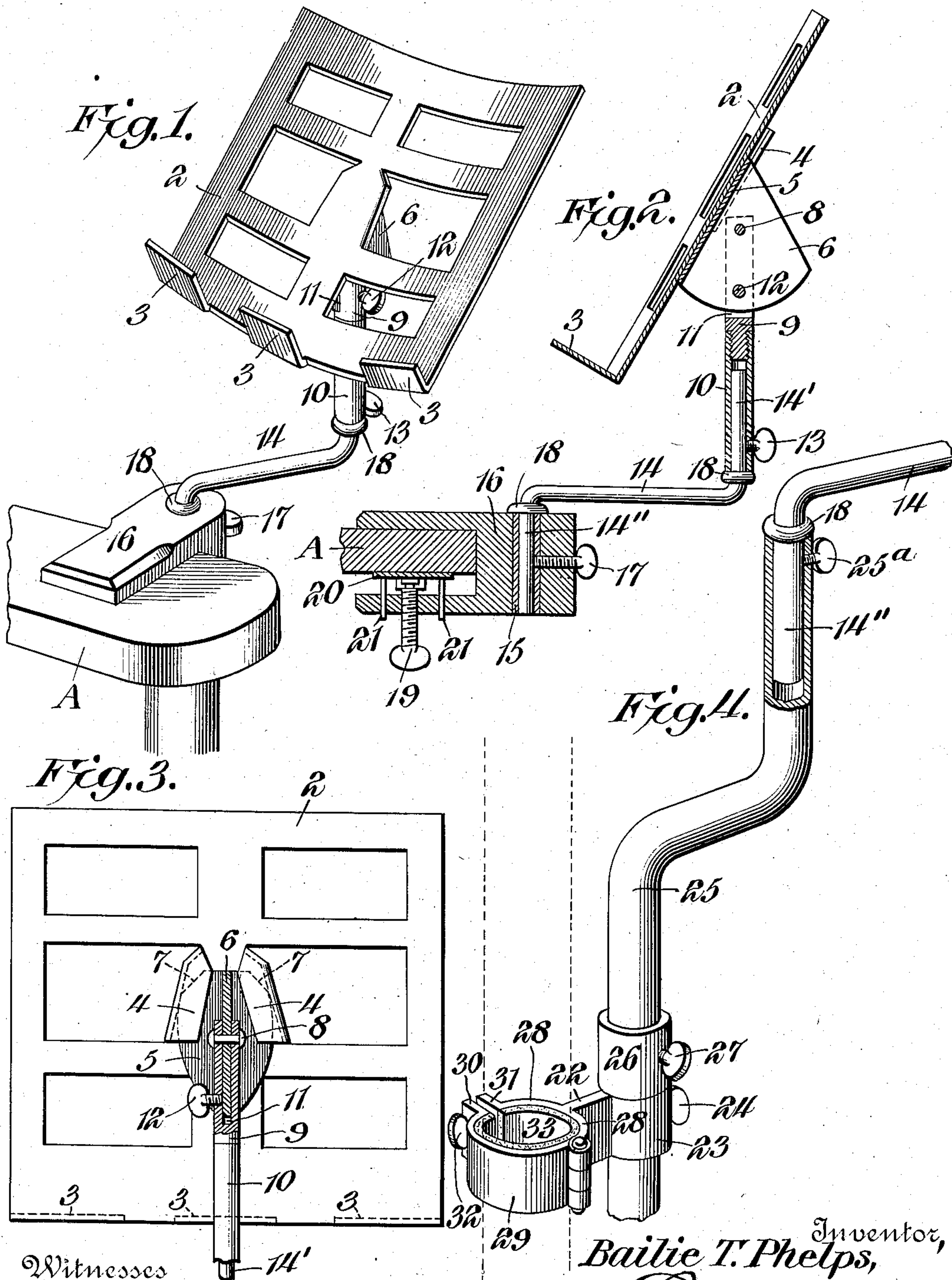


B. T. PHELPS.
ADJUSTABLE BOOK SUPPORT.
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Patented Oct. 12, 1909.



Witnesses
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

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ADJUSTABLE BOOK-SUPPORT.

