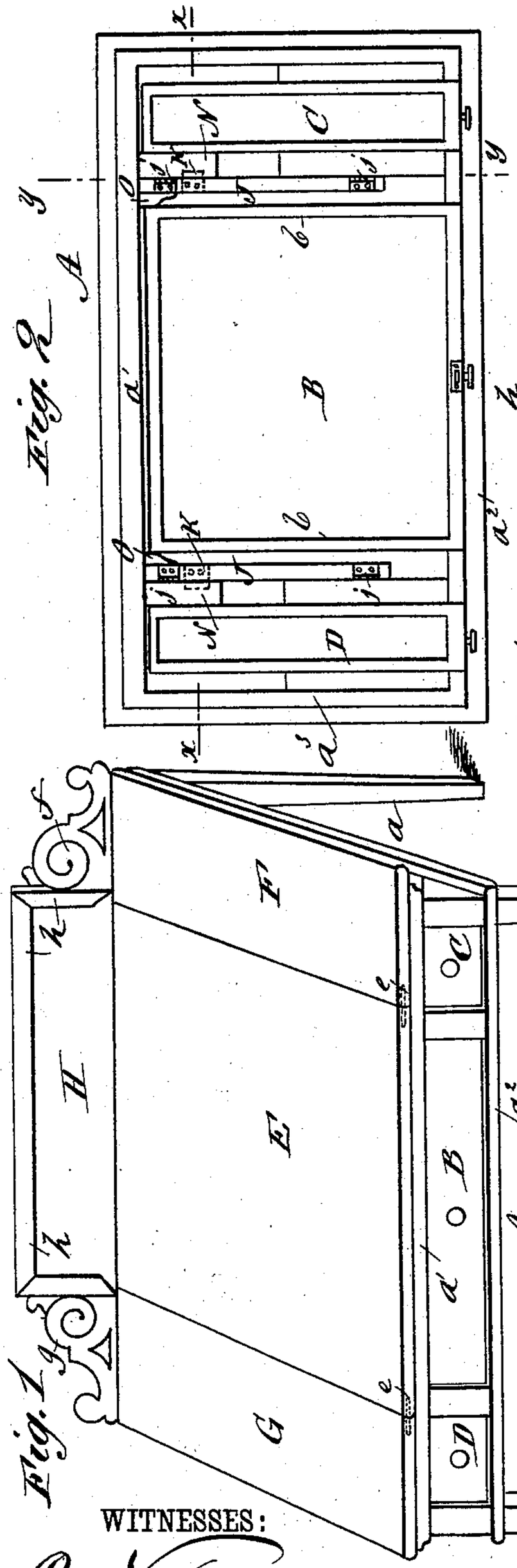
(No Model.)

C. EMMEL.

DESK.

No. 372,135. Patented Oct. 25, 1887.



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DESK.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 372,135, dated October 25, 1887.

Application filed December 28, 1886. Serial No. 222,791. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, CHARLES EMMEL, of Cambridge, in the county of Middlesex and State of Massachusetts, have invented a new and Improved Desk and Table, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description.

My invention relates to a piece of furniture intended for use either as a desk or table, and has for its object to provide a simple, inexpensive, and readily adjustable structure of this character.

The invention consists in certain novel features of construction and combinations of parts of the combined desk and table, all as hereinafter fully described and claimed.

Reference is to be had to the accompanying drawings, forming a part of this specification, in which similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts in all the figures.

Figure 1 is a perspective view of my improved desk and table arranged as a table, and with one of the front legs broken away. Fig. 2 is a plan view of the piece of furniture with the top removed. Fig. 3 is a vertical longitudinal sectional elevation of the upper part of the desk and table, taken on the line *x x* of Fig. 2 and arranged as a table. Fig. 4 is a like view arranged as a desk. Fig. 5 is a cross-sectional elevation taken on the line *y y* of Fig. 2, and shows the arrangement for a desk. Fig. 6 is a like view showing the arrangement for a table, and Fig. 7 is an enlarged detail view on the line *x x* of Fig. 2.

