

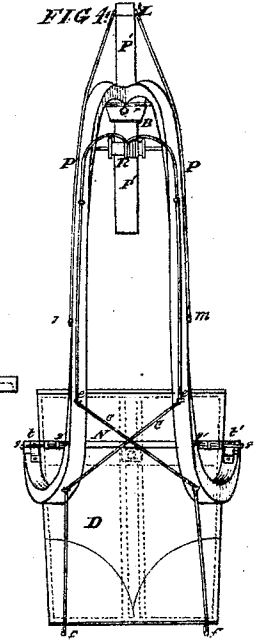
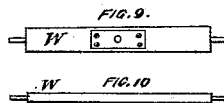
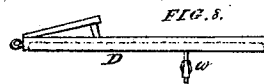
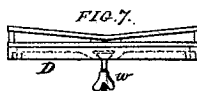
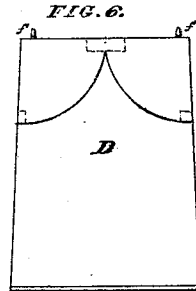
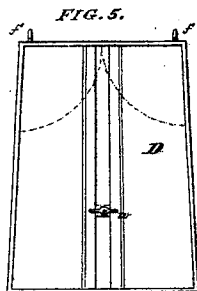
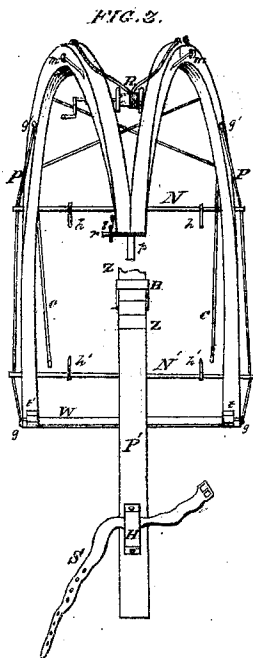
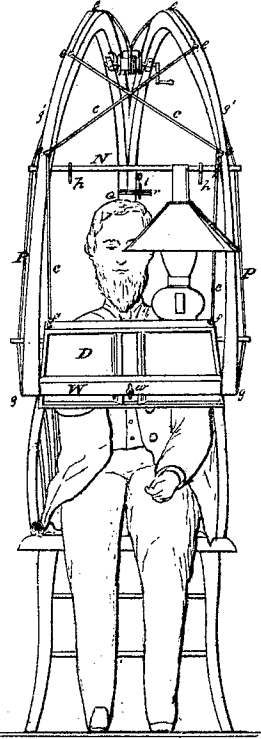
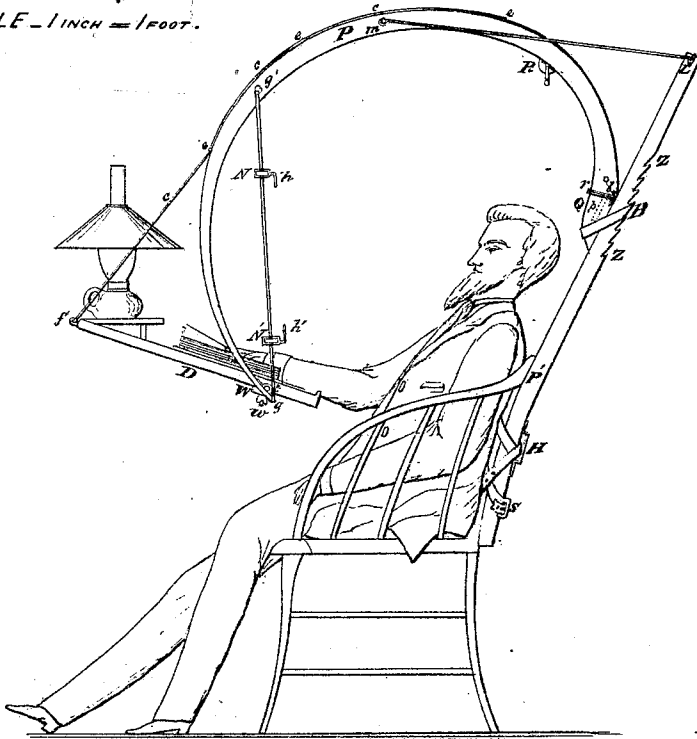
George F Perkins' Improved Pendent Reading Desk.

No. 121,810.

FIG. 1. Patented Dec. 12, 1871.

FIG. 2.

SCALE - 1 INCH = 1 FOOT.



INVENTOR,

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WITNESSES,

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

GEORGE F. PERKINS, OF SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA.

