G. HESS.

COMBINED WORK-TABLE AND WRITING-DESK.

No. 173,288. Patented Feb. 8, 1876.

Fig. 1.

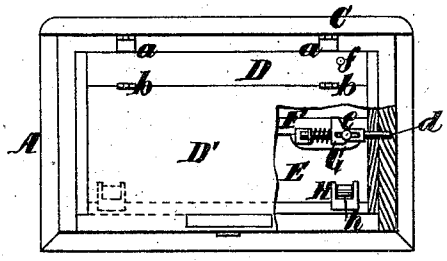


Fig. 2.

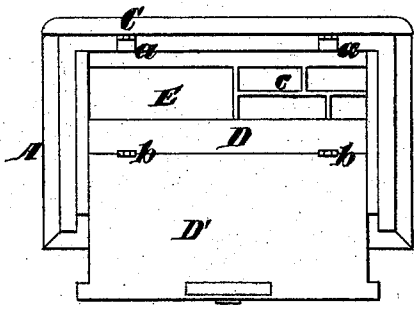


Fig. 3.

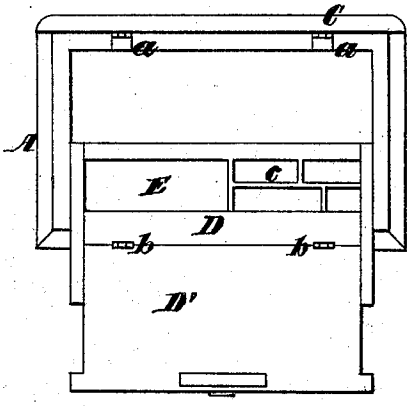


Fig. 4.

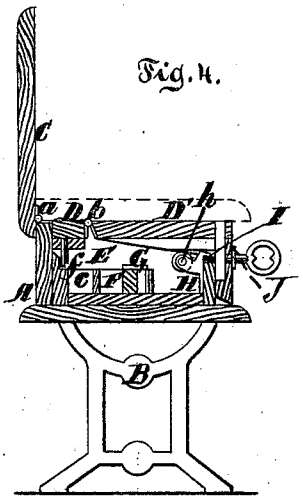


Fig. 5.

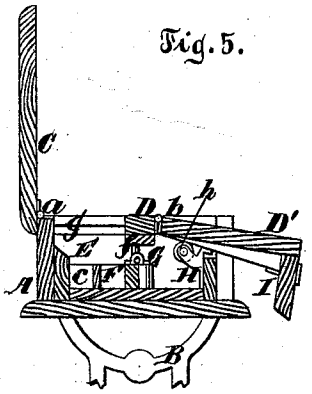
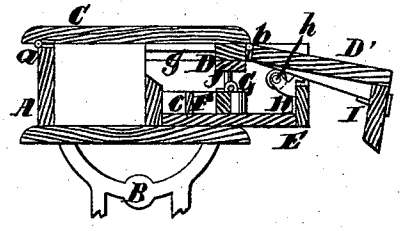


Fig. 6.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

GEORGE HESS, OF NEW YORK, N. Y.

IMPROVEMENT IN COMBINED WORK-TABLES AND WRITING-DESKS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **173,288**, dated February 8, 1876; application filed January 4, 1876.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, GEORGE HESS, of the city, county, and State of New York, have invented a new and Improved Work-Table and Writing-Desk Combined, which improvement is fully set forth in the following specification, reference being had to the accompanying drawing, in which—

Figure 1 represents a plan view of my table and desk in a closed state, part being broken away to expose the interior of the desk. Fig. 2 is a similar view when the desk is partially moved out. Fig. 3 is a like view when the desk is slid out to its full extent. Figs. 4, 5, and 6 are cross-sections, showing the different positions of the desk.

Similar letters indicate corresponding parts.

This invention consists in the combination of an inclosing-case and lid with a movable desk and a hinged sliding leaf, adapted to be drawn out over the top of the desk, and inclined in proper position before the occupant, or be folded within the casing, whereby a combined work-table or writing-desk is produced.

