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J. B. BROLASKI.

KNOCKDOWN FURNITURE.

No. 298,821. Patented May 20, 1884.

Fig. 1.

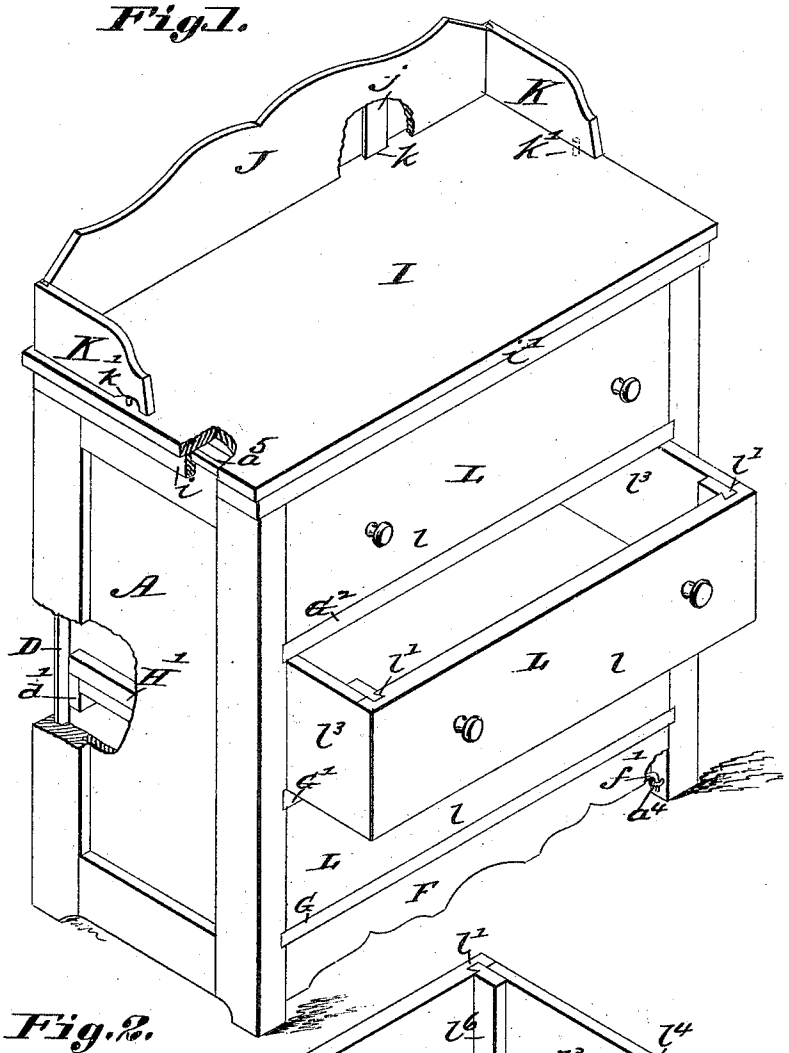
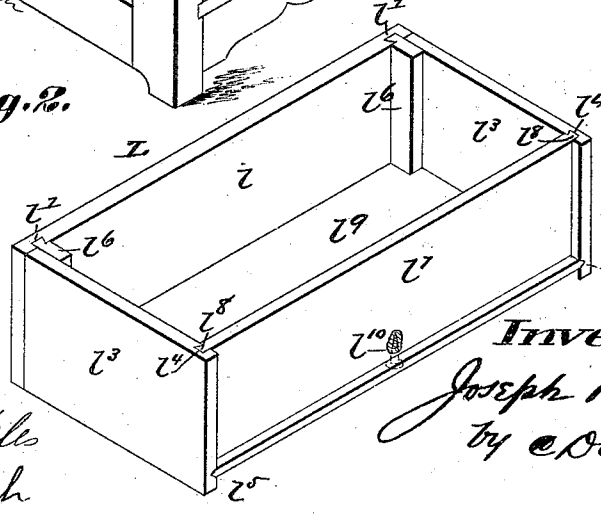


Fig. 2.



