

TABLE.

983,903.

2 SHEETS—SHEET 1.

Fig. 2.

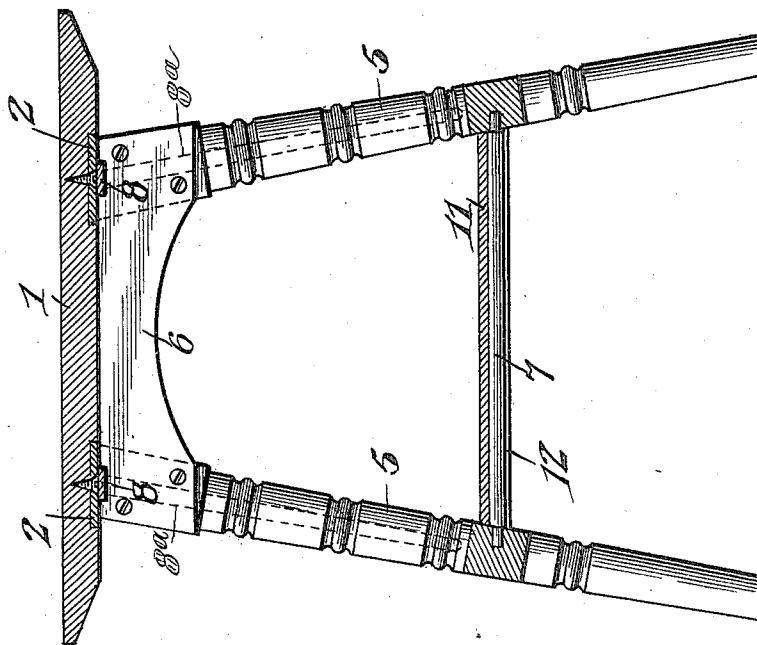
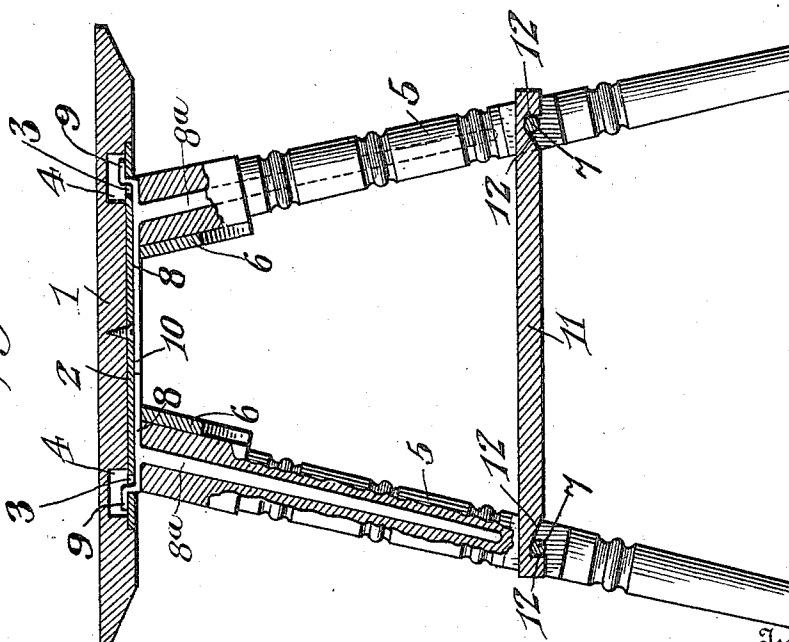


Fig. 1.



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TABLE.

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Patented Feb. 14, 1911.

2 SHEETS—SHEET 2.

Fig. 4.

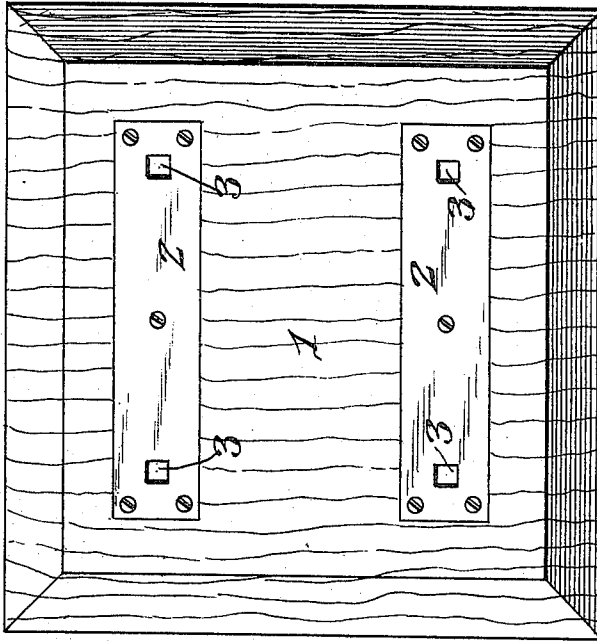


Fig. 3.

