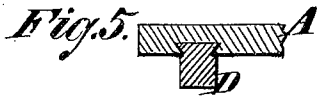


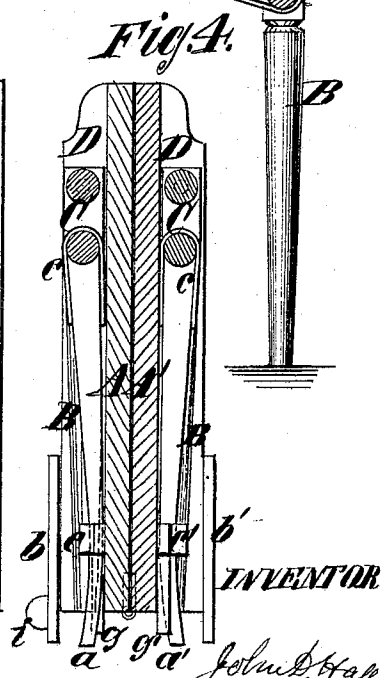
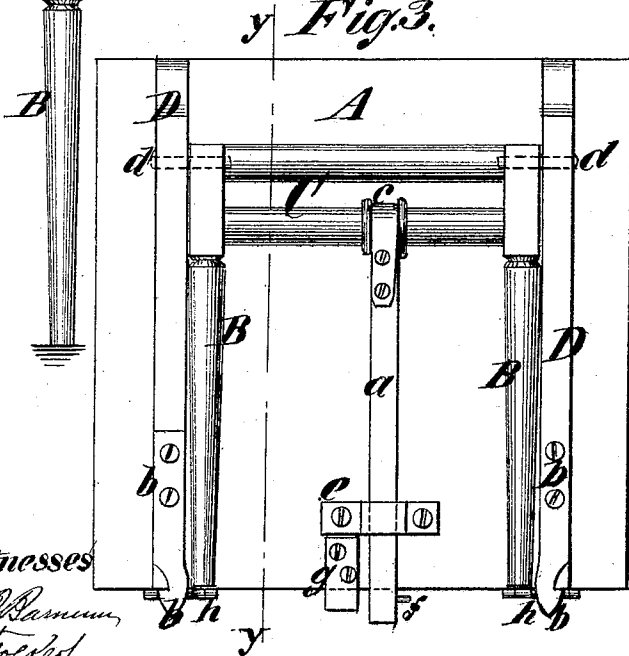
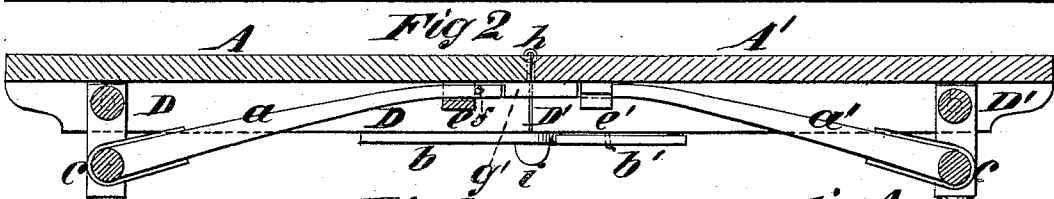
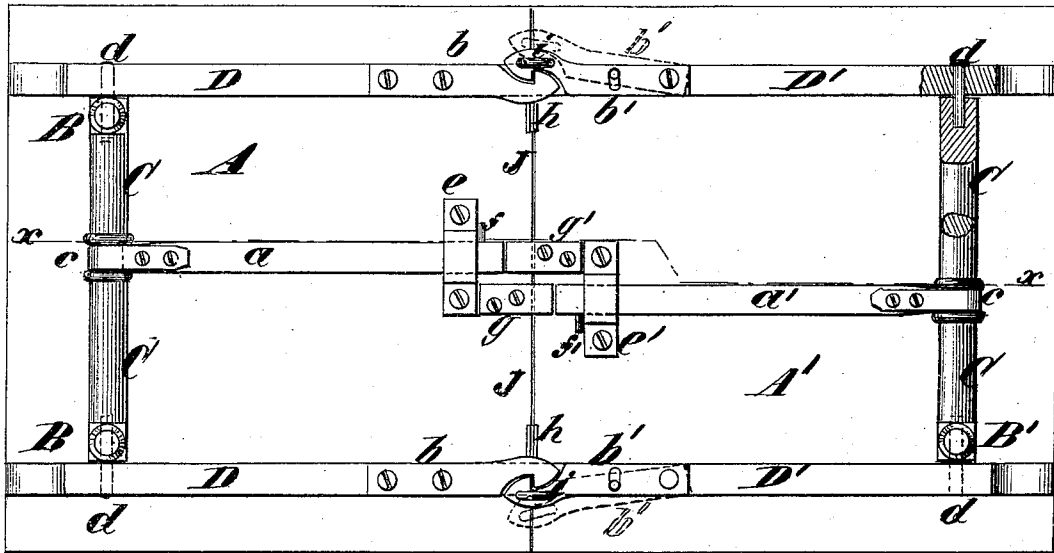
J. D. HALL.  
Folding-Tables.

