C. R. UHL.

ARTICLE OF FURNITURE.

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1,264,228.

Patented Apr. 30, 1918.

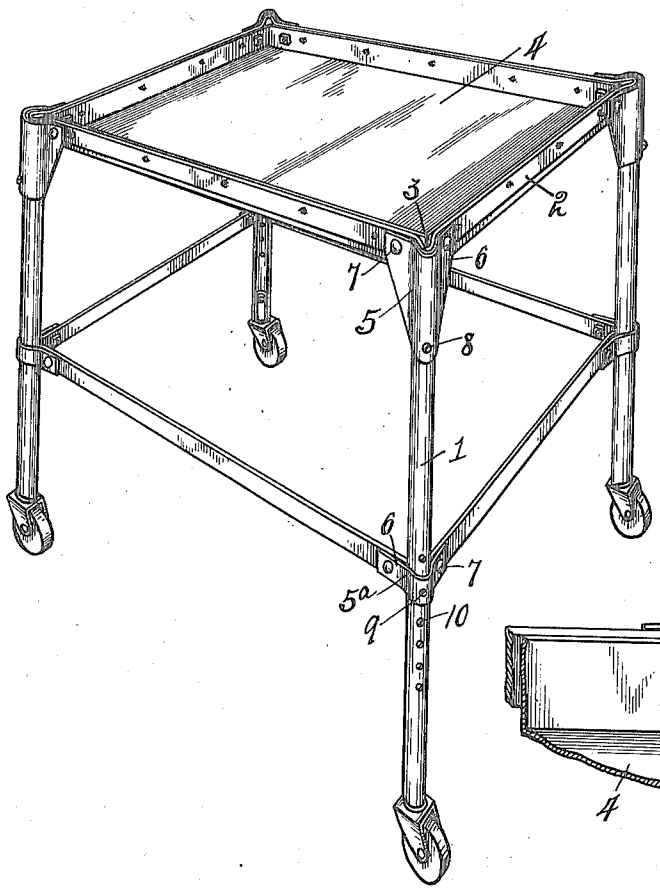


Fig. 1.

Fig. 2.

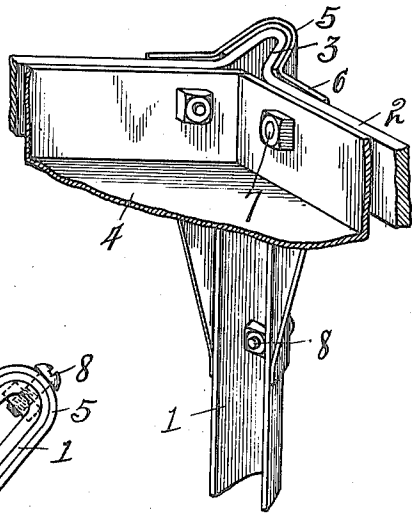
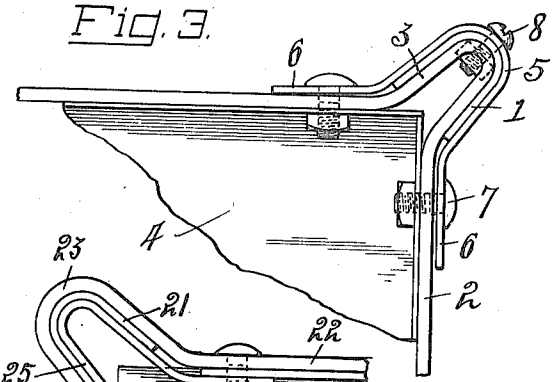


Fig. 3.



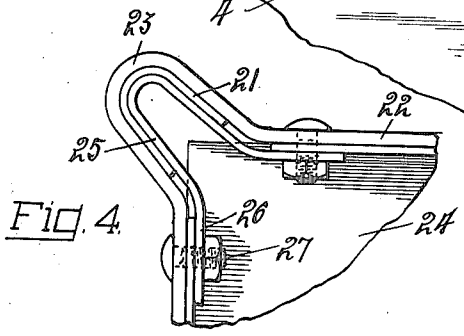


Fig. 4.

