

D. I. Stagg,

School Furniture,

N^o 40,289.

Patented Oct. 13, 1863.

Fig. 1.

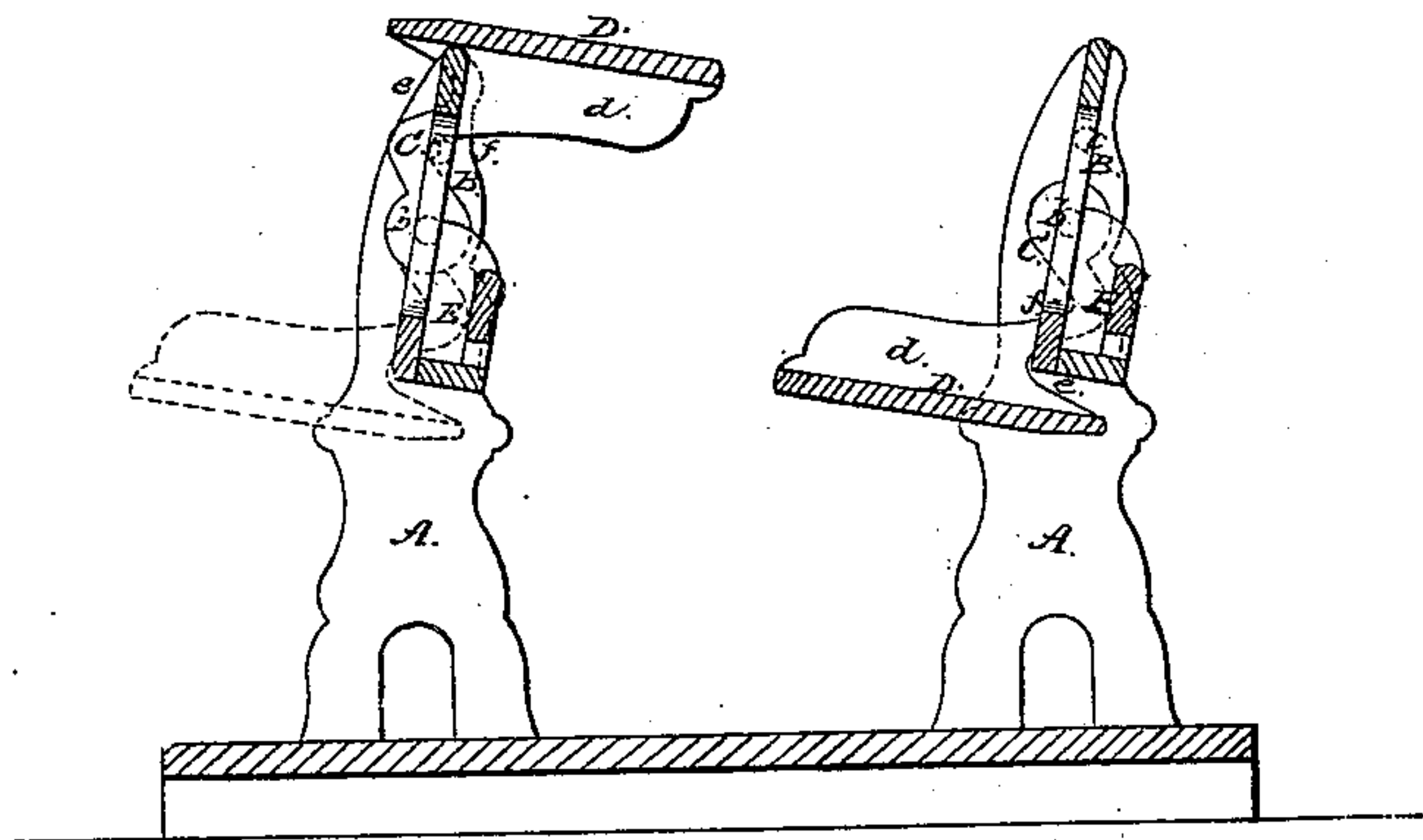


Fig. 2.

