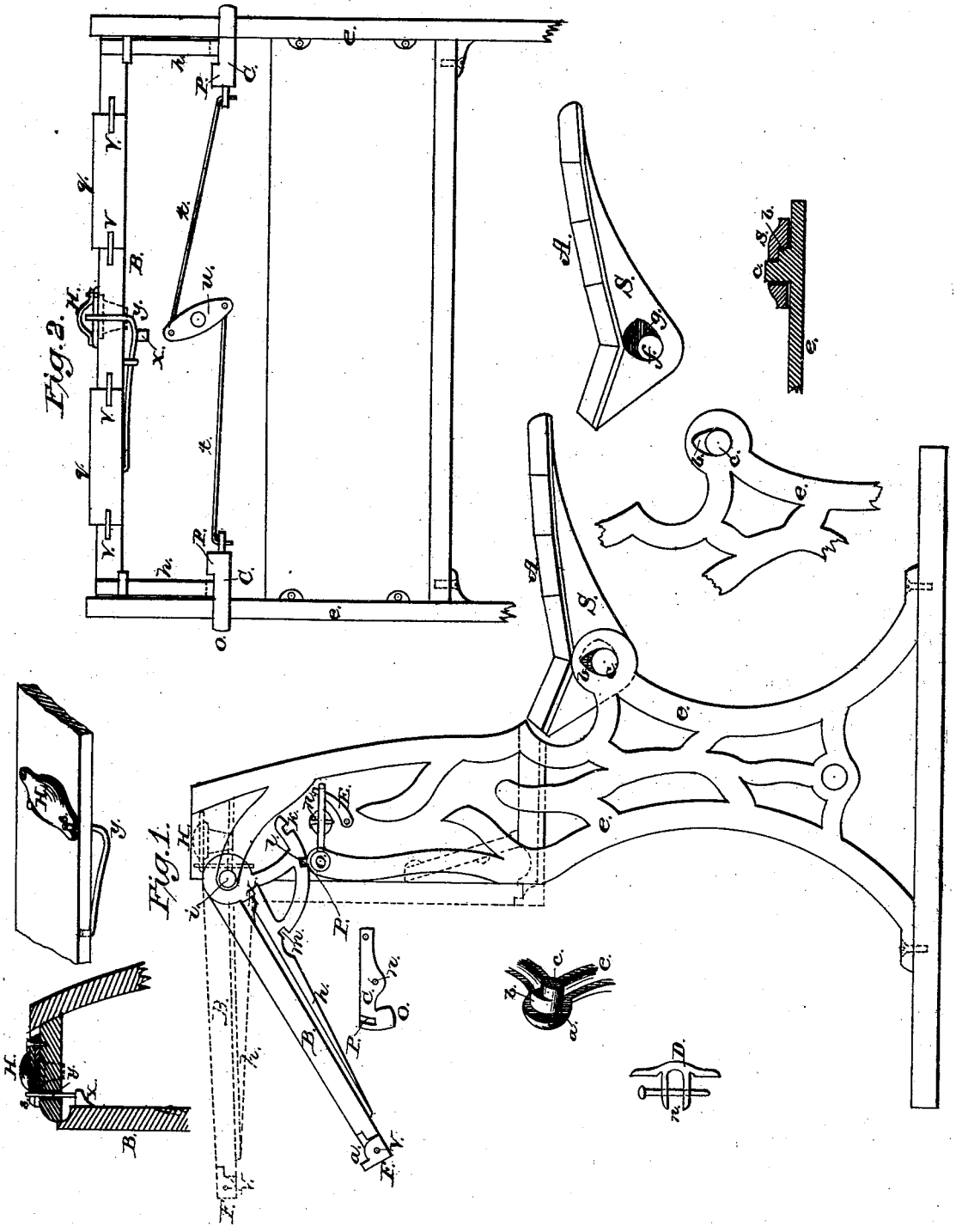
I. N. PEIRCE.

School Desk.

No. 163,605. Patented May 25, 1875.



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ISAAC NEWTON PEIRCE, OF PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA.

