

S. C. RIPLEY.

Improvement in Adjustable Desks for Chairs.&c.

No. 132,494.

FIG. 1.

Patented Oct. 22, 1872.

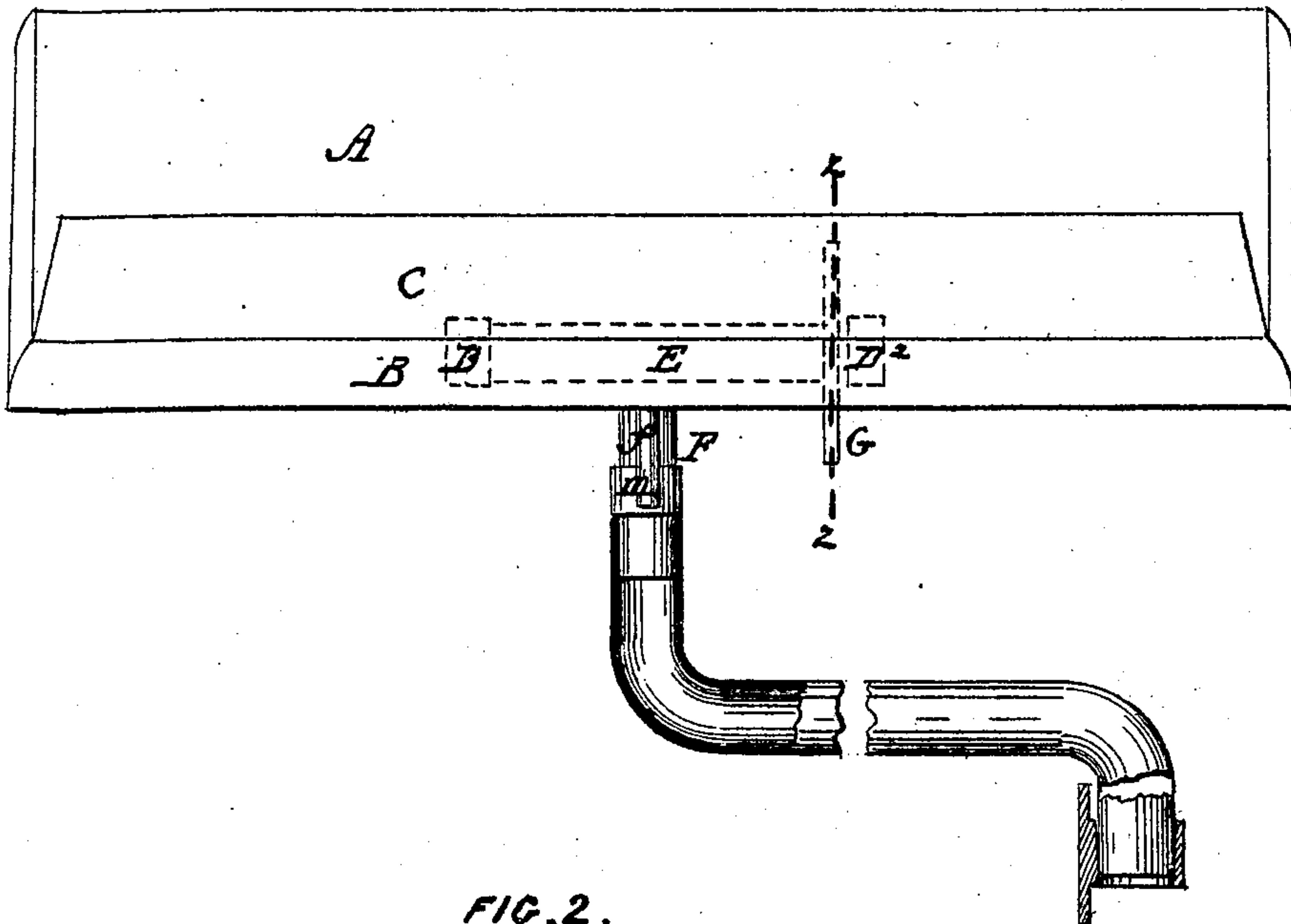


FIG. 2.

