Oct. 13, 1925.

1,557,402

J. BATESON

BRACE FOR FOLDING TABLES

Filed Aug. 30, 1922

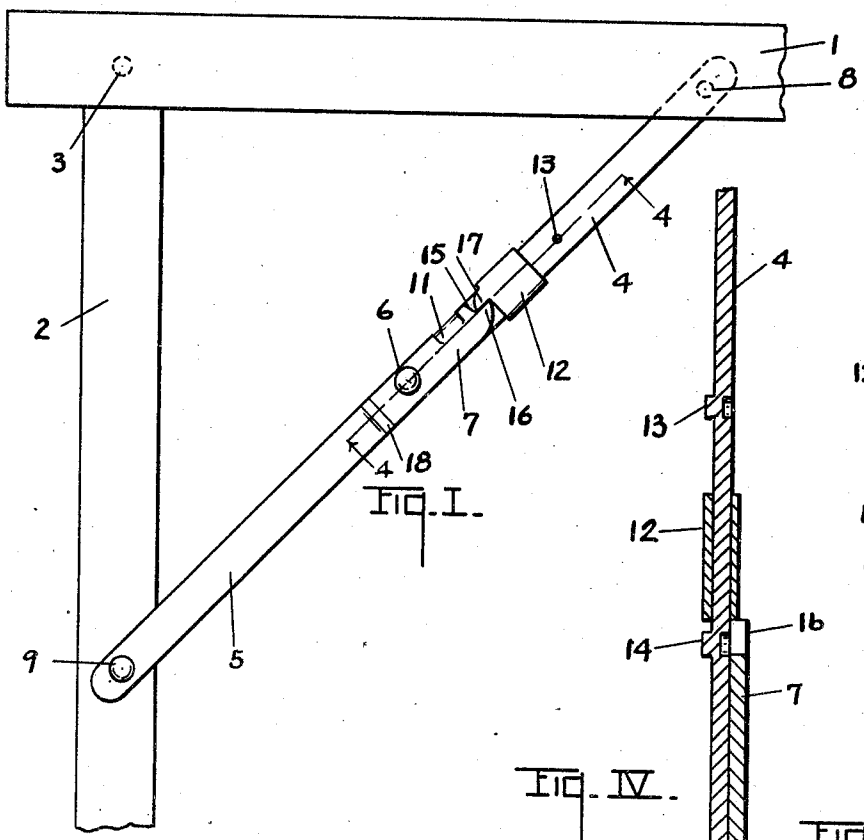


FIG. I.

FIG. IV.

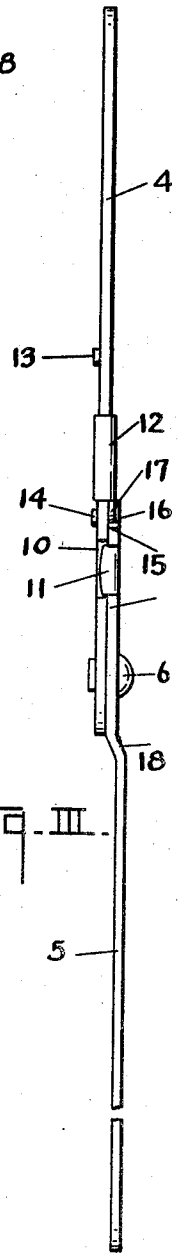


FIG. III.

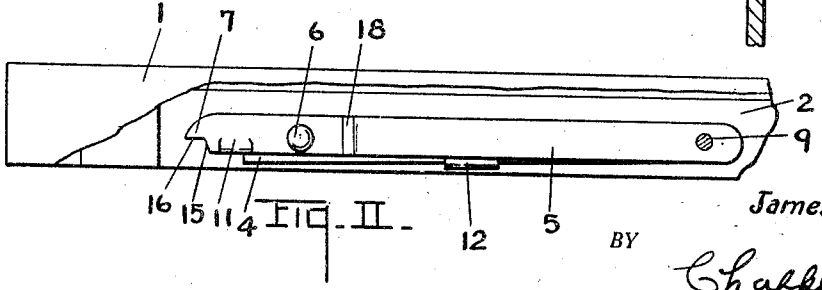


FIG. II.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JAMES BATESON, OF LUDINGTON, MICHIGAN, ASSIGNOR TO THE CARROM COMPANY, OF LUDINGTON, MICHIGAN.

