No. 739,618. PATENTED SEPT. 22, 1903.

E. E. QUAAS.

TABLE.

APPLICATION FILED APR. 9, 1903.

NO MODEL. 2 SHEETS—SHEET 1.

Fig. 1.

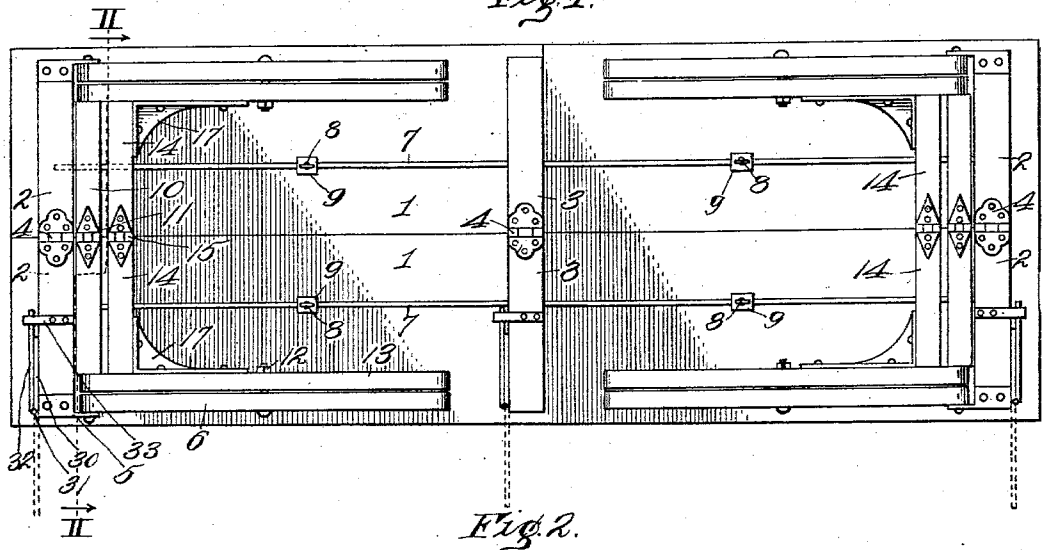


Fig. 2.

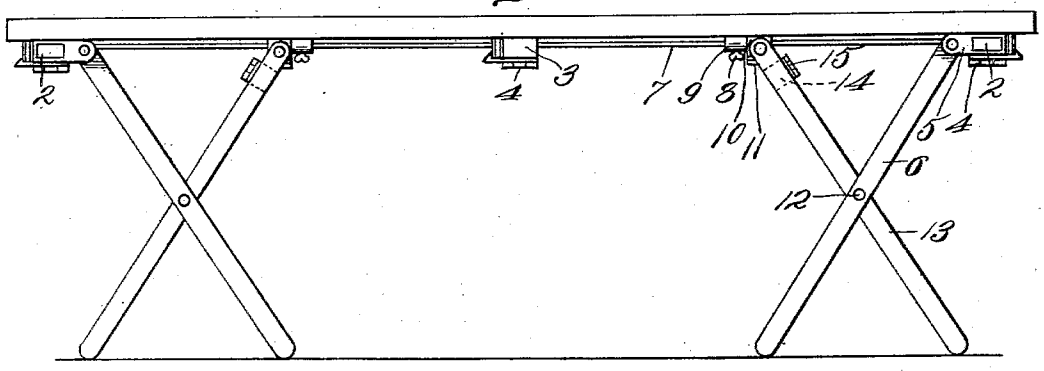
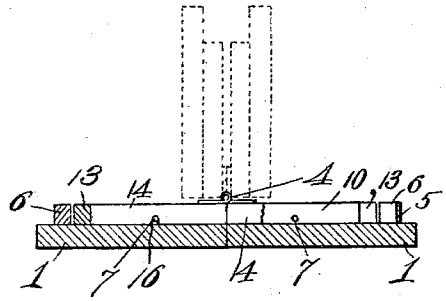


Fig. 3.



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THE NORRIS PETERS CO., PHOTO-LITHO., WASHINGTON, D. C.

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E. E. QUAAS.

