(No Model.) 2 Sheets—Sheet 1.

G. W. PARKER & E. L. TODD.

COPY HOLDER.

No. 553,292. Patented Jan. 21, 1896.

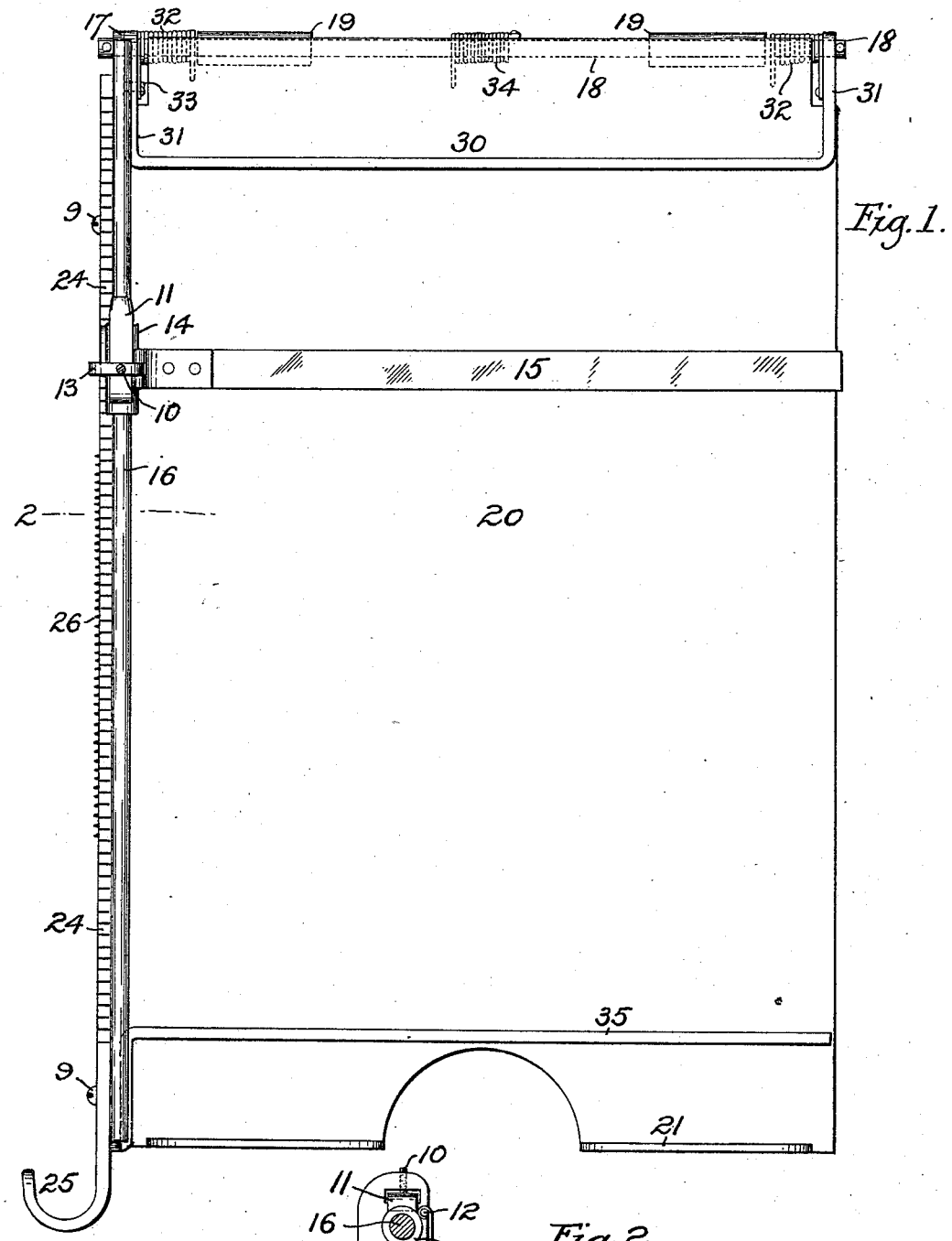

Fig. 1.

