No. 631,894. Patented Aug. 29, 1899.

W. LINKENBACH.

CHOPPING BLOCK.

(Application filed Apr. 28, 1899.)

(No Model.)

Fig. 1.

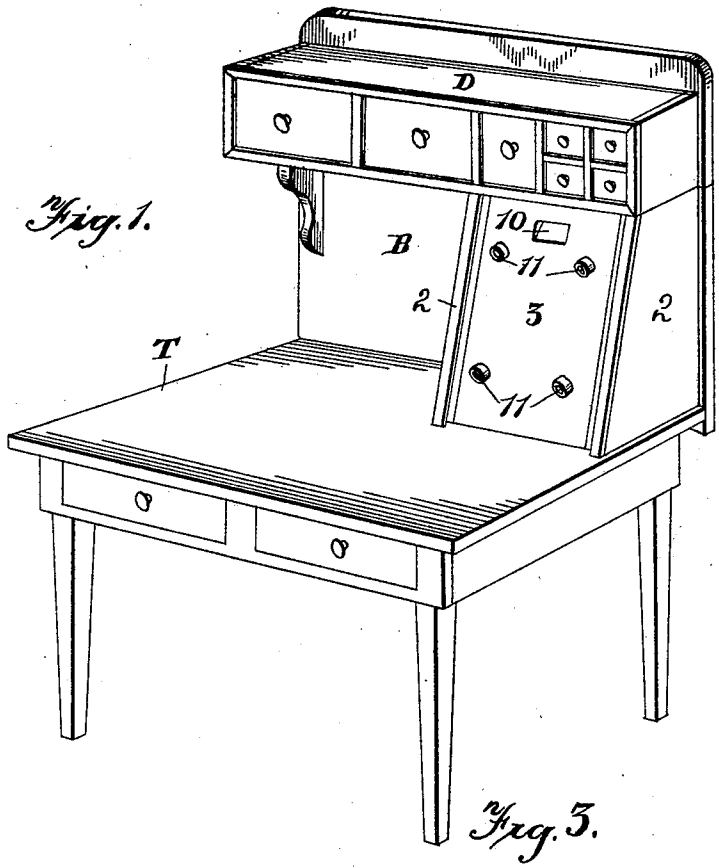
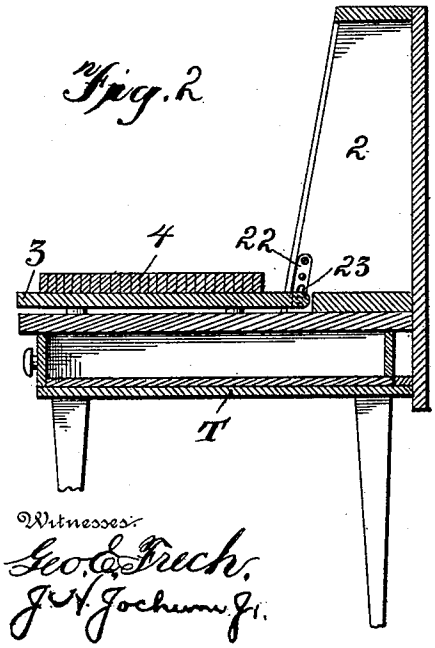
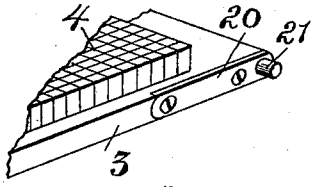


Fig. 3.

Fig. 2.





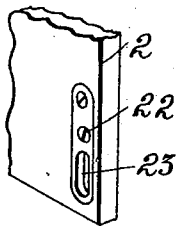
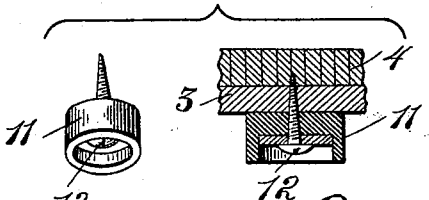


Fig. 4.



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THE NORRIS PETERS CO., PHOTO-LITHO., WASHINGTON, D. C.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLIAM LINKENBACH, OF SHELBYVILLE, INDIANA.

CHOPPING-BLOCK.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 631,894, dated August 29, 1899.

Application filed April 28, 1899. Serial No. 714,827. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM LINKENBACH, a citizen of the United States, and a resident of Shelbyville, Shelby county, State of Indiana, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Chopping-Blocks; and my preferred manner of carrying out the invention is set forth in the following full, clear, and exact description, terminating with claims particularly specifying the novelty.

This invention relates to butchering, and more especially to that class of devices therein known as "chopping-blocks;" and the object of the same is to produce an attachment adapted to form part of a cabinet or the like having a block on which meat can be chopped, but which while not in use can be turned up out of sight, out of the way, and out of the reach of flies and other insects.

