D. S. Leavitt,

Folding Table,

No. 80,289. Patented July 28, 1868.

Fig: 1.

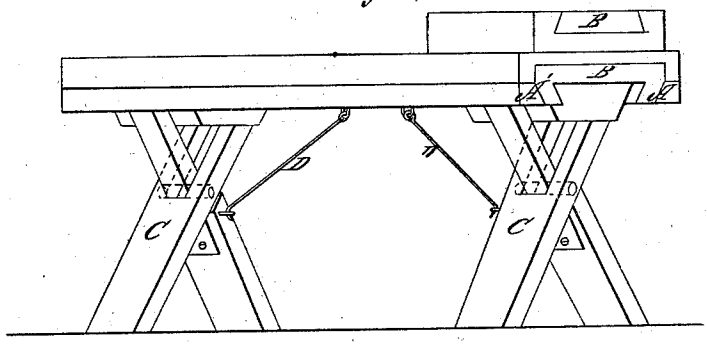


Fig: 2.

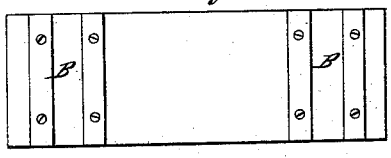
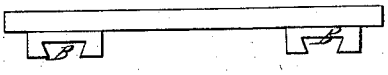


Fig: 3.



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United States Patent Office.

DAVID S. LEAVITT, OF GRAND RAPIDS, MICHIGAN.

Letters Patent No. 80,289, *dated July* 28, 1868.

IMPROVEMENT IN TABLES, BENCHES, &c.

The Schedule referred to in these Letters Patent and making part of the same.

TO ALL WHOM IT MAY CONCERN.

Be it known that I, DAVID S. LEAVITT, of Grand Rapids, in the county of Kent, and State of Michigan, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Portable Tables, Benches, Platforms, Chairs, &c.; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description of the construction and operation of the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, making a part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of a table or bench, showing dove-tail fastening attached thereto, and the manner of securing legs to fastening by wedges.

Figure 2 is a view of the under side of table, showing dove-tail fastenings arranged transversely thereon.

Figure 3 is an edge view of table, showing end view of dove-tail fastenings, as arranged in fig. 2.

Like letters in the different views of the drawings indicate like parts.

My invention relates to an improved device to be employed in the construction of tables, trestles, horses, supports, benches, chairs, scaffolds, staging, and platforms, whereby the same are rendered portable, and of easy adaptation to various purposes.

It consists in constructing what is known as the top, platform, or seat of the device, in a manner similar to that which is usually obtained in the construction of devices of the character aforesaid, but having screwed, or otherwise rigidly fastened to the bottom of the seat or platform, two narrow longitudinal pieces, which are bevelled to such an angle as to furnish, in conjunction with the legs or supports of the device, a suitable socket or groove for the insertion of adjustable wedges, which latter hold the legs or supports rigidly in position, but which can be easily withdrawn, when desired; and in the method of constructing and hinging the legs together, in strengthening the device with hooked rods and staples, and in a dovetail-shaped device, wherein to fasten the legs or supports of the extension-platform; and also in the wedged-shaped groove, located in the under or lower side of one end of the table, for the reception of the dovetail-shaped device for fastening the legs or supports of the extension-table when it is desirable to remove the same from the top of the bed or platform.

To enable any one skilled in the art to make and use my invention, I will proceed to describe its construction and operation.

A represents two pieces, fastened rigidly and longitudinally to the bottom or under side of the seat or platform, which pieces are laterally of angular shape, and flare upwardly and outwardly towards the exterior of the table, a distance the thickness of the piece, whereby is formed a suitable wedged-shaped groove or receptacle for the legs or supports of the device. The wedges being placed between the legs or supports, they are thereby pressed firmly against the said pieces, which legs or supports are so shaped, at that portion thereof which comes in contact with the longitudinal pieces aforesaid, as to correspond thereto and nicely fit the same.

B represents an "extension-receptacle," for the legs or supports of an extension-platform, which is rigidly screwed or otherwise fastened to the top of the bed or seat, the legs or supports being held in position by a wedge, as aforesaid, which "extension-receptacle" is designed for the purpose of elevating therefrom a platform, when desirable. When this receptacle is not being used for the purpose aforesaid, it is slid into a suitable wedge-shaped groove formed for that purpose in the lower part of the top or bed of the device, and screwed thereto; the interior width of this wedged-shaped groove being the same as that of the longitudinal groove which secures the legs or supports of the platform or table, and the exterior width exactly corresponding to that of the socket or wedge-shaped groove formed in the bed of the table or platform for its reception.

C represents the hinged legs or supports of the seat or platform, which are located at either end of the device. About midway of the length of the legs or supports, one of the two pieces, which go to form the aforesaid legs or supports, has formed therein a slit or opening, by cutting out a piece therefrom, extending from about the middle thereof to the end of the same, through which projects crosswise one of the two pieces comprising each leg, which legs are hinged together immediately beneath the point where they intersect, and are crossed. These legs or supports are also provided with horizontal apertures, which extend alike through each piece at the point of their intersection, into which pins are inserted, when desirable, either to hold the parts

more rigidly and securely together, or to the exclusion of the wedges as the only method of holding said parts together. These legs or supports are bevelled at the upper part thereof to an angle corresponding to that of the grooved-wedge receptacle, and are thereby exactly fitted therein.

D represents the hooks, as aforesaid, which are secured to the bottom of the table by staples, which hook into similar staples in the legs or supports, at a point intermediate between the extremities thereof.

In the construction of such devices as work-benches or large platforms, the pieces which form the wedge-shaped receptacles, or what may be properly called dove-tailed fastenings for the legs or supports, may, instead of being secured longitudinally to the bed or seat of the device, as above described, be secured to said bed or seat at either end thereof transversely, and fastened therein in the same manner as when they are fastened to the bed or seat of the device in a longitudinal position, as is shown in fig. 2.

It will be observed that this dove-tail fastening for the legs is susceptible of being so modified in form of construction and arrangement as to render it readily adaptable for the various purposes herein mentioned, and thus be of peculiar advantage to those desiring a portable household or yard-article, which will be found to be very convenient and useful, and for such purposes as picking fruit, grapes, trimming vines, &c., extremely desirable.

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

The combination of the dove-tail fastening B, hinged legs C, wedges or pins, and rods, when applied and used in the manner and for the purposes shown and described.

As evidence that I claim the foregoing, I have hereunto set my hand in the presence of two witnesses.

DAVID S. LEAVITT.

Witnesses:

MATTIE LEAVITT,

SHELDON LEAVITT.