

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLIAM J. LAKE, OF OSWEGO, NEW YORK.

IMPROVEMENT IN COMBINED WASH-BENCHES AND IRONING-TABLES.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **180,892**, dated August 8, 1876; application filed April 27, 1876.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM J. LAKE, of Oswego, in the county of Oswego and State of New York, have invented a Combination Step-Ladder, Wash-Bench, and Ironing-Table, of which the following is a specification, reference being made to the accompanying drawing, forming a part hereof.

This invention is adapted, without change of parts, to be converted from one of the above-named household appliances to another, and in each capacity is as well fitted for its particular use as though specially made therefor.

In the accompanying drawing, Figure 1 is a side view of the invention used as a step-ladder. Fig. 2 is a similar view of the invention applied as a wash-bench. Fig. 3 is a side view of the invention arranged as an ironing-table. Fig. 4 is a plan of the same.

Similar letters of reference indicate similar parts of the invention in the different views.

A A A' A' are the main frames of the ladder, the parts A' being hinged to those A, as shown at *a*. B B B' B' are the back legs or supports of the ladder, the portions B' B' being hinged or pivoted to those B, as seen at *b*. The frames and supports A and B are also hinged together at *c*. The frames A A' are provided with steps *d*, and the back legs or supports B B', with rounds *e*, after the ordinary construction of step-ladders. The spreading of the ladder is prevented by the clasps *f f'*. The parts A' and B' of the ladder are kept rigidly in place by the pins *g*.

Certain other features not belonging to the ladder are seen in the drawing, Fig. 1, which features will be duly described in the following:

In order to convert the ladder into a wash-bench, the clasps *f f'* are disconnected and the frames and back supports of the ladder spread out. The four pins *g* are removed, and one of them is placed in each of the holes *h*, thus making a rigid connection between the parts A A A' A' and B B B' B'. The parts A A' and B' B' are then turned down as legs for the wash-bench, and secured by the clasps *f f'*, which fit over the pins *h h'*.

The parts before referred to as not belonging to the ladder, and which form no part of the wash-bench, but which are necessarily shown in Figs. 1 and 2, are, when the invention is used as a wash-bench, underneath the bench, as shown in Fig. 2.

To change the wash-bench into an ironing-table, the legs are reversed and secured by the clasps *f f'*, and the bench is turned over.

The parts before referred to will now be described. The two leaves C C' of the ironing-table are connected by the links *k*, and at their connected ends are beveled, as shown, so that when the leaves are straightened out a firm and close joint is made. The leaves are hinged to a support, *l*, a corresponding support, *l'*, being seen at the other end of the frame-work. The hooks *m* are detached, and the leaves separated by loosening the hook *o*. The leaves are then extended. Braces *p* are pivoted, as shown, to the leaf C, and adapted to enter the clamping-pieces *p'*, and thus rigidly unite the two leaves. The leaves thus connected are then brought to a horizontal position, the outer end resting upon the support *l'*. The outer end can be lifted up to permit of the placing of skirts, &c., upon the ironing-board.

The invention is simple, strong, and inexpensive, and is designed to supply three wants in one piece of furniture.

I claim as my invention and wish to secure by Letters Patent of the United States—

1. The hinged frames A A A' A' and hinged supports B B B' B', having, respectively, steps *d* and rounds *e*, the said frames and supports being provided with clasps *f f'* and connecting-pins, substantially as herein specified, and constituting the parts necessary to the formation of the ladder and wash-bench, as described.

2. In combination with the frames A A A' A' and supports B B B' B', hinged together and provided with steps and rounds, as specified, the jointed ironing-table C C' and supports *l l'*, substantially as herein described.

3. The leaves C C' of the ironing-table, having beveled ends, combined with the link-connections *k*, substantially as described.

4. The hinged leaves C C' of the ironing-table, combined with the braces *p* and clamping-pieces *p'*, substantially as herein specified.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto subscribed my name this 11th day of April, in the year of our Lord 1876.

WM. J. LAKE.

Witnesses:

F. J. STEARNS,
F. G. NEAL.