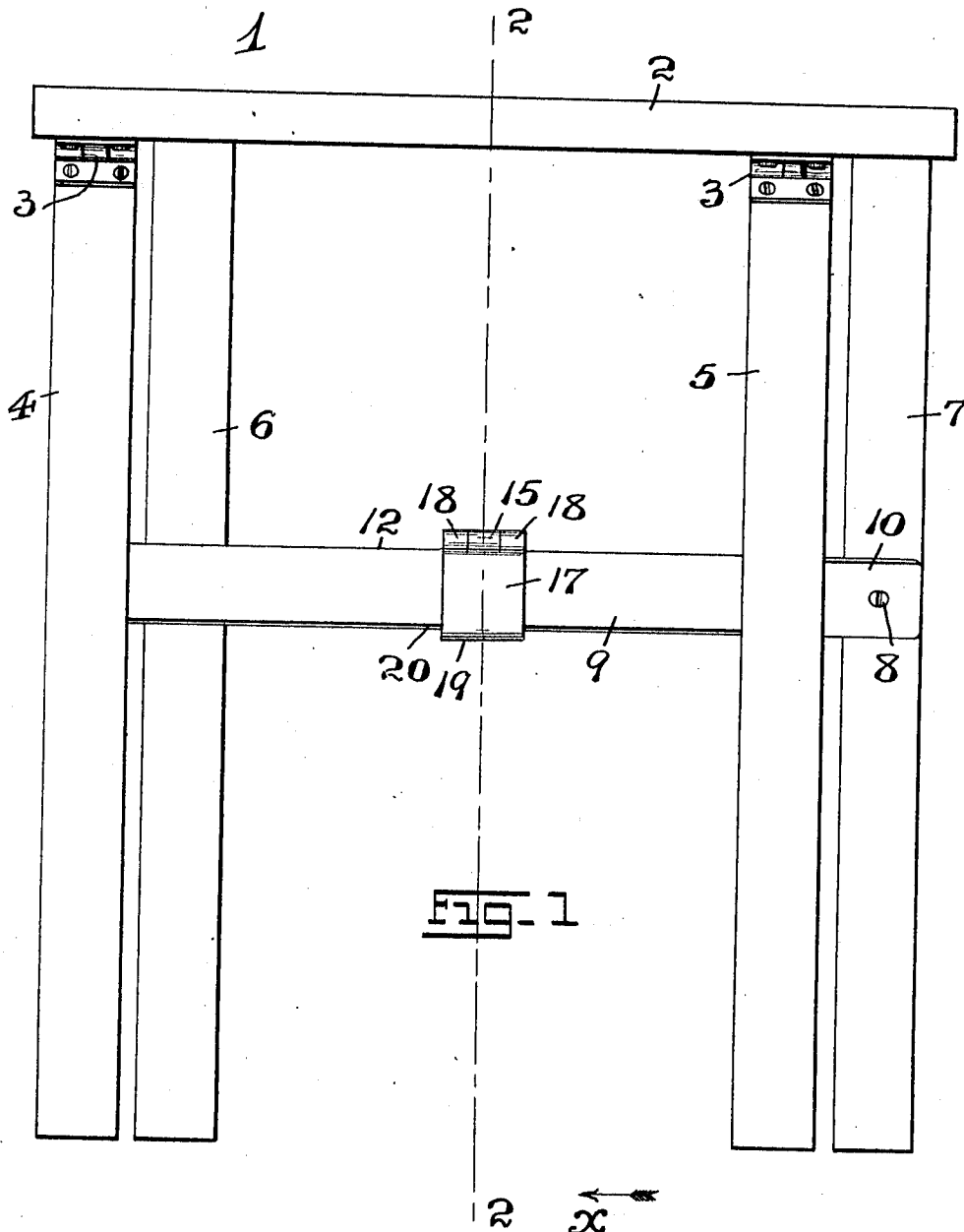


J. DEFATSCH.
FOLDING TABLE.
APPLICATION FILED OCT. 24, 1911.

1,034,885.

