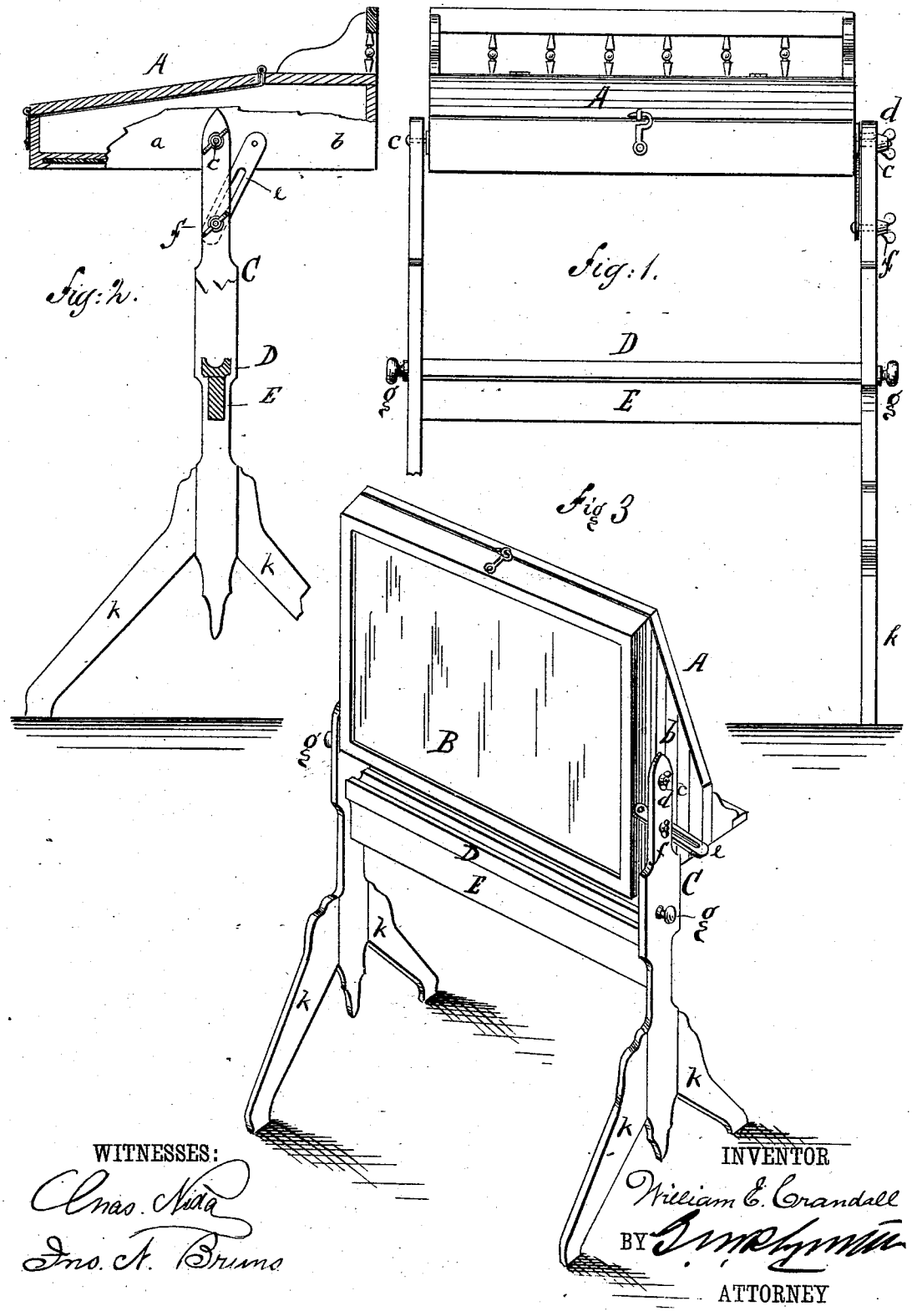
(No Model.)

W. E. CRANDALL.

COMBINED DESK AND BLACKBOARD.

No. 275,598. Patented Apr. 10, 1883.



WITNESSES:

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WILLIAM E. CRANDALL, OF NEW YORK, N. Y.

COMBINED DESK AND BLACKBOARD.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 275,598, dated April 10, 1883.

Application filed February 9, 1883. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM E. CRANDALL, of the city, county, and State of New York, have invented a new and useful Improvement in a Combined Desk and Blackboard; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the same, reference being had to the accompanying sheet of drawings, forming part of this specification.

