A. B. EMSHWILLER.

FOLDING TABLE.

APPLICATION FILED SEPT. 23, 1915.

1,285,082. Patented Nov. 19, 1918.

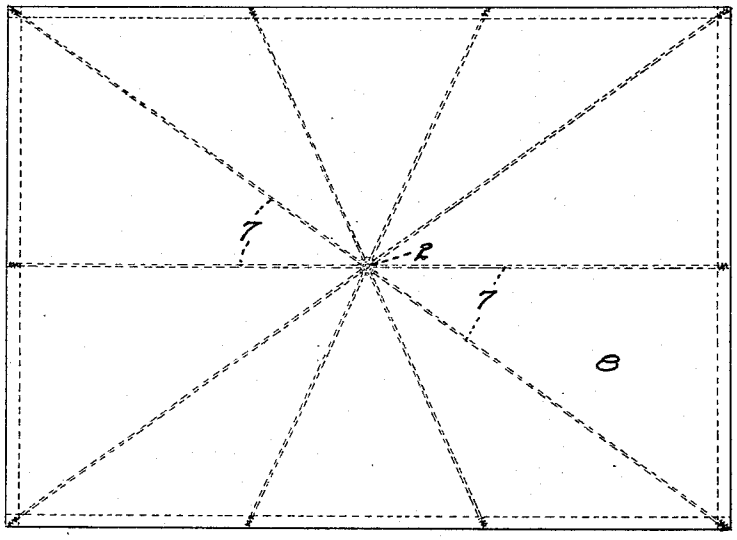


FIG. 1.

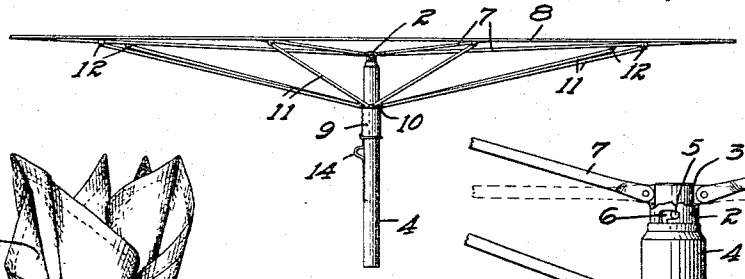


FIG. 2.

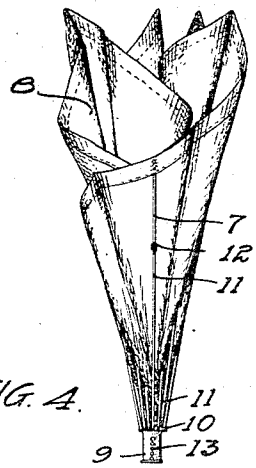


FIG. 4.

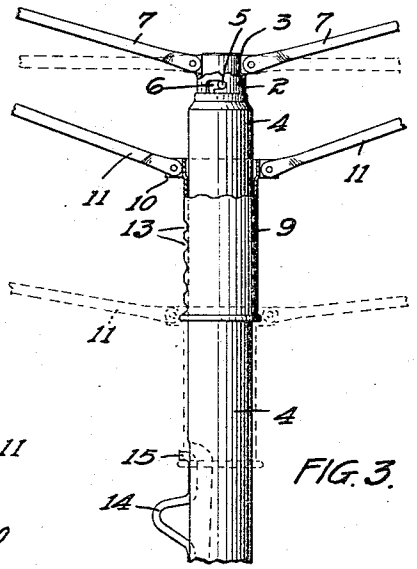


FIG. 3.

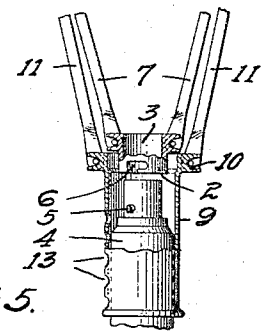


FIG. 5.

