No. 702,057. Patented June 10, 1902.

H. M. HANSON.

TABLE.

(Application filed Feb. 23, 1900.)

(No Model.) 3 Sheets—Sheet 1.

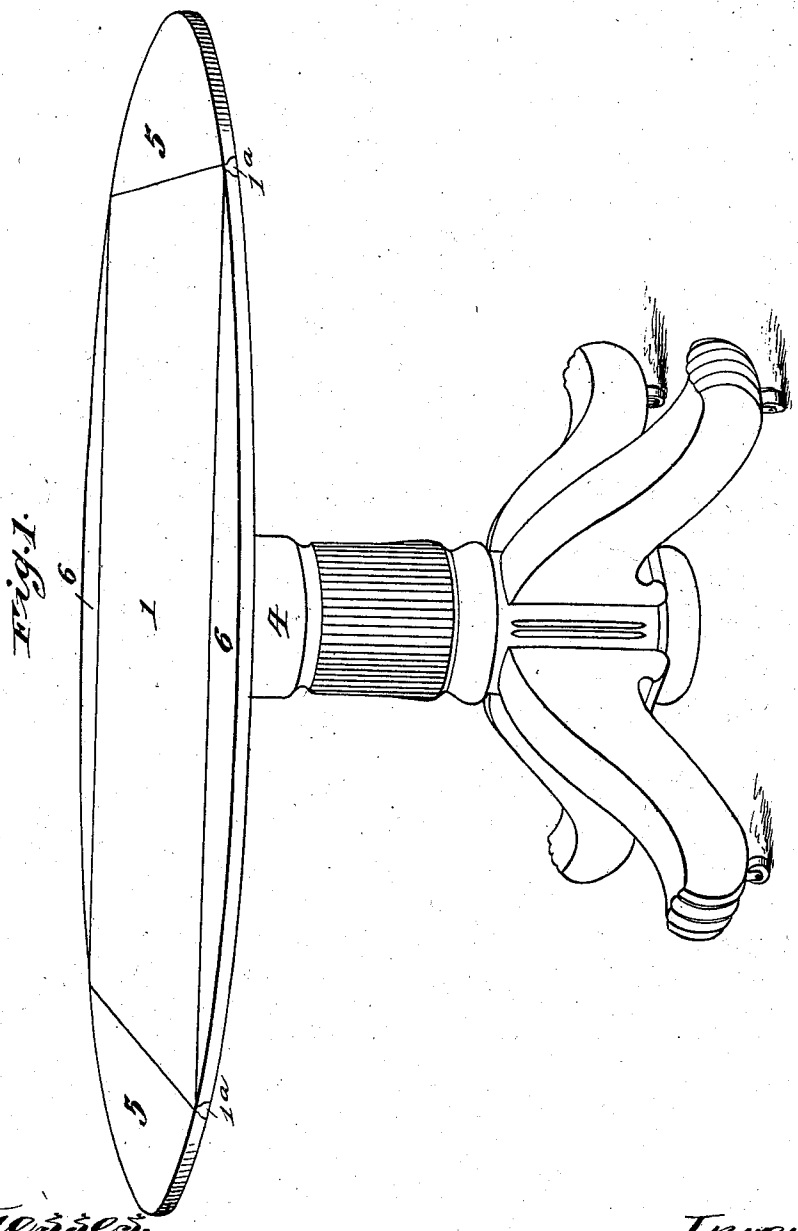


Fig. 1.

