

(No Model.)

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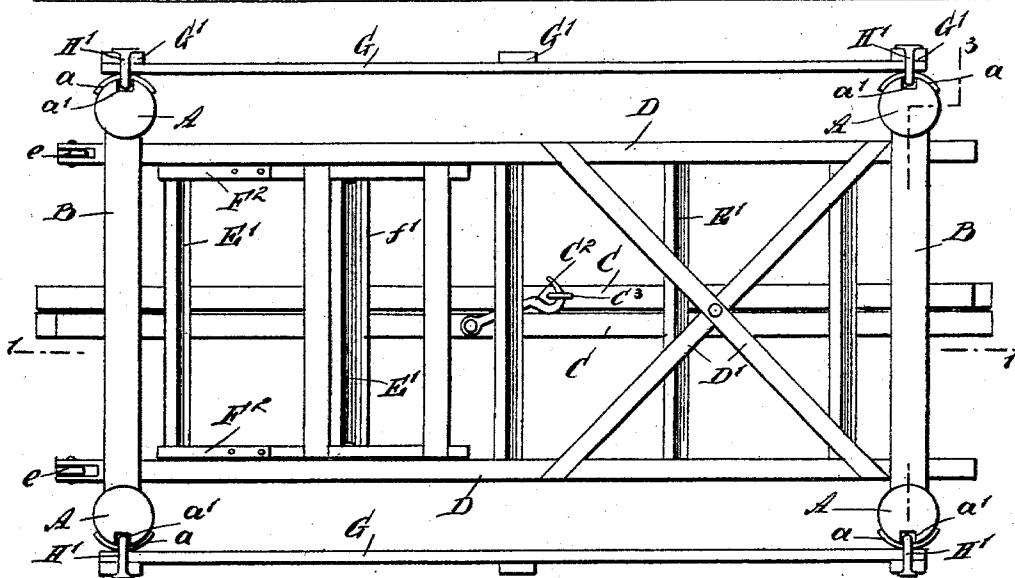
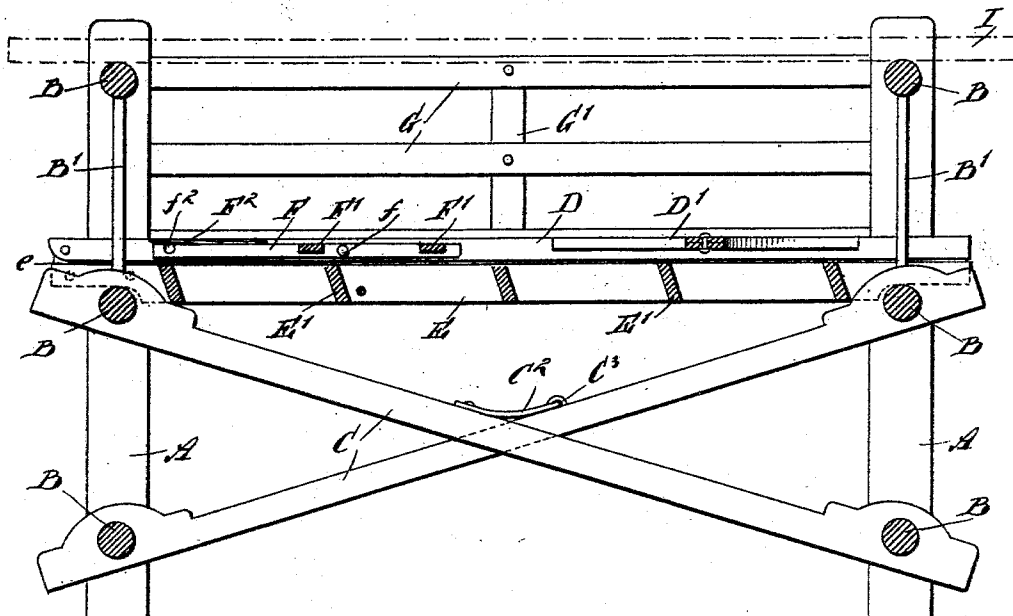
C. E. KUHN.

COMBINED ARTICLE OF HOUSEHOLD FURNITURE.

No. 597,989.

Patented Jan. 25, 1898.

Fig 1



WITNESSES:

H. Walker
H. L. Reynolds.

Fig 2

INVENTOR

C. E. Kuhn.

BY

M. W. Reynolds

ATTORNEYS.

(No Model.)