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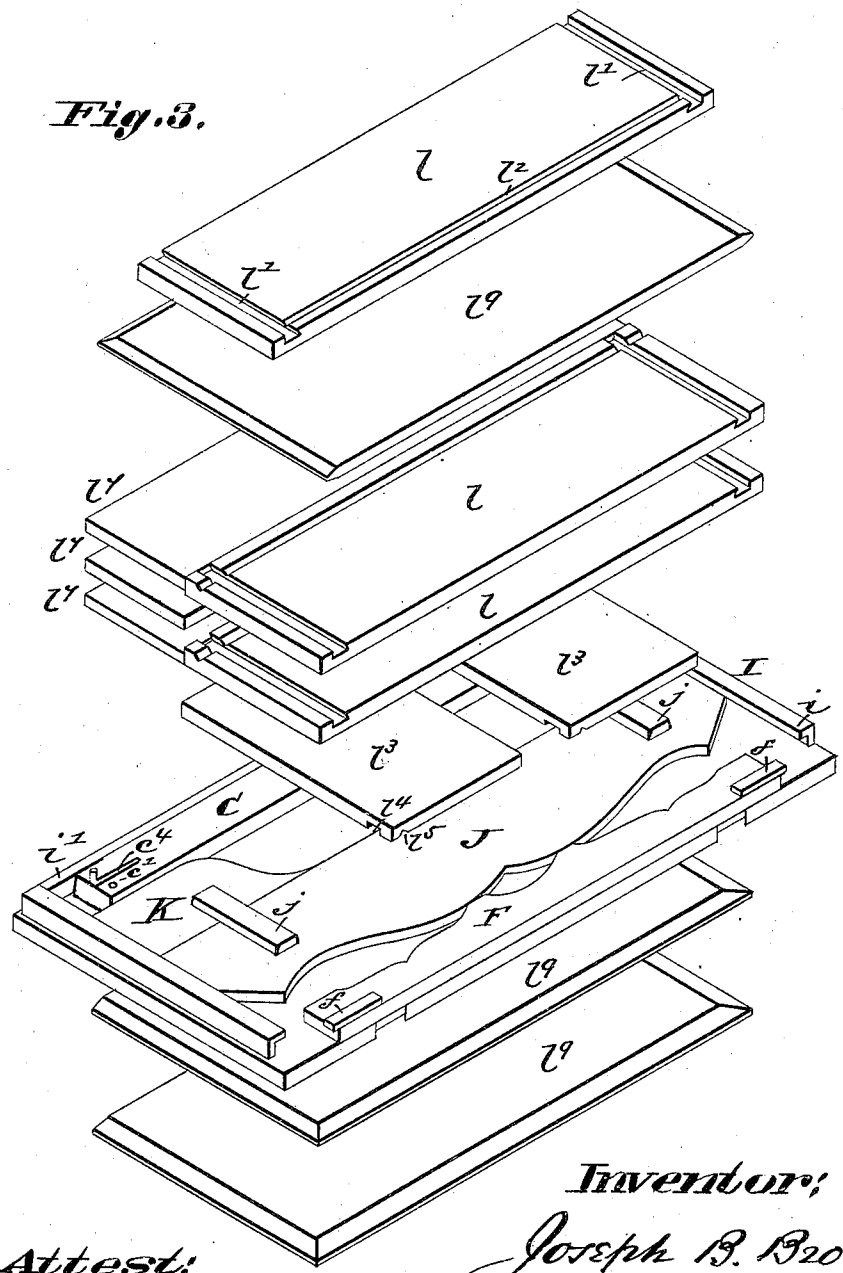
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Fig. 3.



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Fig. 4.

