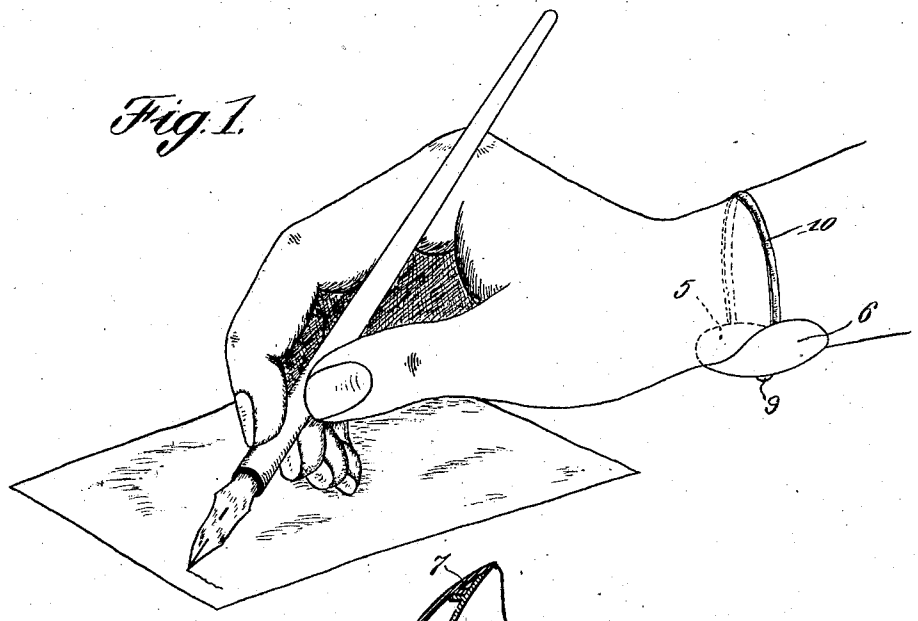
W. R. BALLOU.

WRIST PAD.

APPLICATION FILED MAY 13, 1910.

986,620. **Patented Mar. 14, 1911.**

Fig. 1.



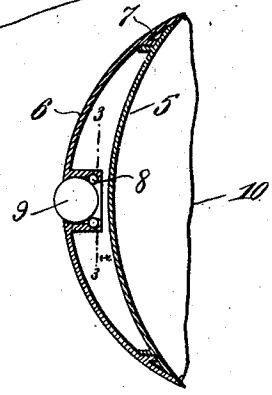
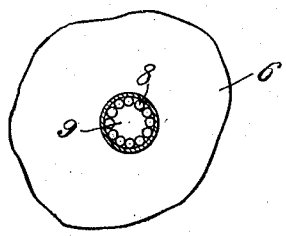


Fig. 2.

Fig. 3.



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WRIST-PAD.

986,620. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Mar. 14, 1911.

Application filed May 13, 1910. Serial No. 561,126.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM R. BALLOU, a citizen of the United States, residing at Dorchester, Boston, in the county of Suffolk and State of Massachusetts, have invented new and useful Improvements in Wrist-Pads, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to improvements in wrist pads or supporters and has for its object the provision of a device of that kind including a supporting plate or disk adapted to be detachably secured to the wrist of a person and provided with a spherical bearing member designed to engage with the surface of a desk or table so that the wrist upon which the device is secured will be supported during the operation of writing and the friction which usually exists between the wrist and surface of the writing table or desk will be reduced to a minimum, thus permitting the forearm of the operator to be moved with comparative ease.

With these and other objects in view, which will more fully hereinafter appear, the present invention consists in certain novel details of construction and arrangement of parts, hereinafter fully described, illustrated in the accompanying drawings and more particularly pointed out in the appended claim, it being understood that various changes in the form, proportion, size, and minor details of the device may be made, within the scope of the appended claim, without departing from the spirit or sacrificing any of the advantages of the invention.

In the accompanying drawings, forming a part of the specification;—Figure 1 is a perspective view of the device showing its application to the human wrist. Fig. 2 is a transverse sectional view of the device. Fig. 3 is a sectional plan view on the line 3—3 of Fig. 2 and looking in the direction of the arrows.

Similar numerals of reference are employed to designate corresponding parts throughout.

The device comprises a substantially concavo-convex supporting plate preferably of metal and formed in two sections designated by the numerals 5 and 6. The sections may be soldered or otherwise suitably secured together or as shown in Fig. 2, the sections may have coöperating screw threads by means of which they are secured together. The section 6 is a concavo-convex plate of a diameter corresponding to the long diameter of the human wrist having its peripheral portion provided with a screw-threaded flange 7. The section 5 is a structure similar to the section 6, that is it is concavo-convex and is peripherally provided with a screw-thread to engage with the screw-threaded flange 7 of the section 6, it being understood when the sections are assembled that the convex surface of the section 5 will be presented toward the concaved surface of the section 6, whereby a space will be provided between the highest points or the central portions of said sections. The section 5 or that having its concaved side presented outwardly will subsequently be termed the upper section inasmuch as it will always be in engagement with the wrist of the user, while the opposite section 6 will subsequently be termed the lower section.

Formed in the central portion of the lower section 6 is a circular opening and located on the inner or convex surface of the section 6 and surrounding the said opening is an annulus, the inner surface of which is grooved to provide a race for a suitable number of bearing balls 8. Arranged in the central opening of the lower section 6 is a spherical member 9 a trifle greater in diameter than the diameter of the said opening so that a segment will be exposed through the opening and project in advance of the convex surface of the lower section. It will be seen, when the bearing balls are arranged in the race that the diameter of the opening thus presented will be somewhat less than the diameter of the member 9 so that the said bearing balls will bear on a portion of the surface of the member 9, thus providing a smooth bearing surface for the latter.

The securing strip is designated by the numeral 10 and may be of elastic webbing or the like and has its opposite terminals secured at the section 5 and at diametrically opposite points and is designed to clamp the wrist of the operator to the supporting plate.

It will be evident when the device is positioned as shown in Fig. 1 and he member 9 brought to bear on a table or other surface that the operation of writing may be performed in an easy and expeditious manner with little or no strain on the wrist of the operator.

From the foregoing, it is evident that I have provided a device which is comparatively simple in structure and inexpensive in manufacture, embodying few parts and these so arranged that the danger of derangement will be reduced to a minimum.

I claim:—

In a wrist support of the class described, a base plate comprising a pair of concavo-convex sections secured together in such position that the convex surface of one section will be presented toward the concaved surface of the opposite section, one of said sections being centrally provided with an opening, and further provided with a plurality of bearing balls surrounding said opening, and a spherical bearing member having a segment exposed through said opening and bearing on said bearing balls.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature in presence of two witnesses.

WILLIAM R. BALLOU.

Witnesses:
C. F. BROWN,
JAMES N. RICE.