(No Model.) 2 Sheets—Sheet 1.

C. B. & J. B. PHELPS.

SHEEP SHEARING TABLE.

No. 352,262. Patented Nov. 9, 1886.

Fig. 1.

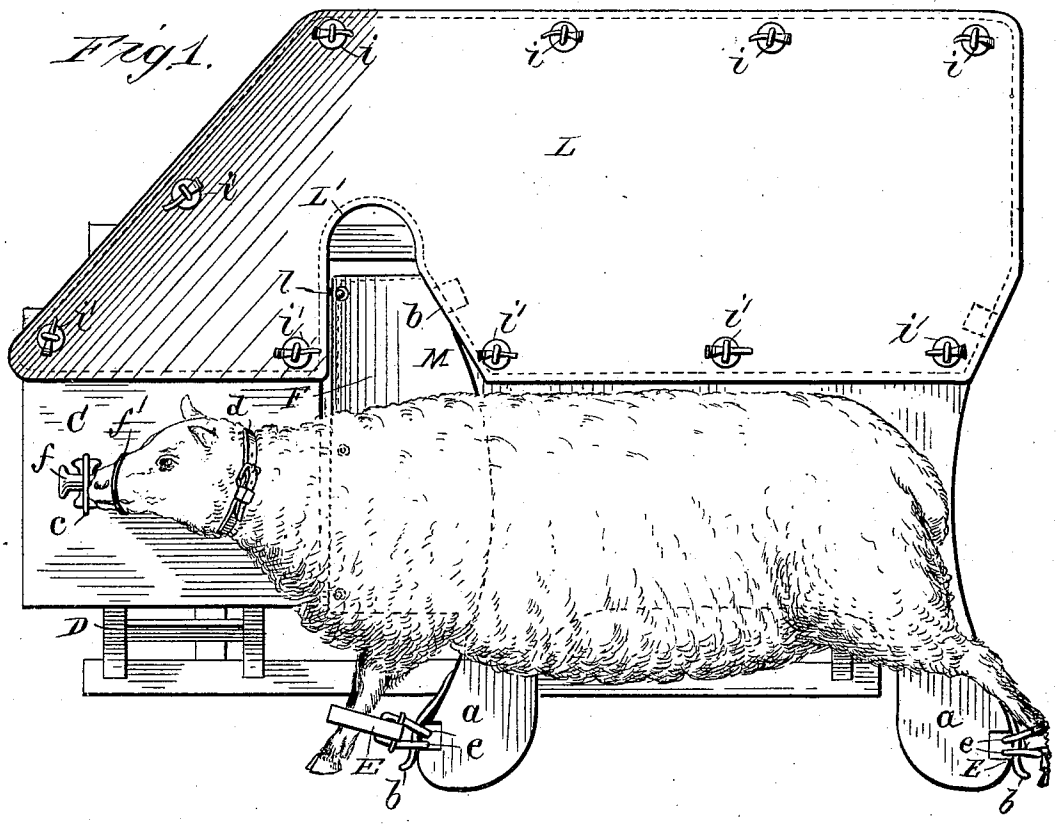
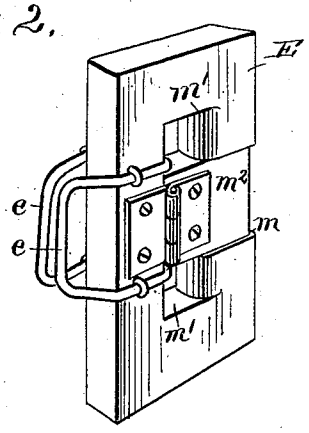


Fig. 2.



WITNESSES:

J. D. Caffield

C. Sedgwick.

INVENTOR:

C. B. Phelps

J. B. Phelps

BY Munn & Co

ATTORNEYS.

N. PETERS, Photo-Lithographer, Washington, D. C.

(No Model.) 2 Sheets—Sheet 2.

C. B. & J. B. PHELPS.

SHEEP SHEARING TABLE.

No. 352,262. Patented Nov. 9, 1886.

Fig. 3.