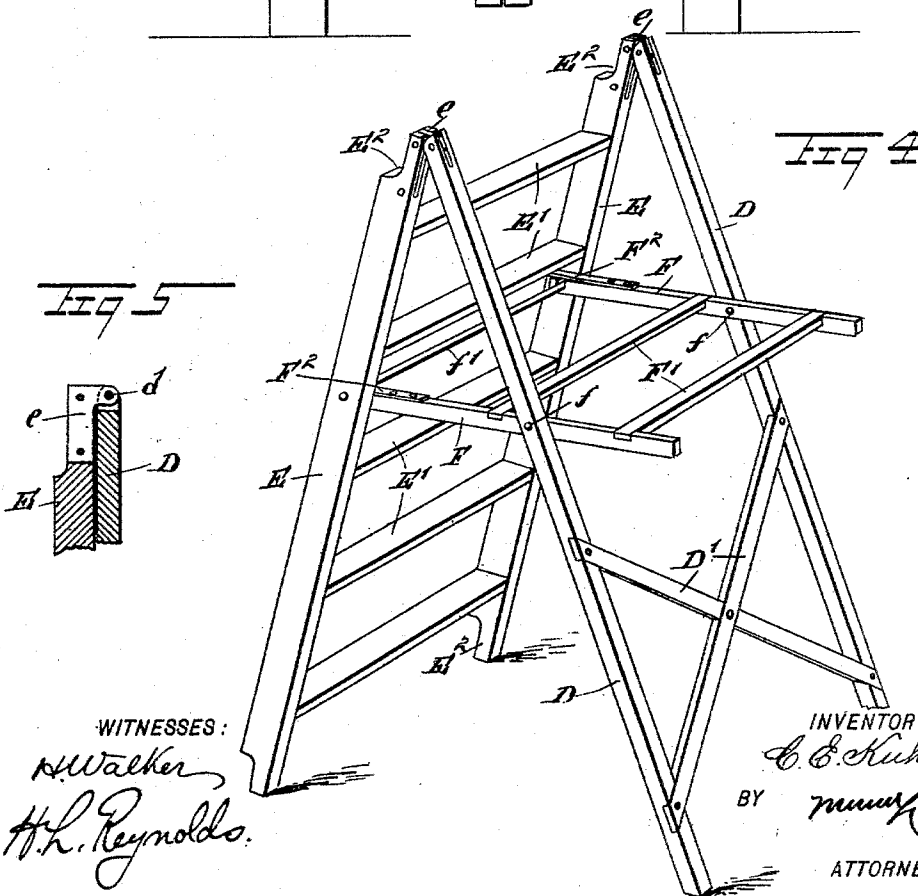
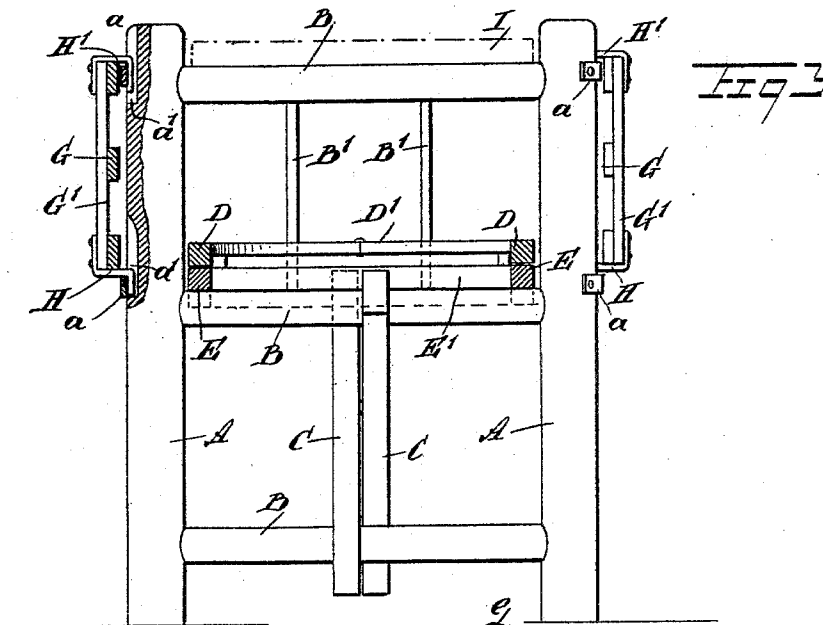
2 Sheets—Sheet 2.

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WITNESSES :

H. Walker,
H. L. Reynolds.

INVENTOR

C. E. Kuhn.

BY

ATTORNEYS.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

CHARLIE E. KUHN, OF JOHNSTOWN, PENNSYLVANIA.

COMBINED ARTICLE OF HOUSEHOLD FURNITURE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 597,989, dated January 25, 1898.

Application filed June 1, 1897. Serial No. 638,952. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, CHARLIE E. KUHN, of Johnstown, in the county of Cambria and State of Pennsylvania, have invented a new and Improved Combined Article of Household Furniture, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description.

My invention relates to an improvement in combination articles of household furniture consisting of a bench adapted to be used to support tubs in washing or for any other purpose, a step-ladder, a child's crib, and a support for an ironing-board or similar article.