This invention is in the nature of an improvement in a combined desk and blackboard; and the invention consists in a desk provided with a hinged lid, the bottom of the desk constituting a blackboard, and the sides of the desk pivoted to a suitable support, whereby the desk by turning on pivots may be placed horizontally or vertically, when in the vertical position its bottom exposing a blackboard, all combined and arranged for the purpose hereinafter described.

In the accompanying sheet of drawings, Figure 1 is a front view of my desk in a horizontal position. Fig. 2 is a side view of same, partly in section. Fig. 3 is a perspective view, showing desk in a vertical position for blackboard.

Similar letters of reference indicate like parts in the several figures.

As is well known, the ordinary desk for schools and other purposes are rigidly supported, so that they maintain under all circumstances a horizontal position for the purpose of being written upon. It is also well known that a slate and a blackboard are useful in connection with a desk; but it is believed that heretofore the desk and the blackboard or slate have been separate.

The purpose, therefore, of this invention is to combine with a desk of ordinary size and form a blackboard or slate which will be always ready for use and easily placed in a position most convenient for such use.

To that end I construct my desk of suitable size and material, with the ordinary hinged lid, A, covering a hollow interior, *a*, to receive books, papers, &c. The under side or bottom of the desk is composed of a smooth level surface covered with a suitable paint and varnish, or a silicated surface, forming thereby a blackboard, B, which may be written upon with chalk or pencil. The sides *b* of the desk are pivoted to standards C by pivots *c* with thumb-nuts *d*, and also to the sides of the desk and the standards C is pivoted one or more slotted stop-plates, *e*, also having thumb-nuts *f*; also to the standards C, immediately below the desk, is removably placed a chalk-trough, D, and a brace-bar, E. This brace-bar and chalk-trough are held in place by screws and screw-heads *g*. The standards C may have fixed to their lower ends suitable legs, *k*.

Now, when my desk is constructed substantially as hereinbefore described it is held in its horizontal position and to the standards C by its pivots *c* and the thumb-nuts *d* of the pivots and the thumb-nut *f* of the slotted stop *e*, for when these nuts are tightly screwed up the uprights C are brought closely in contact with the sides *b* of the desk, and the slotted stop *e* is firmly clamped in the position shown in Fig. 1, which enables it to act not only as a stop, but as a brace also, to keep the desk in its horizontal position. In this horizontal position the desk is used in the manner the desks are ordinarily used; but when the thumb-nut *d* and the nuts of the slotted stop-bars *e* are slackened the desk may be turned on its pivots until the bottom of the desk or the blackboard B assumes a vertical position, as shown in Fig. 3, in which position it is held by simply screwing up the thumb-nuts *f* of the slotted stop-bar *e*, and in which position it can be employed as an ordinary blackboard or slate. The chalk or pencils to be used in connection with this blackboard may be kept in the chalk-trough D when not in use. The blackboard in this way made may be covered with a figure of any desired problem or sketch, and when the desk is again placed in its horizontal position for use as such the figure or sketch will be in position to be preserved from accidental blurring or rubbing out. It may therefore remain for any length of time undisturbed and always ready for reference.

As will be readily seen, the adjustable features of my desk enable it to be put in a posion so that it will occupy but very little space in a room, for when the desk is turned from its horizontal to its vertical position it can be placed closely against the walls of a room, or several rows of desks in such position can be placed closely against each other and occupy

but little more room than the depth of the desk itself.

Another advantage to be found in the construction of my desk is that by reason of the thumb-nuts and the screw-heads *g* it is removably attached to the uprights C, so that when these thumb-nuts and screw-heads are removed or unscrewed the desk is instantly separated from the uprights C, and the uprights from each other and from the cross-bar and chalk-trough. These several parts can then be placed closely together, and therefore occupying but little more room than would a single part. This "knockdown" feature, as it is termed, is of great value when the desks are to be shipped in quantities, since a considerable saving of freight is effected in the reduction of the bulk of the desk and its parts.

The lid of the desk may be provided with a hook or lock, as desired, to keep it closed when the position of the desk is reversed.

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

The uprights C, braced transversely, and provided with a chalk-trough, D, combined with the desk having the lid A, interior *a*, blackboard bottom B, pivots *c*, thumb-nuts *d*, slotted braces *e*, and thumb-nuts *f*, substantially as and for the purpose specified.

WM. E. CRANDALL.

Witnesses:
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