TABLE.

APPLICATION FILED APR. 9, 1903.

NO MODEL. 2 SHEETS—SHEET 2.

Fig. 4.

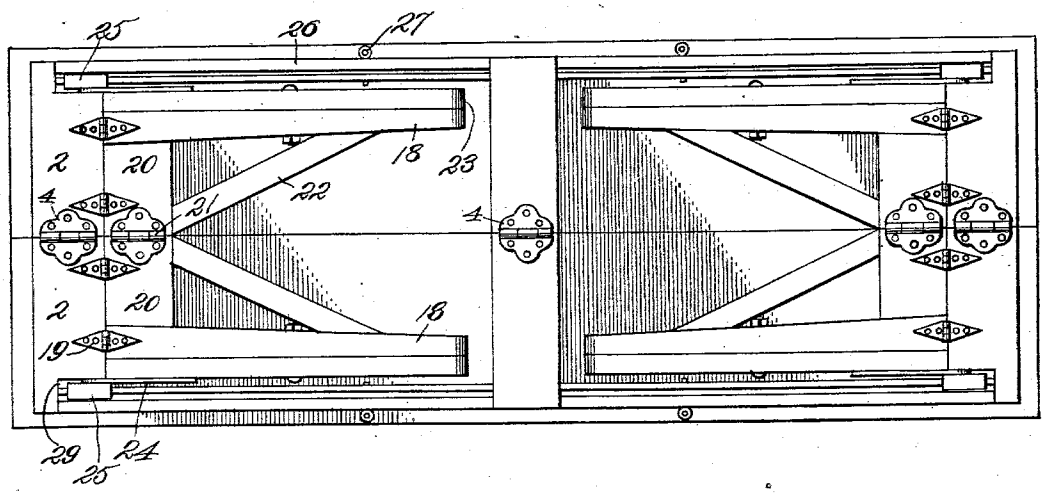


Fig. 5.

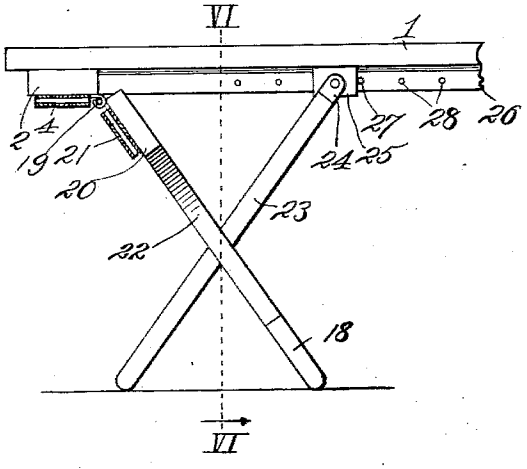
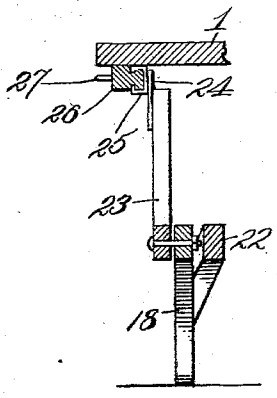


Fig. 6.



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No. 739,618. Patented September 22, 1903.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

EDWARD E. QUAAS, OF KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI, ASSIGNOR TO VICTOR W. FLOWERREE AND JAMES B. KEISTER, OF KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI.

TABLE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 739,618, dated September 22, 1903.

Application filed April 9, 1903. Serial No. 151,696. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, EDWARD E. QUAAS, a citizen of the United States, residing at Kansas City, in the county of Jackson and State of Missouri, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Tables, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to folding tables, and has for its object to produce a table of this character which is of exceedingly light, yet strong, rigid, and durable construction, and which when folded is conveniently portable and may be stored away in a very small space.

To this end the invention consists in certain novel and peculiar features of construction and combinations of parts, as hereinafter described and claimed, and in order that it may be fully understood reference is to be had to the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a bottom plan view of the table with the legs folded against its under side. Fig. 2 is a side view of the same in its erect or operative position. Fig. 3 is a cross-section taken on the line II II of Fig. 1 and showing the table folded in dotted lines. Fig. 4 is a view similar to Fig. 1 of a modified construction. Fig. 5 is a central longitudinal section of a portion of the modified form of table in its erect or operative position. Fig. 6 is a section taken on the line VI VI of Fig. 5.

