

F. N. CHURCHILL.
FURNITURE.
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901,152.

Patented Oct. 13, 1908.

Fig. 1.

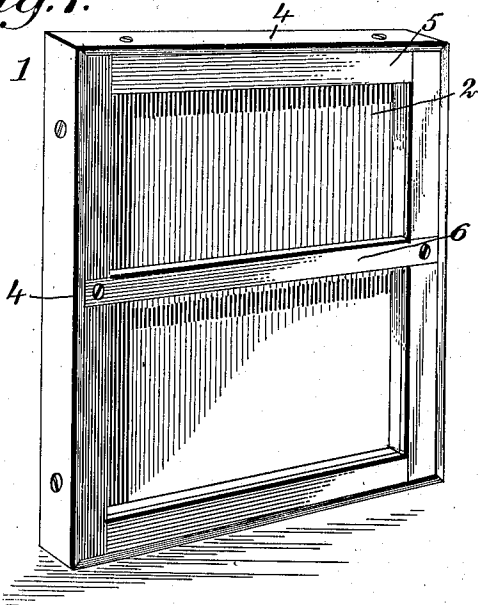


Fig. 2.

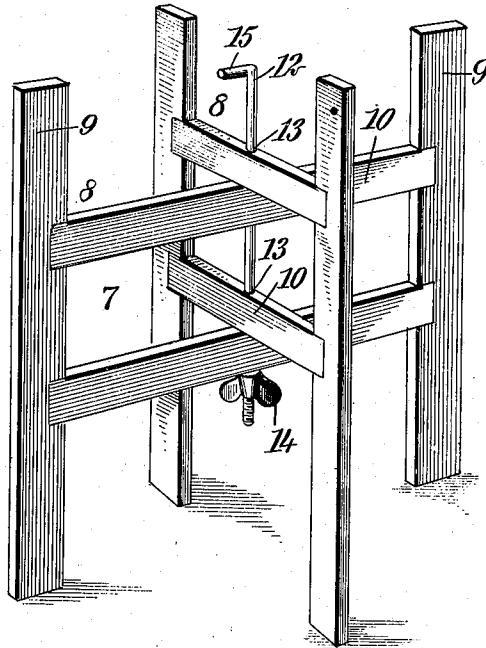


Fig. 3.

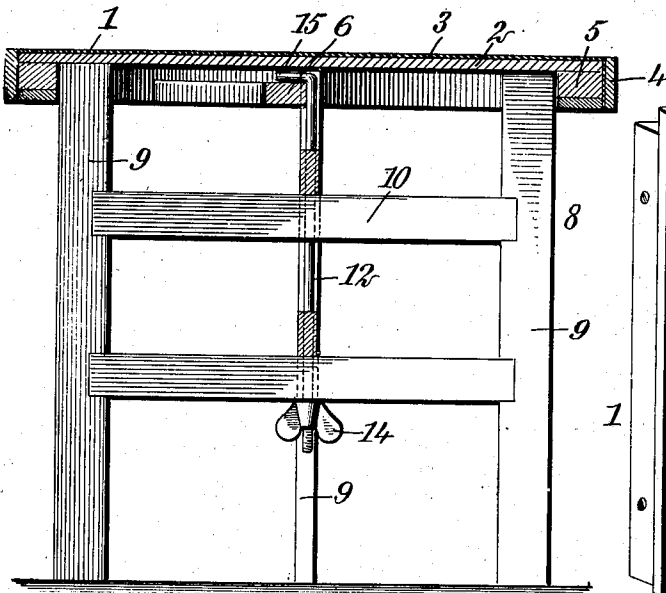
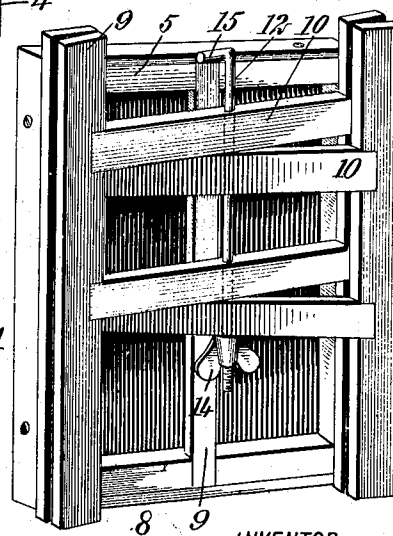


Fig. 4.



WITNESSES

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FURNITURE.

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Specification of Letters Patent.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, FRANCIS NEWTON CHURCHILL, a citizen of the United States, and a resident of Spokane, in the county of Spokane and State of Washington, have invented Improvements in Furniture, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description.