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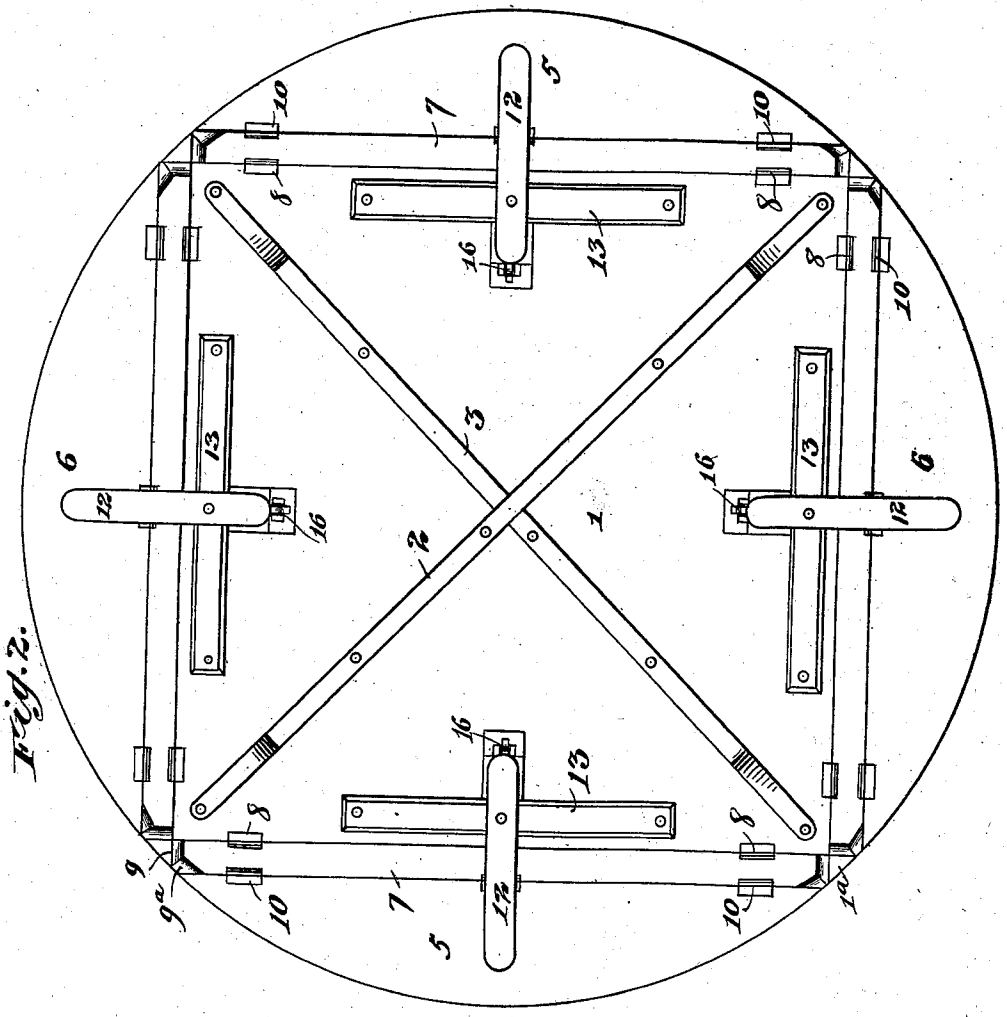


Fig. 2.

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(No Model.) 3 Sheets—Sheet 3.

Fig. 3.

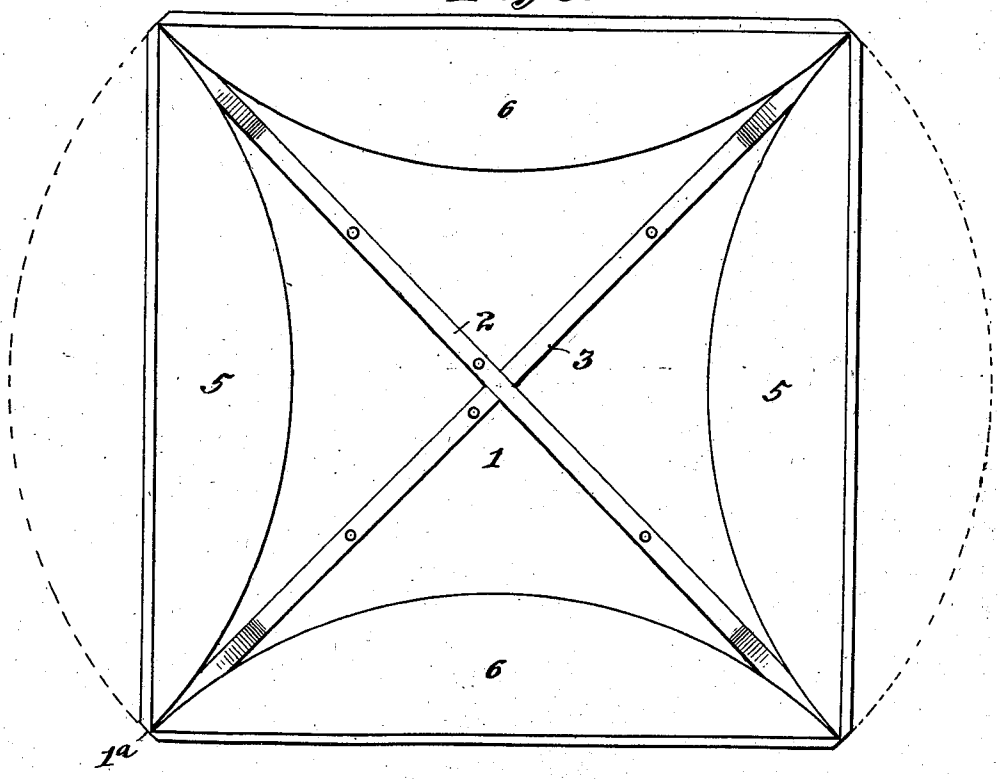


Fig. 4.