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ARTICLE OF FURNITURE.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, CLEMENT R. UHL, a citizen of the United States, and a resident of Toledo, in the county of Lucas and State of Ohio, have invented a certain new and useful Article of Furniture; and I do hereby 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 character of reference marked thereon, which form a part of this specification.

This invention relates to articles of furniture, and particularly to furniture of the metal type.

The object of my invention is the provision, in combination with tables, tool-holding stands or the like having channel-bar legs, of improved means of a simple, strong and durable nature for securing a table top tray, brace rods or the like to the legs. A further object of my invention is the provision of means of this class which will also serve as a leg bracing member. Other advantages of the invention will be apparent to persons skilled in the art from the following detailed description.

While the invention, in its broader aspect, is capable of embodiment in numerous forms, a preferred embodiment thereof is illustrated in the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of a tool-holding table embodying the invention. Figs. 2 and 3 are enlarged perspective and plan views, respectively, of a corner portion thereof, and Fig. 4 is a plan view of a corner portion of a table embodying a slightly modified form of the invention.

Referring to the drawings, 1 designates each of the several legs of the table, which legs are preferably, but not necessarily, U-shaped in cross-section. The several legs 1 are rigidly connected and braced apart by one or more frames 2 preferably of strap metal, and these frames are provided at each corner thereof with an outwardly projecting loop 3 for fitting into the channel of the respective leg 1. It is evident that the frames 2 may be utilized to support a tray 4, table top or other suitable part, or may be left in skeleton form to serve merely as a leg brace, as shown in the lower portion of Fig. 1. In the present instance, the tray 4 is formed of sheet metal with flanges struck up from the edges thereof and electrically welded to the respective sides of the associated frame.

The corner portions of the frame are secured in rigid relation to the respective table legs by clamping or holding members 5, which conform in cross-section to the cross-section of the legs and have their free edge portions flared outward, as at 6. Each member 5 is adapted to snugly receive a leg 1 without the point of reception of the frame loop 3 by the leg and to have the flared end portions 6 thereof stand in substantially parallel adjacent relation to the respective side portions of the loop 3, as shown in the drawings. The flared portions 6 of the members 5 are rigidly secured to the respective sides of the frame by bolts 7, which bolts, when tightened, cause an inward springing of the leg portions of the members and increase the gripping coaction thereof with the legs, as is apparent by reference to Fig. 3, in which one end of a member 5 is shown as drawn inward into contact with the frame side while the other end of the member stands in its normal outward sprung relation to the frame side.

It is evident that an inward drawing of the flared terminals 6 of a member 5 into contact with the frame sides will cause a contraction of the member at the inner ends of said flared portions and effect a consequent gripping of the inner edges of the leg. The member 5, if desired, may be further secured to the associated leg by the insertion of a bolt 8 through the respective crown portions of the member and leg, or the member may be provided on its crown portion with an inwardly projecting stud, as at 9, for seating in any one of a series of apertures or depressions 10 in the crown portion of the leg, thus providing for a vertical adjustment of the frame with respect to the legs.

It will be noted in Fig. 1 that the members 5 for holding the upper frame are elongated lengthwise of the legs to serve to more effectually brace the legs with respect to the upper frame, whereas the lower members, which are designated 5^a, are practically equal in width to the strap forming the frame 2.

This bracing feature of the legs relative to the frame members is quite important, as a very rigid construction is thereby provided and the use of separate bracing

means for such purpose obviated. It will be noted that the flared terminal portions 6 of the members 5 taper outward and upward from the lower ends of the members and form bracing webs or wings.

