J. B. SHERWOOD.
School-Desk.

No. 213,593. Patented Mar. 25, 1879.

FIG. 1.

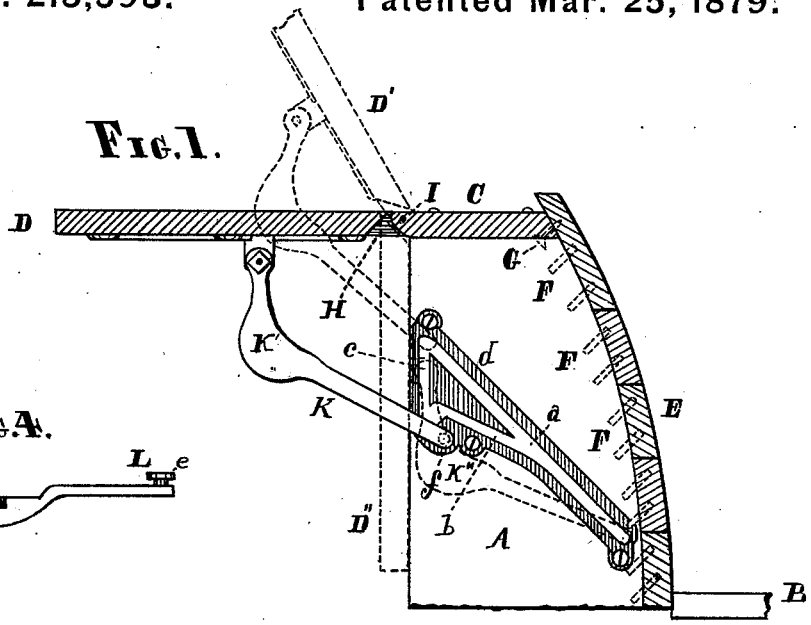


FIG. 4.

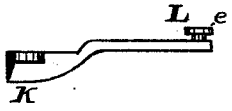


FIG. 2.

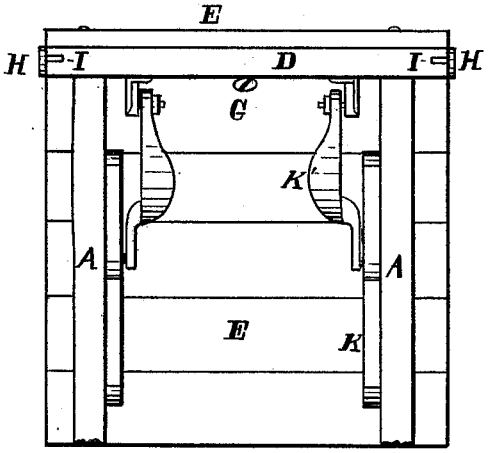
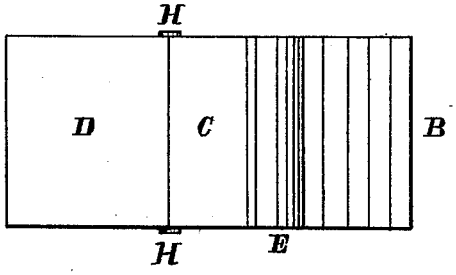


FIG. 3.



WITNESSES.

A. G. Mowry.
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JOHN B. SHERWOOD, OF CHICAGO, ILLINOIS.

IMPROVEMENT IN SCHOOL-DESKS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **213,593**, dated March 25, 1879; application filed January 21, 1879.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOHN B. SHERWOOD, of Chicago, in the county of Cook and State of Illinois, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in School-Desks, of which the following is a specification, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, illustrating the improvement.

The present invention relates to certain devices for holding the leaf of the desk in position for use, and raising it in a vertical position above the desk or letting it fall against the ends of the seat, and in a novel manner of doweling the seat-back to the standards or seat-ends.

The nature of invention, in brief, consists in weighted arms or braces, (two to each seat,) jointed to the folding leaf at their upper ends, and their lower ends being provided with outwardly-projecting stops, operating in elongated triangular grooves which are formed in metal plates attached to the insides of the seat-ends, whereby the leaf may have the necessary position herein shown by simply manipulating the leaf.

In the drawings, Figure 1 is a central vertical section of my improvement in school-desks, showing also an elevation of the weighted arms and the grooved plate in which one arm operates. Fig. 2 is a rear elevation of the desk as shown at Fig. 1. Fig. 3 is a top or plan view of Fig. 2, taken half-size. Fig. 4 is a top or plan view of one of the weighted arms removed from the other parts.

A A represent the ends of the desk, which have the ordinary construction of school-desks now in use. B represents the seat; C, the stationary part of the top of the desk, and D is the leaf.

The seat-back is shown at E, which is made in sections, and each section is held to the ends A A by means of inclined dowels F, (shown by dotted lines,) except the top section, which is fastened by dowels and screws G, so that the tightening of the screws will, by the aid of the dowels, hold all the sections firmly in place.

The leaf D is hung to the part C by means of the ordinary well-known pivot-hinges used in this art to hang desk-leaves to have a movement of half of a circle or more.

To the under side of the leaf D are pivoted two weighted arms, K, the lower ends of which are provided with stops L, Fig. 4, to operate in the grooves *a b c*, formed in plates *d d*, which are fastened to the insides of the ends A A of the desk. The grooves *a b c* extend through the plates *d d*, and their margins adjoining the ends A A are rabbeted, to permit buttons *e* on the ends of the stops L to run in said rabbets, and hold the arms in place properly to operate in the grooves *a b c*.

Care should be taken to form the grooves as shown in Fig. 1, and to weight the arms K at K′, so that in placing the leaf D in the three several positions the stops L will, as shown, bear in notches *f* in the plate *d* when the leaf is in position as shown at D, and when the leaf is elevated the stops catch in the upper angle of the groove, so that when the leaf is let down the stops L pass down the long groove *a*.

I do not claim to be the inventor of giving to the leaf D the positions described; but I am not aware that weighted arms and grooved plates *d* have been before used in a like manner.

I claim and desire to secure by Letters Patent—

1. The arms K K, pivoted to the leaf D and weighted at K′, in combination with the plates *d*, having continuous triangular grooves, in which the stops on the arms travel and are locked, as and for the purpose set forth.

2. The sections of the seat-back doweled to the ends A by inclined dowels, and the upper section secured by an additional screw, as and for the purpose set forth.

JOHN B. SHERWOOD.

Witnesses:
A. G. MOREY,
G. L. CHAPIN.