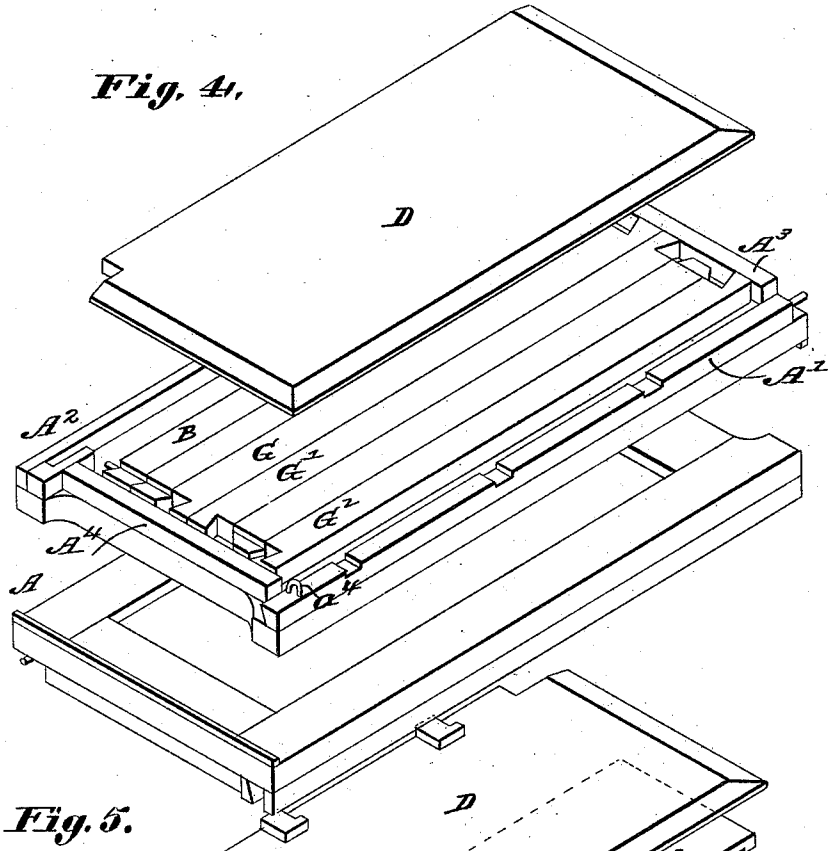
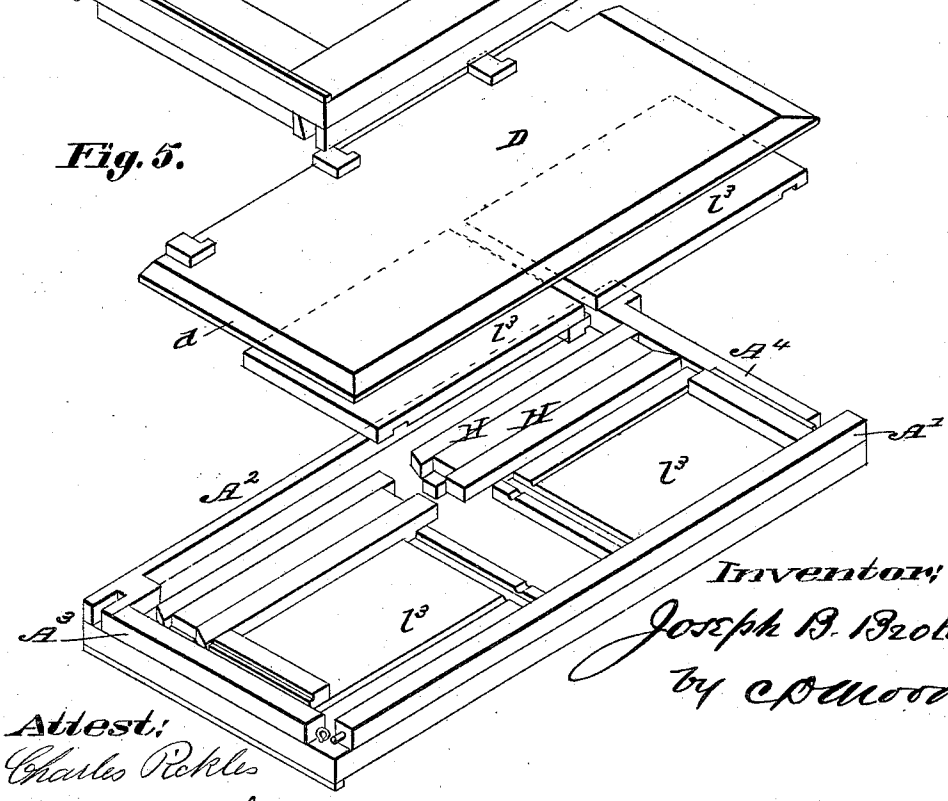


Fig. 5.