Fig. 6.



Fig. 5.

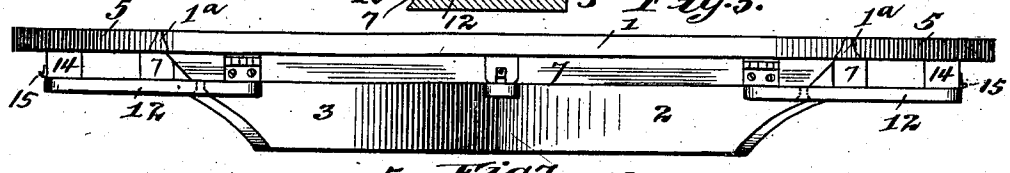
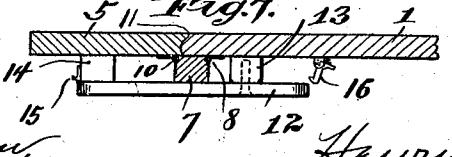


Fig. 7.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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TABLE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 702,057, dated June 10, 1902.

Application filed February 23, 1900. Serial No. 6,280. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, HENRY M. HANSON, a citizen of the United States, residing at Janesville, in the county of Rock and State of Wisconsin, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Tables, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to an improvement in tables, and has for its object to provide a table which can be readily converted so as to change its shape and size, thus adapting it to a variety of uses and situations. For example, my improved construction affords, by the simple manipulation of hinged leaves, a square, oblong, or a round table, which are the forms most generally employed; but for special purposes irregular forms of outline are secured by the adjustment of some of the individual leaves in relation to the fixed top.

Tables have been made heretofore having a fixed central section of rectangular form, to each of the sides of which were hinged two leaves, the inner of said leaves being hinged to the central section and the outer leaf hinged to the inner one, said outer leaves being adapted to fold underneath the inner leaves, but when extended showing double joints and the hinge members in the top of the table. In my improved construction I employ a central rectangular fixed section, which may be supported upon suitable legs or a central pedestal, and I hinge to said central section segmental leaf-sections, one to each side of the central fixed section, in such manner that said leaf-sections may be folded underneath the fixed central section. I employ a hinge-strip, which is hinged to the under side of the central section near its edges and to which the segmental leaf-section is hinged, said hinge-strip affording when the leaf-section is extended a support beneath the joint and when the leaf-section is folded a rail or rim-strip. The meeting edges of the leaf-section and central section may be fashioned to abut, overlap, or interfit in any desired way, and when the leaf-sections are extended the table-top is not marred by a multiplicity of joints or the appearance of unsightly hinges, and when folded beneath the table-top their edges afford a suitable finish, which enhances rather than detracts from the appearance of the table.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is a perspective view of a table embodying my improvements with the leaves extended. Fig. 2 is a bottom plan view of the same with the pedestal omitted. Fig. 3 is a bottom plan view with the leaves folded, the dotted lines showing how two of said leaves may be extended to form an oblong table. Fig. 4 is an edge view of the table with the leaves folded. Fig. 5 is a similar view with the leaves unfolded. Figs. 6 and 7 are sectional details through the table-top, hinge-strip, and leaf, showing the latter folded and unfolded in the respective views and illustrating also the construction of a catch.

In the drawings, 1 represents the central or stationary section of a table rectangular in form and suitably braced by the spider-frame 2 3 and mounted upon a support, such as legs or the pedestal 4.

5 5 and 6 6 represent the segmental leaves arranged in pairs on the opposite sides of the table, respectively, and hinged to the central section. I prefer instead of hinging said leaves directly to the central section to hinge them indirectly thereto—viz., by means of the hinge-strips 7. Said strips do not require any finish, except upon one side. As shown in Fig. 2, they are of approximately the length of one side of the central rectangular section and are hinged thereto by means of the hinges 8, the hinge-strips being preferably mortised to receive the leaves of the hinges. At their ends said hinge-strips are preferably beveled or cut away, as shown at 9 9^a, to adapt them to swing to the position shown in Fig. 6 without interference at their ends. The leaves 5 and 6 are connected to the strips 7 by the hinges 10, a single pair of hinges being sufficient for the ordinary-sized table. The hinge-strips 7 are of such width that when the leaves are extended, as shown more particularly in Fig. 6, such leaf-section is carried into the plane of the table-top and its edge abuts or interfolds with the edge of the table. Said edges may be formed upon an ogee, as represented at 11, Fig. 7, or any other form of joint may be made.