936,936.

Specification of Letters Patent.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, BAILIE T. PHELPS, a citizen of the United States, residing at Natchitoches, in the parish of Natchitoches and State of Louisiana, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Adjustable Book-Supports, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to book supports, particularly to that character of book support wherein the book rack is adjustably clamped to a chair or other article of furniture, the object of my invention being to provide a book rack or support which may be adjusted in various angular directions, and may be adjusted vertically, and in which the inclination of the rack may be adjustably varied.

Another object of my invention is to provide a support of the construction above referred to with means whereby the rack or book-supporting frame may be detached from the supporting rod and the various parts of the mechanism disassembled from each other for packing.

My invention provides a book support which may be easily put together, quickly set up, will hold the book or other object in the adjusted position without chance of accidental movement, and in which the parts may be readily detached from each other.

My invention consists in the arrangement of parts and details of construction shown in the accompanying drawings and particularly specified in the appended claims.

In the drawings, Figure 1 is a perspective view of my support clamped upon a chair frame; Fig. 2 is a transverse section of the book rack and a portion of the chair frame, the crank arm being in elevation; Fig. 3 is a rear face view of the book-supporting rack showing its attachment to a supporting standard; Fig. 4 is a fragmentary enlarged detail showing a modified form of clamping arrangement.

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

In the drawings, 2 designates a book rack or supporting plate, preferably of sheet metal cut out in any desired ornamental form and provided at its bottom edge with projecting flanges, 3. These flanges may be made in one piece across the entire lower edge of the rack 2, or may be made in three

separate flanges, as shown. The rear face of the rack plate, 2, is provided with inwardly-turned opposed flanges, 4, forming a socket for the reception of a bracket consisting of a plate, 5, on a sector-shaped fin 6. The plate 5 tapers to fit in the socket and the weight of the rack serves to hold the plate engaged in the socket without the use of fastenings, and, at the same time, permits the rack to be readily detached.

It will be seen from Fig. 3 that the flanges 4, are formed by bending back a portion of the metal of the rack plate 2, on either side of the middle thereof. These flanges are preferably inclined outward or diverge toward the bottom of the rack plate for the easy insertion of the plate 5. This plate 5 has preferably rounded sides and beveled forward edges 7 so as to adapt it for easy insertion between the flanges 4, in the position shown in Fig. 1, and so that when inserted, the rack 2 may be forced downward to bring its flanges 4 into tight engagement with the plate 5. Projecting downward from the middle of the plate 5 is the sector-shaped fin 6 which is pivoted at 8 to a head 9, screw-threaded into the upper end of a standard, 10, the head being slotted as at 11, to receive the plate, 6.

12 designates a set screw which passes through the side of the slotted head 9, and whose point engages with the plate 6. By means of this set screw the plate 6 may be adjusted in any desired position so as to adjust the inclination of the rack, 2 as desired.

The standard 10 is tubular and is provided at its lower end with a set screw 13. The standard 10 is adapted to receive the upper end of a crank-shaped rod 14. By unloosening the set screw 13, the tubular standard, 10, may be turned around upon the upper portion 14' of the rod 14 to the desired angle, the set screw being then turned to clamp it firmly in position. The lower end 14'' of the rod 14 is received in a sleeve 15, which, in the form of my invention shown in Figs. 1 and 2, is held in a clamp body 16. A set screw 17 passes through the end of this clamp body, projects through the sleeve and contacts with the downwardly-extending end 14'' of the rod 14. It will be seen that this permits the rod 14 to be rotated to any desired position within the sleeve 15 and to be then held by means of the set screw 17.

It also permits the rod 14 to be withdrawn from the sleeve, 15, entirely. The crank rod 14 is formed at its angles with the shoulders 18, which engage respectively with the end 5 of the standard 10 and the upper end of sleeve 15.

