K. G. JOHANSON.

FOLDING TABLE.

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987,236. Patented Mar. 21, 1911.

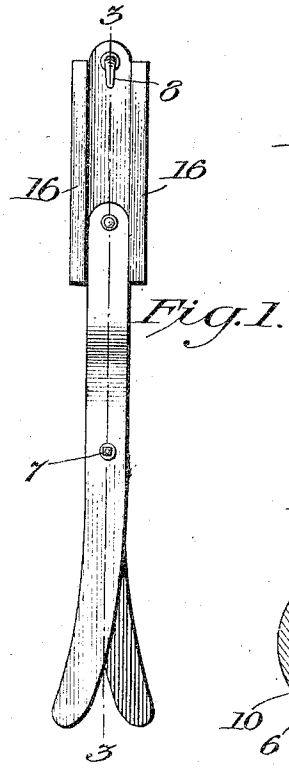


Fig. 1.

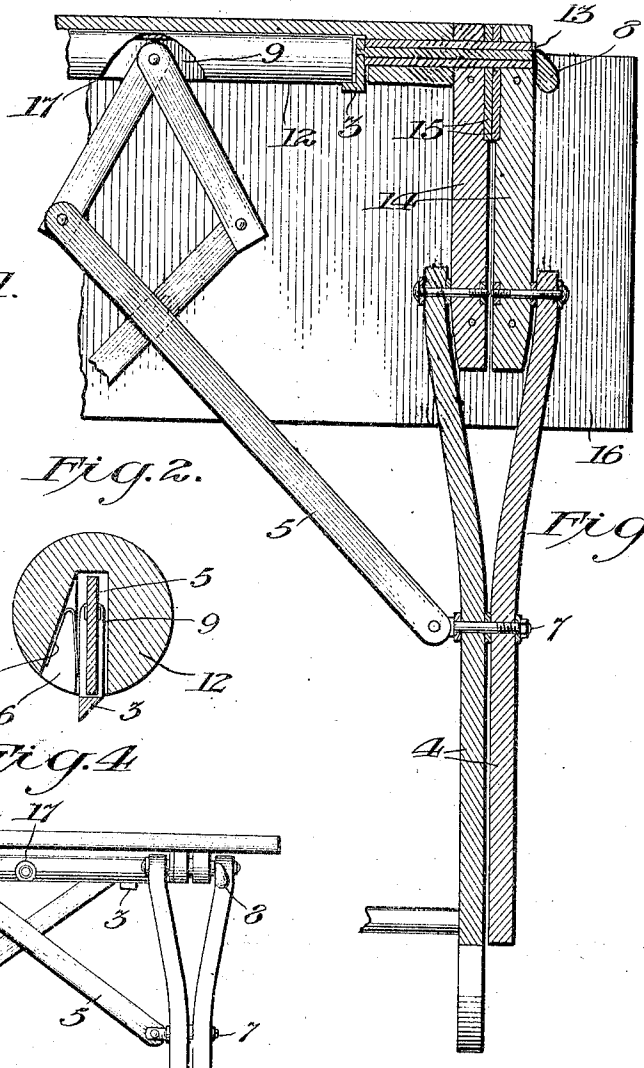
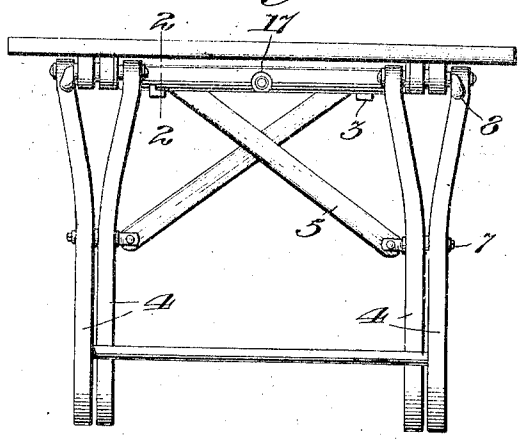


Fig. 2.

Fig. 3.

Fig. 4.



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FOLDING TABLE.

987,236. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Mar. 21, 1911.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, KARL G. JOHANSON, a citizen of the United States, and a resident of Concord Junction, in the county of Middlesex and State of Massachusetts, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Folding Tables, of which the following is a specification.

This invention aims to provide a brace and locking device for crosslegged two leaved top folding tables, the objects of which are, first, stability when unfolded; and, second, compactness when folded. These objects are attained by the mechanism illustrated in the accompanying drawing in which—

Figure 1 is a side elevation of the table in folded position. Fig. 2 is a section (enlarged) on line (2. 2.) of Fig. 4, the top, top stays and leg supports being omitted. Fig. 3 is a section (enlarged) on line (1. 1.) of Fig. 1, of one end of the table. Fig. 4 shows the end elevation of the table in unfolded position.

Each pair of leg supports (4) are connected near the center by a split headed bolt (7), two jointed bars (5) each having their lower ends pivotally connected to said bolt heads while the upper ends have a similar connection to a head piece (12) at a point (17) the latter being grooved to receive the upper section of said bars when the table is unfolded, as best shown in Fig. 4. Two sleeved rods (8) are each provided with a lock (3) the latter being adapted to swing to one side from the pressure by the brace bars on its outer slanting face, into the cavity (6) Fig. 2 containing a spring (10) by which said lock is forced back into its locking position when the bars have entered the groove (9). The rods are projected outside the face of the top stays (14) having their ends flattened and bent downward whereby the locks can be operated when the table is folded. The outside projections of the rods and also the springs can be omitted, the locks being then actuated by gravity. The sleeve (13) together with the rod form a pivot for both the head piece and the plates (15) the latter being secured by suitable means to the top stays, thereby resisting the strain on the latter when the table is unfolded and loaded, while the bent leg supports increase the stability and provide space for the top stays when the table is folded so that all the connecting points between the top stays and leg supports, between the top stays themselves and those between the leg supports, where the latter cross each other, center in one plane, as shown in Fig. 1 and Fig. 3.

I claim—

1. In a folding table comprising a top formed in two sections, stays at the ends of each section, the stays of the one section being pivoted to those of the other section, two pairs of legs pivoted together intermediate their ends, the upper ends of each pair being pivoted to the stays, a head piece adjacent the top sections, folding brace members, each comprising hinged sections, the upper sections pivoted to the head piece on a common pivot, the lower sections pivotally connected to the legs adjacent the pivotal point thereof and locking means associated with the head piece whereby upon unfolding the table the upper sections of the braces are folded adjacent the head piece and automatically locked thereto.

2. In a folding table, a top formed in two sections, stays at the ends of each section, the stays of the one section being pivoted to those of the other section, a head piece mounted between the stays central to their pivot points, folding brace members, each comprising hinged sections, the lower sections pivotally connected to the leg supports adjacent the pivotal points thereof, the upper sections pivoted to the head piece on a common pivot, a recess in said head piece extending in a transverse direction to the folding planes of the legs and serving as a guide for the brace members and automatically disposed locking means at each end of said recess whereby upon unfolding the table the braces are extended transversely to the leg supports and locked in position.

3. In a folding table, pivoted top sections, stay members near the ends of the sections, pivotal connections between the stay members, pivoted cross legs, one leg member be-

ing bent outwardly and pivoted on the outside of one stay member, the other leg being bent inwardly and pivoted on the inside of the other stay member whereby upon folding of the table, the pivot points between the legs, between the stays, and between the stays and the legs, all lie in the same plane.

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

KARL G. JOHANSON.

Witnesses:
JOHN H. ADAMS,
HARRY A. BRIDGES.