(No Model.) 2 Sheets—Sheet 1.

L. P. ROSS.

CABINET FOLDING DESK.

No. 272,777. Patented Feb. 20, 1883.

Fig. 3.

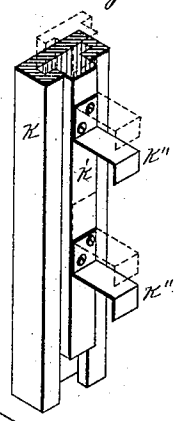


Fig. 1.

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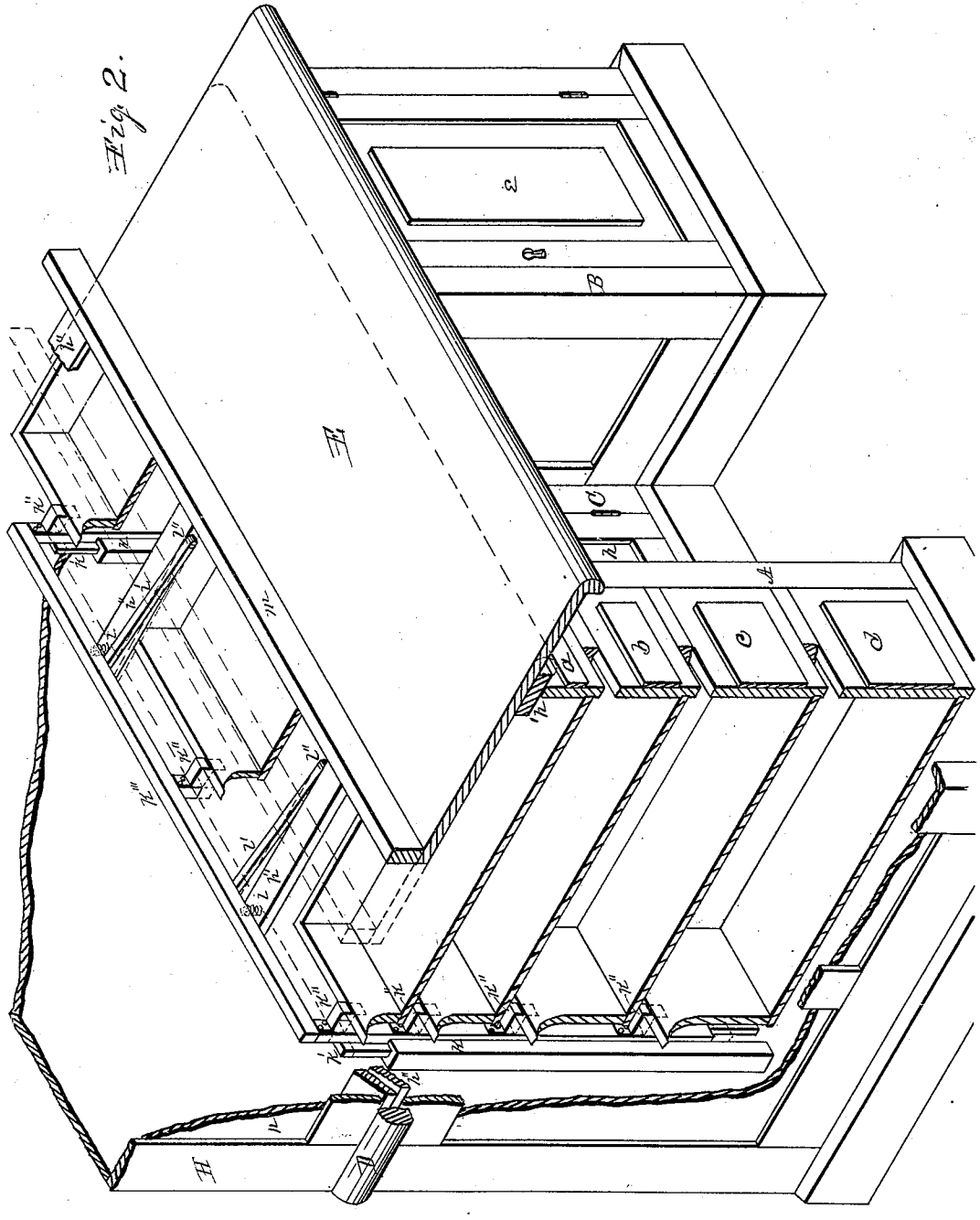
N. PETERS, Photo-Lithographer, Washington, D. C.

(No Model.) 2 Sheets—Sheet 2.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

LYON P. ROSS, OF ROCKFORD, ILLINOIS.