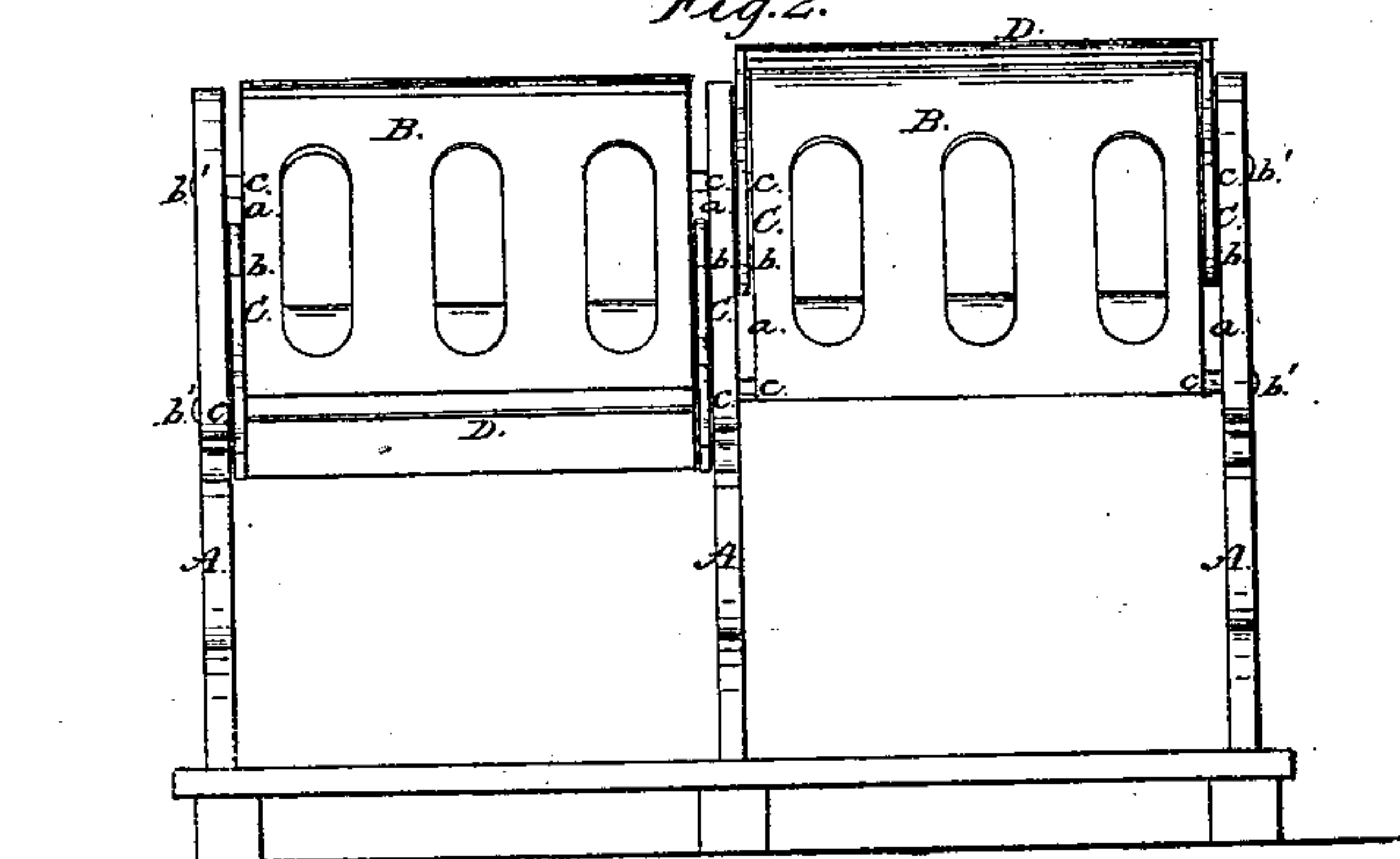
