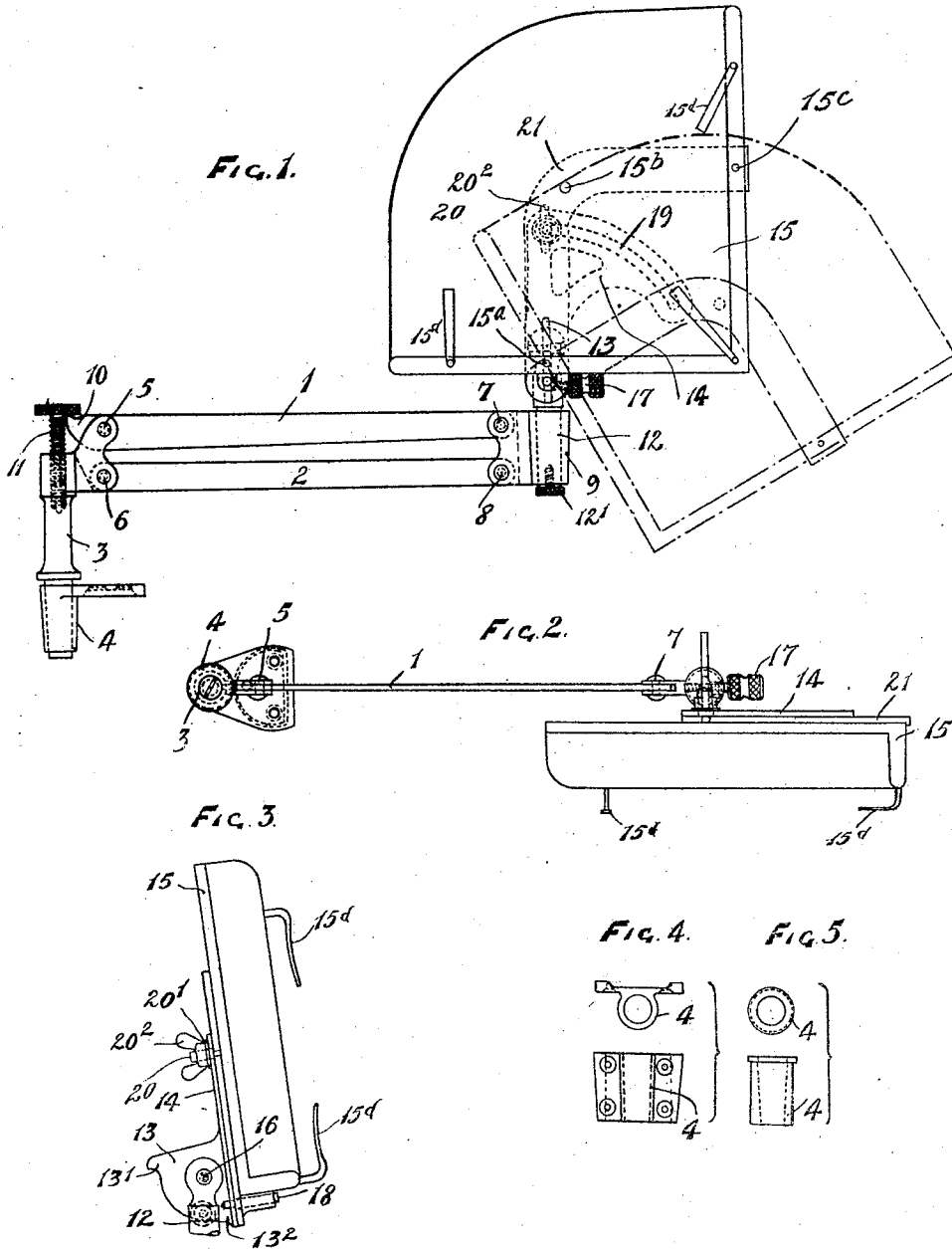


J. BOYD.
BOOK HOLDER.
APPLICATION FILED AUG. 27, 1917,

1,246,859.

Patented Nov. 20, 1917.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOHN BOYD, OF GLASGOW, SCOTLAND, ASSIGNOR OF ONE-HALF TO FIRM TRADING AS
JOHN GLOVER & SONS, OF GLASGOW, SCOTLAND.

BOOK-HOLDER.

1,246,859.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Nov. 20, 1917.

Application filed August 27, 1917. Serial No. 188,426.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOHN BOYD, a subject of the King of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, and residing at Shetleston, Glasgow, Scotland, have invented a certain new and useful Improvement in Book-Holders, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates mainly to improvements in socket-carried book-holders designed for convenient attachment *inter alia* to articles of furniture such as commodes, bed-tables, bed-steads, arm chairs etc., the latter being provided with a suitable, preferably tapered, fixed socket by which the lower tapered end of a vertical spindle part of the book-holder is carried and in which it swivels.

