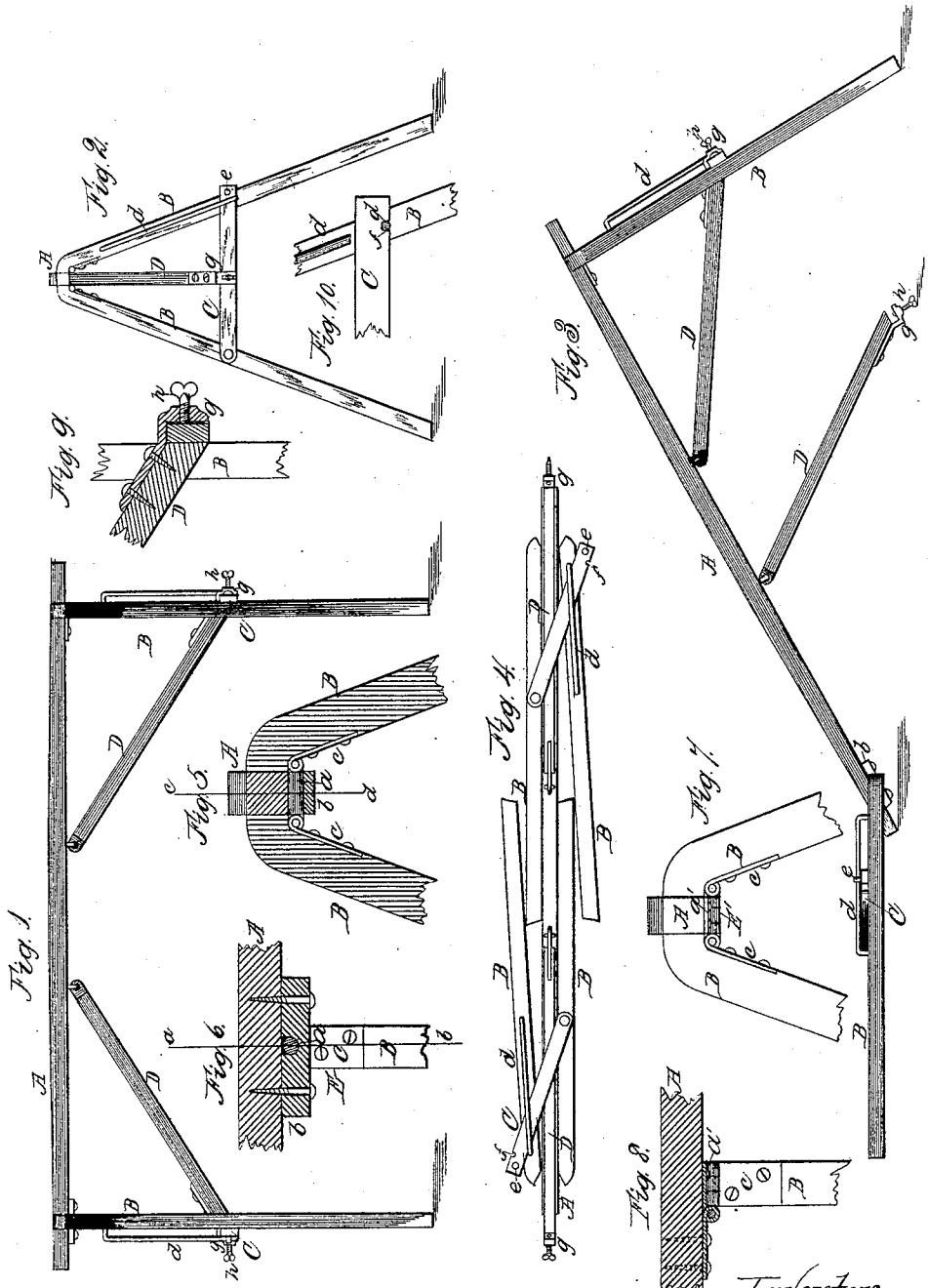
(No Model.)

O. B. CLARÉ.

TRESTLE.

No. 390,753. Patented Oct. 9, 1888.



Attest.
Frank G. Clark.
S. W. Brainerd.

Inventor.
Obadiah B. Claré.
By J. McD. St. John,
Atty.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

OBADIAH B. CLARÉ, OF CEDAR RAPIDS, IOWA.

TRESTLE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 390,753, dated October 9, 1888.

Application filed March 8, 1888. Serial No. 266,624. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, OBADIAH B. CLARÉ, a citizen of the United States, residing at Cedar Rapids, in the county of Linn and State of Iowa, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Trestles, of which the following is a specification.

The object of my invention is to improve the construction of trestles so as to make them capable of being folded compactly for transportation and to render them more convenient in use than formerly, as will hereinafter appear.

The invention consists in the construction, combination, and arrangement of parts, as hereinafter fully set forth and claimed.

