(No Model.) 2 Sheets—Sheet 1.

F. L. COWLES.

SURGEON'S COMBINED OPERATING TABLE AND DESK.

No. 385,545. Patented July 3, 1888.

Fig. 1.

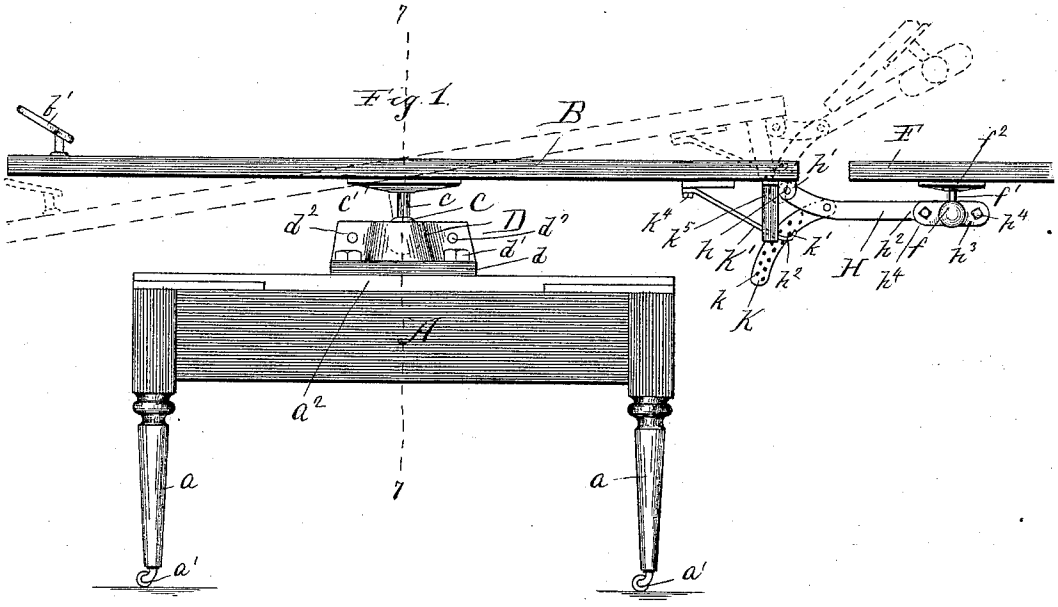
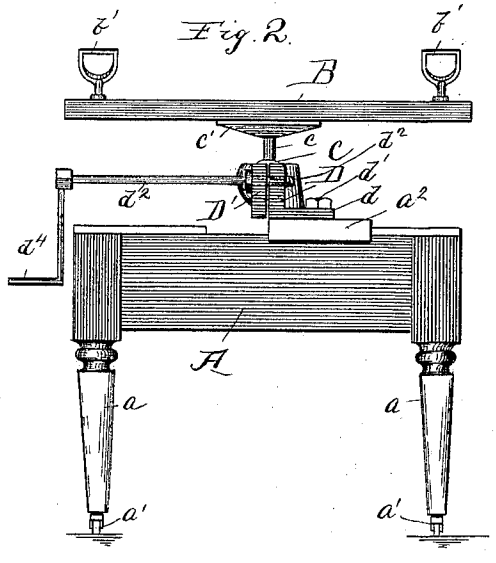


Fig. 2.



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(No Model.) 2 Sheets—Sheet 2.

F. L. COWLES.

SURGEON'S COMBINED OPERATING TABLE AND DESK.

No. 385,545. Patented July 3, 1888.

Fig. 3.

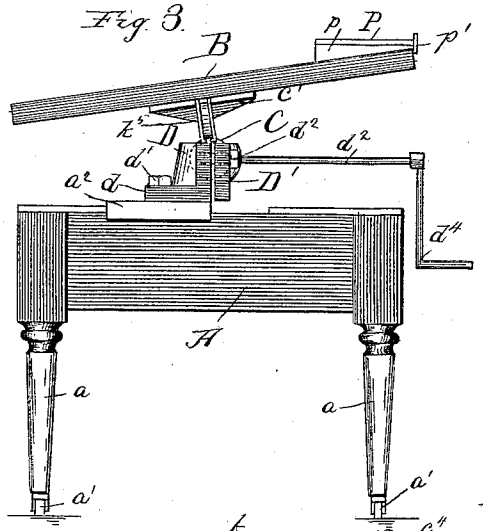


Fig. 7.

