

(No Model.)

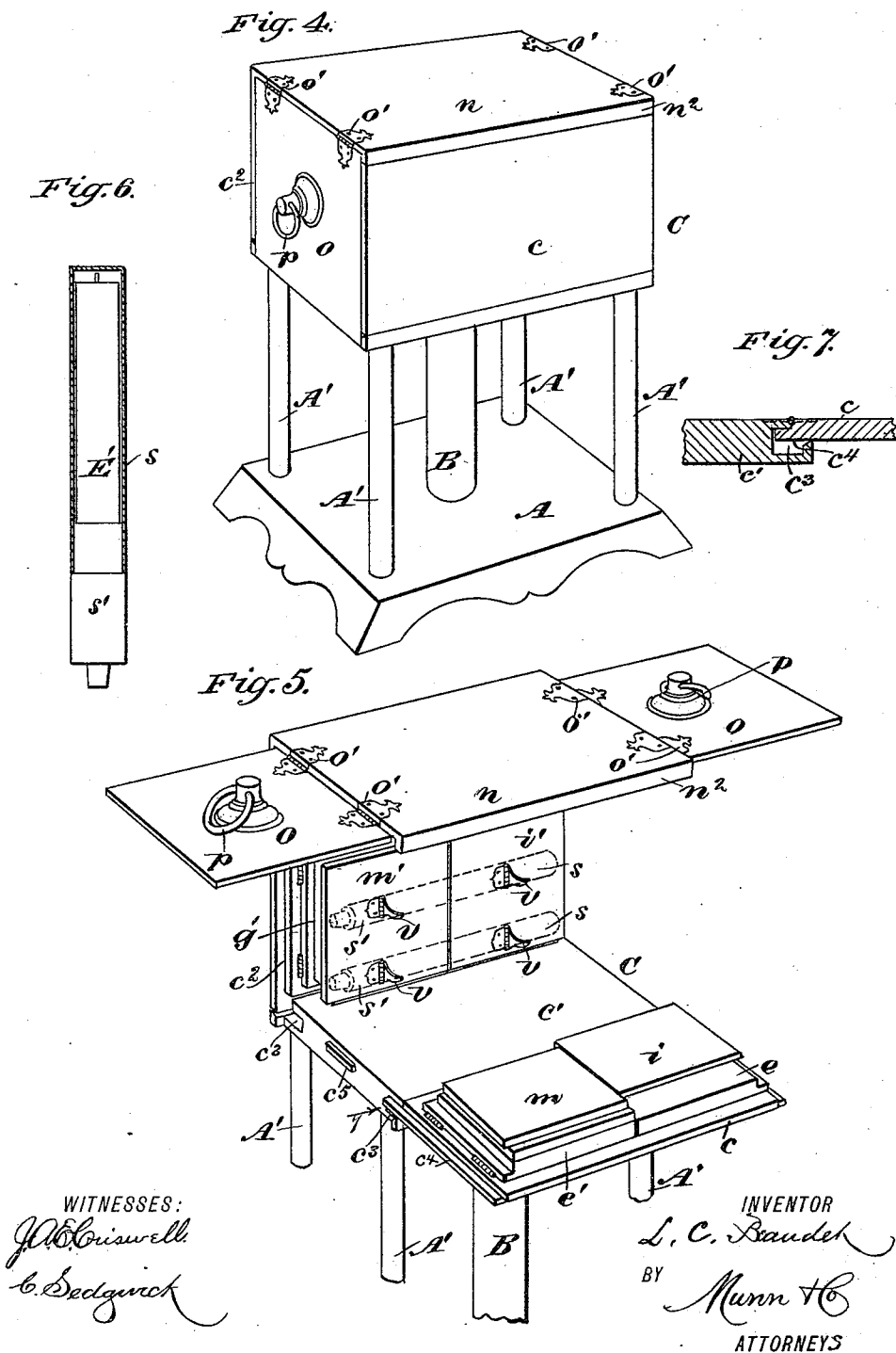
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HOUSEHOLD ALTAR FOR SACRAMENTAL PURPOSES.

No. 470,098.

Patented Mar. 1, 1892.



UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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HOUSEHOLD-ALTAR FOR SACRAMENTAL PURPOSES.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 470,098, dated March 1, 1892.