In the accompanying drawings, forming a part of this specification, Figure 1 represents a side elevation of the invention; Fig. 2, an end elevation of the same; Fig. 3, a side view of the same with one end elevated and the other resting on the ground; Fig. 4, a bottom view of the same folded up; Fig. 5, a transverse sectional view in the line *a b* of Fig. 6, showing the detail of the hinge at one end of the trestle; Fig. 6, a longitudinal sectional view of the same in the line *c d* of Fig. 5; Fig. 7, an end view of the hinge portion of the other end of the trestle; Fig. 8, the same in longitudinal section in the same line as Fig. 6; Fig. 9, a fragmentary sectional view showing the detail of the fastening for the braces, and Fig. 10 a fragmentary view showing the detail of the fastening of the cross-bars.

Similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts.

The trestle has been devised with a view to convenience in the beating of carpets and the like, though it may of course be applied to many other uses; but for this operation it is desirable to have a large but light trestle, capable of being folded into comparatively small compass for transportation. In practice I make it about sixteen feet long and ten high, and of some strong but light wood, as pine or spruce. Set up it is capable of supporting a good-sized carpet, and folded it is in convenient form and not too heavy to be easily carried from place to place.

The trestle is quite simple in its construction, consisting of the bar or rail A, flaring legs B B B B, cross-bars C C, and braces D D. The rail A should be made somewhat thicker in the middle than at the ends for strength.

The legs B B B B are hinged to the rail A, so as to fold together at the bottom and also alongside of the rail. For this purpose I provide a double-jointed hinge for each pair of legs, or, more strictly speaking, a hinge with three joints, one turning on the rail and one on each of the legs. One of these hinges, E, may be so constructed as to allow the legs to swing inwardly or outwardly with respect to the rail; but the other, E′, does not allow the legs to swing outwardly beyond the right angle. The relative operation of the hinges is shown in Fig. 3, and the object of this construction is to allow one end of the trestle to lie on the ground while the carpet is drawn up on the rail from that end, this being much easier than to lift it to the height of the trestle when set up. After the carpet has been drawn on the rail in this manner, the depressed end is elevated and the legs adjusted to proper position.

The special construction of the hinge E and its connections is shown in Figs. 5 and 6. The hinge, as will be seen, is composed of three parts—a pivotal portion, *a*, fitted to a suitable box, *b*, on the under side of the rail, and two wings, *c c*, hinged to the central part and adapted to be secured to the legs in the usual manner. It will be noticed that the upper ends of the legs extend past the side of the rail and have a lateral bearing thereon when in position for use.

The hinge E′ has a flat central portion, *a′*, constituting the half of a hinge transverse to the rail, and, as will be seen, turns only in one direction—inwardly—forming a lock when turned back against the rail. This movable central portion, *a′*, is hinged to two wings, *c c*, similar to those of the hinge E, which are secured to the legs B B. In this manner this pair of legs is held from swinging outward past a right angle to the rail, thus insuring their proper position whether the brace D be connected with the legs or not, and making it more convenient to set up the trestle.

Each pair of legs is provided with a cross-bar, C, pivoted to one leg, so as to fold up. The other leg is provided with a long stirrup-iron, *d*, between which and the leg the free end of the cross-bar moves and is fastened. A stud, *e*, prevents the end of the cross-bar

from becoming detached from the stirrup, and a notch, *f*, on the under side of the cross-bar engages with the lower end of the stirrup and locks the legs when spread at the bottom.

The braces D D are hinged to the under side of the rail, and their outer ends are provided with hooks *g g*, engaging with the cross-bars.

In practice I make these hooks in the angular form shown, the angle of the hook and that of the end of the brace corresponding to the angle of the cross-bar with respect to the brace when in position for use. The cross-bar, as will be seen, lies between the hook *g* and the end of the brace and may be securely fastened in this position by means of set or thumb screws *h h*.

The trestle is most conveniently set up by first drawing out the pair of legs represented by the hinge E′, on the spreading of which legs the cross-bar drops into position and the brace hooks over the cross bar. In that inclined position carpet or the like may be slid into position on the rail and the other end then elevated at will and in a manner so simple as to require no description. Thus constructed the device affords a convenient support for carpets and the like, and its form is such as to facilitate the removal of dust from them, as the lower sides of the carpet, the extremes of which rest upon the flaring legs of the trestle, are spread apart considerably, allowing the air to pass through and the dust to escape.

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

1. In a trestle, the combination of the rail A, legs B B B B, doubly hinged to said rail, the cross-bars C C, pivotally connected with one of each pair of legs and having the notches *f f* near their opposite ends, the stirrups *d d*, and the braces D D, having hooks to engage with the cross-bars, substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

2. In a trestle, the combination, with the rail A and legs B B B B, of a hinge, E, having a central pivotal portion, *a*, adapted to allow free movement in either direction transversely to the rail, and the hinge E′, having a central portion, *a′*, adapted to swing inwardly only, each of said hinges having wings *c c*, hinged at right angles to the central portions and adapted to connect with the legs, substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

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

his
OBADIAH × B. CLARÉ.
mark

Witnesses:
FRANK G. CLARK,
L. COOPER.