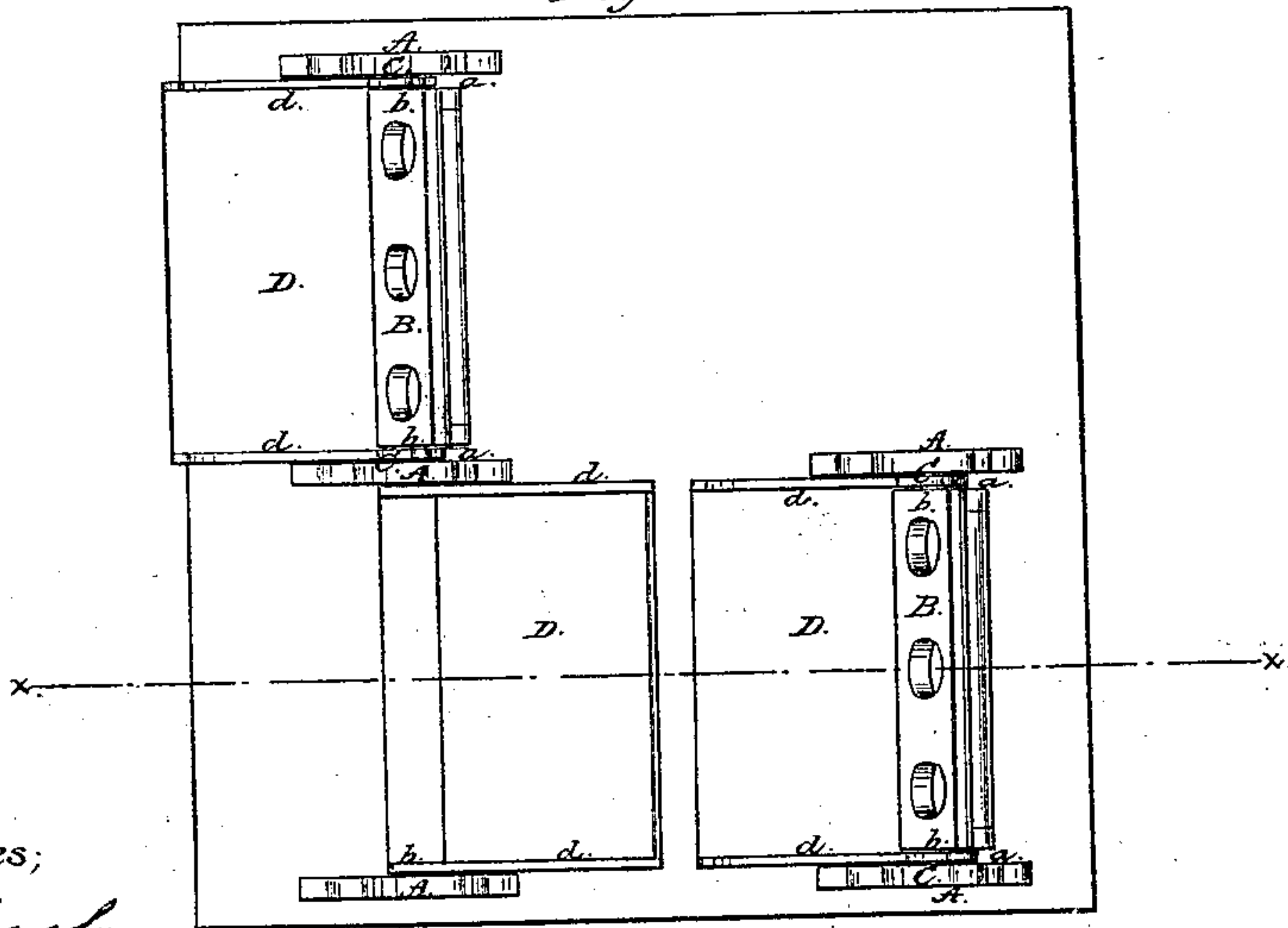