The invention consists in the construction and novel arrangement of the various parts and details of the same, as will be hereinafter fully described and then pointed out in the claim.

Reference is to be had to the accompanying drawings, forming a part of this specification, in which similar characters of reference indicate corresponding parts in all the views.

Figure 1 is a longitudinal sectional elevation of the device. Fig. 2 is a top plan view. Fig. 3 is an end view, certain parts being shown in section. Fig. 4 is a perspective view of the step-ladder as used separated from the other parts; and Fig. 5 is a longitudinal section through the pivoted ends of the step-ladder, showing the style of hinge used.

My invention is an improvement upon the device shown in the patent for a combined ironing-board, bench, and ladder, No. 577,693, granted February 23, 1897, to William G. Rodgers and myself. It comprises end pieces and connecting-bars on the braces similar to those shown in said patent, which construction is such as will enable these parts to be folded when desired, as is fully illustrated and described in said patent. This frame consists of the corner-posts A, which are connected in pairs at the end by cross-bars B, three of these cross-bars being shown in each end frame. The two end frames are connected to each other by the diagonal braces C, which are pivotally connected to the bottom cross-bar of one frame and the middle cross-bar of the other, crossing each other at their middle and provided at that point with a locking device.

The locking device shown in the present application consists of a hook C², pivoted to one of

the bars or braces C and hooking into a staple C³ upon the other brace C, this portion of my device being in its general features the same as that shown in the patent above mentioned. The step-ladder which is substituted for the ladder shown and described in said patent is of quite different construction. This ladder consists of two principal side bars E, which are connected by the cross bars or slats E', adapted to form steps for the ladder. The ends of these side bars are notched on one side, as at E², so as to fit securely upon the cross-bars B of the frame. These notches engage the bars and hold the ladder securely in place when it is used as a bench or as the bottom for a child's crib. The upper ends of the side bars E are slotted; and in this slot is fixed a plate e, which has a projecting flange at its outer end, upon which the side bars D of the braces forming the other half of the step-ladder are pivoted, the bars D being connected by the diagonal braces D'. Within the upper ends of the bars D is also pivoted the bucket support or ledge formed by the side bars F and connecting-bars F'. This frame is pivoted at f to the side bars D, and when the ladder is folded lies entirely within and parallel to the side bars D. Upon one end of the side bars F is formed a notch f². A spring-bar F² is fastened to the side of the bar F and covers the notch f², said notch being adapted to engage the rod f', extending between the side bars E of the step-ladder. This arrangement securely holds the bucket-supporting frame in place, preventing its tipping, and also so that it acts as a brace to hold the two parts of the step-ladder at the proper angle.

When folded, the step-ladder occupies the position shown in Figs. 1 and 2, being supported upon the central one of the cross-bars B in the end frames. The parts then form a bench or a bottom when the device is used as a crib. The two upper cross-bars B are connected by vertical slats or bars B', which partially close the opening between the upper and central cross-bars B. This forms a head and foot piece for the crib. The sides of the crib are formed by the side slats, which are composed of the longitudinal bars G and the vertical connecting-bars G'.

The outer side surfaces of the corner-posts are provided with slots a', located one at the

upper end of the post and another at about the level of the ladder when in place. These slots are covered by bars or plates *a*, thus forming sockets for the reception of pins upon the side pieces. The side frames are provided with pins H and H', the former consisting of an S or Z shaped bar fixed to the lower side of the side bars and the latter of a U-shaped bar or pin attached to the upper edge of the side bars. The downwardly-projecting portions of these pins are dropped within the sockets formed by the plates *a*, thus holding the side frames in place. These may be readily removed when it is desired to use the device as a bench or when it is to be folded for stowing out of the way.

The upper cross-bars B of the frame may be used as a support for an ironing-board or any similar purpose. The position of the board is indicated by dotted lines in Figs. 1 and 3 and is represented by the letter I.

When not in use, the sides and ladder may be removed and the ends and braces folded closely together by removing the hook C², thus enabling the device to be stowed away in a very small space.

The sockets used for supporting the side

frames may be of any construction desired. The form shown in the drawings and described herein is a preferred form.

Having thus described my invention, I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent—

An article of manufacture comprising two end frames each having two posts connected by cross-bars or rungs, diagonal braces pivoted thereto and locking to each other, removable sides, attachable to the end frames and a removable slatted bottom comprising two sets of side bars, each set pivoted at one end to the other, one set having rungs or slats thereon, a third frame pivoted intermediate its ends within the side bars of the second set and having side notches formed in its side bars near one end, and a flat spring fixed at one end to the side bars and covering the said notches by their free ends, and a cross-rod upon the first set of side bars adapted to enter said notches, substantially as described.

CHARLIE E. KUHN.

Witnesses:

M. B. STEPHENS,

WILLIAM GEORGE RODGERS.