The invention further consists in combining with the movable desk and inclosing-case a spring-bolt, for the purpose of locking the desk within the case, the bolt being so arranged as to spring automatically into its socket, while it is provided with a beveled shank, against which a pin affixed to the hinged and sliding leaf of the desk is brought to bear when the leaf is slid outward, in such a manner that the bolt is withdrawn from its socket by the action of the said pin and the leaf. It also consists in combining with the movable desk and its hinged and sliding leaf one or more hooks and staples, or other equivalent devices, for the purpose of securing the leaf to the desk, and a lock, whereby the leaf and the lid of the inclosing-case may be fastened to each other, so that by the combined action of the hooks and staples and the lock the movable desk, as well as the lid of the case, is adapted to be secured in a closed position.

In the drawing, the letter A designates the inclosing-case of my combined desk and table, which is supported on legs B, and thereby raised a convenient distance from the floor. The top and one of the sides of this case are made open, and within it is fitted and placed a desk, E. This desk is placed loosely in the inclosing-case, and hence is movable. The case, moreover, is provided with a lid, C, which is connected to its top part by means of hinge-joints *a a*, so that the lid is susceptible of being raised, as seen in Figs. 1 to 5, inclusive, or lowered, as seen in Fig. 6. When the lid C is lowered, and the desk E is slid into or within the inclosing-case, the lid forms the top for a work-table. The movable desk E has, on its upper part, a leaf, which is made in two parts, D D′, that are hinged together, as at *b b*, and a portion of the bottom of the desk is divided by partitions F *c* into compartments, for the reception of stationery. The part D of the desk-leaf is provided at the opposite ends with tenons, (not shown,) which are fitted in mortises *g* (see Figs. 5 and 6) in the side parts of the desk, so that the said part D is prevented from moving up or down, but is capable of being slid in and out of the desk. The part D′ of the leaf moves with the part D, while, by the hinge-joints *b b*, this part D′ is adapted to be raised or lowered, in order to gain access to the interior of the desk.

It will be noticed that the desk E moves within the inclosing-case A, while the leaf D D′ slides on the desk; hence the desk E may be left in its inner position in the inclosing-case, and the leaf D D′ slid partially out, as seen in Figs. 2 and 5; or both the desk E and the leaf may be slid to an outer position, as seen in Figs. 3 and 6. In the last-named position of the desk and leaf the lid C of the inclosing-case A may be let down, as seen in Fig. 6, when both a desk and a table are obtained.

The movable desk E carries a spring-bolt, G, which is situated on the top of the partition F, and which projects through the side of the desk, as seen in Fig. 1, while in the side of the inclosing-case A is formed a socket, *d*, for the reception of the bolt. The socket *d* is so located as to receive the bolt G in it when the desk E is moved within the inclosing-case; hence the desk is automatically locked in place. The shank of the spring-bolt G is beveled, as at *e*, and the sliding part D of the leaf of the desk has a downwardly-projecting pin, *f*, which is arranged in such a position that when the leaf is pulled out the pin comes in

contact with the beveled shank *c*, and by this means the bolt G is displaced, when the desk E may be pulled out in addition to the leaf. On the bottom of the desk E are fastened one or more hooks, H, and to the under surface of the hinged part D′ of the desk-leaf are fastened staples I, in such a manner that when the desk-leaf is moved inward the staples I catch under the hooks H, and thereby the leaf of the desk is prevented from being raised.

The hooks H in this example form part of brackets, which carry anti-friction rollers *h*, over which the part D′ of the desk-leaf moves, and by which its movement is materially facilitated. It is obvious that any equivalent device may be substituted for the hooks and staples H I.

The hinged part D′ of the desk-leaf is provided with a lock, J, of any suitable form or construction, which is adapted to fasten the lid C of the inclosing-case to the movable desk.

It will be readily understood that when the lid C is lowered and fastened by means of the lock J, and the desk-leaf is held by the hooks and staples H I, the lid C and the desk E are held in a closed position.

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

1. The combination of the inclosing-case A and lid C with the movable desk E and hinged and sliding leaf D D′, adapted to be drawn out over the top of the desk, and inclined in proper position before the occupant, or to be folded within the casing A, substantially as herein set forth.

2. In combination with the inclosing-case A and movable desk E, I claim the spring-bolt G, having a beveled shank, and the pin *f*, affixed to the leaf of the desk, substantially as described.

3. The combination of one or more hooks and staples, H I, and the lock J with the movable desk E, its hinged and sliding leaf D D′, and the lid C of the inclosing-case, substantially as described.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing I have hereunto set my hand and seal this 24th day of December, 1875.

GEORGE HESS. [L. S.]

Witnesses:
W. HAUFF,
ROBT. E. MILLER.