Application filed October 27, 1891. Serial No. 410,042. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, LEO C. BEAUDET, of New York city, in the county and State of New York, have invented a new and useful Household-Altar for Sacramental Purposes, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description.

The objects of this invention are to provide a compact and ornamental altar-table which is adapted to be folded to produce an inclosing box or cabinet in which the necessary adjunctive candelabra and vases are securely retained when not in use and that may be quickly and conveniently unfolded into altar form for the proper support of the sacramental altar-service ware when occasion requires.

A further object is to provide a household sacramental altar-table with a telescopic supporting standard and base therefor which will afford a column of proper height to sustain the table suitably elevated or allow the entire device to be greatly reduced in height when this is desired.

To these ends my invention consists in the construction of parts and their combination, as is hereinafter described and claimed.

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 perspective view of the device adjusted for service, the supporting-column shown broken and the altar-service ware in position thereon. Fig. 2 is a sectional plan view of the altar-table in folded adjustment taken on the line 2 2 in Fig. 3, showing the movable altar-service ware within by dotted lines. Fig. 3 is a transverse section of the altar-table folded and interior parts in position taken on the line 3 3 in Fig. 2. Fig. 4 is a perspective view of the device in a folded condition. Fig. 5 represents the altar-table partly unfolded with base-posts and center column broken away below, part of the movable service-ware being shown by dotted lines in the position they occupy when the table is folded completely. Fig. 6 is an enlarged view of a candle-support and case for the candle, which is part of the altar-service ware; and Fig. 7 is an enlarged broken and sectional

view of a hinged joint connection of parts of the altar-table, an end view of which is shown opposite the arrow 7 in Fig. 5.

There is a preferably rectangular base A provided whereon a center column B is erected, which is composed of tubular sections that are adapted to slide together telescopically, each section being slotted longitudinally a major portion of its length for the reception of the locking-pins *a*, that project from an interior tube-section into the slot of an enveloping tube-section. Said pins are adapted to enter lateral notches formed at the top of each slot *a'*, and thus retain all the sections adjusted as one column when these lantern lock connections are interlocked as represented on two sections in Fig. 1. Upon the section that is of the smallest diameter and uppermost when the column B is extended a radial flange *b* is secured at its upper terminal, which flange is affixed to the lower side of the altar-table C centrally to afford support for the latter. The altar-table C is composed of a rectangular center piece *c'* and two main leaves *c* and *c'*, that are hinged together where their side edges abut, said hinges *d* being placed upon the upper surface of the altar-table when it is extended, so as to adapt the leaves *c c'* to fold upwardly and form opposite side walls of the rectangular box or cabinet that the altar-table may be converted into, as will be further explained. To afford a substantial connection between the hinged leaves *c c'* and center piece *c'*, the side edges of the latter are longitudinally grooved near the center of thickness and the upper corners of said edges are cut away a proper degree. The edge portions *c'* of the main leaves *c c'* are hinged to the reduced portions of the grooved edges mentioned and are made half the thickness of the leaves they are a portion of by rabbeting along each edge on the normally upper surface. The joints of the hinges *d*, that connect the main leaves to the center piece, are made to align with the shoulders of the rabbets on the side edges of the main leaves *c c'* and also with the reduced top edge portions of the grooved edges of the center piece *c'*, so that the thinner edge portions *c'* of the main leaves will project across the grooves when the parts are ad-

justed, as shown in Fig. 3. When the leaves $c\ c^2$ are folded outwardly, so as to align their top faces with the upper surface of the center piece c' , the edge portions c^1 will enter the grooves in c' and impinge on the top and lower surface of the walls which stand each side of said grooves, as shown in Fig. 7. There are two opposite supplementary leaves $ee'gg'$, hinged to the ends of the outer main leaves $c\ c^2$, respectively, the hinges h , that form the joints between these parts, being secured on the same side of the table C with the hinges d . The edge portions of the main leaves cc^2 and supplementary leaves hinged to them are all rabbeted on the sides that come in contact, and as this reduction is equal to one-half the thickness of the leaves it will be seen that when all are in open adjustment a level top surface will be afforded for the table they produce.

