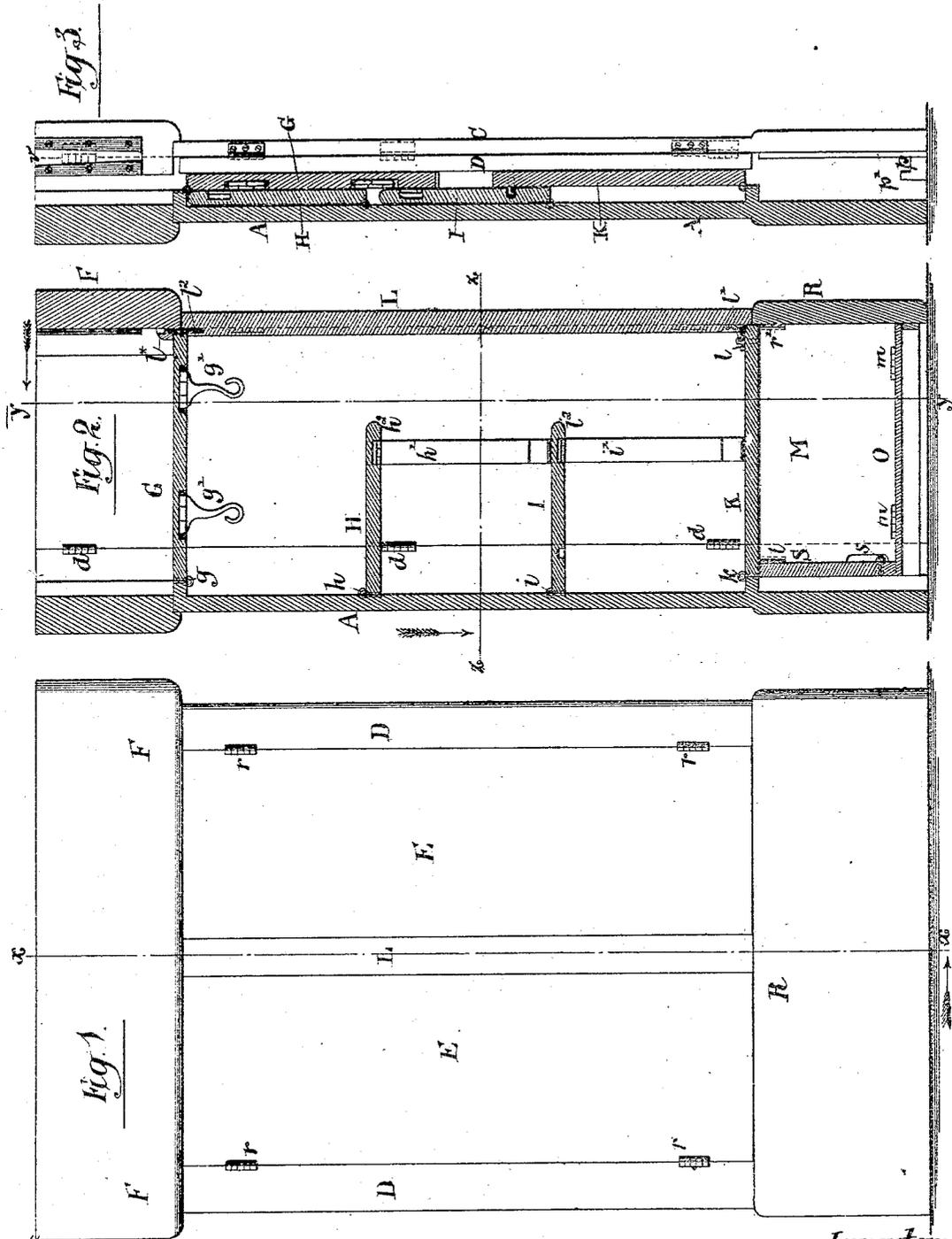


L. F. DEMING.  
FOLDING CABINET FURNITURE.

No. 321,586.

Patented July 7, 1885



*Witnesses:*  
 Louis M. Whitehead.  
 C. Sundgren

*Inventor:*  
 L. F. Deming  
 By his attorney,  
 Brown & Bell

(No Model.)