CABINET FOLDING DESK.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 272,777, dated February 20, 1883.

Application filed December 12, 1881. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, LYON P. ROSS, a citizen of the United States, residing in the city of Rockford, in the county of Winnebago and State of Illinois, have invented a new and useful Cabinet Folding Desk, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to desks mainly employed in offices in the transaction of business; and its object is to produce a desk of great capacity, containing a great variety and large number of compartments in small compass, and capable of use as a sitting and standing desk. To this end I have designed and constructed the cabinet-desk represented in the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is an isometrical representation of my improved cabinet-desk in its closed position and in the form to be used as a standing-desk. Fig. 2 is an isometrical representation of the desk with the upper portion and a portion of one of the ends cut away to reveal the locking mechanism, and Fig. 3 is an isometrical representation of a portion of the vertical post of the locking mechanism.

The lower portion of my improved cabinet-desk is substantially the same as some desks to be found in the trade, consisting of end portions of pedestal form, one of which, as at A, is fitted with drawers *a*, *b*, *c*, and *d*, and the pedestal B is mainly of closet form, the interior of which may be fitted in any convenient manner with drawers or with vertical or transverse compartments, and its front is fitted with a door, *e*, having a suitable hinge-support. This pedestal is also provided with a drawer, *f*. These pedestals are separated a proper distance, having their rear portions connected by a central recessed closet, C, and its recessed front provided with a suitable door, *h*, mounted to swing on its hinged connection. The interior of this closet may be fitted in any convenient manner with drawers, transverse or vertical divisions, or both, to separate it into divisible compartments. The pedestals are connected on their front edge by means of a suitable bar, *h'*, which spans the central recess between them and overlaps their front edges.

At *h''* are transverse bars, having their front ends suitably joined to the rear edge of the front bar, *h'*, from which they extend rearward, having their rear ends suitably fixed to a rear bar or to the back of the desk.

At *i* is represented a drawer placed in the center, between the end pedesta's and immediately under the draw writing-table.

At *k* are represented grooved slideways, fixed in a suitable vertical position to the inner side of the back of the desk.

At *k'* are represented T-formed slide-bars, fitted to move freely in the vertical slideways. To these slide-bars are fixed, at proper intervals, hook-formed clasps *k''*, of suitable conformation to overlap the upper edge of the rear end of the drawers when slid down, as represented in the dotted lines. The upper ends of these vertical slides are connected by means of a suitable horizontal bar, *k'''*.

At *l* are represented spiral springs placed at proper intervals under the horizontal bar *k'''*, employed to support the slides in their elevated position, but in such a manner as to permit them to be depressed to lock the drawers when closed.

At *l'* are represented bars having their forward ends pivoted at *l''* to the edge portion of the transverse bars *h''*, from which point they extend rearward, and are connected to the under side of the horizontal bar *k'''* in a manner to permit a free vertical movement of the locking mechanism.

At D are represented the end portions of the writing-table, which are fixed to the pedestals on the outer ends of the cabinet, having their edge portions projecting beyond the pedestal, on the ends and front thereof.

At E is represented the draw writing-table, fitted to slide back and forth between its fixed end portions, and on its rear edge is the uprising portion *m*, to be carried with the movements of the draw-table. The front edge of this draw-table and the front and end edge portions of its fixed ends are of round or other suitable form, and are the crowning member of the pedestal or lower portion of the cabinet. By this construction it will be seen that the inward or rearward sliding movement of the table will operate to depress the pivoted levers *l'*, which, by means of their connection with the horizontal bar *k'''*, will depress the slide-bars *k'*, to which it is fixed, causing the hook-clasps *k''*, fixed to the vertical sliding bars, to engage the

rear ends of the drawers to lock them in their closed position, and the forward movement of the draw-table will relieve the pivoted levers and permit the vertical slides to rise under the action of the spiral springs to unlock the drawers.

I am aware that folding desks have been constructed in which the top section was folded over and against the fixed section, thereby completing an even flat top for use when closed, and also in which locking devices have been used and operated by the downward action of a rolling top. I therefore do not claim such construction, broadly, my invention relating to an improved form of the top section, and also to improvements in the locking devices, in which the draw writing-table, by an independent horizontal movement, operates the locking devices.

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

In a cabinet-desk, the draw-table E and bars k'', in combination with the pivoted inclined bars l', secured to the connecting-bar k''', and the slide-bars k', provided with clasps k'', and the guides k, as shown and described.

LYON P. ROSS.

Witnesses:
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