IMPROVEMENT IN PENDENT READING-DESKS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 121,810, dated December 12, 1871.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, GEORGE F. PERKINS, of San Francisco, State of California, have invented certain Improvements in a Pendent Reading or Writing Desk, of which the following is a specification:

My invention relates to the fitting of a pendent reading or writing desk to a chair or bedstead, which can stretch over the head of any person using such chair or bed and form a very convenient apparatus for reading or writing with ease and comfort, and at the same time afford a sick person, by its lateral movement, easy positions to rest in, and also, by the method adopted in fastening, preserve the furniture from injury.

Figure 1 is a side elevation of my invention strapped onto a chair with a person seated therein and reading from the pendent desk. Fig. 2 is a front elevation of the above. Fig. 3 is a back view of my invention before being adjusted to a bed or chair, (with part of upright broken off.) Fig. 4 is a plan of the same in full. Figs. 5, 6, 7, and 8 are the bottom, top, front, and side views of the reading-desk, respectively. Figs. 9 and 10 represent, respectively, the plan and side views of the transverse portion W, which stretches between the tapering ends of P, and on which the reading-desk rests.

My invention of a pendent reading-desk consists of four principal portions, as shown in Figs. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, and 10, P', Q, P, and D, which I will proceed to describe in their order.

P' represents the portion attached to a chair or bedstead by means of the strap S and handle H, and consists of a suitable strong piece of wood. At a certain distance in its length, some twelve inches above the usual height from the top of the chair or bedstead to which it is intended to be fastened, is cut a rack, *z z*, Figs. 1 and 3, so that the strap B may inclose the portion Q and slip in and out of the rack *z z* when the pendent requires adjustment; and at the top a set-screw, L, with string fastenings, is placed to relieve in part the weight of the pendent by being attached to it at *m*. Q is a block of wood having a hole drilled in it to admit of the tenon or pivot *p*, and curved in front for the sliding of the strap B, which serves to fasten it. P consists of two curved tapering pieces of wood joined together at the thick end and spreading out at the thin. The curve is made of sufficient size when

fixed in its place to admit of a person sitting down in any position with ease and comfort. The thick end is the nearer part to the chair or bedstead, and terminates by a quick curve with a pivot, *p*, to fasten into Q, so that by slipping the band B and moving it up and down in the rack *z z* the tapering extremities are depressed or raised accordingly, and the screw at L adjusts the cord attachments at *m* to suit. Two strings, *cc*, pass over the top of the branches of P, through the eyes *e e*, from the roller R, (which is placed between these branches in a convenient position,) and are finally attached to the hooks *f f* of the desk D, which they partially support. At the taper extremities of P is a flat piece of wood, W, stretching transversely across, and capable of revolution by means of the small shafts fitted at the ends, which work in the bearings *t t'* on these same extremities; and in its center a hole is made for the set-screw W, belonging to the desk D, to enter through. At *g* and *g'* and the ends of the taper extremities cords are attached which pass through slips of wood N and N', which slide up and down and are secured by the tension of the cords; little wire hooks *h* and *h'* are fastened to these slips so that they can hold a drawing or picture. A flange may be attached to P and Q with pin and pin-holes for adjustment, such as *r* and *l*, respectively, for the revolution of the pendent. D is the reading or writing desk, and consists of a flat piece of wood somewhat broader at the end near the chair. On the top, at the narrow part, raised tables are placed for a lamp or other convenience, and beneath small angular slips are fastened longitudinally so as to admit of the bolt set-screw *w* traveling with its angular head secured within these slips, so that when this bolt has been passed through the central hole of W and the nut screwed on the desk may be able to slide longitudinally on W and be adjusted in any position in its length, and when so fastened can revolve on the axis of W when the cords *c c* are lowered or raised. A beading surrounds the desk D at the bottom, of about the same depth as the slips aforementioned, and the small hooks *f f* are placed in front, Fig. 2, for the cords to be fastened to. When the pendent is required for use the portion P' is strapped onto a chair or bedstead by means of the strap S, the pieces P and Q fitted into the band B while resting on the rack

z z, and the cord connections adjusted to the set-screw L; and finally the desk D is slung to the hooks *f f* and fastened onto the transverse piece W, by means of its bolt set-screw *w*, to the position required. The seat or bed is now ready for occupation, and the party using it on rising has only to turn the pendent on its axis *p*, out of the way. The roller R regulates the incline of the desk D, and when not in use can be secured by a notch in one of the branches of P by sliding it transversely on its bearings.

I claim as my invention—

In a pendent reading or writing desk, the upright P' fastened to a chair or bedstead by means of the strap S and handle H, in combination with the socket Q, curved pendent pieces P, and reading-desk D, substantially as and for the purpose hereinbefore set forth.

GEORGE F. PERKINS.

Witnesses:

JOHN H. PITTS,
LIONEL VARICAS.

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