 to the table 6, said hinges being adapted to fit into the grooves 25 in the lid or cover and in similar grooves 30, formed in the table 6. As 50 will be observed, said hinges consist of the members 31, having oppositely-disposed vertical walls 32, pivoted together at 32^a, and in-

tervening horizontal portions 33, which latter are provided with holes 34 for screws 35, which secure the same within the grooves 25 65 and 30, as clearly shown in Fig. 3. The arms 21 will lie between the walls 32 when the lid is in its lowered position, and hinges will be practically concealed from view.

It is obvious that my invention provides in 70 a simple inexpensive manner a desk which is particularly well adapted for the purposes intended and one wherein the whole surface of the lid may be used, it being apparent that the movable compartments will retain the 75 ink-well, pen-wiper, and stationery, &c., in such manner as to preclude all possibility of damage to the desk through the possible upsetting of the ink-well.

Having thus described my invention, what 80 I claim, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is as follows:

1. A desk of the character described, comprising a body and a hinged cover or lid there- 85 for, movable supports adjacent said lid and body, and adapted to sustain the lid when in its lowermost position, movable compartments arranged within the body of the desk, and arms connected to the lid, links pivoted 90 to the arms and attached to the compartments for automatically and simultaneously moving said supports and compartments with the opening and closing of the desk.

2. A desk of the character described, comprising a body provided with guideways, said 95 body having movable compartments therein, adapted to hold an ink-well, pen-wiper, pen-rack, and stationery, a hinged lid or cover for said body, movable supports adapted to move in guideways formed in the body of the 100 desk, and to support said lid or cover when in its lowermost position, and arms connected to the lid, links pivoted to the arms and attached to the compartments and to the sup- 105 ports whereby said supports and compartments are automatically moved with the opening and closing of the desk.

3. A desk of the character described, comprising a body having movable compartments therein, a hinged cover for said body, said 110 cover being provided with grooves, arms adapted to said grooves and pivoted to said cover, links connected to said arms and pivoted to the base of said compartments, movable supports adapted to sustain said cover 115 when in its lowermost position, and rods connected to the compartments and to the supports to move therewith, substantially as described.

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Witnesses:

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