No. 825,484. PATENTED JULY 10, 1906.

R. C. RUSSELL.

FOLDING CUPBOARD.

APPLICATION FILED AUG. 3, 1905.

2 SHEETS—SHEET 1.

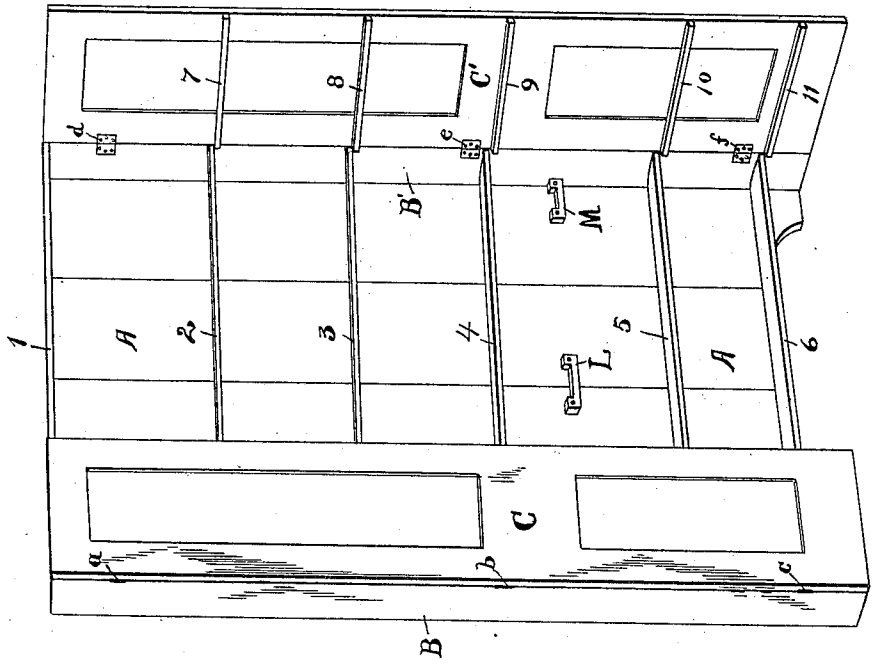


Fig. 2.

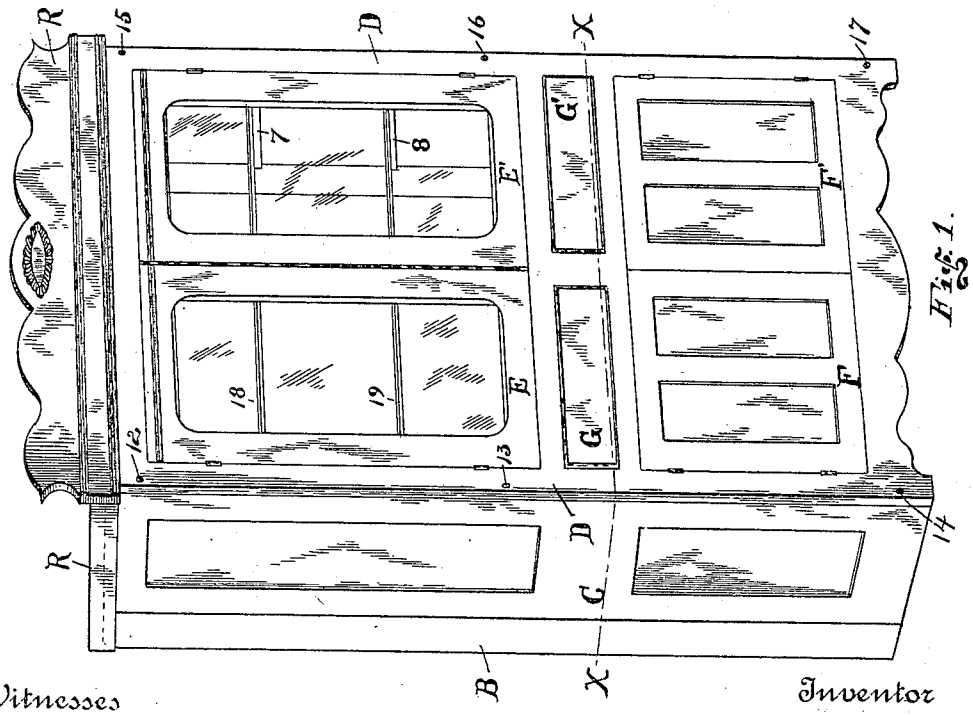


Fig. 1.