The clamp body 16 shown in Fig. 2, is bifurcated so as to embrace an arm A, of a chair between its upper and lower members. 10 The lower member is provided with a clamp screw 19, the inner end of which is swiveled to a wear plate 20, provided with pins 21 which project through holes in the lower member of the clamp 14, and hold the plate 15 20 from turning. It will be seen that this construction prevents any wear upon the chair and yet provides for the very rigid clamping support of the book rest.

In Fig. 4 I show a modified form of clamp 20 construction and support, which is adapted to engage with a leg or any other member of the chair, which is round in cross section. Said member is shown by the dotted lines. This modified form of clamp comprises elements 25 which are in many ways similar to the elements previously described. It consists of a clamp body, 22, formed at one end with a sleeve, 23, which sleeve is provided with a set screw, 24, projecting through the 30 sleeve and engaging with a tubular cranked supporting rod 25. In order to assist in holding the rod 25 from any vertical downward movement in the sleeve 23, I provide an adjustable stop 26, in the form of a movable sleeve which surrounds the rod 25, and 35 is held thereon at any desired place by the set screw 27. This stop 26 may be adjusted up or down upon the rod 25. When set by the set screw, of course, it is impossible to 40 force the rod 25 farther down within the sleeve 26, which will abut against the edge of the sleeve 23 and assist the set screw 24, in holding the rod in its adjusted position. At its other end, the clamp 22 is formed with 45 oppositely-projecting arms, 28, on one of which the clamping member 29 is pivoted. The other end of this clamping member 29 is provided with a projecting lug 30, adapted to contact with a lug 31 and be held in 50 engagement therewith by the screw 32. It will be seen that a rotation of the screw 32 will close the member 29, thus binding the clamp upon the post of the chair or other article of furniture. A set screw 25^a binds 55 the lower end of crank arm 14 in the upper end of crank arm 25. A lining sleeve, 33, of leather, rubber, felt, or any other desired material prevents the clamp from marring the furniture to which the support is at- 60 tached.

My invention is extremely simple, provides for adjustment in any position desired of the book rack, cannot readily become ac-

cidentally loose, and, as before remarked, can be readily taken apart. 65

The double cranks 14 and 25 provide for an easy adjustment of the rack to the exact position desired, and adapt the device to be used on either side of a chair. The rod 25 may be easily adjusted for height—and then 70 set securely in place,—while the crank arm 14 may, if desired, be left free to be swung back or may be clamped at any convenient angle.

From the foregoing, it is thought that the 75 construction, operation and many advantages of the herein described invention will be apparent to those skilled in the art without further description, and it will be understood that various changes in the size, shape, 80 proportion and minor details of construction may be resorted to without departing from the spirit or sacrificing any of the advantages of the invention.

Having thus described my invention, what 85 I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters-Patent, is:

1. In a book support, the combination of a rack having integral flanges bent backwardly and inwardly toward each other to 90 form an upwardly-tapering socket, a bracket having a plate fitted in the socket and provided with a rearwardly-extending fin, a standard, a pivot connecting the standard with the fin, and a clamping device between 95 the fin and standard for holding the rack in different positions of adjustment.

2. In a book support, a book rack having opposed inwardly turned flanges, a plate extending at right-angles to the rack, and hav- 100 ing opposed outwardly-extending flanges adapted to be received between the inwardly-extending flanges of the rack, a standard bifurcated at its upper end, said plate forming a fin pivoted on the bifurcated end of 105 the said standard and projecting from the rack, a set screw for holding the fin and standard in different angular relations, a crank-shaped arm the upper end of which is adapted to be engaged with the standard. 110 and a set screw for holding the standard adjusted upon the end of the crank-shaped arm, a member adapted to be engaged with a piece of furniture and having a tubular recess into which the lower end of the crank- 115 shaped arm is received, and a set screw passing through said member and engaging the end of said arm.

In testimony, that I claim the foregoing as my own, I have hereto affixed my signature 120 in the presence of two witnesses.

BAILIE T. PHELPS.

Witnesses:

F. N. TAUZIN,
A. L. DE BLIEUX.