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Fig. 6.

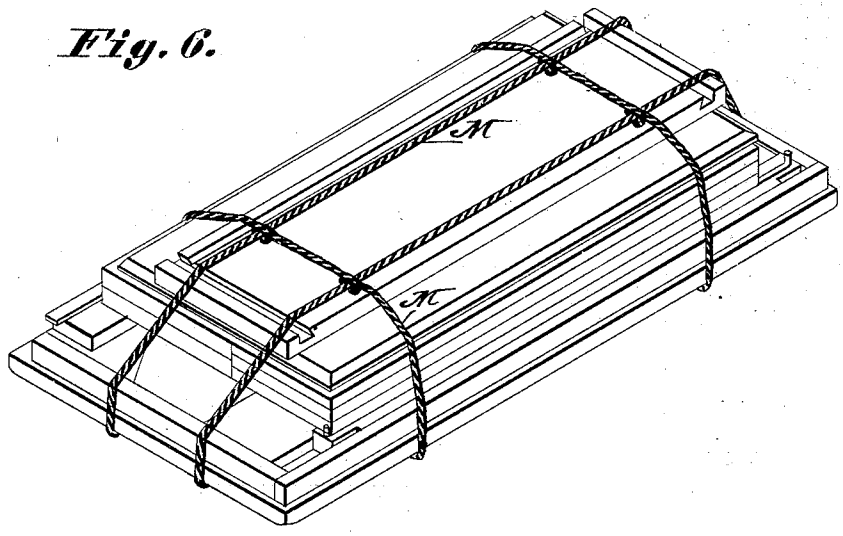
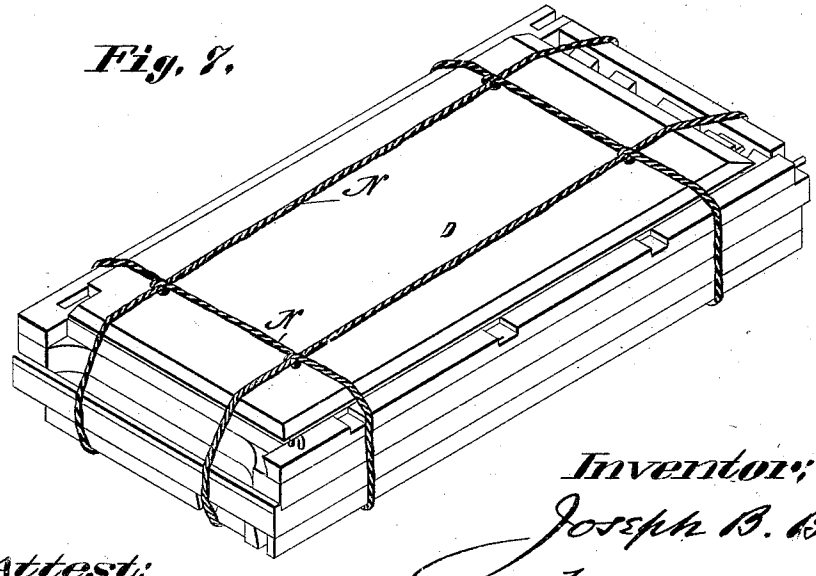


Fig. 7.



