

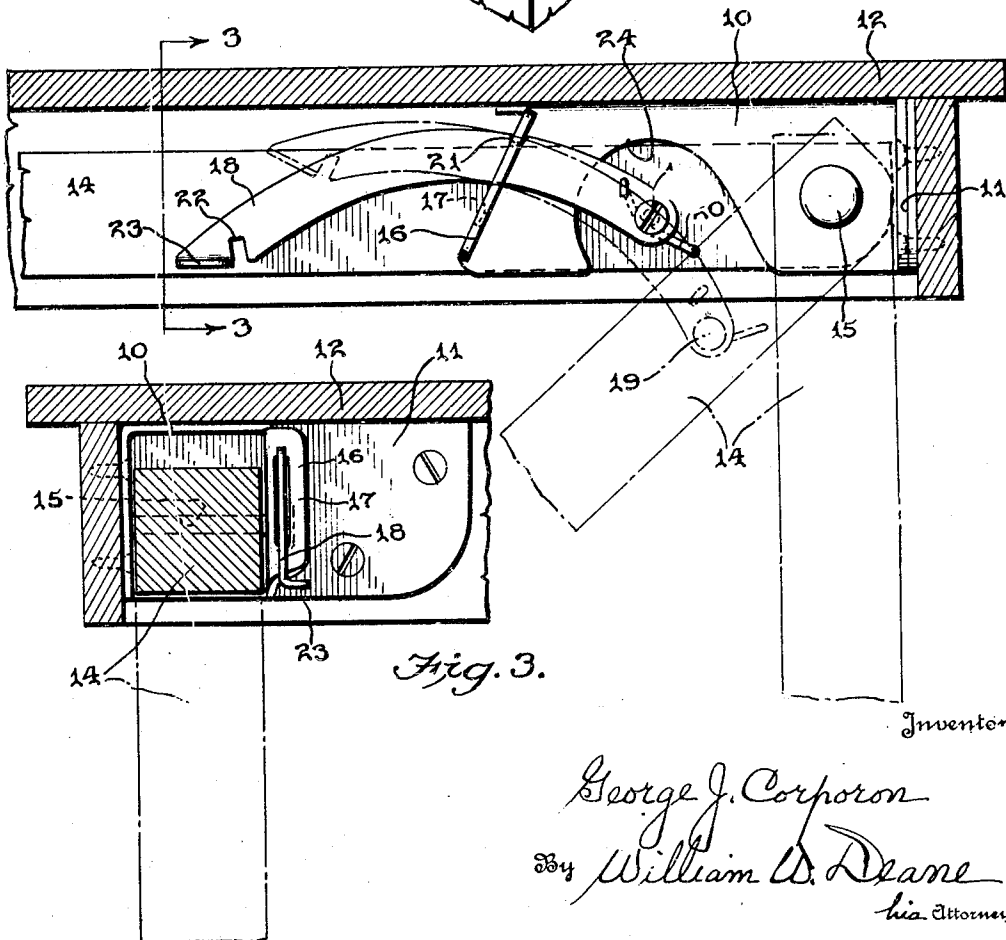
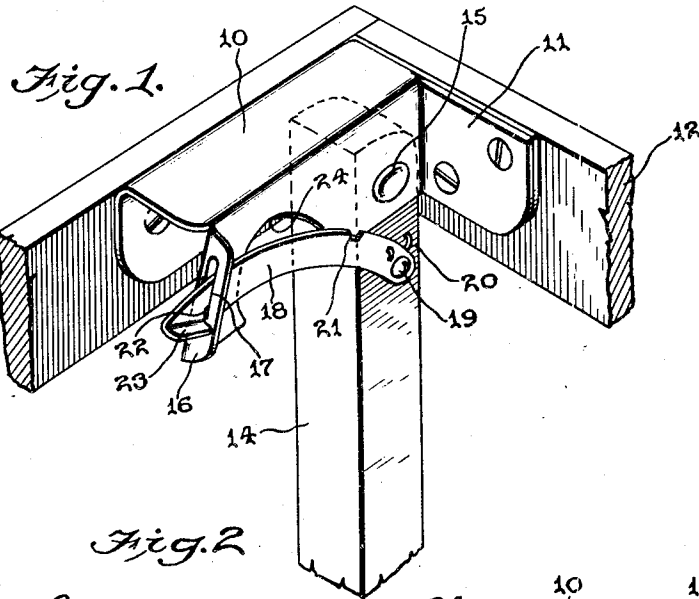
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TABLE LEG LATCH

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TABLE-LEG LATCH

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The object of the invention is generally to provide a latch adapted to positively retain a swinging member in different angular positions to which it may be moved and particularly to provide a device adapted to serve as a means for retaining the legs of a folding table in the folded or extending positions; to provide a latch carried and actuated by the swinging member or leg and provided with a keeper fixed with respect to the axis of swinging movement of the member, the latch being formed with spaced seats on opposite sides and spring actuated to engage either of the seats with the keeper; and to provide a device which is of simple form and therefore susceptible of cheap manufacture and low marketing cost.

With this object in view the invention consists in a construction and combination of parts of which a preferred embodiment is illustrated in the accompanying drawings, wherein:

Figure 1 is a perspective view of the corner of a table of the folding leg variety showing the invention applied in operative position.

Figure 2 is a side elevational view of the invention and adjacent portion of the table leg showing the latter in folded position, the intervening position between folded and extended positions being indicated in dotted lines.