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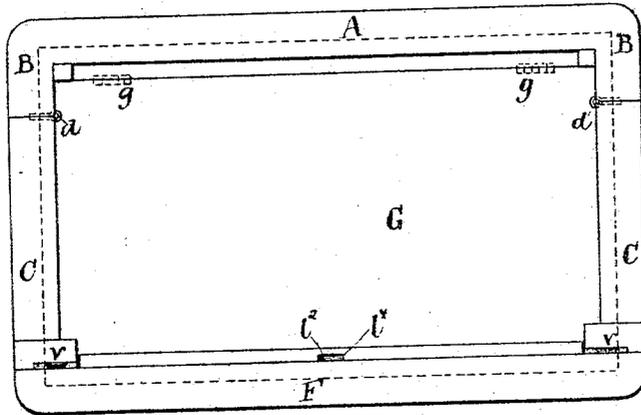
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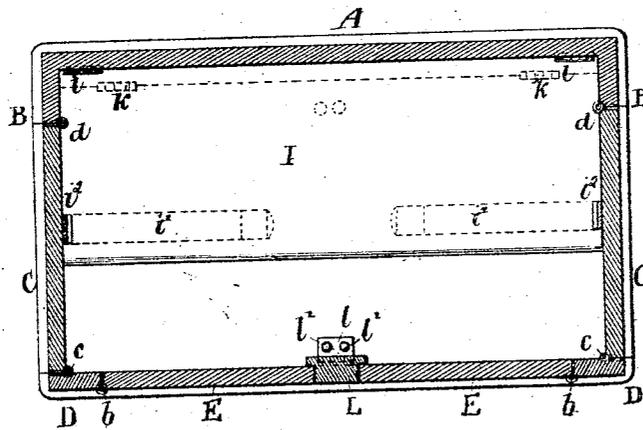
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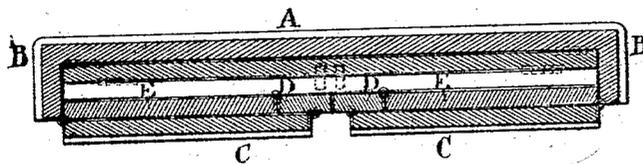
*Fig. 4*



*Fig. 5*



*Fig. 6*



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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

LYSANDER F. DEMING, OF NEW YORK, N. Y.

## FOLDING CABINET-FURNITURE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 321,586, dated July 7, 1885.

Application filed November 10, 1884. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, LYSANDER F. DEMING, of the city and county of New York, in the State of New York, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Folding Cabinet-Furniture, of which the following is a specification, reference being had to the accompanying drawings.

The invention is applicable especially to wardrobes and book-cases, but also applicable, in whole or in part, to sideboards, chiffoniers, and other cabinets.

The invention consists in certain combinations of the several parts of such a piece of furniture, as hereinafter described, whereby, while provision is afforded for folding it into a compact form for transportation or storage, it may be easily and quickly set up in a substantial manner for use.

The accompanying drawings represent a wardrobe, which serves as well as any other piece of furniture to illustrate my invention, as it embodies all the features thereof.

Figure 1 is a view in front elevation of a wardrobe constructed according to my invention. Fig. 2 is a vertical sectional view of the same on the line  $xx$  of Fig. 1. Fig. 3 is a view of the same on the same section-line, but showing the various parts folded together. Fig. 4 is a top view of the wardrobe extended for use. Fig. 5 is a horizontal sectional view of the same on the line  $zz$  of Fig. 2. Fig. 6 is a view on the same sectional line, showing the various parts folded together. Fig. 7 is a vertical sectional view of the same, taken upon the line  $yy$  of Fig. 2 and parallel to the back and front. Fig. 8 is a perspective view of the drawer, showing it as extended for use, and having the back partly broken away to show more clearly the construction and arrangement of the parts. Fig. 9 is a transverse sectional view of the same drawer, showing the various parts thereof folded together.

A designates the back, composed of a main piece reaching across the back of the wardrobe, and the stiles B B which are rigidly attached to the edges of the main back piece, so that they stand at right angles to its surface and lengthwise along the edges. This part may be otherwise constructed in any suitable manner to give it rigidity and strength.

To the front edges of these stiles B B are

hinged by hinges  $d d$  the folding side pieces C C. To the front edges of these folding pieces are hinged by hinges  $c c$  the upright door-stiles D D. To these door-stiles are hinged by hinges  $b b$  the doors E E.

Reaching across the upper part of the front of the wardrobe, and above the doors, is a strong rigid horizontal brace, F. (Shown in Figs. 1, 2, and 4.) This brace engages the top of one of the folding side pieces, C C, with each end, so as to hold each piece firmly in position. In the example given this engagement is made by a dovetail,  $v$ , as shown in Fig. 4.

At the upper end of the wardrobe, and hinged by hinges  $g g$  to the rigid back A, is a top piece, G, which consists of a board of such a shape and size as that its edges will conform to the interior of the wardrobe, and that it will entirely close the upper part thereof. This top piece is so hinged that when free it is capable of being folded downward and backward, toward and parallel to the rigid back A, as shown in Fig. 3. A bottom piece, K, is also hinged to the back by hinges  $k k$ , which are at a convenient distance from the bottom. This bottom piece is constructed of such shape and size that its edges conform to the interior of the wardrobe, entirely closing the bottom thereof. It is capable of being folded upward and backward, toward and parallel to the back A. Between this top piece and this bottom piece are placed any convenient number of shelves, as H I, at proper distances apart. These shelves are hinged to the rigid back A by hinges  $h h i i$ , so that they are capable of being folded down close against the back, as shown in Figs. 3 and 6. To keep these shelves up in position for use, they are provided with props or supports  $k' k' i' i'$ , which are hinged to the shelves by hinges  $h' h' i' i'$ , and are capable of being folded each into a recess or cavity at the bottom of its respective shelf, as at  $j$ , so that their outer faces will be flush with the under surfaces of the shelves. Convenient hooks for hanging garments, as  $g' g'$ , are hinged to the lower surface of the top piece G, and so constructed and applied that they are capable of being folded into recesses or cavities at  $g'' g''$  in the bottom of said top piece, G.

