(No Model.)

M. C. BULLOCK.

FOLDING TABLE.

No. 358,833. Patented Mar. 8, 1887.

Fig. 1.

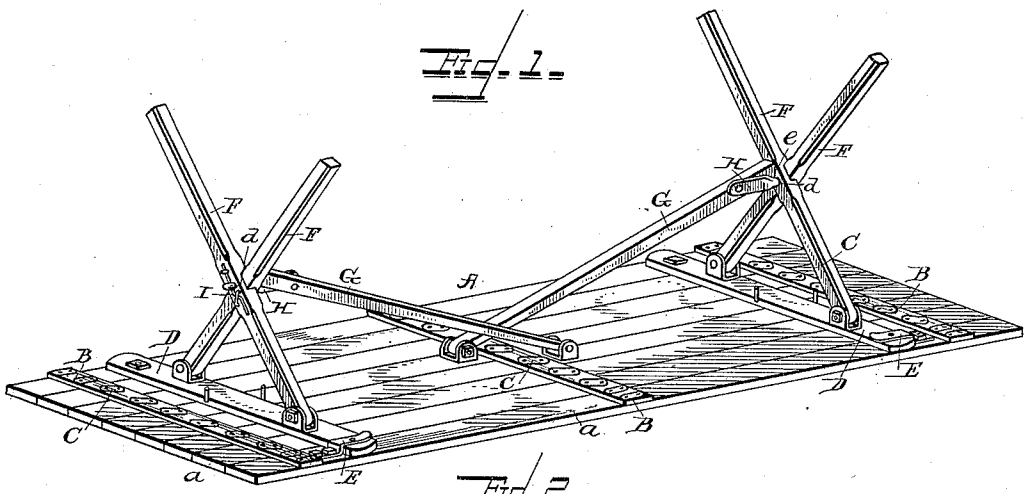


Fig. 2.

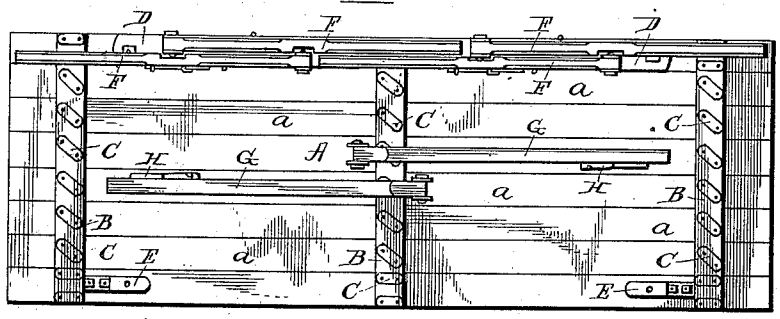


Fig. 3.

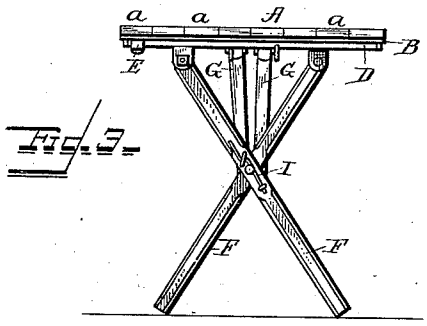
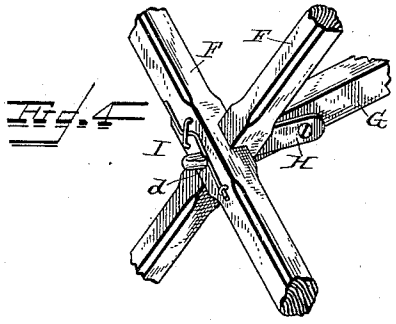


Fig. 4.



WITNESSES

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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FOLDING TABLE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 358,833, dated March 8, 1887.

Application filed September 13, 1886. Serial No. 213,369. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, MARSHALL C. BULLOCK, a citizen of the United States, residing at Hannibal, in the county of Marion and State of Missouri, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Rolling Tables; and I do declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and to the letters and figures of reference marked thereon, which form a part of this specification.

This invention has relation to improvements in rolling tables, such as may be used by paper-hangers, display-tables, sample-tables, and tables for other similar purposes, as will be fully understood from the following description, when taken in connection with the annexed drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of the table in an inverted position. Fig. 2 is an inverted plan view showing the legs and braces in a closed position and in a manner to be rolled up. Fig. 3 is an end view; and Fig. 4 is a detail perspective view of the leg-joints, showing the locking pin or bolt of one of the braces in position.