Upon the side edges of the supplementary leaves $e\ ge'\ g'$, that are innermost when these parts are extended as a table, other similar small leaves $i\ i'\ m\ m'$ are hinged to said edges, and are of such relative area as will adapt them to complete the rectangular alter-table when all are arranged in table form, the hinges k that connect the leaves named in the order stated being placed upon their exterior surface, or, in other words, on the side which is lowermost when the parts are level on top, as shown in Fig. 1 by dotted lines. The edges of the leaves $i\ i'\ m\ m'$, which have contact with edges of the leaves $e\ ge'\ g'$, are rabbeted to interlock with similarly-formed edges on the last-named parts, so that mutual support is afforded when all the table-leaves are extended and to sustain the supplementary leaves $i\ i'\ m\ m'$ where they are in contact with the edges of the main center piece c' , a projecting ledge c^3 is formed at each end edge of the latter, which ledges form seats whereon the adjacent edges of the supplementary leaves named will rest, one of said ledges being shown in Fig. 5.

There is a rectangular wall-piece n , secured by one edge to the edge of the table-leaf c^2 , having equal length therewith, the connection of these pieces causing the wall-piece to project at a right angle vertically when the altar-table is in opened condition, as represented in Fig. 1. The ends of the wall-piece n are laterally rabbeted to receive the similarly-formed edges of the wing-pieces o , which are joined thereto by the hinges o' , which engage with these parts on the side that will be rearward when the table-leaves are opened and on top, as shown in Figs. 4 and 5, when the leaves are folded into cabinet form, and as will be seen in the last-named figure. The hinges o' are bent so as to permit the rabbeted edge portions of the wings o to fold upon the similarly-rabbeted edges of the wall-piece n and provide a smooth finish on the device when the leaves are folded to form a box. On the side of the wall-piece n that is adjacent to the table-surface when the leaves compris-

ing the latter are in opened adjustment a groove n' is longitudinally formed near the free edge of said wall-piece, leaving a narrow rib n^2 stand as a margin for the latter. Preferably ornamental handle-rings p are secured at the centers of the wings o to facilitate the manipulation of parts. On the side of the wall-piece n that is nearest to the open table C a crucifix D is secured by a swivel-jointed clip r , which will hold the piece D erect, as shown by full lines in Fig. 1, or in a horizontal position, as indicated by dotted lines in the same figure.

The sacramental-service ware comprising two candelabra E and two cups or vases G when arranged for service are given the positions upon the table shown in Fig. 1.

To preserve the candles E' from injury when the device is packed for transportation and the table folded, as will be explained, a case s is furnished for each candle and a holder-piece s' also, the candles being inserted by one end in the holders that have their other ends shaped to enter and fit within the sockets of the candelabra E, the cases that are removed when the candles are lighted being supported on the corner-posts A' of the base A, as shown in Fig. 1.

Preferably the vases G, that are used to hold liquids used for sacramental purposes, are held in bracket-stands u , which afford a wider base and prevent accidental upsetting of the receptacles.

Upon the supplementary leaves $m' i'$ of the table C two folding curved bracket-arms v are secured on each by a hinge-joint at one end of each arm and are designed to receive the cases s when the candles E' are inclosed by the cases and holders s' , as represented in Fig. 6, the recumbent position of the same being indicated by dotted lines in Fig. 5.

When the parts of the table C are to be folded into cabinet or box form, the supplementary leaves $e\ e'$ are folded upon the main leaf c , and the other small leaves $m\ i$, that are hinged at k to the leaves $e\ e'$, are folded upon them, as shown in Fig. 5, and, as shown in the same figure and in Fig. 2, the leaves $g' m'$ and $h\ i$ are similarly imposed upon the main leaf c^2 , which latter is then rocked into a vertical position and the leaf c adjusted in a like manner, so as to form the opposite side walls of the cabinet, this disposition of parts locating the supplementary leaves within and the wall-piece n in a horizontal plane above them affording a top for the box or cabinet. In order to properly retain the table-service ware within the inclosure, the candelabra E and vases G are placed as shown in Fig. 2 and the incased candles are hung on the bracket-arms v , that are outwardly projected for this purpose, the crucifix D being at the same time turned to lie horizontally on the wall-piece n . The several parts being arranged as has been explained, the folding of the table C into a rectangular close box is completed by flexing the pieces o to render them parallel with each

other and at right angles to the wall-piece n , causing their rabbeted edges to fit into the similar edges of the leaves c c^2 and simultaneously hooking the rib n^2 over the upper rabbeted edge of the upright leaf or side wall c , that enters the groove n' , as shown in Fig. 3.