This invention relates to furniture and more particularly to tables and the like.

An object of the invention is to provide a table, simple in construction and inexpensive to manufacture, which can be folded into an inoperative position.

A further object is to provide an article of furniture which is so constructed, that when collapsed, it can be shipped or stored without danger of injury to the parts thereof, and at the same time requires a minimum of space.

The invention consists in the construction and combination of parts to be more particularly described hereinafter and particularly set forth in the claims.

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

Figure 1 is a perspective view of the top of my device; Fig. 2 is a perspective view showing the means of supporting the top of the table; Fig. 3 is a sectional view of the top showing the means for securing the supports in position; and Fig. 4 is a perspective view showing the supports removed from the top and folded into an inoperative position.

Before proceeding to a more detailed description of my invention, it should be understood that the fragile parts of furniture, such as the legs and the like, are often broken accidentally, especially in shipping or storing. In my device the legs or supports are both detachable and collapsible, and therefore may be packed separated from the top of the table, greatly lessening any chance of breakage. Furthermore, only the minimum of space is required in storing my device when collapsed into an inoperative position.

Referring more particularly to the drawings, 1 represents the top of a table which may be fashioned from any suitable material, such as wood, metal, marble, or the like, or any combination thereof. In the preferred form, as shown in the accompanying drawings, the top 1 consists of a top-plate 2, side members 4 secured peripherally about the top-plate 2,

edge braces 5 on the lower side of the top-plate and adjacent to the side members 4; and a bridge 6, rigidly secured to the edge braces 5 and extending across the under side of the top-plate and spaced therefrom. It should be understood that other forms of tops may be used in connection with my invention. If so desired, a cover 3 may be secured upon the top-plate by means of the side members 4.

The supporting means 7 may be constructed of any suitable material, such as wood, metal, marble, or the like, and in the preferred form as shown in the accompanying drawings consists of a double support 8, having legs or uprights 9 and cross-bars 10 rigidly connecting the legs. In the operative position of the support, the legs 9 are arranged at the under side of the top, seating in the corners formed by the edge braces. The latter serve to hold the legs against lateral displacement. The cross-bars 10 are so arranged, that they cross one another at a central point and present registering openings 13, to receive a pivotal member 12. The lower end of the member 12 is threaded to receive a thumbscrew 14, the upper end having a lateral extension 15 which is approximately at right angles to the body of the main pivotal member and engages with the bridge 6, to lock the entire supporting means in an operative position.

In assembling the parts, the top is arranged upon the support, and the lateral extension 15 is swung into engagement with the upper side of the bridge 6. By tightening the thumbscrew 14, it is forced against the lowest cross-bar 10 and thereby draws the pivotal member 12 downward. The latter in this manner exerts a downward pull upon the bridge and secures the top and support firmly together.

It should further be understood that my invention is not limited to tables alone, but is applicable to many other devices.

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

1. A folding table, comprising a top, bars attached to and extending downwardly from said top, the inner edges of said bars being positioned so as to form the sides of a rectangle, two pairs of rigidly connected legs, said pairs being pivoted together to swing in horizontal planes on a pivot connection which extends through each pair at a point

midway between its sides, a bar or bridge attached to said downwardly extending bars at the middle points of two opposite sides of said rectangle and extending across said rectangle and spaced from the top, and a lateral extension on the upper end of said pivotal connection adapted to engage over said bar or bridge, and each leg adapted to engage said downwardly extending bars at a corner of the rectangle, whereby the top and legs are detachably held together in position for use.

2. A folding table, comprising a top having a rectangular recess on its under side and a bar extending across the said recess at the center of the top, and pairs of legs pivoted together and having their upper ends engaging the corners of the recess of the top, the legs being formed of uprights, cross bars connecting the uprights intermediate of their ends, a pivot rod passing through the cross bars of the pairs of legs and having a lateral extension

at its upper end for engaging the cross bar of the top, and a nut on its lower end.

3. A folding table, comprising a top having a rectangular recess on its under side, and pairs of legs pivoted together and having their upper ends engaging the corners of the recess of the top, the legs being formed of pairs of uprights, bars connecting the pairs of uprights intermediate of their ends and crossing one another, and a pivot rod passing through the connecting bars of the uprights and having a nut on its lower end, and means at its upper end coacting with means on the under side of the top, whereby the top is locked to the legs.

In testimony whereof I have signed my name to this specification in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

FRANCIS NEWTON CHURCHILL.

Witnesses:

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TH. HOWARD.