

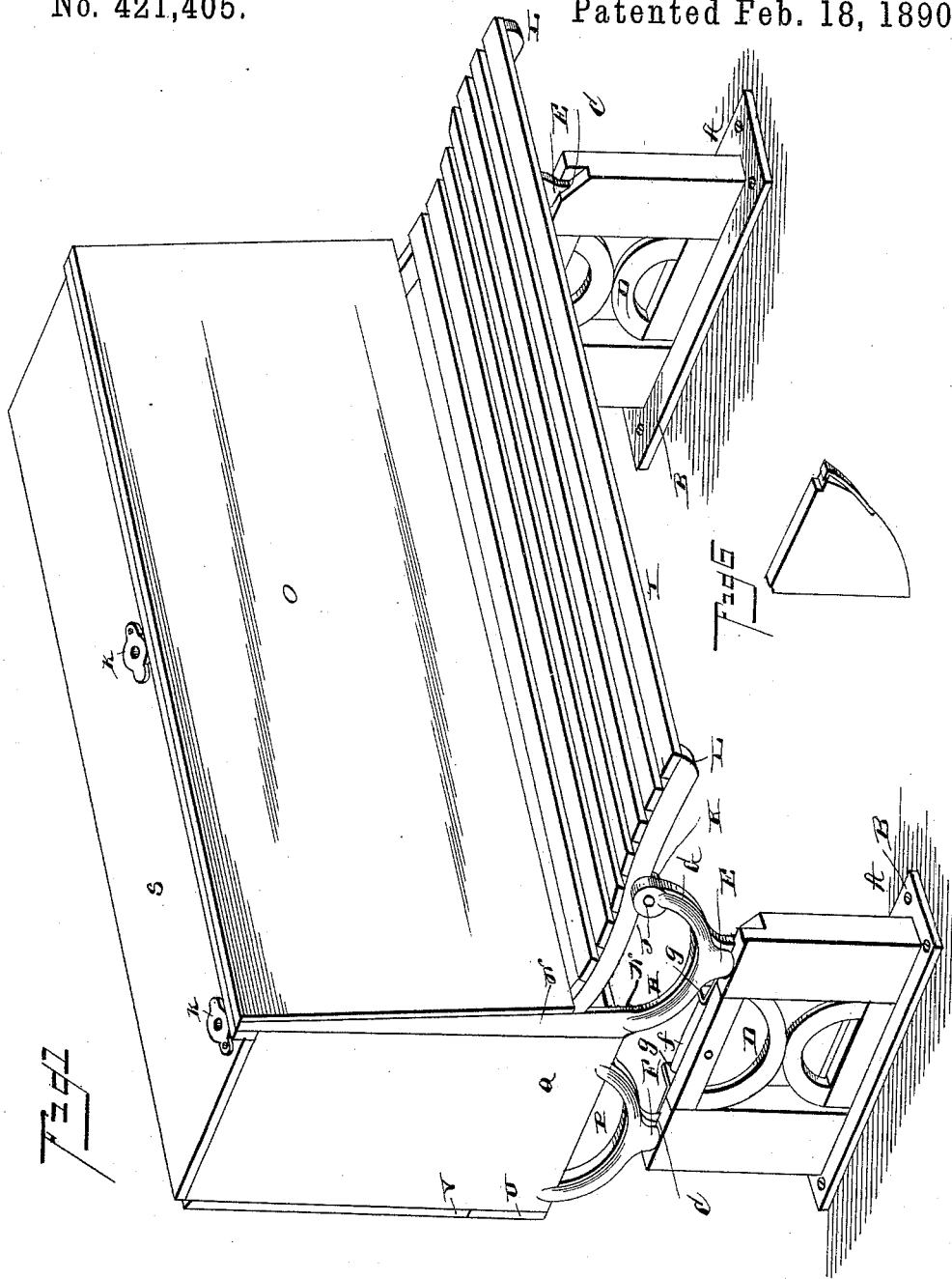
(No Model.)

2 Sheets—Sheet 1.

R. B. HUNTER.
SCHOOL DESK AND SEAT.

No. 421,405.

Patented Feb. 18, 1890.



