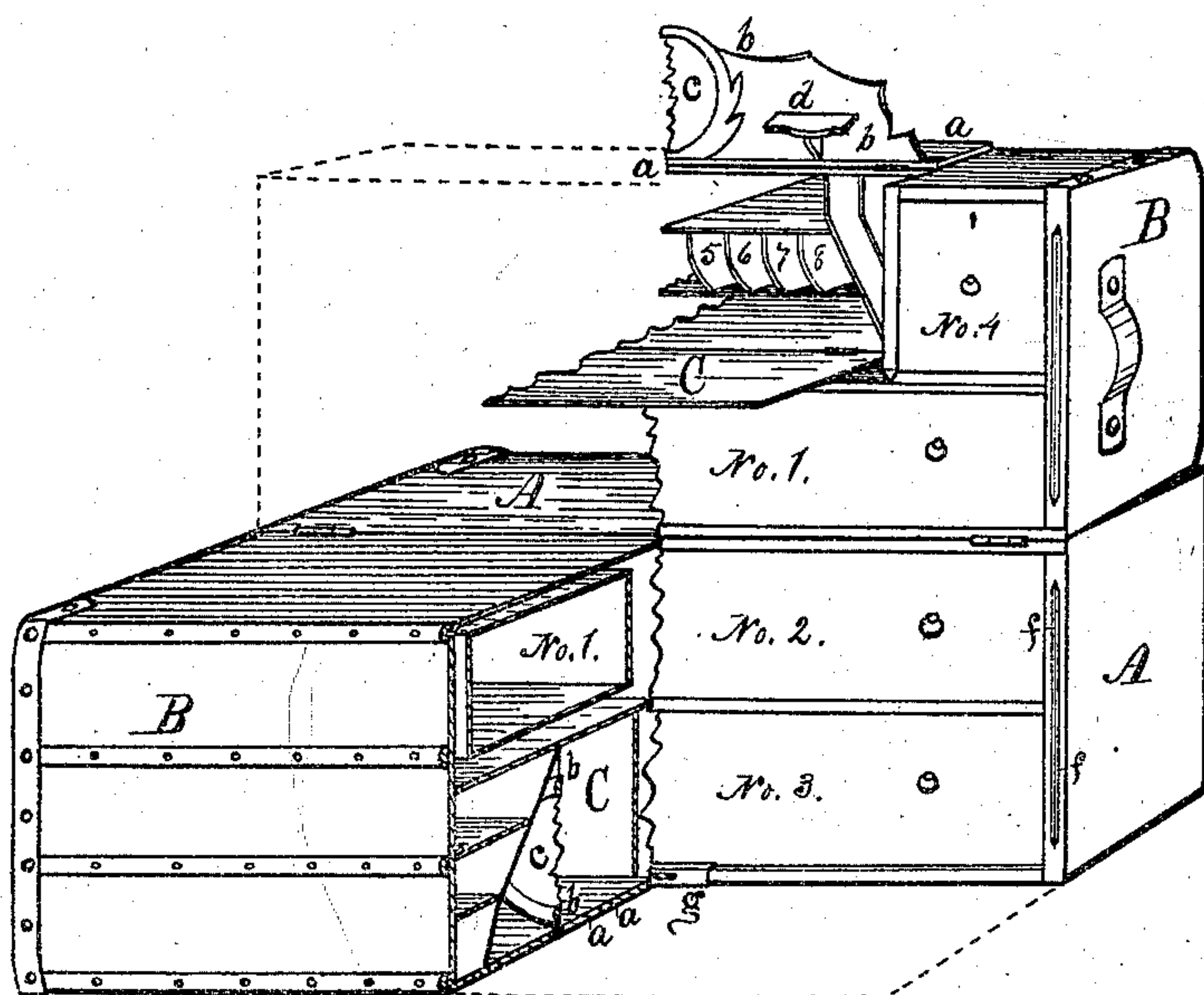


M. H. BLISS.

Trunks.

No. 138,000.

Patented April 22, 1873.



Witnesses.
Chas. Finner.
Perry Perkins.

