

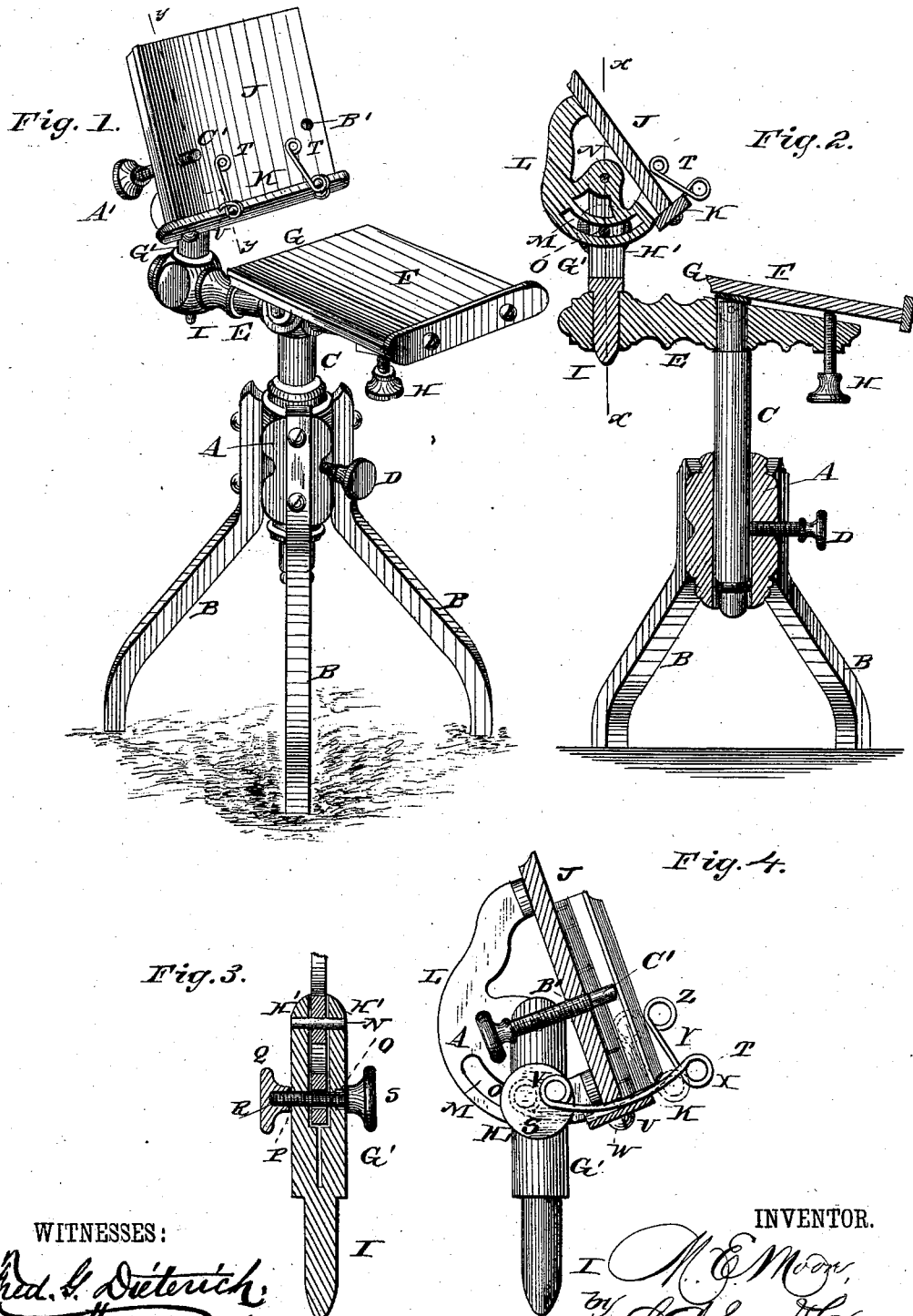
(No Model.)

M. E. MOORE.

READING DESK.

No. 261,471.

Patented July 18, 1882.