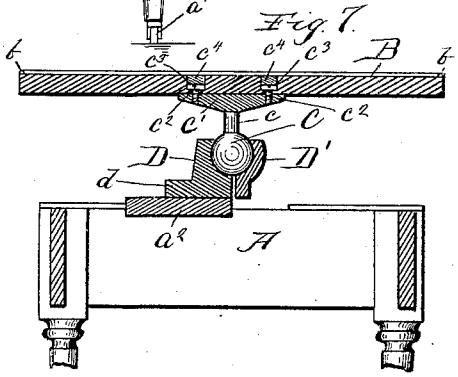


Fig. 4.

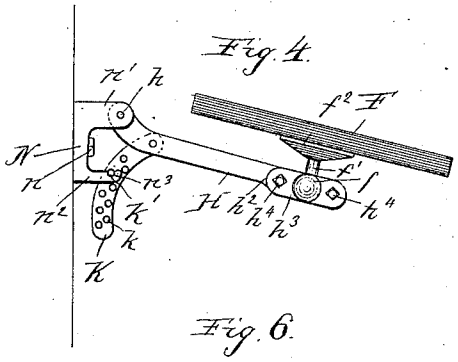


Fig. 5

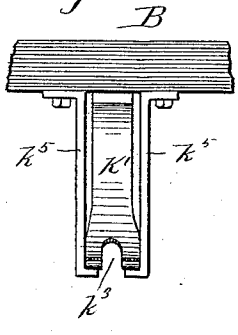
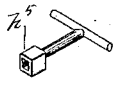


Fig. 6.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

FRANK L. COWLES, OF DELAVAN, WISCONSIN.

SURGEON'S COMBINED OPERATING-TABLE AND DESK.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 385,545, dated July 3, 1888.

Application filed December 1, 1887. Serial No. 256,632. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, FRANK L. COWLES, a citizen of the United States, residing at Delavan, in the county of Walworth and State of Wisconsin, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Surgeon's Combined Operating-Table and Desk, of which the following is a specification.

The object of my invention is to provide an operating-table of a strong, simple, and durable construction, which may be quickly and easily adjusted to and firmly secured in any desired position, and which, when not in use as an operating-table, may serve as a writing-desk, and thus by making one serve both uses save the space occupied by as well as expense of one of the two distinct pieces of furniture.

Another advantage of my invention, especially where the surgeon or physician does not have a large suite of offices or a spare room to devote exclusively to his operating-table, is that, the operating-table, when not in use as such, being converted over into a desk, a somewhat disagreeably-suggestive object, at least to sensitive or nervous patients or visitors, is removed from their sight and contemplation.

To this end my invention consists in the novel devices and novel combinations of parts or devices herein shown and described, and more particularly pointed out in the claims.

In the accompanying drawings, which form a part of this specification, and in which similar letters of reference indicate like parts, Figure 1 is a side elevation of a combined operating-table and desk embodying my invention. Fig. 2 is an end view of the same. Fig. 3 is an end view (looking at the opposite end from Fig. 2) showing the same in position for use as a desk, the head-rest being removed. Fig. 4 is an end view showing the head-rest removed from the table and secured to a bracket on the wall in position to serve as an additional writing-desk. Fig. 5 is an enlarged detail view of the bracket and catch for adjusting the head-rest on the table. Fig. 6 is a perspective view of the wrench used in adjusting the head-rest, and Fig. 7 is a section on line 7 7 of Fig. 1.

In said drawings, A represents a strong rectangular stand or frame-work having four legs, *a*, each of which is or should be provided with casters *a'*.

B is the operating-table, mounted upon the stand A by a ball-and-socket joint, and with a sufficient space between the table and the top of the stand to permit the former to be inclined or adjusted into any desired position. The ball C has a vertical shank, *c*, which is provided at its upper end with a flange, *c'*, for securing the same to the table B. This flange is bolted to the table at the center thereof by bolts c^2, the heads of which are fitted into holes c^3 in the upper surface of the table, and these holes are filled with plugs c^4, so as to make a smooth and even surface for the table. The socket for the ball is made in two parts, D D'. The part D has a horizontal flange, *d*, and is firmly secured to the top board or timber, a^2, of the stand or frame A by bolts *d'*. The other half, D', of the socket is secured to the part D by the clamp-bolts d^2 d^2. A crank, d^4, fits upon the end of one of these clamp-bolts and serves to tighten the same, so as to firmly secure the table at any desired inclination or adjustment. By simply loosening one of these clamp-bolts a turn or two with the crank the table can be quickly tilted to any desired adjustment, and readily and firmly secured in such position by again tightening the clamp-bolt. As the table is solely supported by this ball-and-socket joint, it is free to turn or tilt in every direction, and the adjustments may be made with the greatest ease and dispatch.

