

United States Patent Office.

HENRY E. GILLET, OF OSWEGO, NEW YORK, ASSIGNOR TO HIMSELF AND
E. BICKFORD, OF SAME PLACE.

Letters Patent No. 102,249, dated April 26, 1870.

IMPROVED FOLDING DESK.

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

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, HENRY E. GILLET, of Oswego, in the county of Oswego and State of New York, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Folding Desks.

I am aware that folding desks have been arranged with their supporting-braces jointed and pivoted to the standard and to the desk-arm, but in all such desk-arms there is a vibratory or jarring motion vertically, when the desk is in position for use.

This invention is designed to furnish a new and more simple means for supporting a folding desk, which will make a folding writing-lid perfectly stable and as rigid as though the desk-arms, which are of metal, were cast entire with the standard or end support of the desk, thus affording a substantial and solid lid for writing or drawing on, and at the same time to afford a simple and effective means for folding the desk down when it is desired to do so; and I hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description thereof, which will enable others skilled in the art to make and use the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings forming a part of this specification.

Figure 1 represents an end elevation of a desk-standard, with the writing-lid arm and its supporting-brace constructed according to my improvement.

Figure 2 is a sectional elevation of the standard, showing the pivot of the writing-lid arm B and a projecting knob, I, thereon, and the pivot of the brace C; also a short section of a rod or shaft, D, which may extend entirely across the desk in the direction of its length from one standard or end support to the other standard or end support.

Similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts.

A represents the standard or end support.

B, the arm or support of writing-lid.

C, the brace supporting the arm.

D, the rod or shaft to which the brace may be attached.

The arm B is pivoted at the top to the standard A in the usual manner, and is formed with the curved projecting rib or flange E on the inner side, which rests on the upper end of the brace C when in position for use.

The brace C is pivoted at its lower end to the stand-

ard A, and when it is desired to raise the desk-lid into position for use, to obviate any necessity for taking hold of the brace with the hands, to bring it forward into position for supporting the arm, I provide the projecting knob H on the arm B, which engages the brace C and brings it forward into position for a support to the desk by the act of raising the desk; and to prevent the arm from being raised above the required height a projecting knob, I, on the side of the arm next to the standard, engages with a ledge or flange made for the purpose on the standard A.

The brace C being placed in connection with the fullest part of the rib or flange E, when the arm is raised into position for use, effectually prevents any rattling or shaking of the desk, and makes it perfectly rigid and firm.

When it is desired to fold the desk down, the upper end of the brace is moved back from its resting place on the rib E, and the arm can then be folded down.

As these desks are sometimes made of considerable length, rendering it inconvenient for one person to move both braces at once to fold the desk down, I have arranged the braces on a rod or shaft, which may be of such length as to reach from one standard or end support of a desk to the opposite standard or end support of the same desk, so that moving one brace at either end of a desk shall turn the rod or shaft, and thus move the brace at the opposite end of the desk simultaneously, whereby one person may fold down desks of any length.

Having thus described my invention,

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

1. The combination with the standard A and the arm B, whereon is the guiding-rib or flange E, the knob H, and the stop I of the brace C, all arranged as described and for the purpose specified.

2. The combination with the brace C and the end support A of the rod or shaft D, for the purpose specified.

The foregoing specification of my said invention signed and witnessed at Oswego, this 23d day of March, A. D. 1870.

H. E. GILLET.

Witnesses:

E. BICKFORD,

A. R. STEVENS.