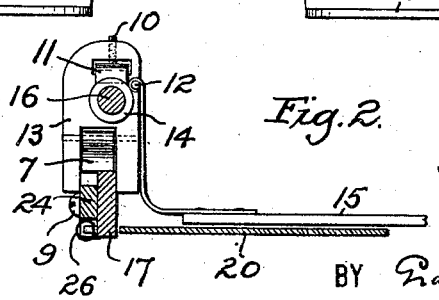

Fig. 2.

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Fig. 3.

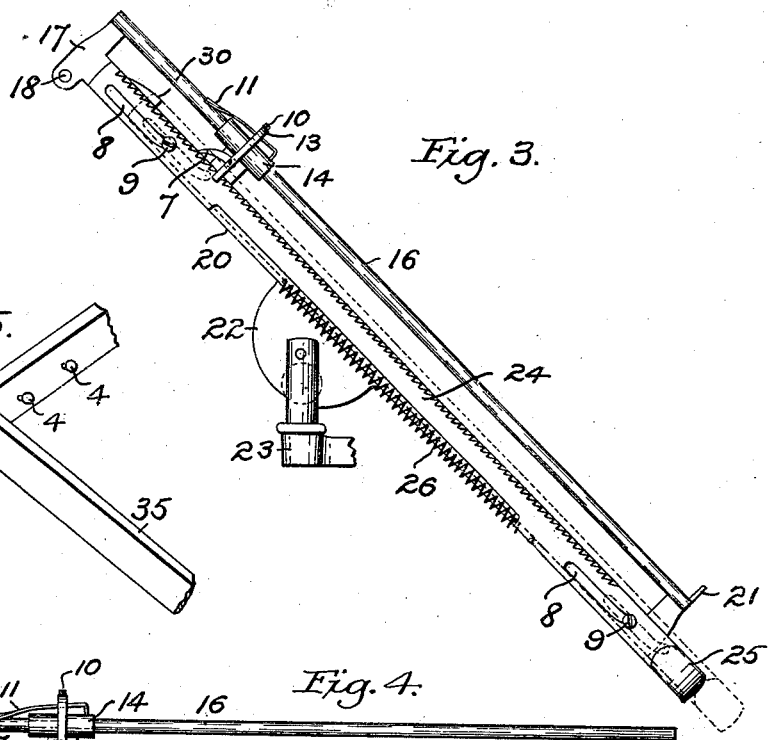
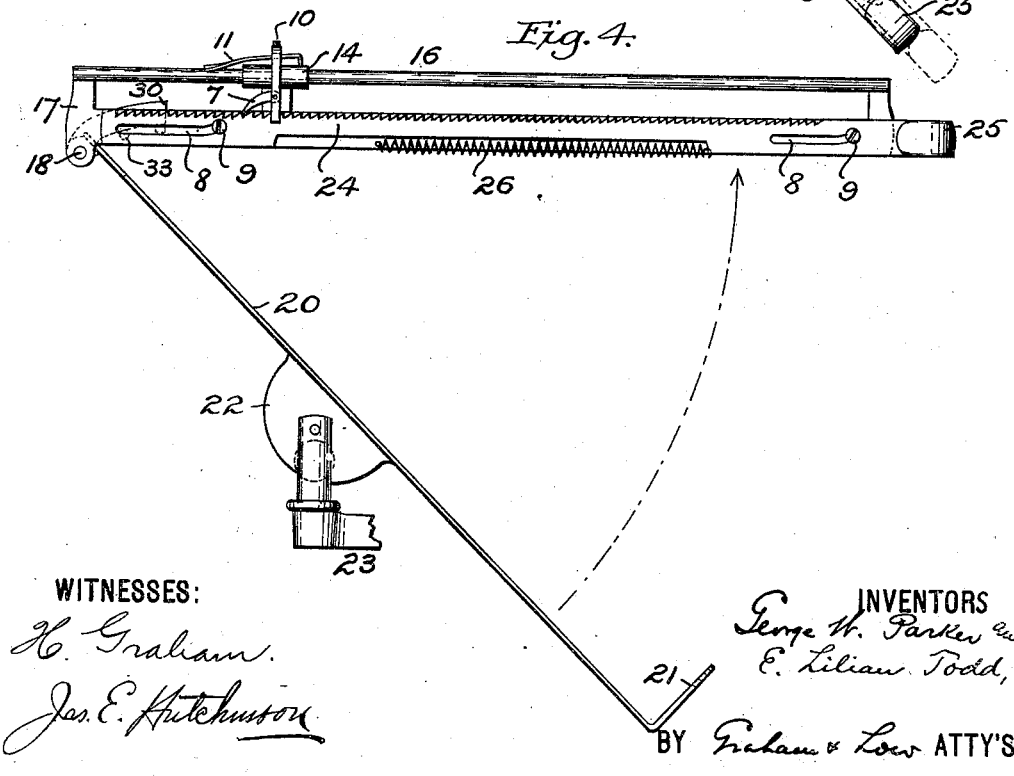