One object of the invention is to provide a construction of the type comprising parallel links movable in unison on pivots at both ends to permit variation of the elevation of the book-tray without tilting the latter and its spindle and a socket at the distal end of the links combined with a novel and simple device so designed as to allow of convenient adjustment and to permit the book-tray to be readily raised and lowered and securely sustained at any desired elevation, so as to hold any size of book, whether small or fairly large, at any height and angle to suit the reader sitting in an arm chair or reclining in bed with his head resting on a pillow, whether lying on his back or on his right or left side.

A further object is to provide an improved form of book-tray of the type adapted to be tilted in its own plane and also transversely thereto; the improved tray having two straight edges formed with upstanding ledges on either or both of which a book may be rested according to the inclination of the tray.

One practical form of book support according to the invention is illustrated by way of example in the accompanying drawings in which Figure 1 is a side elevation and Fig. 2 a plan representing the complete article, the book-tray being shown disposed in a vertical plane; Fig. 3 is an end elevation showing the book-tray and associated fittings. Figs. 4 and 5 are detail views showing modified forms of sockets to receive the tapered part of the vertical spindle

above referred to, of which a variety may sometimes be required.

As shown, the complete book-holder comprises a stay constituted by a pair of parallel links 1, 2 pivotally connected at their proximal ends to a swiveling vertical spindle 3, which is preferably tapered at its lower end, as shown, and adapted to turn in a suitable correspondingly tapered vertical socket 4, shaped to suit the article to which it is to be secured. The links 1 and 2, which may be either flat or tubular, are movable in unison on pivots 5, 6 carried, as shown in the drawings, by lugs or other means connected to or integral with the spindle 3, and are pivotally connected at their distal ends, by means of pivots 7, 8, to similar lugs or projections of the vertical socket member 9 hereinafter referred to.

The upper link 1 is preferably formed with a tail piece 10 adapted to be engaged by a relatively large and preferably knurled head of a set-screw 11 preferably screwed into the vertical spindle 3 or by a nut on a screw-threaded extension of the spindle 3, whereby the distal ends of the links may by manual adjustment of the set-screw 11 be readily raised or lowered to any desired extent and thereby the elevation of the book-tray correspondingly altered, so that it may be maintained at any desired height.

The socket member 9 to which are pivoted the distal ends of the links 1 and 2 is formed preferably with a vertical tapered orifice to receive and sustain the lower end of a vertical spindle 12 the head of which is partly split or bifurcated to accommodate a depending sectoral bracket part 13 of a plate 14 adjustably secured to the book-tray 15, a pin 16 passing through the split head of the spindle 12 serving as a pivot for the bracket 13, a finger-and-thumb set-screw 17 being provided to hold the sectoral bracket 13 in any desired position of adjustment between limiting positions determined by stops 13', 13".

A cheese-headed screw 12' screwed against the lower end of the socket 9 prevents the vertical spindle 12 from being lifted out of its socket 9.

The plate 14 is adjustably connected with a stiffening plate 21 preferably secured to the book-tray 15 by three small screws 15^a, 15^b and 15^c. The plate 21 is mounted on and

swivels on a stud 18 secured to and perpendicular to the plane of the plate 14 and the latter is formed with an arcuate slot 19 concentric with the pivot stud 18 for engagement by a screw 20 secured to and perpendicular to the plane of the stiffening plate 21 and fitted with an adjustable washer 20' and thumb-nut 20² whereby the book-tray may be retained in any desired position of adjustment in relation to the pivot-stud 18.

The book-tray is shown as being of substantially quadrant shape, the two straight edges being provided with upstanding ledges by one of which alone the book is supported when the book-tray is in its normal vertical position as shown in full lines in Fig. 1 and by both of which ledges the book is supported when the tray is tilted as shown in hatched lines to suit a reader lying on his right or left side with his head resting on a pillow. Each ledge is fitted with one or more desk hooks 15^a, such desk hooks being adapted to be swung into and out of operative position to hold down the leaves of the book. When each ledge is fitted with a single desk hook, as shown, a third desk hook is desirably provided at the corner or point of intersection of the ledges.

It will be understood from the foregoing that the range of adjustment is such as to permit the support to carry a book set with its pages open in a plane at any desired

angle and that with the support adjusted the book can be conveniently read no matter at which side of the bed or the like the reader's head may be rested.

The book-tray 15 set horizontally may also be conveniently used as a tea-tray, if desired; or with the plate 14, bracket 13 and spindle 12 may be incorporated as a component part in book-holders and bed-tables of different construction.

What I claim is:—

In a book-holder of the type described, the combination of a socket-member, a spindle to swivel in said socket member, parallel links mounted for simultaneous tilting movement, said links being connected at the proximal end to said spindle, one of said links being provided with a tail piece, means engageable with said tail piece for maintaining said links in any desired angular position, a socket to which said links are connected at the distal end, a spindle fitted to said socket, and a book-tray pivotally sustained by said second mentioned spindle.

In testimony whereof I have signed my name to this specification in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

JOHN BOYD.

Witnesses:

HENRY MASON,
KATHARINE FOTHERINGHAM.

Copies of this patent may be obtained for five cents each, by addressing the "Commissioner of Patents, Washington, D. C."