In order to support the leaf when extended, I may use the pivoted support 12, mounted upon the strip 13, secured to the under side of the central section parallel to its edge, such pivoted support being adapted to be extended underneath the hinge-strip 7 and into contact with the lower side of a rest-block 14, carrying one member 15 of a catch, a spring-latch 16 being pivoted to the under side of the central table-section 1 in the rear of the strip 13 and in such position that when the leaf-section is folded underneath the central section of the table the catch engages the latch and the leaf is held suspended in position underneath the table-top.

I have spoken of the table-top 1 as being rectangular; but preferably the extremities of its corners are cut away, as shown at 1^a, so that when the segmental leaf-sections are extended the circular outline of the table is preserved, and that without mitering or otherwise specially forming the leaf-section.

Considered simply as a means of hinging two parts together, the hinge-strips 7 and the hinges 8 and 10 constitute the members of a three-leaf hinge, of which the member 8 is secured to the central body of the table, the member 10 to the leaf, and the strip 7 forms the intermediate or connecting member of the hinge.

By my construction I am enabled to obtain all of the adjustments as to form and size that have been previously secured by the use of double leaves or inner and outer leaves without the attendant disadvantages of plurality of joints, mitered ends, exposed hinges, and the like and at a great saving in cost of construction and increased convenience in use as well as in cleanliness, for it will be seen that since the central section of the table is in fixed relation to the support it is unitary or jointless in the sense that there are no hinge-joints in its structure, so that the advantages just referred to are attained.

The means for supporting the leaves in their extended and also in their folded positions may be varied, as the details thereof constitute no part of my invention, except to the extent hereinafter indicated in the claims.

Without limiting myself, therefore, to precise details of construction or arrangement of parts, I claim—

1. A table comprising a central fixed section of polygonal form, a series of leaf-sections adapted to be adjusted edge to edge in direct engagement, and in the same plane with, said central section, tri-part hinge connections uniting said central and leaf sections and whereby the latter are capable of folding into a plane parallel with and beneath the central section, and means for holding said leaf-sections both in extended and folded positions.

2. A table, comprising in combination a polygonal central section having a suitable support, leaf-sections hinged thereto, and strips forming parts of the hinge connections, said strips being adapted to provide, when the leaves are folded, valance-strips, substantially as described.

3. A table, comprising in combination a central section of rectangular form mounted upon a suitable support and having leaf-sections hinged thereto, said hinge connections comprising a member secured to the central section, a member secured to the leaf and an intermediate member to which the secured members are connected, which constitutes a filling-piece between the central section and the leaf when the latter is closed, whereby said leaves may be unfolded and extended in the plane of the table-top and folded beneath, parallel to and at a distance from said top, as and for the purposes set forth.

4. A table comprising in combination a rectangular central section having a suitable support and segmental leaf-sections hinged thereto, strips forming a part of the hinge connection, said strips being adapted to provide, when the leaves are folded, rails or rim-strips, substantially as described.

5. In a table, the combination with a central section of general rectangular form, having its corners truncated, of strips hinged to said under side adjacent and parallel to its edges, leaf-sections hinged to said strips and supports for said leaf-sections in their extended position, and other supports for said leaves when in their folded position, substantially as described.

6. A table comprising a central fixed section of polygonal form, a series of leaf-sections adapted to be adjusted edge to edge in direct engagement, and in the same plane with, said central section, tri-part hinge connections uniting said central and leaf sections and whereby the latter are capable of folding into a plane parallel with and beneath the central section, the intermediate members of the tri-part hinges constituting valance-pieces between the central and leaf sections when in a folded position.

7. A table comprising a central fixed section of polygonal form, a series of leaf-sections adapted to be adjusted edge to edge in direct engagement, and in the same plane with, said central section, tri-part hinge connections uniting said central and leaf sections and whereby the latter are capable of folding into a plane parallel with and beneath the central section, the intermediate members of the tri-part hinges constituting valance-pieces between the central and leaf sections when in a folded position, and being entirely concealed from above when in extended position.

HENRY M. HANSON.

Witnesses:
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