The drawings illustrate the preferred form of the desk and table, and show its body portion A provided with suitable supporting-legs, *a*, and having three drawers—a center drawer, B, and two side drawers, C D—the body A being made with upper and lower horizontal frames, *a'* a^2, respectively, and a suitable outside casing, a^3, connected to form an easily and cheaply built but substantial structure.

The top of the piece of furniture is divided into three sections, a central one, E, and two side sections, F G, which cover the drawers B C D, respectively. The side sections, F G, are preferably fixed to the frame *a'* of the body A, and the section E is hinged at its front edge by suitable pins, *e e*, to the side sections, F G; or, if preferred, the part E may be connected by ordinary butt or strap hinges to the body-frame *a'*. Ornamental back pieces or brackets, *f g*, fixed to and across the back end parts of the top sections, F G, respectively, form fenders to prevent fall of articles from the parts F G, and also give to the back of the table, in connection with the central back board, H, a very pleasing finish.

The back board, H, is hung by hinges *h'* to the back edge of the hinged lid E of the desk-top, and to the rear or outer face of the board H is pivotally connected at *i* one end of a metal strap or link, I, the lower end of which is connected pivotally at *i'* with the desk-body A, and whereby, when the lid E is raised at its rear edge, the board H will be swung off into horizontal position to form a practically level rearward extension of the inclined lid, as shown most clearly in Fig. 5 of the drawings. The board H is provided on its face next its outer edge and both ends with a molding, *h*, which not only gives a pleasing ornamental finish to the closed lid when the piece of furniture is to be used as a table, but also forms a guard to prevent fall of inkstands or other writing requisites from the board H when it is thrown back when the lid is raised for service as a desk.

At the opposite side edges of the hinged lid E there are hinged at *j j* two wedge-shaped side wings or plates, J J, and at the outer side of each of these hinged plates J there is fixed a projecting lug, K, preferably formed by an extension of a metal plate, *k*, fixed to the lower edge of the plate, and these lugs K are adapted to enter and lock into upper and lower notches or recesses, L M, respectively, made in cross pieces or boards N N, fixed to the frame of the desk-body. To the inner face of the plates J J there are fixed blocks O O, the outer faces of which are tapered or inclined or beveled forward toward the front of the desk and at their faces next the opposite side parts *b b* of the drawer B, which are adapted to ride over the blocks and swing the hinged plates J J outward.

The operation of this part of my invention is as follows: When the desk-lid E is down or closed and the drawer B is closed, the sides of the drawer, by contact with the wedge-blocks O O on the opposite hinged plates J J, will force the lugs K K on the plates into the lower

notches, M M, of the cross-pieces N N on the body-frame, whereby the lid will be locked down close and cannot be opened until the drawer B is unlocked and opened. When the drawer B is drawn outward sufficiently to clear the blocks O O, the side plates, J J, will swing outward from the lower notches, M M, thus allowing the desk-lid E to be raised on its hinges *e e* until the lugs K K on the plates J J are opposite the upper opposite notches or recesses, L L, of the frame cross-pieces N N, and the lugs will swing into these upper notches to support the desk-lid in proper position for use, the hinged back board, H, being meanwhile thrown over level by the action of the link I, in the manner hereinbefore explained, and when the drawer is closed it will, by pressure on the blocks O, lock the lugs K into the upper notches, L, to hold the raised top or lid E firmly in place, the notches L being located in the cross-pieces N N, to allow this locking action of the drawer. (See Fig. 7 of the drawings.)

When the piece of furniture is adjusted as a desk, the side plates, J J, prevent exposure of or easy access to the contents of the drawer B, and when the lid E is to be again closed to convert the structure into a table again, it is only necessary to pull out the drawer a little and push the plates J inward slightly to withdraw the lugs K from the notches L, and as the lid E is lowered the back board, H, will be swung by the link I into the erect position shown in Figs. 1, 3, and 6 of the drawings, and when the drawer B is again closed it will force the lugs K again into the lower notches, M, of the frame, to lock the desk-lid closed, as above described. It will be noticed that a locking of the lid E by the closing of the drawer B also operates through the link I to securely lock the back board, H, at the back of the table.