To provide a stop for the doors to close

against, and also to afford facility for fastening the doors, an upright central post or stile, L, is interposed between the top piece, G, and the bottom piece, K, at the middle of the front of the wardrobe. This central post or stile is removable. It may be held in its place in any convenient way. In the example given it is held at the top by a tenon passing into a mortise partly in the front edge of the top piece, G, and partly in the interior of the brace F, and at the bottom by a hinged foot-piece, *l*, adapted to the pins *l' l'*, which are fastened in the bottom piece, K, as illustrated in Figs. 2 and 5.

The wardrobe illustrated is provided with a drawer—such as is separately shown in Figs. 8 and 9—and which slips under the bottom piece, K, as shown in Figs. 2 and 7, the doors only extending downward to this bottom piece, and the drawer-front forming the front of the bottom part of the wardrobe.

O designates the bottom part of the drawer, to which the ends M M are hinged by hinges *m m*, so that they are capable of being folded down upon said bottom. The back S is hinged by hinges *s s* to a strip, *w*, rigidly secured along the back of the bottom O, and is capable of being folded down upon the ends M M when they are folded upon the bottom. The drawer-front R is so hinged by hinges *r r* to side strips, *v*, rigidly secured on the bottom, that it is capable of being folded down upon the ends M M when the latter lie on the bottom O. The sides, back, and front of the drawer are held in upright position by the catch-plates *t r' r'*, which may be of any convenient construction.

At the bottom of each of the folding side pieces, C C, is placed a grooved rail, *p'*, which forms on the inside of the bottom of each of said pieces C C a tongue-and-groove guide, *p*. Adapted to work in and upon these guides are similar tongue and groove guides, Q Q', attached to the bottom of the drawer, so that when the drawer is in its place in the wardrobe the tongues and grooves not only guide the drawer in its movement in and out, but also make the drawer act as a brace to hold the lower part of the said side pieces, C C, in place.

When the various parts of my invention are arranged extended, as illustrated in Figs. 1, 2, 4, 5, 7, and 8, it may be used as a common wardrobe. To fold this wardrobe for storage, transportation, and the like, the drawer is removed; next the brace F is taken out; then the central post or stile, L, is removed; then the shelves H I are folded against the back and their supports *h' h' i' i'* folded into the recesses or cavities *j*; then the top and bottom pieces, G and K, are folded backward upon the shelves; next the stiles D D, with the doors attached, are folded inward against the side pieces, C C; and, lastly, the said side pieces, the said stiles, and the doors are all folded against the top and bottom pieces, G and K, the parts then assuming the positions illus-

trated in Figs. 3 and 6. The ends M M of the drawer, being loosened from the catch plates *t r' r'*, are first folded upon the bottom O. The back S is next folded upon them. Lastly, the front R is folded down upon them. The various parts of the drawer then assume the positions illustrated in Fig. 9. Thus the body of the wardrobe and the drawer may both be folded into a narrow compass, so that they will occupy comparatively but little room both in storage and transportation.

It is obvious that these improvements not only apply to wardrobes, but also to all similar articles of furniture.

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

1. The combination of the rigid back A, the bottom piece, K, hinged to the said back to fold upward, the top piece, G, hinged to said back to fold downward, the side pieces, C C, hinged to the said back to fold inward and backward toward the said top and bottom pieces, and the door-stiles D D, hinged to the said side pieces to fold inward between them, and the top and bottom pieces, substantially as herein described.

2. The combination of the rigid back A, the shelves H I, hinged to said back to fold upward close against the same, the top piece, G, hinged to said back to fold downward upon the folded shelves, the bottom piece, K, hinged to said back to fold upward upon the folded shelves, side pieces, C C, hinged to the back to fold inward and backward toward the top and bottom pieces, and the door-stiles D D hinged to said side pieces to fold inward between them and the top and bottom pieces, substantially as herein described.

3. The combination of the rigid back A, the bottom piece, K, hinged to said back to fold upward, the top piece, G, hinged to said back to fold downward, the side pieces, C C, hinged to said back to fold inward and backward toward the top and bottom pieces, the rigid front brace, F, detachably connected with said side pieces at the top thereof, and the door-stiles D D hinged to said side pieces to fold inward between them and the top and bottom pieces, substantially as herein described.

4. The combination, with the rigid back A, the side pieces, C C, and top and bottom pieces, G K, hinged thereto, and the front brace, F, engaging the side pieces of the central upright post or stile, L, between the bottom piece, K, and the top piece, G, and brace F, substantially as herein described.

5. The combination, with the back piece, A, and hinged folding side pieces, C C, of a drawer, the bottom of which engages by tongue-and-groove guides with the said side pieces and serves to brace the lower part of the latter, substantially as herein described.

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Witnesses:

C. HALL,

FREDK. HAYNES.