Witnesses

John Imirie
Wm. Baggett

Inventor

Robert B. Hunter

By his Attorneys

C. A. Snow & Co.

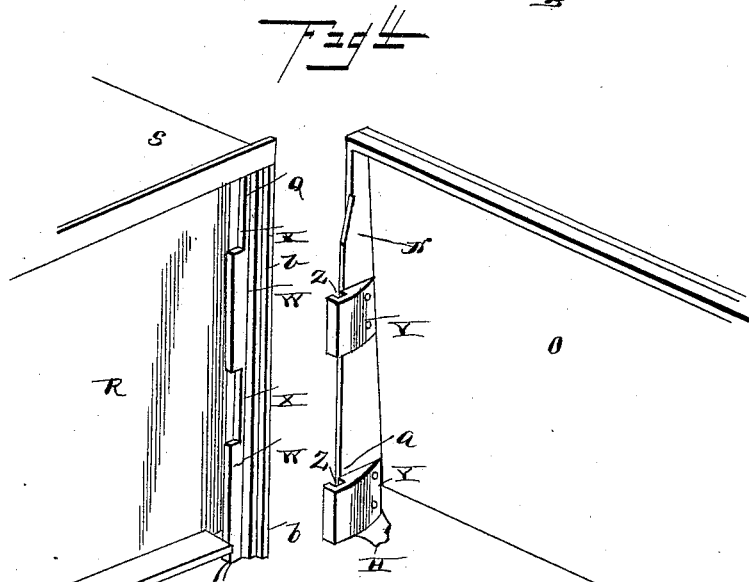
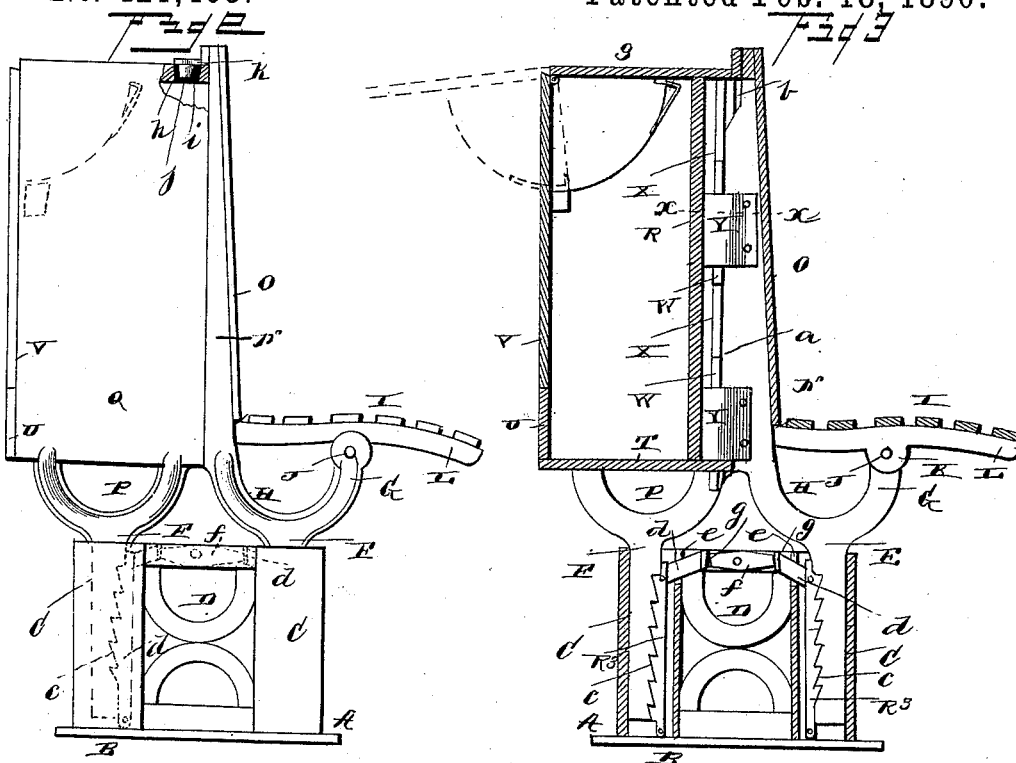
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Fig. 4
By his Attorneys
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Inventor
Robert B. Hunter

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ROBERT B. HUNTER, OF MATTAWAN, MICHIGAN, ASSIGNOR OF TWO-THIRDS
TO CARRIE L. BENTON, OF SAME PLACE.

SCHOOL DESK AND SEAT.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 421,405, dated February 18, 1890.

Application filed April 17, 1889. Serial No. 307,587. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ROBERT B. HUNTER, a citizen of the United States, residing at Mattawan, in the county of Van Buren and State of Michigan, have invented new and useful Improvements in School Seats and Desks, &c., of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to school seats and desks, church-seats, and similar furniture; and it has for its object to provide for the adjustment vertically of the seats and desks independently of each other to any desired height.

With this end in view the invention consists in the combination, with suitable supporting-sockets, of the desks and seats provided with shanks working in the said sockets, and provided along their edges with teeth or ratchets adapted to be engaged by pivoted arms or pawls, whereby they may be retained at their desired adjustment.

The invention further consists in certain improvements in the detailed construction of the desks and seats, which will be hereinafter fully described, and particularly pointed out in the claims.

In the drawings hereto annexed, Figure 1 is a perspective view of a school desk and seat embodying my improvements. Fig. 2 is a side view of the same. Fig. 3 is a vertical sectional view taken transversely through the seat and desk adjoining one of the standards or supports, which has been partly broken away for the purpose of showing the construction more clearly. Fig. 4 is a perspective detail view showing one end of the back of a seat and the adjacent part of the back of the desk. Fig. 5 is a horizontal sectional view taken on line X X in Fig. 3. Fig. 6 is a detail view showing the segmental bracket for supporting the desk-lid and the means for sustaining the same.