Fig. 3.



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DAVID I. STAGG, OF NEW YORK, N. Y.

IMPROVED SCHOOL SEAT AND DESK.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 40,289, dated October 13, 1863.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, D. I. STAGG, of the city, county, and State of New York, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Seats and Desks for the Use of Schools and for other Purposes; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description of the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, making a part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 is a side sectional view of my invention, taken in the line *xx*, Fig. 3; Fig. 2, front of the same; Fig. 3, a plan or top view of the same.

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

The average width of a school-desk is about fourteen (14) inches; in no case need they exceed sixteen (16) inches, while ten or twelve (10 or 12) inches is the average width of a school-seat. Hence it will be seen that, if no provision were made to vary the width of the seat, the latter would, if made of the proper width for a seat, be too narrow for a desk, and if made sufficiently wide for a desk be too wide for a seat, so much so as to prevent the occupant from obtaining any advantage of the back of the settee. My invention is designed to obviate this difficulty, and at the same time admit of a ready adjustment of the seat and desk with ample space between the rows of settees for passage-ways, ventilation, &c.

To enable those skilled in the art to fully understand and construct my invention, I will proceed to describe it.

A represents upright supports, which form the sides of the settees; and B are boards secured between the upper parts of the supports, and forming the backs of the settees, said backs being slightly inclined from a vertical position, as shown in Fig. 1, and perforated, if desired, to admit of proper ventilation. The ends of the backs B are not in contact with the upright supports. A space, *a*, is allowed at each end, as shown in Figs. 2 and 3, to receive arms C. These arms C may be of metal, cast or wrought, and they are of curved form, as shown in Fig. 1, and are secured to the inner sides of the supports A by screws or pivots *b*.

The backs B are secured between the sup-

ports A by screws or pins *b'*, which pass through the supports and into bearings or projections *c* at the ends of the backs, said bearings admitting of the spaces *a* being allowed between the ends of the backs and the supports, and also serving as stops for the arms C, as will be presently described.

The outer ends of the arms C terminate in plates *d*, which project at about right angles from C, and between which boards D are secured, which form the seats and desks. These boards are of sufficient width to serve as desks—say from fourteen to sixteen (14 to 16) inches.

These arms C have a curve similar to that of the letter S, and the back or inner ends of the arms have recesses *e* made in them, as shown clearly in Fig. 1, and these recesses admit of the back parts of the boards D projecting underneath the backs B when the arms C are turned down and the boards D are used as seats. By this arrangement it will be seen that the board D is virtually reduced in width, so as to make a proper seat or one of such width, that the back B may be used as a support or rest for the back of the occupant of the seat—a result which could not be obtained if the whole of the board D projected in front of the back and the occupant of the seat had his feet upon the floor.

When the board D is used as a seat, the lower projections, *c*, serve as stops to retain it in proper position. In order to convert the board or seat into a desk, it is turned upward and over the top of the back B, the concave parts *f* of the arms C bearing against the upper stops, *c*, as shown in Fig. 1. In this position the whole width of the board C is rendered available as a desk.

The settees are placed in rows at a suitable distance apart, one row having boards C adjusted as seats, and the row immediately in front having its boards adjusted as desks. By this arrangement all of the settees may be used with seats when desks are not required.

By having the seats and desks supported in position as described I avoid all extensions on the supports A, and consequently an ample space is allowed for passage ways between the rows of settees. The arms C also may be attached to both sides of the supports A, and consequently three supports will answer for

two settees, but one central support being required. A considerable saving is thereby effected in the construction.

Racks E may be applied to the backs of the settees to receive books, slates, &c.

I do not claim, broadly, the attaching a seat to a settee so that the seat may be turned upward and over the back of the settee to form a desk, as this has before been done; but

I do claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent—

The arrangement of the seat-desk board D, with the arms C, plates d, and back B, in the manner herein shown and described, so that when the board D is turned down for a seat, its inner edge will pass under the back B, all as set forth, for the purposes specified.

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Witnesses:

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