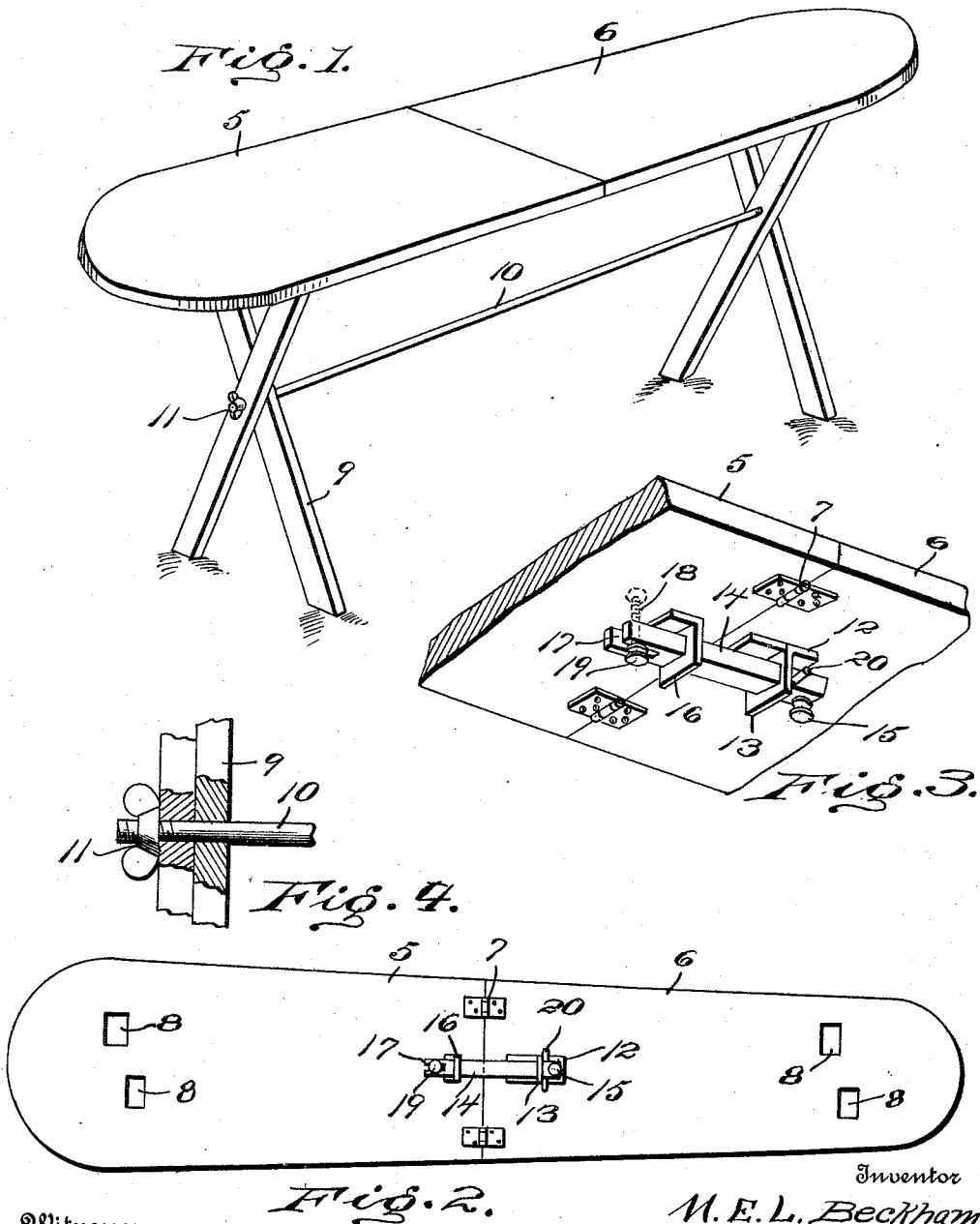


M. E. L. BECKHAM.
IRONING BOARD.
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Witnesses
W. H. Woodson.

J. M. Hallin.

Inventor
M. E. L. Beckham

By *J. H. H. H. H. H.* Attorneys.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

MARGARET E. L. BECKHAM, OF COLUMBIA, SOUTH CAROLINA.

IRONING-BOARD.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, MARGARET E. L. BECKHAM, citizen of the United States, residing at Columbia, in the county of Richland and State of South Carolina, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Ironing-Boards, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to folding ironing tables and has for its object the provision of a comparatively simple and thoroughly efficient device of this character, capable of being quickly set up for use and readily taken apart and compactly folded for storage or shipment.

