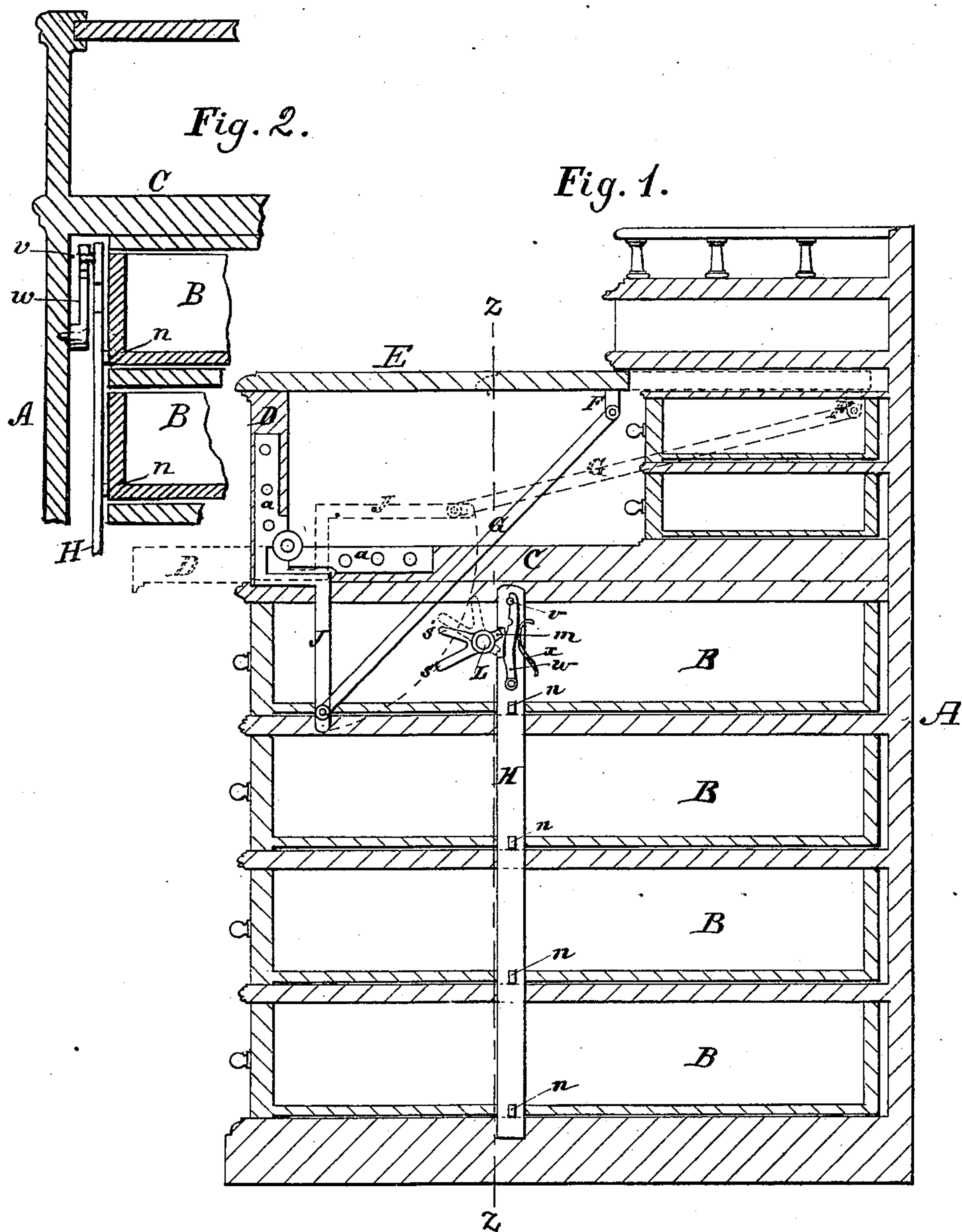


(No Model.)

A. FRANK.  
WRITING DESK.

No. 246,384.

Patented Aug. 30, 1881.



*Witnesses.*

Charles Hoarstead  
Wm. Cornell

*Inventor.*

August Frank  
per Henry E. Fowler  
Attorney.



# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

AUGUST FRANK, OF NEW YORK, N. Y.

