

W. E. ALLEN.
FOLDING-TABLE,

No. 171,909.

Patented Jan. 11, 1876.

Fig. 1.

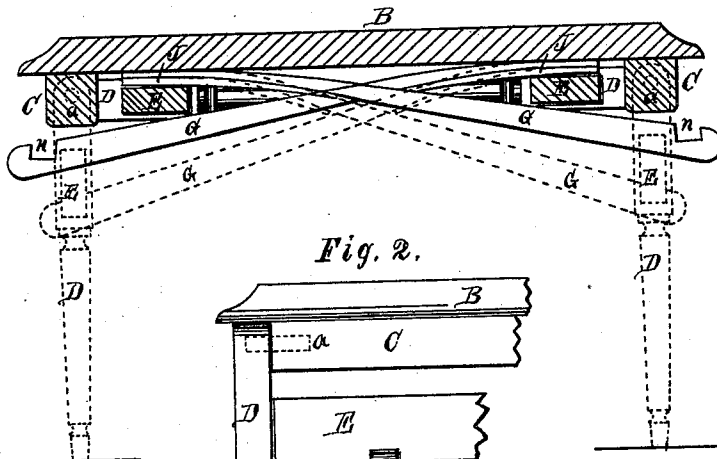
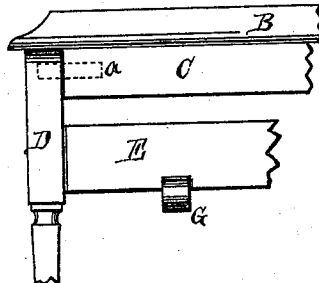


Fig. 2.



Witnesses:

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IMPROVEMENT IN FOLDING TABLES.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **171,909**, dated January 11, 1876; application filed October 20, 1874.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WESTON E. ALLEN, of Rochester, in the county of Monroe and State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Folding Tables; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description thereof, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, making part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 is a vertical longitudinal section of my improved table, the folded position of the legs and their spring locking-bar being shown in full lines, and their open position in dotted lines. Fig. 2 is a transverse or end sectional view, showing the manner of hinging the legs to the cross-bar C.

The object of my invention is to simplify the construction of this class of folding tables, by means of which simplification they may be made much cheaper, lighter, and at the same time firmer than as heretofore made. It consists, mainly, in providing a locking-bar to hold the legs in either their open or folded adjustment, that shall also constitute its own spring.

The cross-bar C at each end of the table or bed B is cut a suitable length to just fit between the two legs D at their respective ends of the table. The legs are hinged to these bars by means of suitable dowels *a*, as shown in Fig. 2. The two legs D at each end are framed together by the cross-girt E, by which they are firmly held in their proper relative position. The bar C is rigidly fixed to the table-bed B. The spring locking-bar G is made as shown in Fig. 1, being provided with the notch *n* at its vibrating end. When the secondary or auxiliary spring J is used it is designed to strengthen the primary bar G, and render it sufficiently stiff and firm without be-

ing too rigid and inflexible. They are both rigidly fixed to the bed B by a screw or otherwise.

It will be seen that these spring locking-bars bear constantly upon the girts E, and hold the legs firmly, whether in their open or folded position. The cross-bars C should be offset laterally at the opposite ends toward opposite sides of the table, so as to permit the legs to fold down between or beside each other.

The table is unfolded and adjusted for use by simply swinging the legs to a vertical position, where they are caught and held by the notches *n* of the spring locking-bar G catching upon the edge of the girt E. The legs are folded by unhooking the locking-bar G from the girt E, when they are permitted to fold.

It is desirable that the hole in the posts to receive the hinge or dowel *a* should not be made entirely through, as indicated in Fig. 2.

What I claim as my invention is—

1. In combination with the folding legs D and table B, the wooden spring locking-latch, composed of the tapering primary spring-bar G and tapering secondary or auxiliary spring-bar J, they being attached together with the thick end of the latter to the thin end of the former, and fixed to the table-bed, as shown, all for the purposes set forth.

2. The combination, in a folding table, of separate legs resting on pivots or dowels formed on the ends of the bolster, the cross-piece which frames the legs together in pairs, and the notched spring engaging with the said cross-piece to hold the legs upright, as shown and described.

WESTON E. ALLEN.

Witnesses:

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