Fig. 5.

Fig. 4.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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COPY-HOLDER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 553,292, dated January 21, 1896.

Application filed October 1, 1895. Serial No. 564,329. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that we, GEORGE W. PARKER and EMMA LILIAN TODD, citizens of the United States, residing in the city, county, and State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Copy-Holders, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates generally to copy or book holders and the like—such, for instance, as those usually employed to hold the copy for a type-writer operator—the holder commonly occupying a more or less inclined position at the left of the operator, and having means for temporarily securing the copy thereto.

The present improvements have for their object to facilitate the placing and removal of the copy or other matter on and from the holder; to enable the line-indicator, which usually extends transversely across the copy, to be more readily adjusted and moved, and to render it possible by a single handle or finger-piece to move the indicator step by step as well as to raise the indicator and paper-clamp bodily from the support in placing or removing the copy; and to these ends the invention consists in the novel features and combinations hereinafter fully set forth.

The accompanying drawings illustrate a practical application of the invention to a specific form of holder without thereby intending to limit ourselves thereto.

In said drawings, Figure 1 is a front elevation of the improvement; Fig. 2, an enlarged cross-section on the line 2 2 of Fig. 1. Figs. 3 and 4 are side elevations showing the movable parts in two positions, and Fig. 5 is a perspective view showing a detail.

The present improvements as embodied in their preferred form embrace a paper or book support 20 of any suitable form—say, for instance, formed by a rectangular plate of metal or other material—having at its lower side or edge a bottom rest 21 formed integral with the support projecting outwardly at right angles therefrom, and at its rear side a projection 22 for attachment to any suitable bracket or other holding means 23. The upper side or edge of the support is provided with bearings 19 for a transverse rod or rock-shaft 18, to one end of which, preferably the left-hand end, as in Fig 1, is rigidly secured a side bar 17 that extends down alongside of and parallel with the edge of the support 20, and terminating adjacent the lower edge thereof. This side bar supports rigidly therewith and a short distance above the plane of the support a guide 16, on which is carried the transversely-extending indicator 15, the indicator proper being made in the main of some transparent material connected to a sleeve 14 surrounding the guide 16, and capable of freely sliding with the indicator longitudinally the length of the guide and of the support. In the present instance the sleeve carries a crosswise-extending bracket 13, to one side of which the indicator 15 is mounted on a pivot 12, permitting the indicator to be swung independent of its carrying-sleeve up from contact with the paper or book on the support.