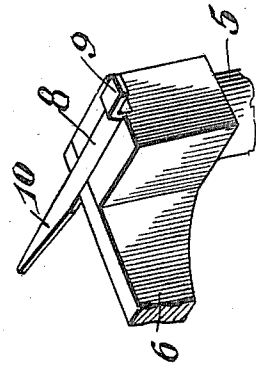
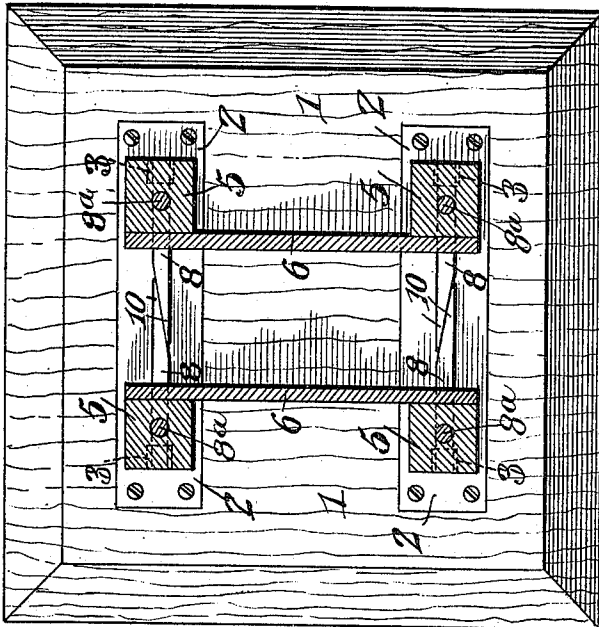


Fig. 5.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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TABLE.

983,903.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Feb. 14, 1911.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOSEPH M. HORTON, a citizen of the United States, residing at Fillmore, in the county of Ventura and State of California, have invented a new and useful Table, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to tables, and the object of the invention is to provide a table which may be readily dismembered in order to economize space in storage or transportation, and which, when set up for use, will be strong and steady.

A further object of the invention is to provide a table having the stated characteristics, which will be inexpensive in construction, and which may be readily set up or taken down by any unskilled person.

These objects, and such other incidental objects as will hereinafter appear, are attained in the device illustrated in the accompanying drawings, and the invention consists in certain novel features thereof which will be hereinafter fully described and pointed out in the claim, in detail.

In the annexed drawings, Figures 1 and 2 are vertical sections taken at right angles and illustrating a table embodying my improvements. Fig. 3 is a view showing the top of the table in bottom plan and showing the legs in horizontal section. Fig. 4 is a bottom plan view of the table top with the legs removed. Fig. 5 is a detail perspective view of the upper portion of one of the legs.

In carrying out my present invention, I employ a top 1, in the under side of which, near opposite edges, I secure plates 2 having openings 3 near their opposite ends. These openings 3 register with countersunk recesses or sockets 4 in the under side of the table top and the plates are so arranged as to extend across the grain of the table, as clearly shown in Figs. 3 and 4. The legs 5 are arranged in pairs, the members of each pair being connected at their upper ends by a cross bar 6 and at a point between their ends by a round 7, as shown. In the upper ends of the legs, I provide grooves in which are seated bars 8, each having one end formed into a hook 9 adapted to pass through the opening 3 and enter the socket 4 so as to engage the inner face of the plate 2, as shown in Fig. 1, and thereby lock the legs to the table top. The bars are formed integral with the upper ends of rods or

pins 8^a which depend from the bars at the proper angle thereto to form a central core for the legs. The bars 8 extend entirely across the upper ends of the legs and project inward beyond the cross bar 6 so as to form stops 10 which may extend past each other, as shown in Figs. 1 and 3, and thereby hold the legs in proper position relative to the table top and prevent straining of the keeper plates 2 by the hooks 9. In order to maintain the legs in their separated condition and to brace the same so as to impart rigidity to the table, I employ a shelf 11 which is provided with transverse grooves 12 in its under side near its opposite edges adapted to engage the rounds 7, as indicated in Fig. 1. As shown in Figs. 1 and 2, this shelf 11 is of such dimensions as to extend between the legs of each pair and engage the round 7 therein so as to effectually resist any tendency of the pairs of legs to spread, while there is no distending force exerted by the shelf on the legs which would tend to spread the members of each pair and thereby cause collapse of the table.

The table, when set up, will appear as shown in Figs. 1 and 2, and the stops 10 will bear against the under side of the top, while the hooks 9 will pass through the openings 3 and engage the keeper plates, as clearly shown. In order to take down the table, the shelf 11 is first moved upwardly sufficiently to disengage the grooves 12 from the rounds 7 and is then moved laterally from between the legs, after which the pairs of legs are swung around so as to lie substantially flat against the side of the table top and project beyond the same, in which position a slight lifting movement will disengage the hooks 9 from the table top so that the parts will be separated. In assembling the table, the parts are brought together in an order the reverse of that just described, as will be readily understood.

It will be observed that my table is composed of very few parts which are simple in construction and may be quickly put together by any unskilled person. When the table has been set up, it will have all the ornamental and neat appearance of an ordinary table and will be free of unsightly braces or locks which tend to detract from the appearance of the usual knockdown table. The stops 10, as soon as they come into correct position, arrest the swinging

movement of the legs so that undue strain and bending of the hooks and keeper plates is avoided. The shelf 11 serves as a tying member so as to hold the parts firmly together and at the same time may be readily detached so as to permit the taking down of the table.

The advantages of the construction and of the method of operation will be readily apparent to those skilled in the art to which the invention appertains, and while I have described the principle of operation of the invention, together with the device which I now consider to be the best embodiment thereof, I desire to have it understood that the device shown is merely illustrative, and that such changes may be made when desired as are within the scope of the claim appended hereto.

Having thus described the invention, what

I claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is:—

The combination of a top having sockets in its under side, legs, vertical rods fitted within the upper portions of the legs, transverse bars projecting from and formed integral with the rods and extending across the upper ends of the legs, each of said bars having its outer end formed with a hook to engage the sockets of the top, while the other ends of the bars bear against the under side of the top, and means for tying the legs together in pairs.

In testimony, that I claim the foregoing as my own, I have hereto affixed my signature in the presence of two witnesses.

JOSEPH MERRITT HORTON.

Witnesses:

F. L. FAIRBANKS,
A. WARRING.