Witnesses

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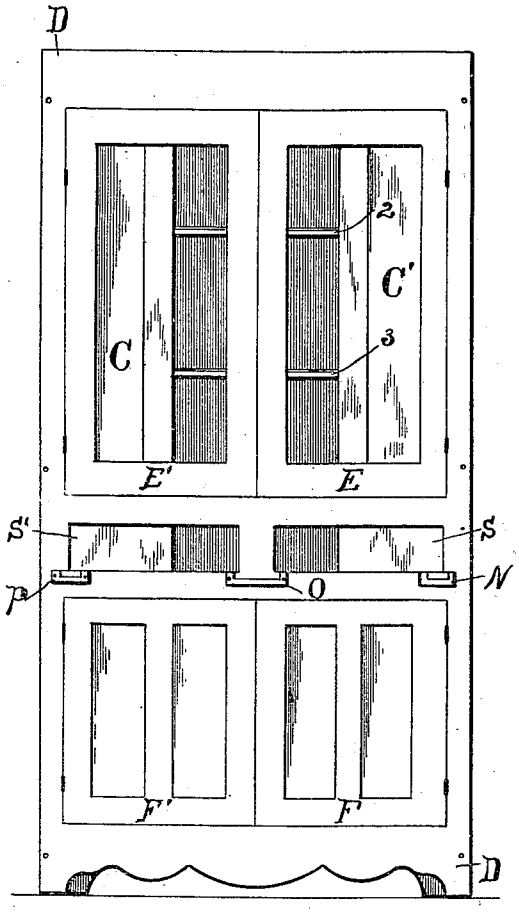


Fig. 3.

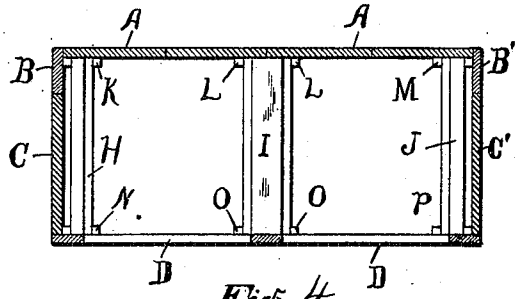


Fig. 4.

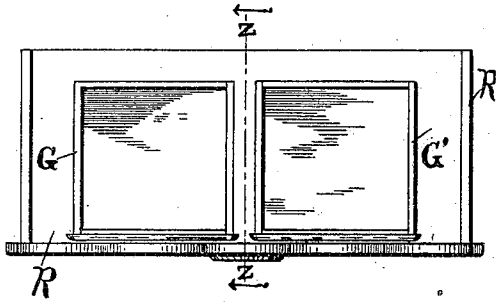


Fig. 6.

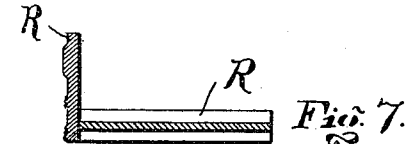


Fig. 7.

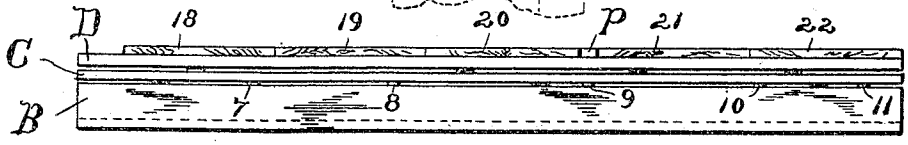


Fig. 5.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ROBERT C. RUSSELL, OF RICHMOND, INDIANA, ASSIGNOR TO RICHMOND FURNITURE MANUFACTURING COMPANY, OF RICHMOND, INDIANA, A CORPORATION.

FOLDING CUPBOARD.

No. 825,484. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented July 10, 1906.

Application filed August 3, 1905. Serial No. 272,466.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ROBERT C. RUSSELL, a citizen of the United States, and a resident of the city of Richmond, in the county of Wayne and State of Indiana, (whose post-office address is Richmond, Indiana,) have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Folding Cupboards, of which the following is a specification, which when taken in connection with the accompanying drawings, forming a part thereof, is sufficiently clear and concise as to enable others skilled in the art to which this invention relates to make and use the same.