As constant movement of the sleeve 14 along the guide 16 will tend to wear the parts and render the sleeve objectionably loose with respect to the guide, there is provided a spring-blade 11, one end bearing on the sleeve and the other on the guide with the end of an adjusting-screw 10 tapped into the bracket 13 bearing more or less centrally on the blade to lessen or increase its friction against the guide, and in this manner the freedom of movement of the indicator with respect to the guide may be regulated to a nicety and wear of the parts compensated for.

The upper or outer edge of the side bar 17 normally lies a short distance above the plane of the support 20, and the outer side of said bar carries a movable rack or ratchet bar 24 through studs 9 projecting from the side of the bar 17 through slots 8 in the rack-bar, the lower end of the rack-bar terminating in a handle or finger-piece 25 for manipulation by the operator. Normally the upper or toothed edge of the rack-bar lies even with or just below the surface of the upper or outer edge of the side bar 17, so that a pawl 7 carried by the indicator, in this case pivoted to the bracket 13 and broad enough to overlie the upper surface of the side bar and rack, as in Fig. 2, may when the indicator is moved slide freely in either direction over the surface of the side bar without engaging the teeth of the rack-bar. A spring 26, one end connected to the under or lower side of the rack-bar and the other end connected to the side bar 17, serves to hold the rack-bar in

what may be termed its "lower normal position" with its teeth guarded by the side bar.

The slots 8 in the rack-bar are through their greater length parallel with the toothed edge thereof, but at one end are curved to approach the said edge and by this means the first longitudinal movement of the rack-bar with respect to the side bar 17 will cause the rack-bar to rise, as indicated by dotted lines, Fig. 3, so that its toothed edge projects above the surface of the side bar and thus engages the pawl 7 of the indicator, so that during the continued longitudinal movement of the rack-bar the indicator will be moved bodily therewith. This movement of the rack-bar puts the spring 26 under tension, so that as soon as the operator releases the finger-piece of the rack-bar it will return idly to its lower normal position.

The side bar 17, indicator and rack-bar, it will be noticed, are all supported by the rock-shaft 18, so that they may be rocked bodily upward from position adjacent the support 20, as is indicated in Fig. 4, so as to leave said support entirely free for the placing or removal of papers, &c., on or from said support.

The improved holder is also provided with one or more suitable paper or book clamps to firmly hold the paper or book to the support. Thus near the upper edge of the support there is provided a clamp 30, formed by a U-shaped frame consisting of a transverse bar extending across the whole or the greater portion of the support 20 and terminating in arms 31, which loosely embrace and hang on the rock-shaft 18, suitable springs 32 coiled about the rock-shaft and bearing on the arms serving to hold the clamp more or less firmly down against the surface of the support or the papers thereon. To render the raising of the clamp 30 by the same operation of raising or rocking the side bar 17 and appurtenances, as before described, said side bar has a pin 33, which underlies the adjacent arm of the clamp, so that the clamp and side bar may be raised together, as in Fig. 4, the spring or springs 32 serving to return the clamp when the side bar is lowered to its normal position, as in Fig. 3. In this connection also it may be stated that the rock-shaft 18 may also be provided with a suitable spring, as 34, against the tension of which the side bar and its parts are rocked upward and serve to yieldingly hold the side bar down in its normal position. The spring or springs 32 as applied may be depended on to serve the function of said spring 34. A bottom clamp 35 may also be provided if thought desirable to a more or less slight pressure near the lower portion of the papers or book on the support 20, so that the sheets or leaves may be made to lie flat and undisturbed by currents of air. This clamp 35 is also carried by the side bar 17 and may be rigidly or removably attached thereto so as to rise from the support when the side bar is raised, as before explained. For the purpose of ready removal of this clamp its shank may be provided with eyes 5, arranged to engage headed studs 4 on the side of the side bar, as in Fig. 5. There may be one or more sets of these studs 4, so that the position of the clamp 35 with respect to the side bar may be changed to suit the length of the papers to be clamped on the support.