I am aware that a desk has been provided with a central leaf hinged to a slide and having angular pieces hinged to its under side, and I therefore do not claim such invention.

Having thus fully described my invention, I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent—

1. A combined desk and table, made with a body, a hinged top or lid thereon, plates hinged to said lid to swing at an angle to the hinge thereof, and stop-lugs on the hinged plates adapted to engage the body, substantially as described, for the purposes set forth.

2. A combined desk and table, made with a body, a drawer fitted therein, a hinged lid arranged above said drawer, plates hinged to the lid to swing at an angle to the hinge thereof, stop-lugs on the hinged plates adapted to engage the body, and blocks on the hinged plates, with which the drawer engages to lock the stop-lugs to the body, substantially as described, for the purposes set forth.

3. In a combined desk and table, the combination of the body, a top or lid hinged to the front thereof, a back board hinged to the free rear edge of the lid or top, and a strap pivoted to the under side of the back board and to the rear of the body, substantially as herein shown and described, whereby the back board will be changed from a vertical to a horizontal position, and vice versa, by the raising and lowering of the lid, as set forth.

4. A combined desk and table, made with a body, a lid hinged thereto, plates hinged to the lid and adapted to support it when raised, and a strap pivotally connected to the back board and body, substantially as shown and described, whereby as the lid is raised the back board will be lowered and both lid and back board will have support from the plates hinged to the lid, as and for the purposes set forth.

5. The combination, in a desk and table, of a body, A, having notches L, a hinged lid, E, and plates J, hinged to the lid and provided with lugs K, adapted to the notches L, substantially as shown and described.

6. The combination, in a desk and table, of a body, A, having notches M, a drawer, B, a hinged lid, E, above the drawer, plates J, hinged to the lid and provided with lugs K, adapted to the notches M, and also with blocks O, against which the drawer B acts to lock the lugs K into the notches M, substantially as shown and described.

7. The combination, in a desk and table, of the body A, the lid E, hinged to the front of the body, the back board, H, hinged to the rear free edge of the lid, and the strap I, pivoted to the under side of the back board and to the rear of the body, substantially as herein shown and described.

8. The combination, in a desk and table, of a body, A, a hinged lid, E, plates J, hinged to the lid and adapted for support on the body, a back board, H, hinged to the lid, and a strap, I, pivoted to the back board and body, substantially as shown and described.

9. The combination, in a desk and table, of a body, A, provided with upper and lower notches, L M, hinged lid E, plates J, hinged to the lid and provided with lugs K, adapted to the notches L M, and with blocks O, and a drawer fitted below the lid and adapted to lock the lugs K into the notches L M, substantially as shown and described.

10. The combination, in a desk and table, of a body, A, having notches L M, lid E, hinged plates J, provided with lugs K, and blocks O, a back board, H, hinged to the lid, a strap, I, pivoted to the back board and body, and a drawer, B, adapted to shift the plates J to lock the lugs K into the notches L M, substantially as shown and described.

11. A combined desk and table, consisting of a body portion, A *a*, drawer B, fitted therein, a lid, E, hinged to the front of the body portion, supports J, for supporting the hinged lid, a back board, H, hinged to the rear free edge of the lid, and a support hinged to the

under side of the back and to the rear of the body, substantially as herein shown and described.

12. A desk and table, constructed substantially as herein shown and described, and comprising a body, A, provided with notches L M, a center drawer, B, two side drawers, C D, fixed top sections, F G, a hinged lid, E, a back board, H, hinged to the lid, a strap, I, connecting the board H and body A, plates J, hinged to the lid E, and provided with lugs K, and blocks O, all arranged for operation as and for the purposes set forth.

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Witnesses:
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