The only difference between the modified form of the invention shown in Fig. 4 and that above described is that the positions of the clamping or holding members and of the leg coacting portions of the frames are reversed with respect to the leg, that is, the looped corners of the frames receive the legs instead of fitting into the leg channels and the holding members have their looped portions extended into the channels of the legs with their flared terminals bolted or otherwise suitably secured to the inner sides of the frame in adjacent relation to the respective hoops thereof. In this form of the invention 21 designates the leg, 22 the frame, 23 the looped corner portion thereof which receives the leg, 24 the tray carried by the frame 22, 25 the holding member, which is looped into the channel of the leg in opposition to the frame loop 23 and has its terminals 26 flared outward in parallel relation to the frame sides and drawn outward into rigid engagement therewith by bolts 27 or in any other suitable manner. In this form of the invention the springing outward of the terminal ends of the member 25 when clamped to the frame sides causes a transverse expanding of the portion of the member disposed within the leg and tends to expand the leg sides into binding contact with the respective sides of the frame loop.

It is found in practice that my invention provides a simple, strong and durable means for securely clamping frames in desired position to the legs 1, and that they enable the tables or other articles to which applied to be quickly set up or knocked down as may be desired.

I wish it understood that my invention is not limited to any specific construction, arrangement or form of the parts, as it is capable of numerous modifications and changes without departing from the spirit of the claims.

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

1. In an article of furniture, a leg having a portion channel-form in cross-section, a frame having a looped portion, and a looped member, said leg, frame loop and member fitted one into another in successive order and said member having its leg ends flared outward and fixed to the frame at the respective sides of its loop.

2. In an article of furniture, a leg having a portion channel-form in cross-section, a frame having a looped portion, and an elongated leg bracing member channel-form in cross-section, said leg, frame loop and member fitted one into another in successive order and said member having outwardly flared bracing portions fixed to the frame at respective sides of its loop.

3. In an article of furniture, a leg having a portion channel-form in cross-section, a frame having a looped portion fitting into the channel of the leg, and a looped member receiving the leg without the frame loop, said member extending a considerable distance along the leg and having outwardly flared side bracing wings which are fixed to the frame at the respective sides of its loop.

4. In an article of furniture, a leg having a portion channel-form in cross-section, a frame having a looped portion, and an elongated leg bracing member channel-form in cross-section, said leg, frame loop and member fitted one into another in successive order and said member having outwardly flared bracing portions fixed to the frame at respective sides of its loop, said member being of greater length lengthwise of the leg than the depth of said frame loop and having its flared edge portions extending vertically beyond the frame loop to coöperate with the member to form braces.

5. In an article of furniture, a leg channel-form in cross-section, a frame having a looped portion fitting closely into the channel of said leg, and a member receiving the leg directly without the frame loop and secured to said leg and frame, said member having portions thereof bearing inward in opposed binding relation against the leg sides.

6. In an article of furniture, a leg channel-form in cross-section, a frame having an outwardly looped portion fitted closely into the channel of said leg, a channel-form of holding member having its ends extended beyond the respective inner edges of the leg and flared outward, and means for securing the flared ends of the holding member to the frame sides and causing an inward gripping stress to be applied on the leg sides by said member in direct opposition to said frame loop.

7. In an article of furniture, a leg U-shaped in cross-section, a frame having an outwardly looped portion fitting closely into the channel of said leg, a U-shaped holding member fitting around said leg in opposition to the frame loop and having its ends extending beyond the respective inner edges of the leg and flared outwardly substantially in parallel relation to the respective side portions of the frame, and means for securing the flared ends of the holding member to the frame sides.

8. In an article of furniture, a plurality of legs channel-form in cross-section with their channels opening inward, a frame having portions outwardly looped and fitted

into the channels of respective legs, a clamp fitting over each leg without the respective loop and extending beyond the inner edges of the leg, and means for drawing the ends of each clamp to the adjacent sides of the frame and effecting a binding of the inner edge portions of the respective leg by the clamp.

9. In an article of furniture, a plurality of legs channel-form in cross-section with their channels opening inward, a frame having portions outwardly looped and fitted into the channels of respective legs, a clamp fitting over each leg without the respective loop and extending beyond the inner edges of the leg, means for drawing the ends of each clamp to the adjacent sides of the frame and effecting a binding of the inner edge portions of the respective leg by the clamp, and means connecting each clamp and leg for preventing relative longitudinal movements thereof.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto signed my name to this specification.

CLEMENT R. UHL.