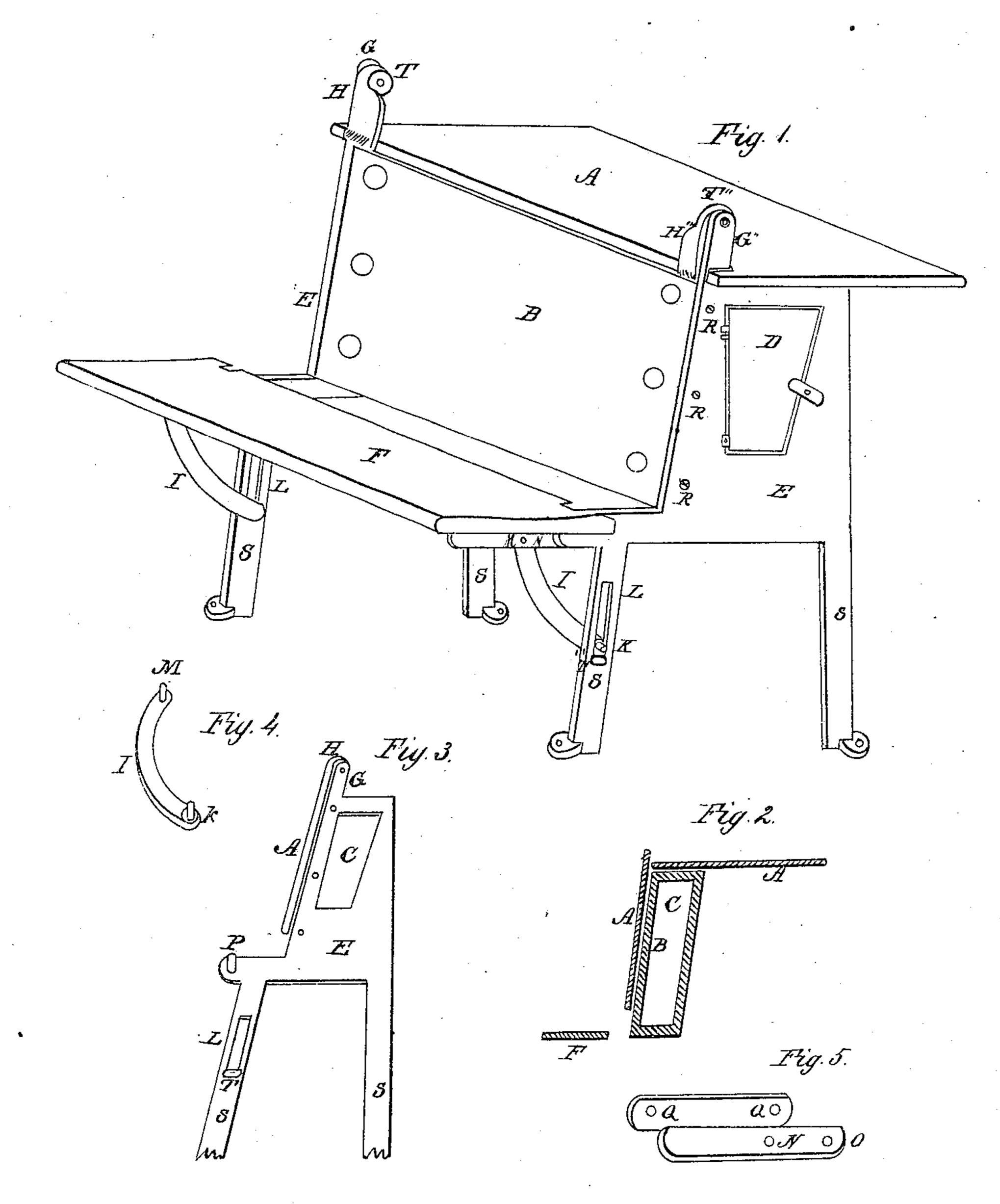
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## Anited States Patent Office.

### WILLIAM P. ERWIN AND THOMAS A. DUGDALE, OF RICHMOND, INDIANA.

Letters Patent No. 100,275, dated March 1, 1870.