A further object is to provide an ironing table including a stand formed of spaced sets of pivotally connected legs, the upper ends of which fit in sockets formed in the lower surface of the ironing board, thus to form a firm support for the latter.

A further object is to form the ironing board in two sections having their abutting ends pivotally united, means being provided for holding said sections rigidly in horizontal alinement during the ironing operation.

A still further object of the invention is generally to improve this class of devices so as to increase their utility, durability and efficiency, as well as to reduce the cost of manufacture.

Further objects and advantages will appear in the following description, it being understood that various changes in form, proportions and minor details of construction may be resorted to within the scope of the appended claim.

For a full understanding of the invention and the merits thereof, reference is to be had to the following description and accompanying drawings, in which:

Figure 1 is a perspective view of a folding ironing table constructed in accordance with my invention; Fig. 2 is a bottom plan view of the ironing board removed from the supporting stand; Fig. 3 is a detail perspective view of the locking member; Fig. 4 is a sectional view, showing the manner of retaining the cross legs in assembled position. Fig. 5 is a longitudinal sectional view, showing the manner of fitting the legs within the sockets of the ironing board.

Corresponding and like parts are referred to in the following description and indi-

cated in all the views of the drawings by the same reference characters.

The improved device forming the subject matter of the present invention comprises an ironing board, preferably formed in two sections 5 and 6 having their abutting ends pivotally connected in any suitable manner as by hinges 7. Formed in the lower faces of the sections 5 and 6 at the outer ends thereof, are spaced sockets or depressions 8, preferably rectangular in shape and disposed one slightly in advance of the other, as shown.

The ironing board is supported on a stand including spaced sets of pivotally united cross legs 9, the upper ends of which are adapted to fit in the adjacent sockets 8. The legs of each set are connected by a transverse tie rod 10, the opposite ends of which pierce the cross legs at the intersection thereof and are threaded for engagement with wing nuts 11.

Secured to the lower face of the section 6, is a plate 12 having a guiding loop 13 depending therefrom and in which is slidably mounted a locking bolt 14. One end of the locking bolt 14 is provided with a finger piece or knob 15, while the opposite end thereof slides through a keeper 16 secured to the bottom of the leaf section 5 and is provided with a terminal slot 17, adapted to receive a screw or similar fastening device 18. The head of the bolt or screw 18 is countersunk in the section 5 so as not to present any obstruction on the ironing surface of the board, while the lower end thereof is threaded for engagement with a nut 19 adapted to bear against the lower face of the bolt 14 at the slotted end thereof, thus to hold the sections 5 and 6 rigidly in horizontal alinement with each other during the ironing operation. Extending laterally from the opposite longitudinal edges of the bolt 14 at a point near the knob 15, are stop pins 20 adapted to bear against the guide 13 so as to limit the sliding movement of the bolt in one direction. Thus it will be seen that by swinging the sections 5 and 6 upwardly and moving the slotted end of the locking member in engagement with the fastening device 18 and subsequently tightening the nut 19, the sections 5 and 6 may be rigidly united, the upper ends of the cross legs of the stand being subsequently inserted in the sockets 8 and held in proper position by ad-

justing the thumb nuts 11. It will also be seen that by running the ironing board from the supporting legs and releasing the locking member 14, the sections 5 and 6 may be
5 swung downwardly in contact with each other, and by releasing the thumb nuts 11 and detaching the connecting rod 10, the cross legs 9 of each set may be folded, thus permitting the several parts comprising the
10 ironing board to be compactly folded for storage or shipment.

The ironing boards may be made in different sizes and shapes and any number of supporting legs may be provided without
15 departing from the spirit of the invention.

Having thus described the invention, what is claimed as new is:

An ironing table including a stand an ironing board supported on the stand, and
20 formed of pivotally connected sections a

bolt depending from one of the sections, a keeper secured to said section on one side of the bolt, a plate secured to the other section and provided with a guide, a locking member having one end thereof slidably mounted
25 in said guide and its other end slidably mounted in the keeper and provided with a terminal slot adapted to receive the bolt, a nut engaging the threads on the bolt and bearing against the slotted end of the locking member, and stops extending laterally
30 from the bolt and adapted to engage the guide for limiting the longitudinal movement of said locking member.

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

MARGARET E. L. BECKHAM. [L. s.]

Witnesses:

R. Y. KIBLER,

S. A. LYNCH.

Copies of this patent may be obtained for five cents each, by addressing the "Commissioner of Patents, Washington, D. C."