WITNESSES:

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MYRON E. MOORE, OF WOODFORD'S, MAINE.

READING-DESK.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 261,471, dated July 18, 1882.

Application filed May 17, 1882. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, MYRON E. MOORE, of Woodford's, in the county of Cumberland and State of Maine, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Reading-Desks; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, which will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, which form a part of this specification.

The invention relates to combined reading and writing tables and book-holders, and has for its object to secure greater convenience, ease in adjustment, and durability. To this end it consists in certain improvements in the construction and operation of the same.

In the drawings, Figure 1 is a perspective view of the device complete; Fig. 2, a vertical sectional view of the same; Fig. 3, a cross-section on the line *x x*, Fig. 2; and Fig. 4, a vertical sectional view on the line *y y*, Fig. 1.

Referring by letter to the drawings, A designates a stand or socket, supported by legs B, in which is vertically adjustable a standard, C, by means of set-screw D. On top the standard C is pivoted a horizontal supporting-arm, E, on which is hinged a table, F, at its rear end, G, its front end being vertically adjustable by means of a set-screw, H, working in the end of arm E against the under side of table F. Thus the latter may be adjusted to the desired incline and also turned to suit any position of the person.

To the pivoted arm E, in rear of the adjustable table, is pivoted a vertical standard, G', bifurcated at its top to form arms H' H', below which may be centrally formed a kerf, I, as shown.

J is the independent book-support, provided with the usual supporting-ledge, K, and having secured to its back a rearwardly-projecting plate, L, provided near its outer edge with a segmental slot, M. The plate L is pivoted between the arms of standard G', at about its center, by a pin or bolt, N, passing transversely through the arms H' H', near their top, and through the slot in the plate passes a transverse bolt, O, screw-threaded, as at P, so that a head, Q, having a screw-threaded hole, R, may screw over its projecting end and serve to clamp the arms H' H' firmly against

the plate to retain the book-rest in position. The latter may thus be adjusted to the desired angle, and the diameter of the bolt O is preferably nearly the same as the width of slot M, so that after the head Q is loosened by turning the head S of said bolt the friction of its shank against the sides of the slot will automatically adjust the book-rest. In clamping the arms H' H' the kerf in the standard will prevent splitting or damage to the same when it is formed of wood.

To hold the book in an open position I provide clamping springs T T, preferably constructed of a single piece of wire, passed through a groove, U, in the ledge of the book-holder, and having upturned rear ends, V, passing under the latter to retain the spring in the groove. The portion W of the spring which passes through the groove is preferably bowed upwardly, and in front of this coiled, as at X, from which extends a rearward arm, Y, the end of which, Z, bears on the pages of the book, the outward pressure of the latter causing the spring to bind against the bottom of the groove and retain the book open. When the book is open the side supporting the least number of pages necessarily lies against the back of the book-holder in an inclined position. To obviate this, and bring this side of the book on a plane with the opposite side, a screw, A', preferably of wood, works through a screw-threaded opening, B', in the book-holder, its inner rounded or smooth end, C', adapted to support the side of the book. The openings B' are of course formed at each side the holder.

The operation and advantages of my invention will be readily understood.

The table may be turned as desired, and the book-holder turned or adjusted independent of the table to suit any relative position of the two parts.

The device is simple, inexpensive, and efficient, and is of superior convenience and utility.

I claim and desire to secure by Letters Patent—

1. The combination, with a book-rest having a supporting-ledge in which are formed on its upper face rearwardly-extending grooves, of the springs for holding the book open, having a central upwardly-bowed portion passing under the rest and adapted to bind against

the bottom of the groove, said bowed portion imparting greater elastic movement, as set forth.

2. As a new article of manufacture, the herein-described reading-desk, consisting of the base, the adjustable standard, horizontal arm centrally swiveled upon the same, the desk pivoted to the horizontal arm, the adjusting-screw in the arm and under the desk, and the vertical standard loosely mounted in the op-

posite end of the said arm and provided with an adjustable book-support, as and for the purpose set forth.

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

MYRON E. MOORE.

Witnesses:

J. R. LITTELL,

C. K. ALLEN.