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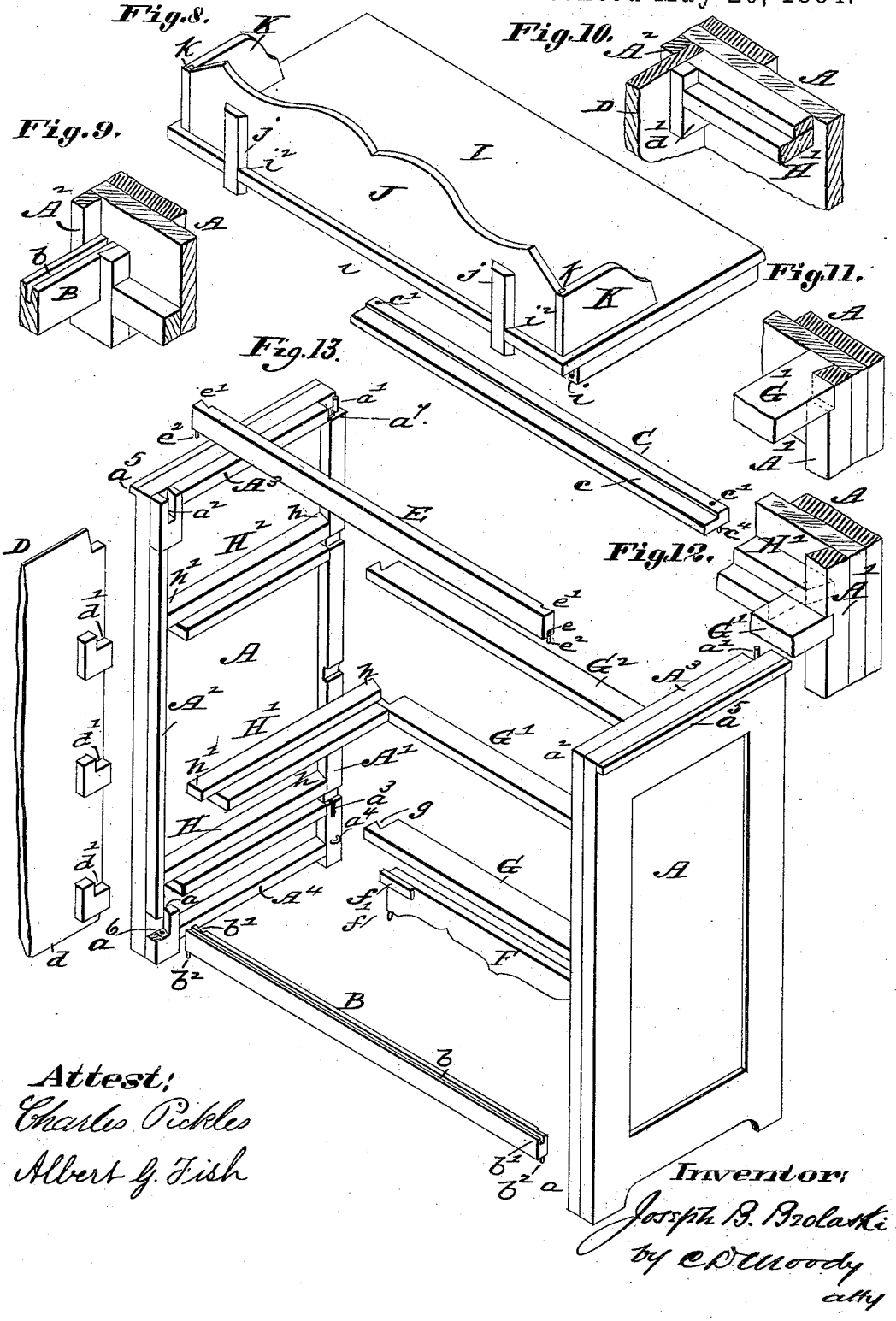
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOSEPH B. BROLASKI, OF ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI.

KNOCKDOWN FURNITURE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 298,821, dated May 20, 1884.