In the said drawings, where like reference-numerals designate corresponding parts, the table is composed of two similar sections extending longitudinally and arranged edge to edge, having alined cross-bars 2 at their ends and if the table is a long one alined cross-bars 3 at their middle. Said cross-bars are secured to the under sides of the sections and hinged together, as at 4, in order that the table may be folded to the position shown in Fig. 3 for convenience of storage and transportation. The end cross-bars 2 are provided with inwardly-projecting parallel arms 5, and pivoted to the inner sides of said arms are legs 6.

7 designates guide-rods, secured at their ends to bars 2, but where the intermediate bars 3 are employed, as in a long table, said rods may be secured at their inner ends to said bars, and secured by set-screws 8 on said rods are sliding stops or collars 9.

10 designates cross-bars arranged end to end in pairs, fitting slidingly on rods 7 and hinged together, as at 11, coincidently with the hinges 4, so as to fold with the table-sections, and pivoted to the ends of said bars 10 and arranged just inward of and also pivoted, as at 12, to legs 6 are legs 13, these legs being braced by cross-bars 14, hinged together, as at 15, in alinement with hinges 4 and 11, and said bars are provided with grooves 16 to fit over rods 7 when the legs are folded against the under side of the table-sections. As a further means of insuring rigidity and strength, brace-bars 14 are connected to legs 13 by angle-braces 17 or their equivalent.

The foregoing completes the enumeration of the parts of the table proper—that is, of the preferred form of the same—and assuming that the table occupies its folded or inoperative position, as shown by dotted lines, Fig. 3, and that it is desired to erect it for use the operator grasps the sections and swings them to the position shown in full lines, Figs. 1 and 3. The position of the table is then reversed, so as to dispose the legs beneath it, and the bars 10 are grasped and slid inwardly or toward each other until arrested by the stops 9, the result being the legs 6 and 13 intersect each other and afford a rigid and stable support for the table, bracing it for such a comparatively long distance that the top, in a table as long as a paperhanger's pasting or cutting table, will he practically rigid or unyielding for its entire length. In fact, the structure is so rigid by having the intersecting legs that it may be made of such thin material that its entire weight in practice need not exceed twenty-eight or thirty pounds, and for this reason can be moved from place to place with great facility and convenience.

The adjustment of the stops 9 obviously regulates the height of the table, so that it can be made to conveniently accommodate a tall or a short person, and for this reason will be found of great convenience by paperhangers, as the ordinary tables employed are frequently too high for the paperhanger's assistants, usually boys, to work upon.

A short table of the type described will be found exceedingly useful for sewing, drafting, and card-playing purposes, and, in fact,

will be useful in many connections not necessary to mention herein.

In the modified form shown by Sheet 2 the arrangement of the legs is reversed—that is to say, the inner legs are hinged to the bars 2 and the outer legs are slidingly connected to the table—and for this reason are identified by different reference characters. The inner legs 18 are hinged, as at 19, to end bars 2 and have their brace-bars 20 hinged together, as at 21, and connected to the legs by inclined braces 22. Said legs are pivoted to the outer legs 23, having metallic extensions 24, pivoted to sliding sleeves 25, engaging grooved side strips 26, secured to the under sides of the table-sections parallel with their side margins. These sleeves are adapted to slide on said strips when the legs are swung to operative or inoperative position and be limited in the former movement by stops in the form of pins 27, engaging one of the longitudinal series of holes 28 in said strips, as shown in Fig. 5, and owing to the fact that the pivotal points of legs 23 occupy a higher plane than the corresponding points of legs 18 the ends of bars 2, if extended to meet strips 26, must be notched, as at 29, to accommodate the sleeves and projecting ends of plates 24 when the legs are folded up against the bottom of the table, as shown clearly in Fig. 4. The folding or unfolding of said table is effected in practically the same manner as in the preferred construction, the only difference being that the outer legs slide inside of the inner ones and that pins are employed as stops instead of collars.