The same letters refer to the same parts in all the figures.

A A designate the castings which form the base or support of the combined school seat and desk. Said castings are provided along their lower edges with flanges B, having perforations by means of which they may be secured to the floor in the desired position. Each of said castings further comprises a pair of vertical sockets C C, suitably con-

nected by means of open-work D and adapted to receive the shanks or supports of the seat and the desk, which are designated, respectively, by letters E and F. The seat-shanks E are provided at their upper ends with brackets G H. Between the forward brackets G G the seat I is mounted pivotally upon bolts J, which extend through the said brackets and through perforated lugs K, formed upon the seat-arms L, which are attached to the under side of the seat at the ends of the latter. The brackets are extended upwardly, as shown at N, for the attachment of the back O.

The upper ends of the shanks F are provided with brackets P, to which the sides of the desks are attached in any suitable manner. To the sides Q Q of the desk-frame is connected the back R, top S, bottom T, and front strip U of the desk-frames. To the front edges of the top S are hinged the folding leaves or covers V V, the free edges of which may be provided with locks for securing them to the front strip U, thus forming closets or lockers in which books and other materials may be kept while not in use. The said lockers may be subdivided into suitable compartments for the reception of such articles as slates, pencils, pen-holders, and the like. The edges of the folding leaves or covers are provided with segmental braces adapted to engage suitable catches, by means of which the said folding leaves may be retained when in a raised position.

The sides Q Q of the desk-frame are provided along their inner edges and in rear of the back part of the desk-frame with vertical flanges W W, which are provided with notches X X. The extensions N N of the brackets H of the seat-frame are provided on their inner sides with lugs Y Y, adapted to enter the notches X, and provided with grooves Z, adapted to engage the flanges W. The brackets N have flanges a, that engage rabbets b in the edges of the side pieces Q of the desk, so as to form a neat and closely-fitting joint. It will be seen that by this construction the back of the seat may be connected with the desk-frame in such a manner as to be capable of sliding vertically with relation thereto. It follows that the desk and the seat may be adjusted vertically with

relation to each other and without separating the two or weakening the connection between them.

The shanks E and F are provided on their inner edges with teeth or ratchets *c*, adapted to be engaged by the ratchet-bars *R*³, pivoted to the inner sides of the sockets C C, and having arms *d*, extending through slots *e* in the sockets C C, so as to engage the said ratchets. Pivoted intermediately between the arms *d d* is a lever or turn-button *f*, having beveled ends adapted to engage flanges *g* at the inner ends of the said arms *d*, thus causing the ratchet-bars *R*³ to be simultaneously forced into engagement with the ratchets of the shanks E and F of the seat and desk frames, respectively.

The operation of this invention and its advantages will be readily understood from the foregoing description, taken in connection with the drawings hereto annexed. It will be seen that when the lever or turn-button is released from engagement with the arms *d d* the ratchet-bars *R*³ may be withdrawn from engagement with the teeth or ratchet of the shanks E F, and the seat and desk may be readily adjusted independently of each other to any desired height. When the desired adjustment has been made, the turn-button or lever is thrown into engagement with the arms of the ratchet-bars, which latter are thus thrown into engagement with the ratchets of the shanks E and F, which are thus, with their attachments, retained in the desired position. The construction is simple and inexpensive, and the desks, as herein described, furnish lockers in which the school-books and other materials may be kept safe from loss or from injury by dust, mice or other vermin.

The top of the desk is provided with recesses *h*, thickly padded with felt or other suitable material, as shown at *i*, for the reception of the ink-wells *j*, which are retained

in the said recesses by means of perforated covering-plates *k*. By this construction the ink is prevented from freezing and is also prevented from being carelessly spilled or upset.

The principles of my invention, so far as the adjustability of the seat is concerned, may be advantageously applied to seats in churches and other public halls, the modifications necessary for the adaptation to such purposes being only such as will readily suggest themselves to the skillful artisan.

Having thus described my invention, I claim—

1. The combination of the castings having sockets formed therein and slots communicating with said sockets, the ratchet-bars pivoted in said sockets and having the flanged arms *d* extending through the slots therein, the levers or turn-buttons pivoted to the castings between said arms and having beveled ends to engage the flanges thereon to force the pivoted ratchet-bars in opposite directions, and the seat and desk frames having shanks extending into said sockets and provided with teeth or ratchets to engage the pivoted ratchet-bars, substantially as set forth.

2. The combination of the vertically-adjustable seat-frame having the back O, provided with flanges *a* and grooved lugs Y, with the independently vertical adjustable desk-frame having notched flanges W and rabbets *b*, said grooved lugs Y being adapted to engage and slide upon the notched flanges W, and thereby hold the parts together adjustably, substantially as set forth.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing as my own I have hereto affixed my signature in presence of two witnesses.

ROBERT B. HUNTER.

Witnesses:

A. T. ANDERSON,
J. D. MONROE.