#### IMPROVED SCHOOL-DESK.

The Schedule referred to in these Letters Patent and making part of the same

We, WILLIAM P. ERWIN and THOMAS A. DUG-DALE, of the city of Richmond, county of Wayne, and State of Indiana, have invented certain Improvements in School-Desks and Seats, of which the following is a specification.

#### Nature and Object of the Invention

The nature of our invention consists in constructing a school-desk and seat in such a manner that the seat and desk may both be folded out of the way, and at the same time have a receptacle for books, which is effected by means of certain devices, the connection of which is hereafter fully described.

The object of our invention is to produce a schooldesk which, while it may be folded out of the way of sweeping, can be afforded to the public at a cheaper rate than folding-desks have heretofore been produced.

Description of the Accompanying Drawings.

Figure 1 is a perspective view of our school-desk embodying our invention.

Figure 2 is a section of our school-desk cut off in

the middle vertically.

Figure 3 is an end view of our school-desk with the door omitted and the feet off.

Figure 4 is a view of a vibrating brace.

Figure 5 is a piece with a flange attached, which is screwed on to the bottom of the seat, and provided with holes, in which pins are inserted for the purposes of vibration, there being another similarly constructed piece with the pins reversed.

#### General Description.

The same letters refer to corresponding parts in the

several figures.

A is a board forming the top of the desk, and hinged to pieces projecting above the main end pieces E a sufficient height to admit of the board A being turned down in front of the back board B.

B is a back board.

C is a receptacle nearly vertical for books, which should be made narrowest at the bottom to be out of the way of the knees.

D is a door at the end of the receptacle C, there

being a corresponding door at the other end.

A door may also be placed at the back of the receptacle C.

EE" are end pieces, made of cast-iron, with legs cast solid on them.

F is the seat.

G G" are pieces projecting upward at the top of the end pieces E and at the front edge, to which is hinged the board A.

H H" are straps forming part of the hinges T T".

I I" are vibrating braces.

K is a pin at the bottom end of each of the vibrating braces I.

L L' are slots in the front legs S S".

M is a pin with which each of the braces I is provided.

N is a hole in the piece that supports the seat, there being two of those pieces, as shown at fig. 5, each piece having a similar hole, in which the pins M are inserted.

O is a hole to fit on the pin P, there being a corre-

sponding hole and pin which are not shown.

P is a pin.

Q Q" are holes to screw the piece on to the seat. RR R are screws by which the end pieces E are secured to the back board B.

SSSS are legs.

T T", hinges.

T" is a flexible substance at the bottom of slots L.

#### Construction and Operation.

The metallic portion may all be made of cast-iron, except the screws, which are wrought-iron.

The height and width are made about as other

school-desks, to suit the size of the children.

The wood-work is made of ash or walnut lumber one inch thick, though the receptacle C may be made of thinner lumber than one inch—three-quarters thick will answer—and should be put together with wood screws.

By raising the top board A, it will turn on its hinges T, and may be laid down on and in front of the back board B, when the seat F may be turned up

against it.

The books being inclosed in the receptacle C, they are out of the way of dust while the operation of sweeping the floor is being performed, which is not the case with other folding-desks, as we are aware of; and when an audience is seated and the desk is not required for study, the board A may remain in the position just described in front of the back board B.

The flexible piece T''' is made of gum-elastic.

The seat may be turned down and occupied, when the back of the person seated is supported by the board A, while the board A is out of the way, so that persons may pass without obstruction between the desks and seats.

We are aware that school-desks have been made to fold out of the way, therefore we do not claim a folding-desk.

Neither do we claim the brace I in combination

with the seat F.

Neither do we claim the manner of securing the

castings to the back board B, as that may be done by any of the ordinary means.

Neither do we claim hinging the top merely for the purpose of raising.

#### Claim.

We claim constructing a school-desk and seat by means of the folding top A, hinges H, receptacle C, end pieces E, slot L in the front legs S, and

the vibrating brace I, flexible pieces T", and seat F, the whole being arranged and operated as above described.

WILLIAM P. ERWIN. THOS. A. DUGDALE.

Witnesses:

LEE J. TEMPLETON, JAMES M. HAYS.