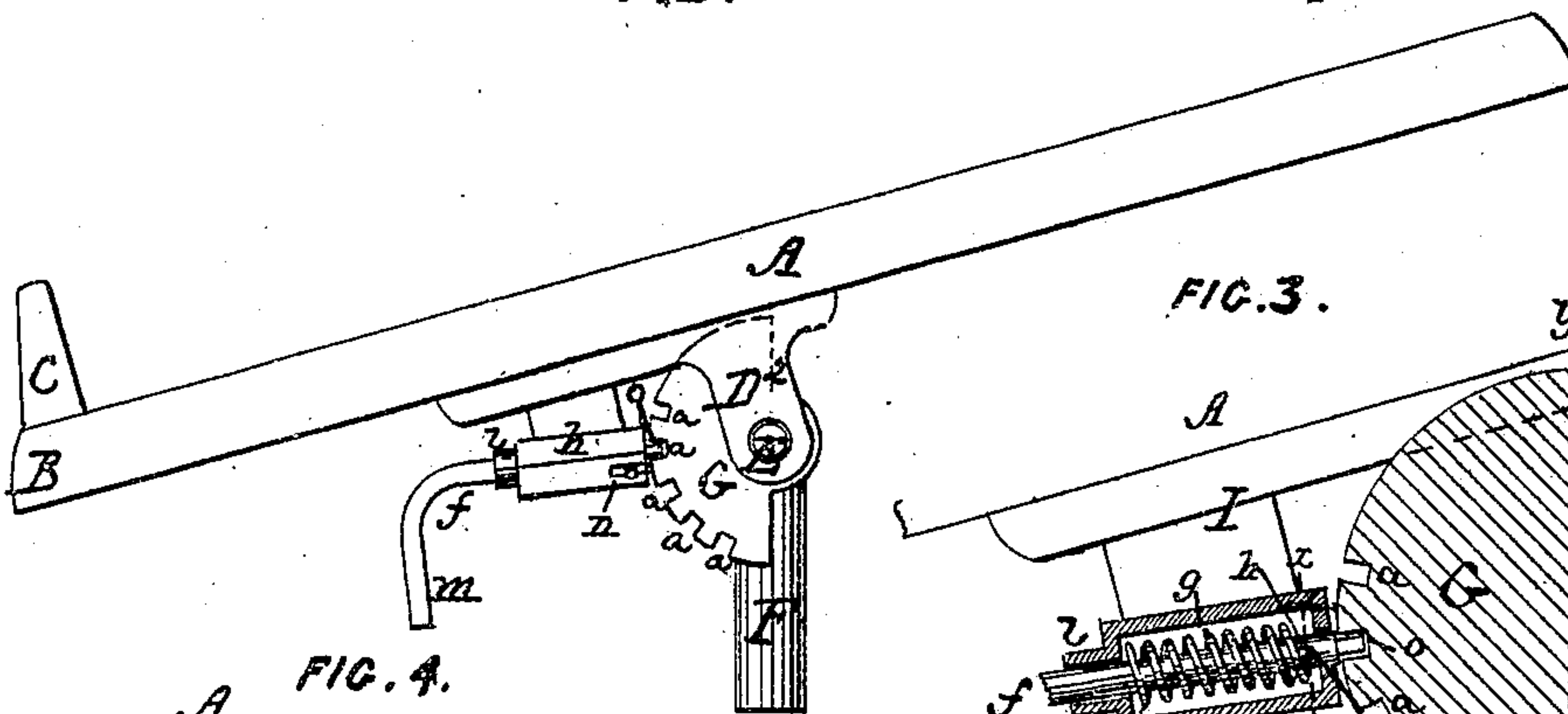


FIG. 3.

FIG. 4.