BRACE FOR FOLDING TABLES.

Application filed August 30, 1922. Serial No. 585,153.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JAMES BATESON, a citizen of the United States, residing at Ludington, county of Mason, State of Michigan, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Braces for Folding Tables, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to improvements in braces for folding tables and the like.

The main object of the invention is to provide an improved collapsible brace for the legs of folding tables and the like which automatically locks in its extended position and automatically releases when table is inverted and is simple and economical in its parts.

Further objects, and objects relating to structural details, will definitely appear from the detailed description to follow.

I accomplish the objects of my invention by the devices and means described in the following specification. The invention is clearly defined and pointed out in the claim.

A structure which is a preferred embodiment of my invention is clearly illustrated in the accompanying drawing, forming a part of this application, in which:

Fig. I is a detail side elevation of a folding table embodying the features of my invention.

Fig. II is a fragmentary view with the leg in collapsed position.

Fig. III is a rear view of my improved brace, one of the links being partially broken away.

Fig. IV is a detail longitudinal section on a line corresponding to line 4—4 of Fig. I.

In the drawing similar reference characters refer to similar parts throughout the several views and the sectional views are taken looking in the direction of the little arrows at the ends of the section lines.

Referring to the drawing, 1 represents the top of the table and 2 the leg, which is indicated as being pivoted at 3, so that it may be collapsed under the top as shown in Fig. II.

My improved brace comprises a top link 4 and a bottom link 5 pivotally connected at 6 with their ends in overlapping relation, the end 7 of the lower link extending substantially beyond the pivot. The upper link is pivoted to the table top at 8, the lower link to the leg at 9. The upper link is provided with a notch 10 in its rear edge adapted to receive the stop 11 which is struck inwardly from the rear edge of the link 5, thus supporting the parts in alignment when the brace is erected.

A loop-like catch 12 is slidably mounted on the upper link, the upper link having stops 13 and 14 struck laterally therefrom. The end of the lower link is notched at 15 to provide a keeper 16 with which the engaging portion 17 of the latch coacts. This keeper 16 and the engaging lug 17 of the latch have curved faces facilitating their engagement. The stop 14 of the upper link is positioned so that when the brace is extended these curved faces engage and the catch slides upwardly sufficient to permit the links being brought into alinement when it drops down with its lug 17 in engagement with the keeper, thereby locking the brace in extended position. The lower link is offset at 18 to permit its being collapsed over the slide, as is shown in Fig. III.

By thus forming and arranging the parts I provide a brace which is well adapted for folding tables and the like, the brace being compact and economical in structure and at the same time is positive in its engagement and is very strong when extended.

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

A brace of the class described comprising a pair of flat links pivotally connected in overlapping relation and adapted at their outer ends for pivotal connections for the parts to be braced, the upper link having a notch in its rear edge, the lower link having a coacting stop struck inwardly from its rear edge and adapted to swing into the notch when the brace is extended, the inner edge of the lower link being notched to form a keeper, a loop-like catch slidably embracing the upper link and having its

lower edge notched providing a catch coacting with said keeper when the brace is extended, the end of the lower link and the end of said catch being oppositely curved so that the catch is automatically engaged when the brace is extended, and stops struck laterally from the upper link limiting the movement of said catch thereon, the lower link being offset adjacent its pivot permitting its being swung over said catch when the brace is collapsed.

In witness whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and seal.

JAMES BATESON. [L. S.].