IMPROVEMENT IN FOLDING SCHOOL-DESKS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **163,605**, dated May 25, 1875; application filed October 15, 1874.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ISAAC NEWTON PEIRCE, of Philadelphia, State of Pennsylvania, have invented an Improved Folding School-Desk, of which the following is a specification:

The object of my invention is to increase the utility, comfort, and convenience of the school-desk, by simplifying the seat, closing and locking up both the desk and inkstand, and changing the desk from a writing-desk to a reading or studying desk, by the combinations as herein set forth, and explained with the accompanying drawing.

Figure 1 represents the desk and seat fully open.

A is the seat. *a* is the pin or pivot in the side or leg *e* of the desk, on which the seat-iron S turns. This pin or pivot *a* is round at the end, as at *c*, with an oval or cam shaped shoulder on one side, as at *b*. The seat-iron S has a round hole, *f*, to fit the round part *c* of the pin *a*, and inside of the plate S is an enlarged opening, *g*, extending nearly through the plate, to allow the seat-iron to move around the pin one-quarter of a circle, and when the seat is down one side of the shoulder of this opening *g* rests upon the corresponding side of the cam or oval shaped shoulder *b*, and when turned up the opposite side of the opening *g* rests upon the corresponding side of the cam or oval shoulder *b*, making a strong, simple, and noiseless joint, without any gum, or rubber, or screw-bolt. This pin *a*, with its cam-shoulder *b*, may be on and form a part of the seat-iron S, and the corresponding opening *f* and *g* may be in the side of the desk or leg-iron *e*, with the same effect and producing the same result. B represents the desk-lid, which, when desired, can be let down and locked fast by the desk-lid attachment I, as described, in the following manner: *h* is the desk-iron, hinged on the pivot *i*, with a curved brace or support, *j*, having notches *k l m*. C is the latch or bolt to fasten the desk-lid, and works in the hinge-plate D on the pin *n*, with a thumb-piece, *o*, on which is a projection, *p*, which fits in the notches *k*, *l*, or *m*, to fasten the desk-lid in any desirable position. E is a flat spring, riveted on the end plate or end of the desk, for the purpose of keeping the latches in their notches. The latches are connected by two pieces of wire, *t t*, connected by a short lever, *u*, so that moving one latch moves the other latch. By pressing in the latch at either end of the desk, with the finger on the thumb-piece *o*, the desk-lid can be lowered or raised, and the projection *p*, slipping back into any of the notches *k*, *l*, or *m*, fastens the desk-lid where desired. F represents the book-rest piece on the desk-lid, working on a wire pivot, *v*, at each end. It can thus be turned one-quarter around, and thus turn up a book rest or ledge, *q*, and by dropping the lid, so that the projection *p* falls into the notch *l*, the writing-desk becomes a reading or studying desk by G in Fig. 2.

H represents the ink-well cover, which has a notch, *s*, through which a wire-bolt, *y*, from the inside of the desk, is pushed up by a wire pin, *x*, in the under side of the desk-lid, pressing the bolt upward whenever the desk-lid is down, thus securely locking up the inkstand whenever the desk-lid is down; at the same time the desk-lid is locked down by the latch C, and when the desk-lid is raised the wire bolt *t*, by its own spring, drops below or out of the notch *s*, and the ink-well cover becomes unlocked.

I claim as my invention—

1. The seat-joint, consisting of the standard *e*, provided with the pivot *a c*, having a rounded or oval projection or cam, *b*, formed thereon, in combination with the seat-arm *s*, having an opening, *f*, for the said pivot, and an oval chamber, *g*, to receive the cam *b*, as and for the purpose set forth.

2. The lid B, provided with the book-rest F F, turning one-quarter around upon the wire pivots V V V V, and having the book-ledges *q q*, substantially as described.

3. The wire bolt *y* and cover H, provided with the notch or hole *s*, in combination with the lid B, having the pin or block projection X upon its under side, to engage with the bent wire bolt *y*, and force it up into the notch or hole *s*, substantially as described.

4. The desk-lid attachment I, having the notches *k l m*, in combination with the latch C, having the projections *p* and springs E, and wires *t t*, and lever *u*, substantially as described.

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Witnesses:
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