WITNESSES

M. R. McInnis

C. E. Sorensen

INVENTOR

ADELBERT B. EMSHWILLER

BY Paul & Paul

ATTORNEYS

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

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ADELBERT B. EMSHWILLER, OF MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA.

FOLDING TABLE.

Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Nov. 19, 1918.

1,285,082.

Application filed September 23, 1915. Serial No. 52,187.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ADELBERT B. EMSHWILLER, citizen of the United States, resident of Minneapolis, county of Hennepin, State of Minnesota, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Folding Tables, of which the following is a specification.

The object of my invention is to provide a device which can be compactly folded and carried in a pocket or in a hand bag, and easily unfolded whenever desired and set up on a stake or other suitable support for use as a table.

The invention consists generally in various constructions and combinations, all as hereinafter described and particularly pointed out in the claim.

In the accompanying drawings forming part of this specification,

Figure 1 is a plan view of a table embodying my invention,

Fig. 2 is a side view of the same,

Fig. 3 is a detail sectional view, illustrating the manner of folding and unfolding the device,

Fig. 4 shows the device in its folded position,

Fig. 5 is a detail sectional view, showing the manner of disconnecting the hand piece or grip from the hub in which the upper braces are mounted.

In the drawing, 2 represents the hub, having a socket 3 therein to receive the end of a hand grip or stick 4. A pin 5 is mounted in this hand grip and adapted to enter a bayonet slot 6 provided in the hub 2 and when the stick is rotated the engagement of the pin with the bayonet slot will lock the stick securely in the socket in the hub. A series of braces 7 are pivotally connected with the hub and a flexible cover 8 is mounted on the ends of said braces and as shown, is preferably rectangular in form, corresponding substantially to a small table, the ends of the braces being fastened to the edges of the cover.

A sleeve 9 is mounted to slide on the stick 4 and is provided with ears 10 to which secondary braces 11 are pivoted, the outer ends of these secondary braces being pivotally connected at 12 to the outer portions of the braces 7. The sleeve 9 is provided with a series of holes 13 and a spring catch 14 has an end 15 adapted to enter the holes 13 and lock the sleeve on the stick. When this spring catch is forced inwardly, the end 15 is disengaged from its hole in the sleeve and the sleeve is free to slide back and forth on the stick. When the inner ends of the braces 11 are drawn down to the position indicated in Fig. 2, the outer ends of the braces 7 will also be drawn down, putting the cover under tension until it is drawn sufficiently taut to form a flat substantial surface on which ordinary dishes may be placed with safety. The table so formed can be placed on the knees of the persons using it, between the seats of a railway coach and used for eating a meal, or for card playing or writing, and when the stick 4 is fastened to an upright support, such as a stake, the table will be rigidly held and food may be placed upon it for the persons gathered around.

Whenever desired, a slight twist of the stick 4 will separate it from the hub 2 and it may then be withdrawn from the sleeve and placed inside the folded braces and the whole device thrust into the pocket or into a hand bag for convenience in carrying it from place to place.

It will be observed that when the table is folded, the hub 3 is nested or fits within the sleeve 9 and the support 4 will fit down within the hub 3 through its upper open end and lie within the folded ribs 7 and 11 and flexible cover-top 8. This secures compactness and stability and insures the sleeve, the hub and the stick or support being held against lateral displacement.

I claim as my invention:

A device of the class described comprising a hollow hub open at both ends, a series of braces pivotally connected at one end to the hub, a flexible top having its edges secured to the outer ends of the braces, a slidable sleeve, braces connecting said sleeve with the first named braces, a stick removably fitting in said sleeve and formed with an end to fit in the hollow hub from its lower end when the braces are distended and to fit therein from the upper end of the hub when the cover is folded and the stick placed within the folds thereof, and means for locking the stick and hub together when the braces are distended.

In witness whereof, I have hereunto set my hand this 20th day of September, 1915.

ADELBERT B. EMSHWILLER.

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