Referring by letter to the said drawings, A indicates the flexible top, which is composed of longitudinal slats *a* and transverse connecting-strips B. These strips are here shown as composed of leather, placed on the under side of the said slats, and secured to each slat by metallic plates C and tacks or other suitable fastening devices. In securing the leather strips to the slats I place the plates C obliquely to the latter and place a tack or the like through the holes at opposite ends of the plates. These plates are about as wide as the slats, and by placing them obliquely thereon it will be seen that the securing-tacks will be brought nearly to the longitudinal edges of the slats, thereby securely holding the same and preventing them from rising or pulling away from the plates when the top is folded.

D D indicate transverse locking-bars, to which the legs are secured, one near opposite ends thereof. These locking-bars are two in number, one near each end of the top, and are respectively pivoted at one end to the under side of one of the outer slats, as shown, the opposite outer slat being provided with a catch to engage and firmly hold the free ends of the transverse locking-bars when the top is out in an open position.

The legs F are secured to the locking-bars near opposite ends, and at opposite sides from the longitudinal center thereof, so as to allow the said legs to fold upon the said bar and the whole swing around parallel upon one of the outer slats of the top A. In the present construction I have shown the legs secured to the lock-bars by hinge-and-swivel joint, so that should it be desirable to let down the table without rolling it up it will only be necessary to release the locking-bolt of the braces and turn the former upon the under side of the top, and the whole will become a flat parcel. This latter manner of letting down the table is seldom desirable, and, in fact, is only done when the table is not to be carried from place to place.

The legs F are recessed in their adjacent faces about midway of their length, and are perforated transversely at these points, so that when the said recessed portions are brought together the legs will assume a crossed position, and the perforations *d* will register for the reception of the locking pins or bolt and the diagonal braces G, as will be presently explained. These diagonal braces G are hinged to adjacent slats of the top at or near the middle thereof, and the outer ends of these braces are cut obliquely, as shown at *e*, to firmly engage the legs at their joints on the inner side thereof.

H indicate the locking bolts or pins, which are pivoted at one end to the sides of the diagonal braces, and their opposite ends are rounded to enter the perforations of the legs, and notched or adapted to receive the spring-fastening I, secured to the outer side of the outer legs.

Thus it will be seen that when the legs are crossed and engaged by their recessed portions the bolts of the diagonal braces are inserted in the perforations of the said legs, when the latter will be firmly locked and braced in position. The table being thus set up, and it being desirable to take it down, the

spring-fastenings H are first released from the bolt and the latter withdrawn from the perforations of the legs. The legs are then folded down upon the transverse locking-bars, and after the free ends of the latter have been freed from the catches E the latter, together with the legs, are swung around on their pivots, the diagonal braces are then folded down, when the whole may be rolled up within the top, so as to form a small parcel of approximately round contour.

I am aware that it is not new to provide a table having a rolling top with pivoted bars for holding the same in an open position, and that such tables have pivoted connections for locking the legs when unfolded. I am also aware that a folding table has been made with a top composed of a plank having cleats on its under side near opposite ends, with the grain in a different direction from that of the top to prevent the latter from warping, a plate hinged to the under side of the top and having mortises near each end to receive tenons on the ends of legs which are fastened in with pins, a roller journaled in each set of legs, braces attached to the under side of the top and passed in opposite directions through an aperture in each roller, so as to move freely through said rollers when the table is folded and unfolded; and a pin for locking the braces to the rollers, and therefore do not wish to be understood as claiming such devices either singly or in combination.

Having described this invention, what I claim, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. In a rolling-top table, the combination, with the pivoted bars on the under side of the said top for holding the same in an open position, the cross-legs having perforations at their bisecting-points and pivoted to the said bars, the locking devices, as I, on one leg adjacent to the said perforations, and the diagonal braces hinged to the under side of the top, and having locking-bolts at their outer ends adapted to enter the perforations in the legs, substantially as specified.

2. The combination, with a table-top, of hinged or pivoted legs adapted to cross each other, and having transverse perforations at their crossing-points, and locking devices, as I, and a brace hinged to the under side of the top and carrying at its outer end a bolt, H, adapted to enter the perforations in the legs and be engaged by the said locking devices thereon, whereby the legs will be braced laterally and vertically, substantially as specified.

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

MARSHALL C. BULLOCK.

Witnesses:
GEORGE GATTS,
A. J. BASH.