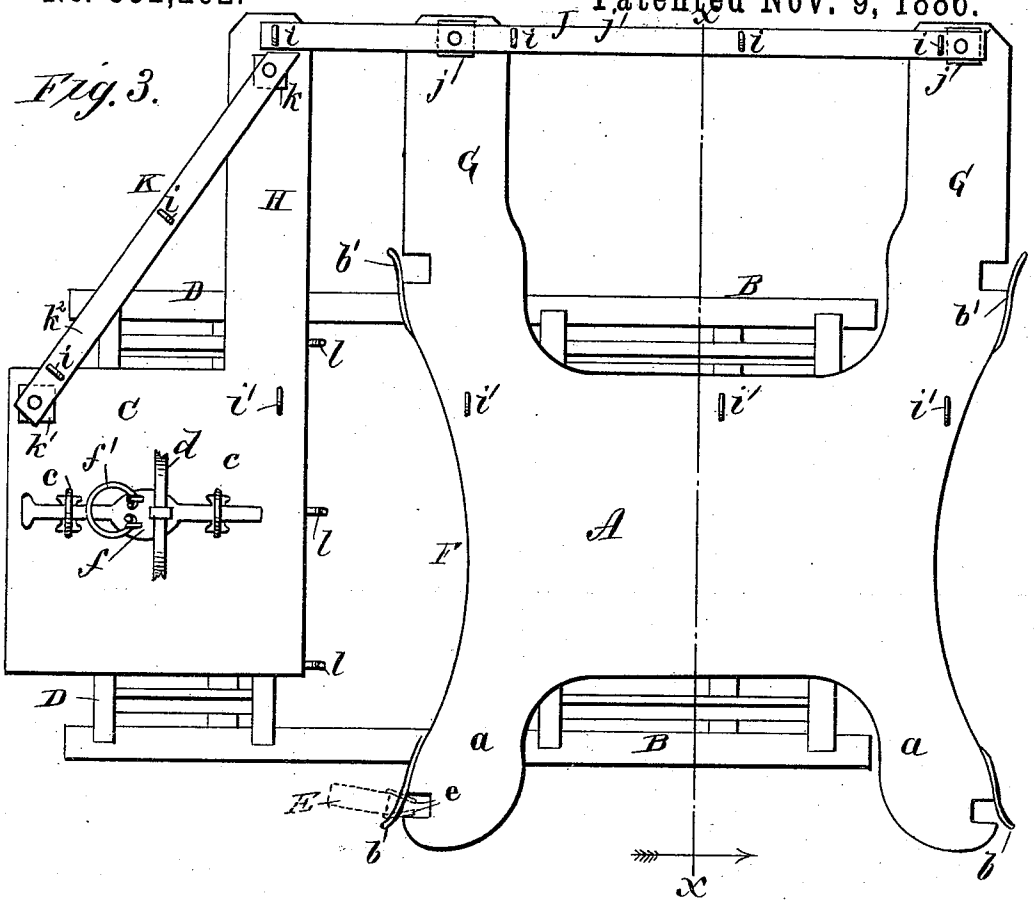
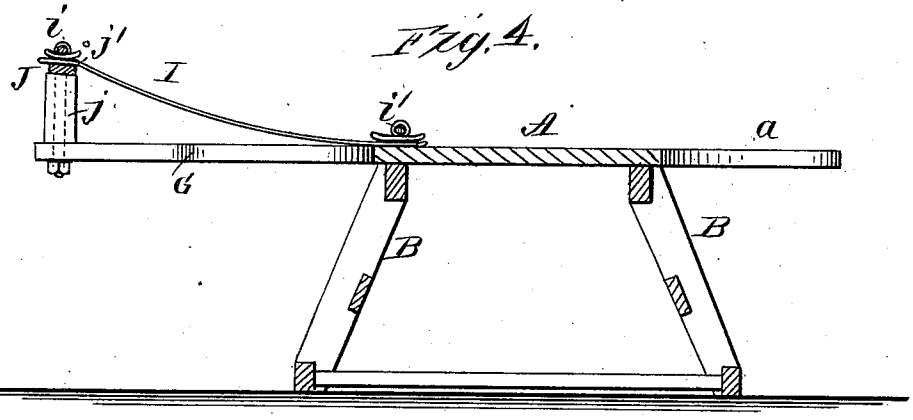


Fig. 4.



WITNESSES:

J. D. Lasfield

C. Sedgwick

INVENTOR:

C. B. Phelps

J. B. Phelps

BY Munn & Co.

ATTORNEYS.

N. PETERS. Photo-Lithographer. Washington, D. C.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

CHARLES B. PHELPS AND J. BELLE PHELPS, OF WERNERSVILLE, PA.

SHEEP-SHEARING TABLE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 352,262, dated November 9, 1886.

Application filed August 26, 1886. Serial No. 211,916. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that we, CHARLES B. PHELPS and J. BELLE PHELPS, of the city of Wernersville, in the county of Berks and State of Pennsylvania, have invented a new and Improved Sheep-Shearing Table, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description.

The object of our invention is to furnish a complete table for shearing and trimming sheep and for tying up the fleece, which table shall be light, cheap, and easily handled, and so constructed that the sheep can be easily turned from one side to the other as the shearing progresses.

The invention consists, principally, of the construction of the table, as hereinafter described and claimed, and of the stocks used for holding the legs of the sheep, which may be detached from the table to permit the sheep to be turned.