In this invention my object, broadly speaking, is the provision of improvements in furniture, said improvements being more particularly applicable to cupboards or the like, which may be composed of a minimum of parts and which will be neat, artistic, and attractive in appearance, compact and symmetrical in proportions, strong and durable in construction, while at the same time having means whereby they may be folded or packed within a comparatively small compass of space.

A more specific object is the provision of a cupboard or the like so constructed as to admit of its being transported in "knockdown" condition, whereby it may be freighted under the caption of "K. D. flat"—that is, in packages of less than six inches in thickness, and, further, to provide means whereby the cupboard may be easily and quickly assembled when desired; and, finally, further objects are to provide a cupboard which may be easily taken apart for cleaning or for movement from place to place, which will be of such simple construction that it may be easily assembled or disassembled by one having had no previous experience therewith, and, further, to provide a cupboard which can be manufactured and sold at a comparatively low price.

Other objects and specific advantages of my invention will be made apparent in the following specification from an inspection of the drawings and from the claims hereunto appended.

My present invention consists in improvements in furniture, a cupboard, embodying new and useful features and details of construction and the relative disposition of the several parts, substantially as particularly described elsewhere in this specification, and in the legitimate combinations herein set forth and colligated in the appended claims.

One manner of carrying out my invention, and that which in practice has been found to be the most desirable, is illustrated in the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of a cupboard complete constructed in accordance with my invention. Fig. 2 is a perspective view of the rear portion and the sides of my cupboard, the separable parts being removed, one of the sides being in its normal position, the other side being folded. Fig. 3 shows the body of my cupboard ready for packing and containing all the parts except the top and the drawers, which are shown in Fig. 6, and the shelves, which are shown in Fig. 5. Fig. 4 is a view taken in cross-section on the line X X of Fig. 1. Fig. 5 is a side or edge view of the parts and the condition of the cupboard as shown in Fig. 3 with the addition of the shelves. Fig. 6 is a top or plan view of the top of the cupboard, showing the drawers located thereon ready for packing; and Fig. 7 is a detail cross-section taken on the line Z Z of Fig. 6.

Similar reference characters denote and refer to like parts throughout the several views of the drawings.

With all of the above-designated views in mind I will now take up the detail description of my invention and will describe the various parts and the operations as briefly and compactly as I may.

In the drawings the letter A denotes the back of my cupboard, formed of a plurality of boards or the like joined together and of a dimension the same as the length and width of the cupboard being formed.

The indices B and B′ denote the two side strips extending out from either edge of the back and being permanently secured thereto.

The numerals 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6 denote cross-strips or subshelves of same width as the side strips B and B′, which when the cupboard is assembled form a portion of the respective shelves, and said cross-strips are permanently secured to the back A and to the side strips, thus forming a rigid and solid cabinet of approximately one-fourth the depth that the assembled cupboard will have. Said cross-strips are located substantially as shown in Fig. 2.

The indices C and C′ denote the two folding side members of the cupboard of same length as the side strips B and B′ and of a width such as to make the cupboard the desired depth. Said end members may be plain or paneled, as shown in the drawings. The side members C and C′ have their inner edges hinged to the outer edges of the side strips B and B′, respectively, by means of the hinges *a*, *b*, and *c* for the member C and hinges *d*, *e*, and *f* for the member C′, said hinges being located on the inside of the cupboard, as shown, whereby the members C and C′ will fold inward against the cross-strips 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6, or they may be opened out in a line with the side strips B and B′, as shown in Fig. 1.

Permanently secured across the inner face of the member C′ are the cleats 7, 8, 9, 10, and 11, the upper edges thereof being located on a line with the lower edges of their respective cross-strips 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6, and similar cleats are likewise secured across the inner face of the member C, but do not appear in the drawings by reason of the member C being folded in Fig. 2.

The letter D denotes the front or frame portion of my cupboard, having the comparatively large upper openings to be closed by the doors E and E′ and the lower openings to be closed by the doors F and F′, and between the said upper and lower openings are the two openings S and S′ for the drawers G and G′. The dimensions of the front D correspond substantially with the dimensions of the back A, and when the members C and C′ are both opened out to the positions shown by the member C′ in Fig. 2 the said front D may be brought against the outer edges of the members C and C′, as shown in Fig. 1, and may then be secured thereto by the screws 12, 13, and 14 on one side and the screws 15, 16, and 17 on the other.