When the table is employed as a paper-hanger's cutting and pasting table, it is necessary to provide for a lateral extension of the table to accommodate ingrain paper, which is considerably wider than the ordinary paper. For this purpose I secure bars 30 rigidly to the outer sides of the end bars of one section of the table and connect to the same by a rule-joint or its equivalent, as at 31, folding arms 32, adapted to project laterally from the table to support an extra board (not shown) for the accommodation of such paper. When not in use, the extension-arms 32 are swung around under the table until locked in place by spring-catches 33, secured to the contiguous bars 2, as shown clearly in Figs. 1 and 2. In long tables a similar auxiliary board-support is secured to the corresponding intermediate bar 3, as also shown in said figures, which latter support serves to prevent the table sagging at its middle.

While the description refers to and the drawings illustrate the structure as a table, it is to be understood, of course, that the use of the folding legs *per se* or the use of such legs in combination with the folding top or body is contemplated in such analogous structures as couches, cots, and in fact in any device in addition to those enumerated which it is practicable to support by folding legs involving the principle of construction herein presented, and it is also to be understood that the invention may obviously be modified in various particulars without departing from its spirit and scope or sacrificing any of its advantages.

Having thus described the invention, what I claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. A table, comprising top sections hinged together to fold longitudinally, cross-bars longitudinally alined and secured to the under side of the sections and hinged together at their abutting ends, longitudinal guides secured to the under side of the table-sections, a second set of cross-bars longitudinally alined and hinged together at their abutting ends and slidingly mounted on said guides, a pair of legs pivotally secured to said slidable cross-bars to operate vertically, a second pair of legs pivoted to the first-named cross-bars and to the first-named legs to operate in a plane parallel therewith, and means to secure the slidable cross-bars at the desired point of adjustment on the guides.

2. A table, comprising top sections hinged together to fold longitudinally, cross-bars longitudinally alined and secured to the under side of the sections and hinged together at their abutting ends, longitudinal guides secured to the under side of the table-sections, a second set of cross-bars longitudinally alined and hinged together at their abutting ends and slidingly mounted on said guides, a pair of legs pivotally secured to said slidable cross-bars to operate vertically, a hinged brace between the legs of the slidable bar, a second pair of legs pivoted to the first-named cross-bars and to the first-named legs to operate in a plane parallel therewith, and means to secure the slidable cross-bars at the desired point of adjustment on the guides.

3. A table, comprising top sections arranged side by side, longitudinally-alined cross-bars underlying and secured to the sections and hinged together at their abutting ends, a second set of longitudinally-alined cross-bars underlying and having a sliding relation with the table-sections and hinged together in alinement with the hinge-points of the first-named bars, legs pivoted at their upper ends to the first-named cross-bars, legs pivoted at their upper ends to the last-named cross-bars, and pivotally connected to the first-named legs, a third set of alined cross-bars underlying the table-sections and secured rigidly at their outer ends to the last-named sets of legs, and hinged together at their inner ends in line with the other hinges, longitudinal guide-rods underlying the sections and forming a guide for said sliding cross-bars, and stops to limit the sliding movement in one direction of said second set of cross-bars.

4. A table, comprising top sections arranged side by side, longitudinally-alined cross-bars underlying and secured to the sections and hinged together at their abutting ends, a second set of longitudinally-alined cross-bars underlying and having a sliding relation with

the table-sections and hinged together in alinement with the hinge-points of the first-named bars, legs pivoted at their upper ends to the first-named cross-bars, legs pivoted at their upper ends to the last-named cross-bars, and pivotally connected to the first-named legs, a third set of alined cross-bars underlying the table-sections and secured rigidly at their outer ends to the last-named sets of legs, and hinged together at their inner ends in line with the other hinges, longitudinal guide-rods underlying the sections and forming a guide for said sliding cross-bars, and adjustable stops secured to said rods to limit the sliding movement in one direction of said second set of cross-bars.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature in the presence of two witnesses.

EDWARD E. QUAAS.

Witnesses:
H. C. RODGERS,
G. Y. THORPE.