(No Model.)

J. D. RICHARDSON.

DESK FOR TELEPHONES.

No. 364,133. Patented May 31, 1887.

Fig. 2.

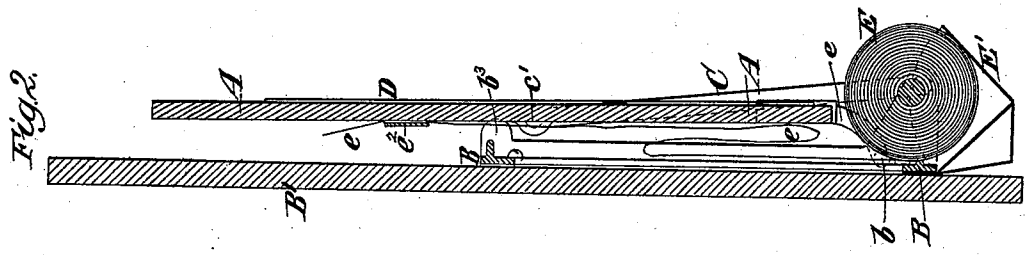


Fig. 4.

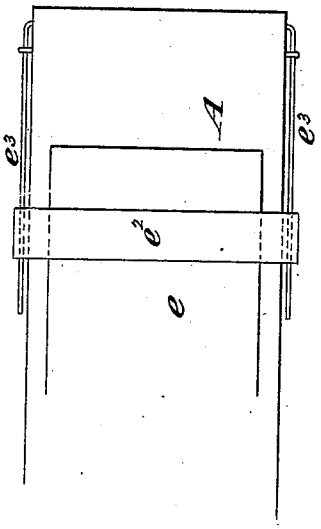
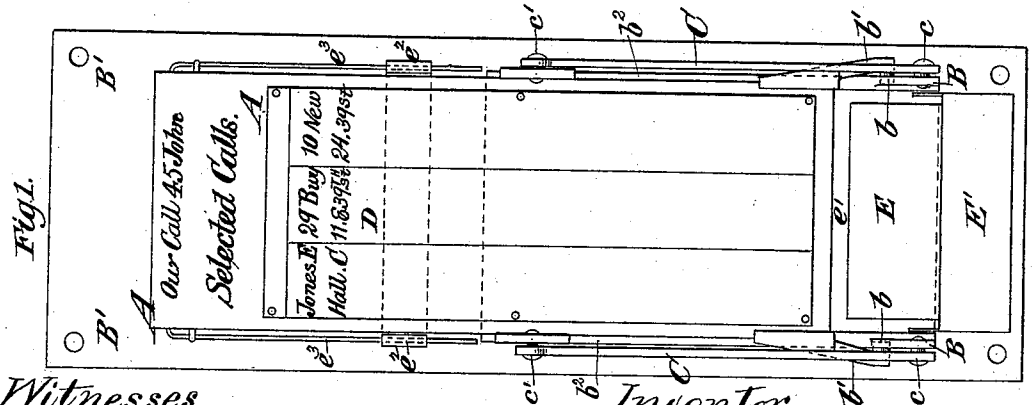


Fig. 3.

Fig. 1.



Witnesses.
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOHN D. RICHARDSON, OF BROOKLYN, ASSIGNOR TO THE COMMERCIAL PATENT DEVELOPMENT COMPANY, OF NEW YORK, N. Y.

DESK FOR TELEPHONES.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 364,133, dated May 31, 1887.

Application filed February 24, 1887. Serial No. 228,718. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOHN D. RICHARDSON, of Brooklyn, in the county of Kings and State of New York, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Desks for Telephones and other Purposes, of which the following is a specification.

Although my invention relates in general to desks for various purposes, and which are supported so as to permit of their being folded into approximately vertical position against a wall or other support, certain features of the invention relate particularly to desks which are designed for use in connection with telephones for writing down messages received through the instruments; and in such desks a roll of paper is usually supported adjacent to and beneath the desk, so that it may be drawn upward over the desk.

The invention consists in the combination, with a frame to be secured to a wall or other upright support and having an upright guide, of a desk having at its inner edge pivots fitting the guide and adapted to slide vertically thereon and props or braces which are hinged at opposite ends to the lower portion of the frame and to the desk between its ends. This arrangement of supports provides for readily adjusting the desk from an operative position to an inoperative or folded position against the wall or other support, and also serves to properly sustain the desk when adjusted to operative position. I also combine with the desk and the support for the roll of paper a combined paper clamp and cutter which extends across the desk, and beneath which the web of paper may be passed from the roll, and which is of a novel construction, as hereinafter particularly described, and pointed out in the claims.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is a front elevation of a desk embodying my invention, folded upward into vertical and inoperative position. Fig. 2 is a sectional elevation through the desk and a board which is combined therewith, and by which the desk is secured to the wall. Fig. 3 is a side elevation of the desk adjusted to operative position, and Fig. 4 is a plan thereof in the same position.