When the table C has been folded into cabinet form, as just explained, the sections of the column B are slid together, so as to reduce the height to that of one section, and the cabinet will then rest at the corners on the upright posts A' , which are provided for this purpose, the entire device being then so reduced in dimensions as to render it conveniently portable, and if made of suitable material will be ornamental to an apartment wherein it is kept.

In some cases it may be preferred to dispense with the telescopic column and base, the table-top, when in folded or opened condition, being then placed upon any suitable support in a room where the device is kept for use. Hence I do not wish to restrict the construction to the imperative employment of a supporting column and base in connection with the table-top portion of the device.

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

1. In a portable device for sacramental purposes, a table-top which is made up of leaves hinged by side edges on a center piece and a wall-piece rigidly affixed on a side edge of one leaf, so as to form a rectangular box when folded, and adapted to interlock its grooved side edge with a rabbet edge on another leaf when so adjusted, a telescopic column, and a base, substantially as set forth.

2. In a portable device for sacramental purposes, a table-top that is formed of leaves hinged on a center piece and a rigidly-secured wall-piece projecting at a right angle to one leaf at its side edge, which parts when folded produce a rectangular box, a telescopic supporting-column, a base therefor, and four upright posts at the corners of the base whereon the box may rest, substantially as described.

3. In a portable device for sacramental purposes, the combination of a main center piece having its side edges grooved longitudinally near the center of thickness and an upper corner of each side cut away to reduce the top wall of the groove in width and two main leaves that are hinged to the side edges of the center piece above the grooves and have their edge portions rabbeted and the side edges which are adjacent to the grooves of the center piece adapted to interlock with said grooves when the leaves and center piece are extended in one plane, substantially as described.

4. A portable device for sacramental pur-

poses, having two main leaves hinged to a center piece at the side edges, supplementary leaves hinged to and supported by the main leaves and by projections from the center piece, a wall-piece affixed at a right angle upon the outer edge of one main leaf, a wing-piece hinged to each end of the wall-piece, a supporting-column, and a base, substantially as described.

5. A portable device for sacramental purposes, having two main leaves hinged to a center piece, supplementary leaves hinged to and supported by the main leaves, a wall-piece affixed at a right angle on the outer side edge of one main leaf, an upright support for the device, and a crucifix having a swivel and sliding connection with the inner side of the wall-piece, substantially as described.

6. A portable device for sacramental purposes, having two main leaves hinged to a center piece, supplementary leaves hinged to and supported by the main leaves and by projections on the center piece, a wall-piece attached at a right angle upon an outer side edge of one main leaf, a support for the center piece and attached parts, and bracket-arms having hinged connection with two of the supplementary leaves, substantially as described.

7. The combination, with a center piece grooved on its side edges, two main leaves having rabbeted edges and hinged to the side edges of the center piece, so as to project into the grooves when the leaves and center piece are aligned on top faces, a rabbet-edged wall-piece rigidly secured to the outer edge of one main leaf at a right angle thereto, and two wings rabbeted on their edges and hinged oppositely on ends of the wall-piece, of a set of supplementary leaves rabbeted on their edges and hinged to each other and to the ends of the main leaves, substantially as described.

8. The combination of a center piece grooved on its side edges, two main leaves rabbeted on their edges and hinged by a side edge of each to reduced portions of the side edges on the center piece, a rabbet-edged supplementary leaf hinged to each end of the two main leaves, a lateral leaf for each supplementary leaf rabbeted on their edges to lapfold together on meeting edges and also on projecting ledges on the ends of the center piece, a wall-piece secured by one edge on an outer edge of a main leaf at a right angle thereto and rabbeted on free edges, a rabbet-edged wing-piece hinged to each end of the wall-piece, a supporting-column, and a base, substantially as described.

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Witnesses:

E. M. CLARK,
ALFRED MARTIN.