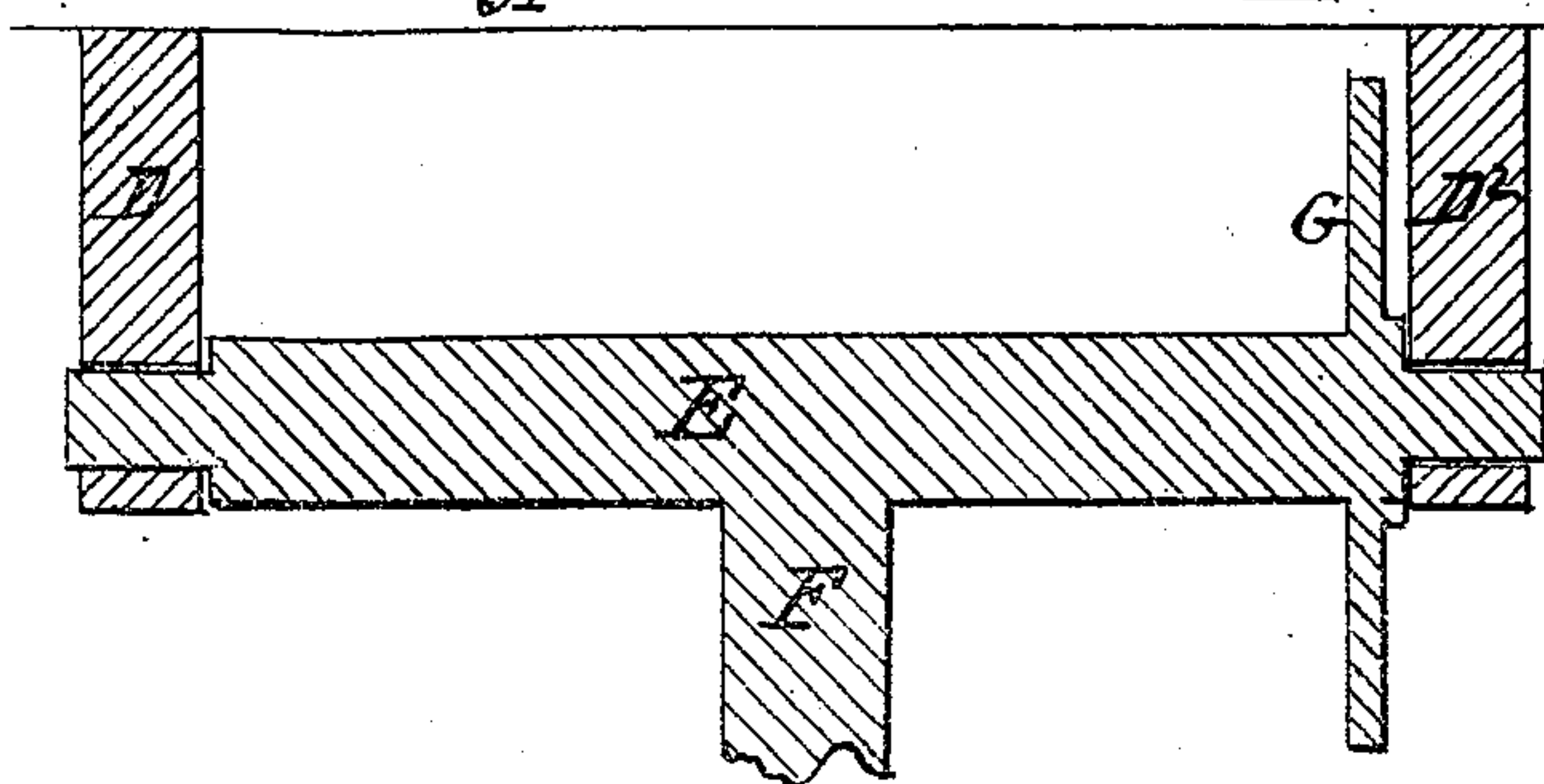


FIG. 5.