## WRITING-DESK.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 246,384, dated August 30, 1881.

Application filed January 14, 1881. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, AUGUST FRANK, of New York, in the State of New York, a citizen of the United States, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Writing-Desks, of which the following is a specification.

The nature of my invention consists in the arrangement of a suitable lever or arm attached to the hinged leaf or front of a writing-desk, and connected through a rod with the sliding cover of said desk, together with a sliding bolt having suitable projections operated by the ward of a pivoted key, said key being provided with projections acted upon by the end of the lever or rod in such a manner that the opening or closing of the hinged front leaf of the desk will at the same time move the sliding bolt so as to bring its projections into or out of suitable recesses on the sides of the drawers, and thereby lock or unlock all drawers at the same time.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 represents a cross-section of a writing-desk with the usual drawers with my improvement attached. Fig. 2 is a vertical section at line *z z*, Fig. 1.

To the board C a front or leaf, D, is hinged by means of a suitable hinge, *a*, which said leaf D, when turned as shown in dotted lines, forms the writing-table.

E is a sliding cover, forming the top of the writing-desk when the leaf D is closed, and which can be fastened to said leaf by means of a suitable lock. To the leaf D a lever, J, is attached, connected through a rod, G, to the end of the cover E at F. When the leaf D is turned on its hinge to form the writing-table with the board C, the lever J and rod G will be moved, as shown in dotted lines, and move thereby the cover E backward into a suitable recess in the desk, giving thereby, with little width of the leaf D, a large open space for writing. Between the sides of the drawers B and the casing of the desk A a bolt or bar, H, is arranged, capable of sliding freely up or down, and provided with projections *n n*, &c., fitting into suitable recesses in the sides of the drawers, whereby said drawers are all held fast or locked when said bar H is in a position represented in the drawings. Near this bar H a key, L,

is arranged, turning freely on its center, and provided with the usual projection or ward, *m*, working in a suitable recess in the edge of the bar H, for the purpose of moving said rod or bar H upward or downward. This key L is provided with projections *s* and *s'*. Upon turning down the leaf D of the writing-table on its hinge the motion of the lever J will cause its end to strike the projection *s'*, moving the same upward, and thus turn the key L so that the ward *m* will move the bolt H downward, and thus bring the projections *n n* on said bolt H clear of the drawers B, so that the same can be opened or closed, as desired. The turning of the key L will at the same time bring its ward in contact with a lever, *w*, so as to move said lever clear of a pin, *v*, attached to the bolt H, and whereby said bolt H is held in either position, as will be hereinafter described.

The boards forming the bottom of the drawers B are made with suitable recesses on the sides, into which the projections *n n*, &c., of the bolt H fit when this bolt is in its downward position, and when the drawers are closed, preventing thereby the drawers from being opened. When the bolt H is moved upward these projections *n n* come clear of the recesses, and the drawers can be moved and opened.

It will readily be understood that, instead of making recesses in the boards forming the bottom of the drawers, suitable pieces may be attached to the outside of the drawers, provided with recesses for the projections *n n* to fit into. Whenever the leaf D is closed again the end of the lever J will come in contact with the projection *s* of the key L, turning thereby said key so that its ward *m* will move the bolt H again upward, and thereby lock all the drawers.

To the side frame or board of the desk a lever, *w*, is attached, capable of being operated by the ward of the key L, and engaging with a pin, *v*, attached to the bolt H. This lever *w* is acted upon by a suitable spring, *x*, to hold said lever *w* engaged with the pin *v*, except when acted upon by the ward of the key L. In this lever *w* two recesses are made for the pin *v* to fit into—one when the bolt H is in its upward position, and the other recess to re-

ceive the pin *v* when the bolt *H* is in its lowest position, holding thereby said bolt *H* in either position perfectly fast, into which it is moved by the action of the key *L*, as described.

5 What I claim as my invention, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

The combination of the lever *J*, attached to the hinged leaf *D*, the rod *G*, connecting the lever *J* with the sliding cover *E*, the sliding  
10 bolt *H*, with projections *n n*, &c., and pin *v*, the

pivoted key *L*, provided with projections *s s'* and ward *m*, the lever *w*, with its spring *x*, and the drawers *B* of the writing-desk, with suitable recesses on the sides, arranged as described, and to operate in the manner and for 15 the purpose substantially as set forth.

AUGUST FRANK.

Witnesses:

HENRY E. ROEDER,  
J. B. NONES.