After the above the next thing in order in the assembling of this cupboard is placing in position the shelves 18, 19, 20, 21, and 22, which shelves are of same width as is the members C and C′ and of same length and thickness as are the cross-strips 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6, and they are rested in position on the said cleats which are secured across the inner faces of the members C and C′, being joined on their rear edges to the respective cross-strips 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6.

The removable guides and supports for the drawers G and G′ are shown most clearly in Fig. 4 and are denominated by the letters H, I, and J, said guides and supports being supported in the rear by the blocks K, L, and M, respectively, said blocks being gained in their upper edges to receive the respective guides, as shown. The said guides H, I, and J are to be supported in front by the blocks denominated by the letters N, O, and P, which are secured to the inner face of the frame D at points oppositely disposed to the aforesaid set of blocks, and the blocks N, O, and P are gained in their upper edges to receive the forward ends of the guides H, I, and J, respectively.

The removable top for my cupboard is denoted by the letter R, and it consists of an inclosing frame of which the front ornament forms a part, which, together with the end members thereof, is adapted to extend down over and inclose the upper end of the assembled cupboard, as indicated in Fig. 7, carrying a top board or shelf partly inclosed by said ornament and the ends to join or overlap the cross-strip 1, and thus complete the closure of the top of the cupboard, substantially as shown.

The upper front edges of the cross-strips 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6 are beveled off in order to form a channel when the shelves are all in position, in which channel plates or the like may rest, leaning against the back A.

When the construction above described is assembled as indicated, it will assume the appearance shown in Fig. 1 of the drawings.

It is now apparent that my cupboard may be disassembled and made ready for shipment by first lifting the top R and then removing the drawers G and G′ and placing them in the top, as shown in Fig. 6, in which position the top and the drawers may be crated or wrapped for shipment. I next remove the guides H, I, and J, and then remove the shelves 18, 19, 20, 21, and 22, and then remove the screws 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, and 17, by which I am then enabled to remove the front D. I then fold the members C and C′ in upon the edges of the cross-strips 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6, wrapping and placing said guides and screws on one of the spaces thereunder, or said guides and screws may be placed in one of the aforementioned drawers. I then turn the frame D face about and bring its face to and coinciding with the body of the cupboard, as shown in Fig. 3. The shelves 18, 19, 20, 21, and 22 may then be laid across over the front, and then the parts will have assumed the collapsed condition, substantially as shown in Fig. 5, and the whole may then be inclosed by any suitable crating, when it will be ready for shipment as "K. D. flat."

From the above description, when taken in connection with the accompanying drawings, it will be seen that I have produced an improved article of furniture which embodies the objects and advantages above referred to and other objects and advantages not alluded to, but which are apparent.

While I have illustrated and described the best means now known to me for carrying out my invention in a practical manner, I desire that it be fully understood that I do not restrict myself to the exact details of the construction shown and described, but hold that any changes or variations therein as would

suggest themselves to the ordinary mechanic would clearly fall within the limits and scope of my invention.

Having now fully shown and described my invention, what I claim, and desire to secure by Letters Patent of the United States, is—

1. A cupboard comprising a rigid back portion provided with shelves and sides therefor, folding sides hinged to the permanent sides, a removable front frame adapted to be connected to the folding sides, a removable overlapping top, removable shelves corresponding to the permanent shelves, a pair of drawers, and removable guides for said drawers, all combined substantially as and for the purposes set forth.

2. A folding cupboard having a rigid cabinet portion of shallow depth, side members hinged to said cabinet portion to increase the depth of the cupboard, a front frame securable to the front edges of the side members, doors and drawers operative in apertures in said frame, guides for supporting the drawers, means for supporting the guides, removable shelves supported by the side members and alining with the shelves of the cabinet portion, and a removable top therefor, all substantially as shown and described.

3. A folding cupboard comprising a back portion having permanent sides and plurality of cross-strips forming shelves, a pair of folding side members hinged to the sides of the back portion, a front frame securable to the forward edges of said folding members and having openings therein for doors and drawers, guides on which the drawers may rest or operate, supports for said guides, a top portion adapted to overlap the upper end of the cupboard, and a plurality of removable shelves, all substantially as shown and described.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto signed my name, in the presence of two subscribing witnesses, July 31, 1905.

ROBERT C. RUSSELL.

Witnesses:

ELMER M. CONAHA,

R. W. RANDLE.