WITNESSES.

*H. B. Wentworth*  
*Robert Morris Jr.*

INVENTOR.

*Sewall C. Ripley per*  
*Brown Brothers*  
*Attorneys*



# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

SEWALL C. RIPLEY, OF PORTLAND, MAINE.

## IMPROVEMENT IN ADJUSTABLE DESKS FOR CHAIRS, &c.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **132,494**, dated October 22, 1872.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, SEWALL C. RIPLEY, of Portland, in the county of Cumberland and State of Maine, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Adjustable Desks for Chairs, &c.; and that the following description, taken in connection with the accompanying plate of drawing, is a full and complete specification of the same.

This invention relates to desks for chairs, &c., arranged for adjustment at varying angles of inclination; and it consists of parts arranged upon or applied to the under side of the desk-board, and constructed to adjust it as desired and for attachment to the chair-frame so as to turn horizontally thereon, as will be hereinafter described.

In the accompanying plate of drawing my improvement in adjustable desks for chairs, &c., is illustrated, Figure 1 being a front view of a desk at an angle of inclination; Fig. 2, a side view; Fig. 3, a section on line *z z*, Fig. 1; Fig. 4, a section on line *y y*, Fig. 3; and Fig. 5, a section on line *x x*, Fig. 3.

A in the drawing represents a desk-board, made in the present instance of a square shape, and along its front edge B with a projecting strip, C, having swinging staples as ordinarily in this class of chair-desks; D D<sup>2</sup>, two standards or blocks fastened in parallel positions to the under side of the desk-board A and at or near its central portion; E, a shaft, arranged to turn at each end in the standards D D<sup>2</sup>, its axis being parallel to the desk-board. This shaft E, midway between its bearings, has a radially-projecting arm or pintle, F, that may be either attached to or made of one and the same piece of metal therewith. G, a sector-wheel near one end of shaft E, and inside of its standard D<sup>2</sup> at such end. This sector-wheel G has a series of notches, *a*, in its periphery or edge. These notches *a* may be either at equal or unequal distances apart. H, a cylinder, firmly fixed to extension I of the standard D<sup>2</sup>, and arranged by its central axis radially to the wheel G, with one end in

close proximity to the wheel's periphery and of itself in direction at an acute angle to the under side of the desk A, as shown. Within cylinder H is arranged a stem or rod, *f*, surrounded by a spring, *g*, which is confined from escape at one end by a cross-pin, *h*, of the rod *f*, and by its other end against and by a head, *l*, to the cylinder. The stem *f* passes through the head *l* and terminates in a handle, *m*, and by its cross-pin *h* it is guided in longitudinal slots *n* of the cylinder, one slot diametrically opposite to the other. The stem *f*, by its end *o*, engages with the notches *a* of the sector-wheel G, and its arrangement is such that the spring *g* tends to hold it so engaged until, by pulling it outward, it is released therefrom—that is, the notches of the wheel. When a desk of the construction described is secured to a chair by its pintle F it is arranged through a bent arm, as ordinarily, within a socket fastened to the chair-arm, and as shown in Fig. 1, the desk being free to be swung around horizontally, its pintle F being the center or axis of such rotation.

By the construction and arrangement of parts upon the under side of a desk, A, herein described, it is obvious, first, that the desk can be adjusted readily to varying angles of inclination; and, second, that whatever its aforesaid adjustment it is most firmly and rigidly held, and in a manner capable of successfully resisting and withstanding heavy strains to move or disturb it in the slightest degree.

Having thus described my invention, I shall state my claim as follows:

The desk A provided with standards D D<sup>2</sup>, carrying a shaft, E, having pintle F and notch *a*, sector-wheel G, in combination with spring-stem *f*, applied for action, as and for the purpose described.

The above specification signed by me this 1st day of October, A. D. 1872.

S. C. RIPLEY.

Witnesses:

EDWIN W. BROWN,  
ALBERT W. BROWN.