No. 152,947.

Patented July 14, 1874.



*Fig. 1.*



Witnesses  
*W. B. Ransom*  
*W. J. Foster*

INVENTOR

*John D. Hall*

# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOHN D. HALL, OF BROOKLYN, NEW YORK, ASSIGNOR TO MARY E. J. HALL,  
OF SAME PLACE.

## IMPROVEMENT IN FOLDING TABLES.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 152,947, dated July 14, 1874; application filed  
February 2, 1874.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, JOHN D. HALL, of Brooklyn, in the county of Kings and State of New York, have invented certain Improvements in Tables, of which the following is a specification:

This invention relates to the construction of a table principally for the use of ladies while cutting, basting, and trimming their garments, in such manner that when not needed for use it can be quickly and conveniently folded up into a small compass and laid away.

It is designed to supersede the inconvenient lap-board which is now in common use, and when intended for this purpose is constructed about twenty-three inches in height, two feet wide, and four feet long.

My improvement is applicable, also, to the construction of tables for paper-hangers' use, children's use and amusement, and camping and all other purposes for which folding or portable tables are desirable.

Figure 1 is a plan view of the inverted table. Fig. 2 is a sectional view of the table on line *x x*. Fig. 3 is a side view of the table when folded. Fig. 4 is a sectional view of the same on the line *y y*. Fig. 5 is a sectional view of a portion of the table on the line *z z*, Fig. 1.

The pairs of legs *B B* and *B' B'* are attached rigidly together by rungs *C C* and *C' C'*, as shown in the drawings, or in any other suitable manner, and are hinged or pivoted to the parts of the top *A* and *A'* by means of any suitable hinges or pivots *d d d*, in such a manner as to admit of their being folded down to the top, as shown in Fig. 3. When the table is unfolded for use, as shown in Figs. 1 and 2, the said legs are held rigidly in position perpendicular to the top by means of the hinged braces *a* and *a'*, the stops *g* and *g'*, and the pins *f* and *f'*, striking against the staples *E* and *E'*.

It will be seen that the legs of the table

shown in the drawings are hinged to the top by means of simple metallic pins or pivots *d*, driven through the ribs *D* and *D'*, and into the already combined legs and rungs. The ribs *D* and *D'* I attach to the top *A* and *A'* by driving them longitudinally into a dovetailing groove, as shown in Fig. 5, only the ends of the ribs next to the central joint *J* for a distance of some four inches being glued or nailed to the top. This arrangement obviates all tendency in the table to warp or strain apart through the shrinking or expanding of the parts.

The two halves of the table *A* and *A'* are hinged together with any suitable hinges *h*, and, when the table is spread for use, are secured in the straight position shown in Figs. 1 and 2 by means of the hooks *b* and *b'*.

To unfold the table, open the legs first; then straighten out the top, and, lastly, join the hooks *b* and *b'*. To fold it, simply reverse these three operations.

It will be seen that when the top is straightened out, each brace, *a* and *a'*, is automatically blocked or stopped in one direction by the stops *g* and *g'*, each being attached to the opposite half of the top, and in the other direction by the pins *f* and *f'* striking against the staples *E* and *E'*. Instead of the pins *f f'*, I sometimes employ a suitable knob or projection formed upon the braces.

I claim as my invention—

1. The combination, with the table-top *A* and *A'* and the folding legs *B* and *B'*, of the braces *a* and *a'*, provided with the pins *f* and *f'*, the stops *g* and *g'*, and the staples *E* and *E'*, substantially in the manner and for the purpose set forth.

2. The combination of the hooks *b b* and *b' b'* and the hinged parts *A* and *A'*, substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

JOHN D. HALL.

Witnesses:

WM. J. TOLKERT,  
D. B. BARNUM.