Application filed August 6, 1883. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOSEPH B. BROLASKI, of St. Louis, Missouri, have made a new and useful Improvement in Knockdown Furniture, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description, reference being had to the annexed drawings, making part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 is a view in perspective of a bureau or wash-stand in which the improvement is embodied, portions being broken away to exhibit the interior; Fig. 2, a view in perspective of one of the drawers; Fig. 3, a view in perspective showing detached from each other the various pieces composing one of the bundles of the structure in its knockdown form; Fig. 4, a view in perspective showing detached from each other the pieces composing the upper part of the other bundle; Fig. 5, a view in perspective showing detached from each other the remaining pieces of the second bundle. These last-named pieces are shown inverted. Fig. 6 is a view in perspective of that bundle whose pieces are shown in Fig. 3; Fig. 7, a view in perspective of that bundle whose pieces are shown in Figs. 4 and 5; Fig. 8, a view in perspective from the rear of the top of the bureau or wash-stand; Fig. 9, a detail, being a view in perspective showing the construction at one of the lower rear corners of the structure; Fig. 10, a detail, being a view in perspective showing the construction at one of the rear corners of the structure in the immediate vicinity of one of the drawer-slides; Fig. 11, a detail, being a view in perspective showing the construction at one of the front corners in the vicinity of one of the division-rails; Fig. 12, a detail, being a view in perspective showing the construction at one of the front corners, and exhibiting the division-rail and the drawer-slide; and Fig. 13, a view in perspective showing detached from each other the end pieces of the structure and various of the bars and other parts connected with the end pieces.

The same letters of reference denote the same parts.

This improvement can be embodied in various articles of household-furniture, such as bureaus, wash-stands, side-boards, kitchen-safes, and desks.

A A represent the end pieces of the structure. In setting up, a back rail, B, Fig. 13, having a channel, b, in its upper edge, flaring tenons b' b', and hooks b^2 b^2, is joined to the end pieces, the tenons fitting into the dovetailed mortises a a and the hooks engaging in the eyes a^6 a^6 in the end pieces. The top front rail, C, having the perforations c' c' and the hooks c^4 c^4, is then attached, the pins a' a' upon the end pieces passing into the perforations c' c', and the hooks c^4 c^4 engaging in the eyes a^7 a^7 upon the end pieces. The two back pieces D D, Figs. 5, 13, are then placed in position, their lower edges, d, fitting into the channel b in the rail B, and the back pieces being wedged apart by means of the usual middle rail (not shown) inserted between them. The top back rail, E, having the channel e in its under edge, flaring tenons e' e', and the hooks e^2 e^2, is then attached, the tenons fitting into the dovetailed mortises a^2 a^2 in the end pieces, the hooks e^2 e^2 engaging in eyes upon the end pieces, and the channel e fitting down into the upper edges of the back pieces D D, and middle rail. The lower front rail, F, having the tongues f f and the hooks f' f', is then attached, the tongues fitting into the mortises a^3 a^3 and the hooks engaging in the eyes a^4 a^4 upon the end pieces. These four rails B C E F serve both to tie the end pieces A A together and also to brace them apart. As far as the tying of the end pieces is concerned, I rely mainly upon the hooks and eyes with which, as described, the rails and end pieces are respectively provided. The tenons and mortises, respectively upon the rails and in the end pieces, as described, are valuable, however, in confining the rails in their places and as aiding in tying the end pieces together. The ends of the rails abut, as seen, against the end pieces, and thereby serve to hold the end pieces apart. A rail, G, having the hook-shaped tenons g at its ends, is then placed above the rail F, the tenons g engaging with a hook-shaped cleat, A', with which each end piece is provided. A pair of drawer-slides, H H, are then placed in position, the beveled ends h engaging with the cleat A' and the projections or tenons h' fitting into the seats d' d' upon the back pieces D D. The other division-rails, G' G², which are similar to the rail G, are then inserted in their respective places, as shown in Fig. 1, and the