From the foregoing it will be understood that an exceedingly convenient holder is provided, one in which the clamping or releasing of the papers may be effected by one single operation, and also one in which the indicator is not only readily moved step by step in different degrees of step motion, the means for effecting such movement not interfering with the otherwise free movement of the indicator in either direction by the direct application of the hand of the operator. The improved holder also provides means by which the operator has simply one piece to grasp either to step by step move the indicator or to bodily raise the indicator and clamp or clamps from the papers to free them or to properly expose the support for the placing of papers thereon.

What is claimed is—

1. In a copy-holder the combination, of a support for the copy, an indicator free to move in either direction, a rack-bar normally out of operative relation with the indicator, means for moving said rack bar into operative position and connections with the indicator for moving it step by step when the rack-bar is moved, as set forth.

2. In a copy-holder, the combination of a support for the copy, an indicator and a supporting guide-bar for the indicator extending longitudinally the length of said support and pivotally mounted at one end thereof to a fixed part to swing with the indicator away from the support, as set forth.

3. In a copy-holder, the combination of a support for the copy, an indicator, a supporting guide bar for the indicator extending longitudinally the length of said support and pivotally mounted at one end thereof to a fixed part to swing with the indicator away from the support, and a rack bar mounted with the guide bar for moving the indicator step by step, as set forth.

4. In a copy-holder, the combination with a support for the copy, a guide bar, an indicator sleeved to the guide bar, a spring-blade carried by the sleeve and bearing on the bar and a set screw for changing the tension of said spring-blade, of a rack-bar for moving the indicator but normally out of operative relation therewith, as set forth.

5. The combination of a support for papers, &c., a guide-bar at one side of the support, an indicator movably mounted on the bar and having a pawl, a rack-bar mounted to move outwardly to engage said pawl, and longitudinally to move the pawl and indicator, and a guard for the pawl, as set forth.

6. The combination of a support for the papers, &c., a guide bar at one side of the support, an indicator movably mounted on the bar and having a pawl, a rack bar having a suitably shaped slot to engage a supporting stud on the guide bar whereby the rack-bar moves outwardly to engage the pawl and longitudinally to move the pawl and indicator, and a spring for returning the rack-bar, as set forth.

7. The combination of a support for the papers, &c., a guide-bar extending longitudinally the length of the support and pivoted at one end thereof to said support, a paper clamp and connections with the guide bar for raising the clamp with the swinging of said bar, as set forth.

8. The combination of a support for the papers, &c., a guide-bar movably connected to the support, an indicator carried by the guide-bar, a paper clamp pivotally connected to the head of the support and connections with the guide bar for raising the clamp with the movement of the bar and indicator, as set forth.

9. The combination of a support for the papers, &c., a guide-bar movably connected to the support, an indicator carried by the guide-bar, and a removable paper clamp pivotally connected to the head of the support and also carried by the guide bar and movable therewith, as set forth.

10. The combination of a support for the papers, &c., a guide-bar movably connected to the support, an indicator carried by the guide-bar, a paper head clamp pivoted to the head of the support and movable with the guide-bar, and another paper clamp carried by said guide-bar whereby the two clamps and indicator may be simultaneously moved from position on the support, as set forth.

11. The combination of a support for the papers, &c., a rock shaft at one end of the support having a guide-bar rigidly connected thereto, an indicator slidingly mounted on the guide bar and having a pawl, a rack bar for engaging the pawl and moving the indicator, a paper clamp loosely mounted on said rock-shaft and engaged by the guide bar to be raised when the indicator and guide bar are raised, as set forth.

12. The combination of a support for the papers, an indicator, a paper clamp connected to the support independent of the indicator, and a single operating handle and suitable connections with the indicator and paper clamp, whereby the indicator may be moved along the support and the indicator and paper clamp simultaneously raised from the support through suitable manipulation of said single handle, as set forth.

In witness whereof we have hereunto signed our names in the presence of two witnesses.

GEORGE W. PARKER.
E. LILIAN TODD.

Witnesses:
K. L. BRENNAN,
M. E. WEBB.