Martin K. Bliss,
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

MARTIN H. BLISS, OF DALTON, MASSACHUSETTS.

IMPROVEMENT IN TRUNKS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **138,000**, dated April 22, 1873; application filed May 17, 1872.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, MARTIN H. BLISS, of Dalton, in the county of Berkshire and State of Massachusetts, have invented a Combined Trunk, Dressing-Bureau, and Writing-Desk, of which the following is a specification:

The object of my invention is to provide a portable and transformable piece of furniture adapted for various uses. It consists in forming a trunk or chest in such a manner that it can be unfolded to present the appearance and possess the conveniences of a dressing-bureau and a writing-desk, all as hereinafter fully set forth.

My drawing is a miniature perspective view, showing a half-section of my trunk closed and lying on its side or face, with the other half-section unfolded and in a position as a dressing-bureau and writing-desk.

A A is the lower half-section of the trunk. B B is the upper half-section. They are hinged together in any common way. This trunk or chest, forming the outside frame and casing of my invention, may be made of any material desired, and may vary in size and form, and may be covered and ornamented in a manner common to trunks, or may be molded and painted to resemble a tool-chest. Nos. 1 2 3 4 are drawers, made of light wood, paper board, or sheet metal, and slide in and out in a manner common to bureau-drawers. No. 4 is a small deep drawer, designed for a bonnet or hat box. Another drawer, corresponding with No. 4, is in the opposite corner, but not shown in the drawing. Handles or knobs and locks or catches, of any common form, may be put on the drawers. *a a* is a hinged section of the front part of the upper half-section B B. *b b* is a carved board attached on the under side and rear edge of the hinged section *a a*. When unfolded, the hinged section is turned upward and backward, and lies flat upon the top, and the carved board *b b* will then stand upright. *c* is a toilet-glass, framed or pivoted in the board *b b*. *d* is a bracket. These same parts *a a*, *b b*, and *c* are seen in the folded portion of the trunk, and in their relative places when they are folded and the trunk closed. 5, 6, 7, and 8 represent a series of pigeon-holes and

shelving for a writing-desk. C C is the folding desk, divided and hinged in its middle. The drawing represents the desk open and the hinged leaf C C extending in front of the drawers. When closed, as represented, in the folded section of the trunk, it covers and conceals the pigeon-holes and shelving. *f f* is a convex head designed to fit into a corresponding groove in the upper section of the trunk end piece, to aid in closing and holding the two sections firmly together. *g* is a common trunk-lock.

To transform my trunk into a combined dressing-bureau and writing-desk, unlock it, turn it forward to rest on its face, and then turn the front and upper half-section B B upward and backward until it rests in a perpendicular position on the top of the lower section A A. In this position the drawers will be horizontal, as required in a bureau. Next, free the hinged section *a a* from the closed desk-lid C C, and turn the section upward and backward until it rests in a horizontal position on the top of B B. The glass *c*, mounted in the carved board *b b*, will be thereby brought into proper position for use as a toilet-glass. Next turn downward and forward the folding desk-lid C C into a horizontal position to form a writing-desk and to uncover the series of pigeon-holes that were thereby closed and concealed.

By reverse movements of the parts named the desk and bureau will be folded to assume the appearance and possess the advantages of a portable trunk.

I am aware that drawers and shelves, folding lids, and toilet-glasses, have been used in combination with trunks. I claim, however, that my manner of combining a toilet-glass and desk with a sectional trunk, to produce a transformable piece of furniture, is new and advantageous.

Claims.

1. In the construction of a bureau-trunk, the hinged section *a*, carrying the carved board *b* and glass *c*, in the manner described, and for the purposes specified.
2. In the construction of a bureau-trunk, the hinged section *a* and the hinged lid C,

when combined and operated together, to close and conceal the series of pigeon-holes 5 6 7 8, while at the same time adapted for independent uses—the first as a support for the glass *c*, and the second to form the writing-desk *C C*.

3. As an improved article of manufacture, the transformable piece of furniture described,

when formed and adapted for the alternate uses of a trunk, bureau, and desk, in the specific manner set forth.

MARTIN H. BLISS.

Witnesses:

J. J. McDILL,
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