Figure 3 is a sectional view on the plane indicated by the line 3—3 of Figure 2.

The invention is illustrated as applied to the legs of a folding table and as so used comprises preferably a guide member 10 formed with the bracket plate 11 by which it may be secured together with one of the side walls of the guide to the table top 12. The leg 14 is swingingly carried in the guide on a pivot pin 15, so that it may be swung into alignment with the guide when it is in folded position as indicated in Figure 2 or swung to a right angular position with reference to the guide when it is extended as in Figure 1. The inner wall of the guide at the end is formed with a right angular ear 16 having a slot 17, this ear constituting the keeper with which the latch 18 has a running engagement, traversing the slot 17. The latch 18 is of

arcuate form and has a pivotal mounting 19 on the leg, said pivot being surrounded with a spring 20 of which one end is connected with the latch and the other end with the leg. In the intermediate position of the leg indicated in dotted lines of Figure 2, the spring is free of tension, but when the leg is in the folded position indicated, a torsional strain is applied to the spring in one direction, so that there is a tendency to swing the upper edge of the latch against the upper end of the slot 17. In the open or extended position of the leg, the tension is in the opposite direction and the lower edge of the latch is yieldingly impelled towards the bottom end of the slot 17.

The latch is formed with spaced notches 21 and 22 of which the former is on the upper edge at an intermediate point in its length and the latter on the lower edge adjacent the free extremity which is outturned as indicated at 23 to provide an ear with which the fingers may be engaged to move the latch and which also, by abutting the keeper, acts as a limiting stock to limit the swinging outward or extended position of the leg.

By reason of the spring impelling the latch in one direction in the folded position of the leg and in the other direction in the extended position, the seats or notches 21 and 22 are respectively engaged with the upper or lower end of the keeper slot depending on whether the leg be in the folded or extended positions. In either position, the leg is positively held, but is readily released by swinging the latch by means of the ear 23 to disengage the connected seat when the adjustment of the leg may follow.

The inner wall of the guide is cut away as indicated at 24 to provide a clearance space for the latch pivot and actuating spring when the leg is in folded position.

The invention having been described what is claimed as new and useful is:

1. A latch, a swinging member, and a keeper fixed with reference to the axis of swinging movement of said member, the latch having spaced seats for respective engagement with the keeper in either of two extreme positions of movement of said member, the seats

being on opposite sides of the latch and the latter being spring actuated to yieldingly engage either of the seats with the keeper depending on the position of the swinging member.

2. A device for the purpose indicated comprising in combination with a table having a swinging leg, a latch pivotally mounted on the leg, and a keeper fixed with reference to the table, the latch having spaced seats for engagement with the keeper respectively in the extended and folded positions of the leg, the seats being disposed on opposite sides of the latch and the latter being yieldingly impelled in opposite positions depending on whether the leg is in extended or folded position.

3. A device for the purpose indicated comprising in combination with a table having a swinging leg, a latch pivotally mounted on the leg, and a keeper fixed with reference to the table, the latch having spaced seats for engagement with the keeper respectively in the extended and folded positions of the leg, the latch having an operative connection with the leg to engage one or the other of the seats with the keeper depending on whether the leg be in folded or extended position.

4. A device for the purpose indicated comprising a guide open on the under side, a leg having its upper end disposed between the side walls of the guide and pivotally mounted with respect to the latter for swinging movement into alignment with or at right angles to the same, a latch member having a pivotal mounting on the leg and being provided with spaced seats, the guide being formed with a keeper through which the latch slides and with which the seats are engaged respectively in the folded and extended positions of the leg.

5. A device for the purpose indicated comprising a guide open on the under side, a leg having its upper end disposed between the side walls of the guide and pivotally mounted with respect to the latter for swinging movement into alignment with or at right angles to the same, a latch member having a pivotal mounting on the leg and being provided with spaced seats, the guide being formed with a keeper through which the latch slides and with which the seats are engaged respectively in the folded and extended positions of the leg, the seats being formed on opposite sides of the latch, and a spring yieldingly impelling the latch either to one side or the other of its pivotal connection depending on the relative positions of the leg and guide.

6. In a table leg latch, a pivoted leg, a keeper with which the latch is designed to interlock in different positions of said leg, said latch being formed in one edge with keeper engaging means to hold the leg in one position and in the opposite edge with keeper en-

gaging means to hold the leg in a different position.

7. In a table, a top, a leg connected thereto for movement into either of two positions, a keeper secured to the top, and a latch pivotally connected to the leg and cooperating with the keeper, said latch having keeper-engaging means in one edge to hold the leg in one position and keeper-engaging means in an opposite edge to hold the leg in the other position.

8. In combination an element, a member swingingly connected thereto for movement into either of two positions relative to the element, a latch, a keeper fixed to the element and formed to permit movement of the latch therethrough, said latch being formed in opposite edges and adjacent the respective ends with keeper engaging means for cooperation with the keeper in the respective positions of said member, and a single means operative to influence the latch toward keeper-engaging positions in each of the respective positions of the member.

9. A table, a leg swingingly connected thereto, a keeper formed with a slot carried by the table, a latch operative through the slot in the keeper and pivotally carried by the leg, a keeper engaging notch formed in one edge of the latch near one end thereof, a keeper-engaging notch formed in the opposite edge of the latch near the opposite end thereof, and a single spring tensioned by the relative movements of the latch and leg to move the latch into keeper engaging relation at the respective limit movements of the leg relative to the table.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature.
GEORGE J. CORPORON.

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