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

Figure 1 is a plan view of the sheep shearing table, showing a sheep held thereon. Fig. 2 is an enlarged perspective view of one of the stocks. Fig. 3 is a plan view of the table with the wool-apron removed; and Fig. 4 is a sectional elevation of the table, taken on the line *x x* of Fig. 3.

Our sheep-shearing table is composed of two parts—viz., the main table A and the auxiliary table C—supported, respectively, by suitable legs or standards, B D. The main table A is for supporting the body of the sheep, while the auxiliary table C supports its head, the auxiliary table being held in the same plane with the main table A. The front corners of the main table A are formed with the projections *a a*, which are provided each with a hook, *b*, for holding the legs of the sheep, and the main table A and auxiliary table C are arranged, relatively to each other, so that a space, F, is formed between their adjacent edges, through which space the front legs of the sheep swing when he is turned from one side to the other in shearing, and other hooks, *b'*, are attached to the back of the main table A to receive the bails *e e* of the stocks E, for holding the sheep when turned upon the side opposite to that shown in Fig. 1.

The sheep's head is held to the auxiliary table C by the strap *d*, which buckles around his neck or horns, and this strap is attached to a block, *f*, which is provided also with a ring, *f'*, to go over the sheep's nose, as shown in Fig. 1, and the block *f* is held to the auxiliary table C in loose bearings *c c*, which permit the block to turn axially, so as to give considerable freedom and a degree of comfort to the sheep while confined for shearing.

At the rear edge of the main table A and the auxiliary table C are formed the projections or arms G G H, and rising from the outer ends of those arms is a fender, J, consisting of the supporting-posts *j* and the top rail, *j'*. (Shown clearly in Figs. 3 and 4.) An inclined fender, K, reaches from the fender J to the outer corner of the auxiliary table C, consisting of the posts *k* and shorter posts, *k'*, and the rail k^2, secured to the upper ends of the posts. Upon the fenders J K is secured, by the fastening device *i i*, the outer edge of the apron L, while the inner edge of the apron is secured to the tables A C by the fastening devices *i' i'*. In this manner the apron L is held in an inclined position to receive the wool as it is clipped from the sheep, and a space, L', is cut in the apron to correspond with the space F, so the apron will not interfere with the turning of the sheep.

The stock E is formed with an edge-opening, *m*, and with side communicating openings, *m' m'*, to receive the ankles of the sheep. Hinged to the stock is the block m^2, which is arranged to spread the limbs of the sheep into the spaces *m' m'*, and to close the opening *m*, so that when the limbs of the sheep are inserted in the stock and the block m^2 closed into the space *m* the stock is thus securely attached to the sheep's limbs. The staples or rings *e*, above mentioned, are attached to the back of the stock for connecting it with the hooks *b b'* of the table for holding the sheep securely upon the table.

In the space F is secured the apron M, which may be detached from its holding device *l* during the shearing and turning of the sheep, but which may be connected with said holding devices when the fleece is to be tied.

By constructing the table as described it furnishes an absolute fastening for the legs and head, which fastenings can be easily and quickly applied by one person, and the fasten-

ings hold the sheep on the table in an easy position, in which it does not suffer nor struggle. The fastenings allow the sheep to be instantly turning without lifting and without breaking the fleece or scattering the wool, and the fleece, when wholly removed, is ready for tying for market with the clean side out, and when the sheep is held upon the table he is in the best position possible for shearing, exposing all parts to the shears.

Having thus fully described our invention, what we claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. A sheep-shearing table composed of a main table and an auxiliary table arranged to form a space, F, between their adjacent edges, the main table being provided with fastening devices to hold the leg-stocks, substantially as described.

2. The sheep-shearing table composed of a main table, A, and an auxiliary table, C, arranged to form the space F between their adjacent edges, in combination with an apron attached to the main and auxiliary tables to receive the fleece, substantially as described.

3. The sheep-shearing table composed of the main table A and auxiliary table C, arranged near the table A, and provided at the rear edge with fenders, in combination with the apron L, attached to the fenders and to the main and auxiliary tables, the fenders serving to hold the apron in an inclined position, substantially as described.

4. The sheep-shearing table composed of a main table, A, and auxiliary table C, arranged to form a space, F, between their adjacent edges, in combination with a fastening device attached to the auxiliary table C, for holding the sheep's head, substantially as described.

5. The sheep-shearing table composed of the main table A and auxiliary table C, arranged to form the space F between their adjacent edges, in combination with the rotary block *f*, attached to the auxiliary table C, and provided with the ring *f'* and straps *d*, substantially as described.

6. The leg-stock E, having fastening devices or loops *e*, and formed with the opening *m* and side openings, *m' m'*, in combination with the intermediate hinged block, m^2, arranged to close opening *m* and to retain the animal's legs in the openings *m'*, substantially as described.

CHARLES B. PHELPS.
J. BELLE PHELPS.

Witnesses:
JAMES R. KENNEY,
CHAS. W. BAUM.