To this end the invention consists of a casing, a leaf connected therewith by a peculiar hinge and having cushioned feet, a chopping-block mounted on said leaf, and an upright back for the casing, all as hereinafter more fully described and claimed and as illustrated in the accompanying drawings, wherein—

Figure 1 is a general perspective view of a cabinet with my attachment forming part thereof and showing the leaf as closed. Fig. 2 is a vertical section of the attachment as applied to the back of a table or the like, the leaf being open. Fig. 3 is a detail of one of the hinges. Fig. 4 is a detail of one of the cushions.

In the said drawings, T is a table, B an upright back, and D a series of drawers, all forming part of a cabinet of which my invention may constitute a part, or T designates a counter against the back of which my attachment is secured.

It will be obvious from the description below that the attachment can be fastened against the back of any counter, table, or the like, the only essentials being a sufficient support for the back of the attachment and a flat surface upon which its leaf may rest when in use.

Of itself the attachment comprises an upright back piece 1, a casing consisting of two side pieces 2, a leaf 3, hinged at its lower end between the front edges of said side pieces, and a block 4, secured upon the upper face of the leaf, which becomes the inner face thereof when the leaf is turned upward. The front edges of the side pieces are preferably inclined to the rear toward their upper ends, so that when the leaf is turned upward the weight of itself and the block in passing over the hinges will cause the leaf to remain closed. Within the casing and within its back and sides may be hooks or shelves for the reception of carving instruments or the like. The whole may be ornamented, if desired, and of the necessary sizes, proportions, and materials.

In applying this attachment to a table or the like the back piece 1, which extends considerably below the side pieces 2, is secured against the rear of the table, as seen in Fig. 2, so that the lower edges of the side pieces rest upon the face of the table and extend forward some distance from the rear edge thereof. Obviously the leaf 3 will be of about such length that when let down, as shown in this view, the front edge will be about flush with that of the table.

It will be understood that although I have shown a table it might be a counter or the like. The attachment therefore constitutes an article of manufacture which may be made and sold to butchers, &c., and by them applied to their counters or tables.

The face of the leaf has a suitable handle 10, by which it may be let down. To the face of the leaf are also attached a number of cushions 11, which may be of leather, each with a screw 12 passing through it, as seen in Fig. 4. These cushions are adapted and intended to lie upon the face of the table or counter when the leaf is let down, so that the carving, pounding, or chopping done on the block will not dent or disfigure the surface of the table.

An important feature of my invention consists in the special form of hinge I employ, as best seen in Fig. 3. This hinge consists of two members, preferably of metal, let into and secured to the meeting faces of the side pieces 2 and the leaf 3. The member 20 is secured to the edge of the leaf 3 and carries a projecting pin 21, while the member 22 is let into the side of the casing and has an upright slot 23, in which said pin fits loosely. The two pins are of course in true alinement,

and the leaf can be let down at any time in the manner above described. Should the several cushions not accurately contact with the table-top through the warping of the latter or for any other reason, it will be clear that the act of chopping would cause the block and leaf to "dance" somewhat, and in order that its movement will not break or loosen the hinges (especially if the latter are of casting) I employ the specific construction just described. It is obvious that the slotted member will permit the rise and fall of the pins to a limited extent, while preventing the disconnection of the leaf, and this trifling lost motion effects the end in view.

The uses and advantages of this device are thought to be obvious. When built in cabinet form, the drawers may contain anything desired by the housekeeper; but in all forms the attachment itself will contain the cleaver and such other implements as are used for chopping and carving meat. It is well known that meat-blocks soon become soiled, and in a busy store it is not always convenient to clean the block and wipe the cleaver after each using. With my improvement the operator has but to hang up his tool or tools inside the casing and raise the leaf 3, when everything unsightly is hidden from view and out of the reach of flies and the like.

What I claim as new is—

1. As an article of manufacture, the herein-described attachment for tables and the like, the same comprising an upright back adapted to be secured at its lower end to the rear of the table, two sides attached to the back and adapted to rest at their lower ends on the table-top and to extend part way thereover, their front edges being inclined to the rear from their lower to their upper ends, a leaf hinged between said sides near their lower ends and adapted when lowered to rest upon the table-top and when raised to pass over the hinge-line and close the casing, cushions on the outer face of said leaf, and a chopping-block secured to its inner face, all as and for the purpose set forth.

2. The combination with a table or the like, and a casing attached thereto and comprising a back and two side pieces; of a leaf, a chopping-block fast on its upper face, a number of cushions on its lower face adapted to rest on the table, and hinges each comprising a pin member in the edge of the leaf and a second member in the adjacent side piece having an upright slot loosely receiving said pin, all as and for the purpose set forth.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto subscribed my signature this 22d day of April, A. D. 1899.

WILLIAM LINKENBACH.

Witnesses:

FRANK BUESCHER,

CHAS. W. WILLIAMS.