The table B is provided at one end with an adjustable head-rest, F. This head-rest is mounted by a ball-and-socket joint on an adjustable arm, H, pivoted at *h* to the ear or bracket *h'*, secured at the end of the table B on the under side thereof. The ball *f* of this joint has a shank, *f'*, and flange f^2 for securing the same to the head-rest F, and the socket for the ball is made in two parts, h^2 h^3. The part h^2 of the socket may preferably be cast or made integral with the pivot-arm H. The other half, h^3, of the socket is secured to the part h^2, so as to firmly clamp the ball *f* by the clamp-bolts h^4 h^4. A wrench, h^5, serves to loosen and tighten these clamp-bolts in adjusting or inclining the head-rest into any desired position in respect to the pivoted arm H, upon which it is mounted. The pivoted or swinging arm H is adjusted at any desired inclination to the table B by means of an adjustable pivoted

brace-arm, K, having a series of holes, k, through which a pin, k', is inserted, which pin fits in a suitable socket or recess, k^2, in the bracket K'. The bracket K' has a slot, k^3, in its end, in which the adjustable brace-arm K fits and through which it may slide. The bracket K' is secured to the table B by a bolt, k^4, and also by a brace-arm or bracket, k^5, which is attached to table B near its end. By this means the head-rest may be adjusted and firmly secured in any desired position in respect to the table B. The table B is provided with a marginal bead, b, or, as an equivalent therefor, a marginal channel, to prevent any water, blood, or liquid from dripping on the floor. The table B is further furnished with heel sockets or stirrups b', the shanks of which are pivotally connected to the table. These heel sockets or stirrups are removably mounted upon the table.

When the table is to be used as a desk, the head-rest and its adjustable pivoted arm H are removed from the table by simply pulling out the pivot-pin h, when the whole may be removed, as the pin k' simply rests in an open ledge or recess, as before described.

N represents a bracket which is secured to the wall by a bolt, n, and has a projection, n', to which the arm H is pivoted, and the projection n^2, having a notch, n^3, to receive the pin k' of the brace-arm K, so that the adjustable head-rest may be supported upon the wall, and thus serve and appear as a writing-table or as a shelf upon which other articles may be placed. To give the table B more the appearance of a desk, I provide the same with a removable ledge or lock-piece, P, which consists simply of a strip or board with inclined end pieces, p, and molding-rib p'. This part P represents the horizontal back portion of the desk when the table B is inclined to serve as the inclined front portion of the desk.

I hereby disclaim as not of my invention the devices shown and described in the Patents No. 192,252, to Gates, No. 13,396, to Perkins, No. 328,460, to Clark, and Reissue Patent No. 7,215, to White, dated July 4, 1878.

I claim—

1. The combined operating-table and desk consisting in the combination, with stand A, of adjustable table B, a ball-and-socket joint connecting the two, head-rest F, adjustable pivoted arm H, and a ball-and-socket joint connecting said head-rest and arm, said arm H being removably connected to the table, so that the same may be removed when the table is to be used for a desk, substantially as specified.

2. The combination, with stand A, of adjustable table B, a ball-and-socket joint between the two, a clamp-screw and crank, and a head-rest mounted upon an adjustable pivotal arm, H, substantially as specified.

3. The combination, with stand A, of adjustable table B, a ball-and-socket joint between the two, an adjustable head-rest, F, an adjustable arm, H, pivoted to said table, and a ball-and-socket joint between said head-rest and arm, substantially as specified.

4. The combination, with an operating-table, of an adjustable head-rest mounted by a ball-and-socket joint upon an adjustable arm, H, pivoted to said table, adjustable pivotal brace-arm K, bracket K', having notch or recess k^2 and slot k^3, and pin k', substantially as specified.

5. The combination, with an operating-table, of an adjustable head-rest mounted by a ball-and-socket joint upon an adjustable arm, H, pivoted to said table, adjustable pivotal brace-arm K, bracket K', having notch or recess k^2, slot k^3, and pins k', said head-rest F, pivotal arm H, and brace-arm K being bodily removable from said table, substantially as specified.

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R. C. HIGGINS.