Similar letters of reference designate corresponding parts in all the figures.

A designates the desk, which may consist of a board of proper size, and B designates a cast-metal frame with which the desk is connected, and which is itself secured by screws or otherwise directly to a wall or other suitable support, or to a base-board, B′, which itself may be secured to the wall.

The desk A is so combined with the frame B and other parts which support it that it may be readily swung upward from the operative position shown in Fig. 3 to the inoperative position shown in Figs. 1 and 2.

The desk A has at its inner edge inwardly-extending pivots *b*, which are in line one with the other, and which are here represented as formed upon arms or brackets *b′*, extending rearward from the desk proper. The frame B is formed with a vertical guide or guides, in which the pivots *b* slide, and in the present example of my invention the frame B has at opposite edges channels b^2, in which the pivots *b* may slide vertically. I have here represented the channels b^2 as formed by rabbeting the frame B at opposite edges and then securing it to the base-board B′, the channels being formed between the rabbeted frame and the base-board. I have also shown the channels b^2 as formed with forward projections or shoulders b^3 at their upper ends, and when the pivots, by the swinging of the desk forward and downward into the position shown in Fig. 3, rise to the level of these offsets or shoulders b^3, the pivots drop forward and give a support to the rear end of the desk, so that it will not tilt, even if downward pressure be exerted upon it near its pivots.

C designates props or braces which contribute to the support of the desk A, and which are pivoted at *c* to the lower portion of the frame B, and at their opposite ends, *c′*, to the desk A, at a point midway or thereabout between the ends of the desk. When the desk is thus supported it may, by pulling downward upon its upper edge or end, be readily swung from an inoperative position (shown in Figs. 1 and 2) to the operative position shown in Figs. 3 and 4, and by exerting upward pressure or pull upon its outer end the desk may be readily swung from the position shown in Figs. 3 and 4 to the inoperative position shown in Figs. 1 and 2. Upon the under

side of the desk, or that side or face which is presented outward when the desk is swung upward into inoperative position, is a directory, D, of selected telephone-subscribers with whom frequent communication is desired, and when the desk is swung upward this directory is always in view, and a person may readily glance at it and ascertain the call which he wants as he swings the desk downward into operative position ready to make memoranda of the message received.

E designates a roll of paper, from which a continuous web, *e*, passes up through an opening, *e'*, afforded at the rear of the desk A, and thence over the desk and under a plate or strip of metal, e^2 which extends across the desk. The roll of paper rests in a trough or box, E', here shown as having a V-shaped bottom, and which supports the roll by its periphery as distinguished from supporting it through a center spindle. The very contact of the roll resting upon the support E' constitutes a brake for retarding the turning of the roll and preventing its running ahead when paper is drawn therefrom. At the side of the desk A, I have shown wire springs e^3, which serve to hold the plate or strip e^2 with slight pressure against the web *e* of paper passing beneath, and the front of this plate or strip is or may be sharpened, so that it constitutes a combined paper clamp and cutter.

From the above description it will be seen that my improved desk is of light, simple, and inexpensive construction and of attractive appearance, and by arranging the directory of selected subscribers upon the under side of the desk, which is presented outward when the desk is folded into an inoperative position, I afford the greatest convenience for quick telephone service.

What I claim as my invention, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. The combination, with a frame to be fixed to a wall or other upright support and having an upright guide, of a desk having at its inner edge pivots fitting the guide and adapted to slide vertically thereon and props or braces hinged at opposite ends to the lower portion of the frame and to the desk between its ends, substantially as herein described.

2. The combination, with the frame B, having at opposite sides the channel-guides b^2, with the forward offsets or shoulders b^3 at their upper ends, of the desk provided with pivots sliding in said guides and the hinged and swinging props or braces C, substantially as herein described.

3. The combination, with a desk and a support for a roll of paper, of spring-arms e^3, extending along the sides of the desk and fixed at their one end, and a combined paper clamp and cutter consisting of a flat blade, e^2, extending across the desk and connected with said arms, and beneath which the web of paper may be passed from the roll, substantially as herein described.

JOHN D. RICHARDSON.

Witnesses:
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FREDK. HAYNES.