O. M. MERRICK.

Lap-Board.

No. 164,388. Patented June 15, 1875.

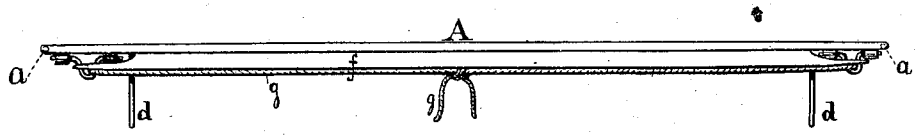

Fig. 1.

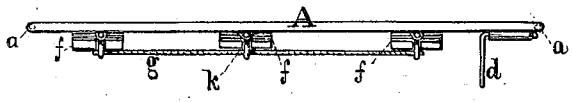

Fig. 2.

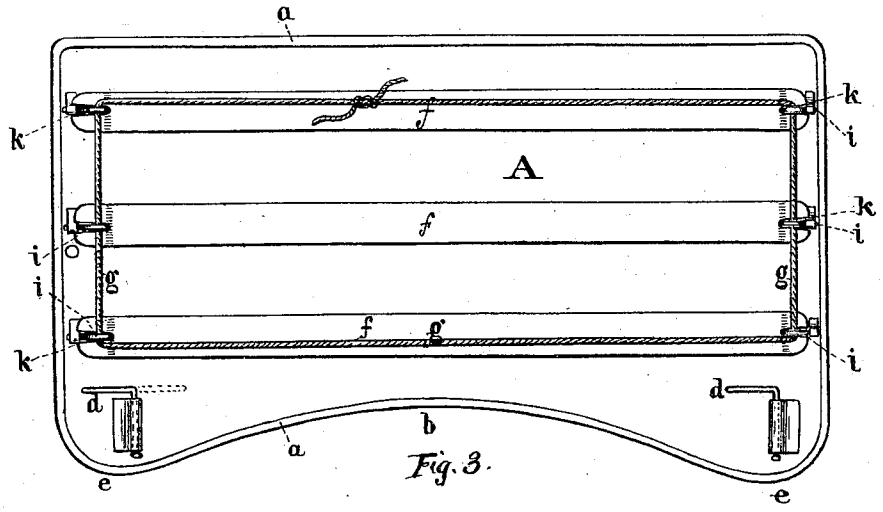

Fig. 3.

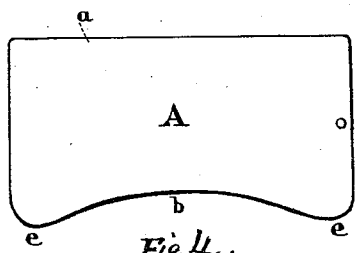

Fig. 4.

Witnesses

H. N. Kettelle

Harry Kettelle

Oscar M. Merrick

by E. Thurlow,

his Attys in Fact

THE GRAPHIC CO. PHOTO-LITH. 39 & 41 PARK PLACE, N.Y.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

OSCAR M. MERRICK, OF CHILLICOTHE, ILLINOIS.

IMPROVEMENT IN LAP-BOARDS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **164,388**, dated June 15, 1875; application filed February 3, 1875.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, OSCAR M. MERRICK, of the town of Chillicothe, in the county of Peoria and State of Illinois, have invented a Convertible Kneading-Board for Dough, and Tailors' or Cutters' Lap-Board; and do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description thereof, reference being had to the annexed drawings, making a part of this specification, in which like letters of reference refer to like parts, and in which—

Figure 1 represents a longitudinal sectional elevation; Fig. 2, a side elevation; Fig. 3, a plan of under or inferior surface of the board; Fig. 4, a smaller plan view of kneading and cutting side of same.

This invention has for its objects, first, to furnish a light and flexible kneading-board, to which dough cannot adhere in kneading; second, to provide against the falling of flour or scraps from ends of the board at either hand of the operator; third, to prevent the board from sliding away from the operator while at work at it; fourth, convertibility of the same into a cutting-board or lap-board, on which to cut garments for domestic use or for tailors, and which can be used on the lap away from a table or other resting-point, save the lap.

The first of these objects is attained by making the board A of zinc, or other appropriate metal to which the dough cannot adhere, and which board is strengthened around the edges by a wire, *a a*. The second object is accomplished by hollowing out the front of the board to fit the body of the operator, as shown at *b*, so that the projecting wings *e e* thus left on either side of said hollow retain the flour and prevent it from falling to the floor of the room. The third object I accomplish by the attachment to the board under each wing of rectangular braces, or swiveled arms *d d*, pivoted to the board, the free arm of which can be dropped perpendicularly at right angles with the interior surface of the board, so as to pass down the front edge of the table or dresser, and be folded back again against the board when not in use. The fourth object is attained by attaching to the inferior surface of the board strips *f f f*, or light bars running lengthwise of said board, to act as strengtheners, and also to prevent the board (so converted into a cutting-board) from slipping forward on the lap, in which position women, particularly, may use it far away from a table. These strips *f*, of which I use three or more, according to the size of the board, extend from end to end of same, right and left of it, and parallel to each other, each secured at either end by strings, or a cord, *g*, which passes through a staple, *i*, or revolving eye, whose stem is secured parallel with the board, and the eye of which enters and projects above a slot, *k*, cut in the end of the strip for the cord to pass through. The cord thus makes the circuit of the board passing from the staple in the end of each strip to the next one. The cord may be substituted at each staple or eye by a small pin or movable bolt or key, or the strips may be secured to the board at either end by hasps or similar fastenings. The stops *d d* may be substituted by a flat lip hinged to the board, so as to open to a right angle, and no farther.

What I claim as my invention, is—

1. The convertible metallic lap-board and kneading-board A, having a curved front, *b*, in combination with adjustable bars *f*, eyes or staples *i*, and stops *d*, substantially as and for the purposes described.

2. The combination of the metal board A, stops *d*, adjustable bars *f*, slotted at either end, the eyes or staples *i*, and the cord *g*, as described.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing convertible kneading and cutting-board, I have hereunto set my hand this 21st day of January, 1875.

OSCAR M. MERRICK.

Witnesses:

HANFORD J. CHASE,

H. F. CALDWELL.