corresponding drawer-slides, H′ H², which are similar to the slides H, are also inserted, as indicated in Fig. 13. The drawer-slides at their forward ends serve to confine the division-rails in their places against the cleat A′, and at their rear ends the drawer-slides bear against the back pieces D D. As the back pieces are usually made thin, they are kept from springing outward by means of the cleats A² upon the end pieces A A. The top or lid I is then placed and secured in position. This is done as follows: The top or lid, as seen in Figs. 3, 1, is furnished with the inwardly-turned flanges *i i*, which fit around the flanges a^5 a^5 on the end pieces, and the top or lid is attached by slipping it from the front of the structure onto the end pieces until the front flange, *i′*, comes against the front upper rail and end pieces. The top guard, J, is then attached. This last-named part is provided with the beveled projections *j j*, which pass down through corresponding grooves, i^2 i^2, in the top or lid I, and the lower ends of the projections bear against the back side of the upper rear rail, E. This fastens the top or lid I, so that it cannot slip forward. The side guards, K K, are then attached, these guards being grooved at *k*, to engage with the guard J, and having pins *k′*, that engage in perforations in the top or lid I. This locks the entire structure. The drawers L are then set up, as follows: The front piece *l*, Figs. 2, 3, is grooved vertically at *l′ l′* and horizontally at l^2. The end pieces l^3 l^3 are grooved vertically at l^4, horizontally at l^5, and are furnished with the cleat or tenon l^6, and they are attached to the front piece *l* by passing the cleat or tenon l^6 into the groove *l′*. The back piece *l′* is slipped vertically downward into the vertical grooves l^4 l^4 in the end pieces l^3 l^3. The back piece is provided with flaring tenons l^8 l^8, Fig. 2, which engage in the correspondingly-shaped grooves l^4 l^4. The bottom l^9 of the drawer is then slipped into the grooves l^5 l^5 l^2, and then by inserting a screw, l^{10}, through the bottom l^9, upward into the back piece *l′*, as shown in Fig. 2, all the parts of the drawer are locked together.

In its knockdown form the structure is packed as follows: To pack the bundle shown in Fig. 6, take one drawer-bottom, l^9, and on top of it place another drawer-bottom. Place upon the last-named piece the lid or top (face down) I of the structure. Pack inside the lid or top the top rail, C, at front, also the two side guards, K K, the back guard, J, and the bottom curved front rail F. The back and side guards are slipped into the grooves *i i*, all as shown in Fig. 3. Then lay crosswise two drawer-sides with the cleats l^6 down in the space between the side guards and the front flange, *i′*. Lay upon the drawer-sides the three drawer-backs and two drawer-fronts, above them a drawer-bottom, and then a drawer-front, all as shown in Fig. 3. These parts are then secured by the ties M, forming the bundle shown in Fig. 6. The other bundle is packed as follows: Inside one of the end pieces A pack all the long rails, saving the curved bottom front rail, F, and covering them with one of the back pieces D, the cleats down and fitting into the space left between the rails and the cleat A² on the end piece. Inside of the other end piece pack four drawer-sides, l^3, the sides being lapped two and two, with the ends crossed, so as to lie snugly. Pack the drawer-slides H lengthwise in the end piece. Over them place the other back piece D with the cleats *d′* down. Put the two end pieces, having within them the parts described, face to face and head to foot against the lip a^5 on the top of the end piece. Then tie the parts together by means of the ties N and in the form shown in Fig. 7. The cleats A′ A² A³ A⁴ secure all the pieces packed therein from loss or damage—that is, the end pieces, when provided with the cleats A′, &c., are in effect shallow boxes to receive the other pieces, as described. The top I, having the flanges *i i*, forms a similar box.

By means of the foregoing improvement (which is applicable to many articles of furniture) the structure in which it is embodied is capable of being packed in one-third its "set up" space. The parts are secure from damage when stored or in shipment, the cost of transportation is lessened one-half or thereabout, and the structure can be set up without glue, wedges, screws, or other than the fastenings herein provided.

I claim—

1. The combination, in a knockdown case or frame, of end pieces A A, provided with flanges a^5, a top, I, provided with interlocking portions *i*, to receive said flanges, and a front piece *i′*, with rails E B C F, constructed and applied as described, the notched pieces G G′ G², the fastenings therefor, the detachable back piece, and the drawers, all constructed and put together substantially as described.

2. The combination of the back rails, B E, removably applied to the end pieces A, and having grooved edges, with the removable back pieces D fitting into the grooves of said rails, the knockdown drawers, the end pieces A, with the removable draw-slides, and the front strips, G G′ G², secured to said end pieces by means substantially as described.

JOSEPH B. BROLASKI.

Witnesses:
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S. E. LOGAN.