Patented Aug. 6, 1912.
3 SHEETS—SHEET 1.



WITNESSES:
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Frank W. Fraentzel

INVENTOR:
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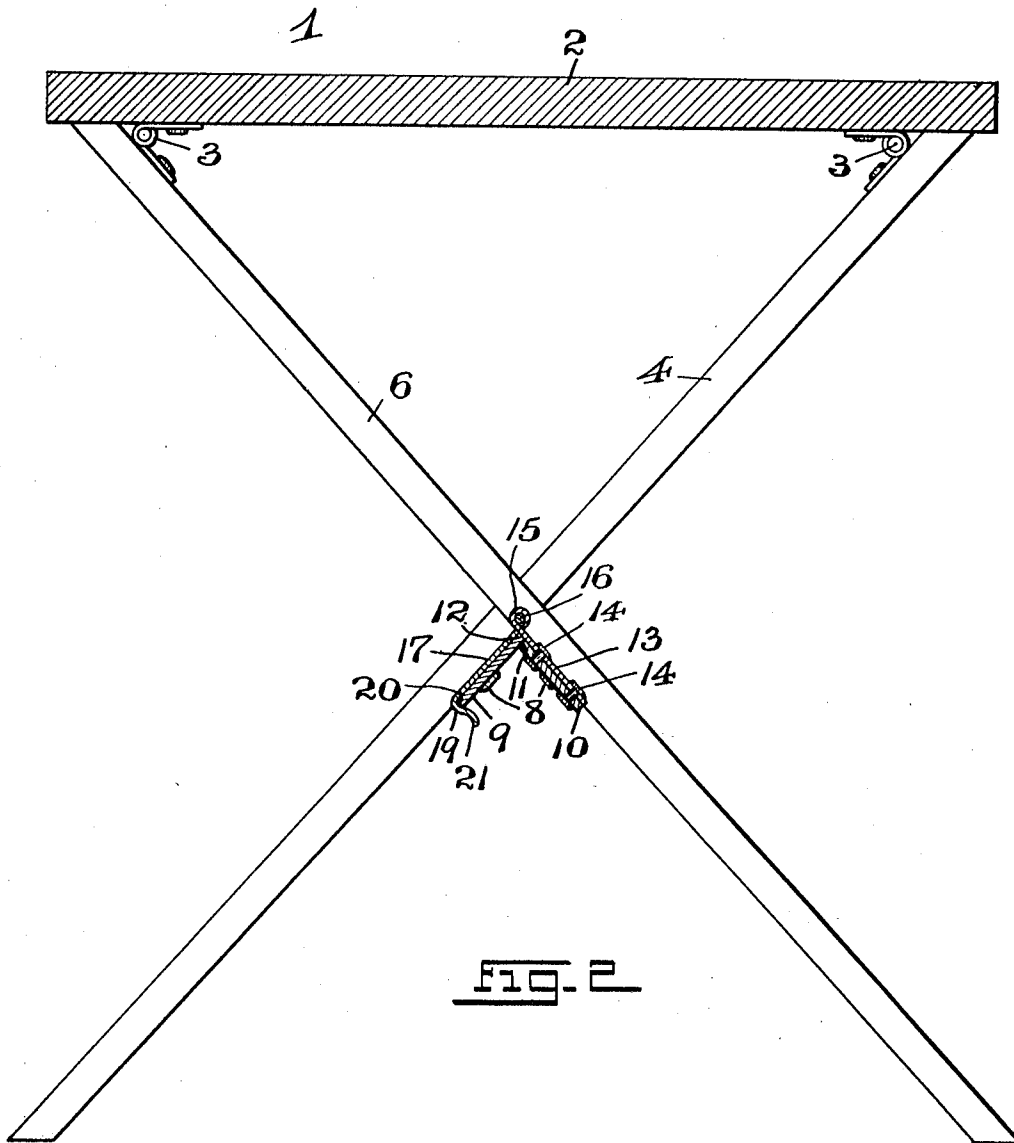


Fig. 2

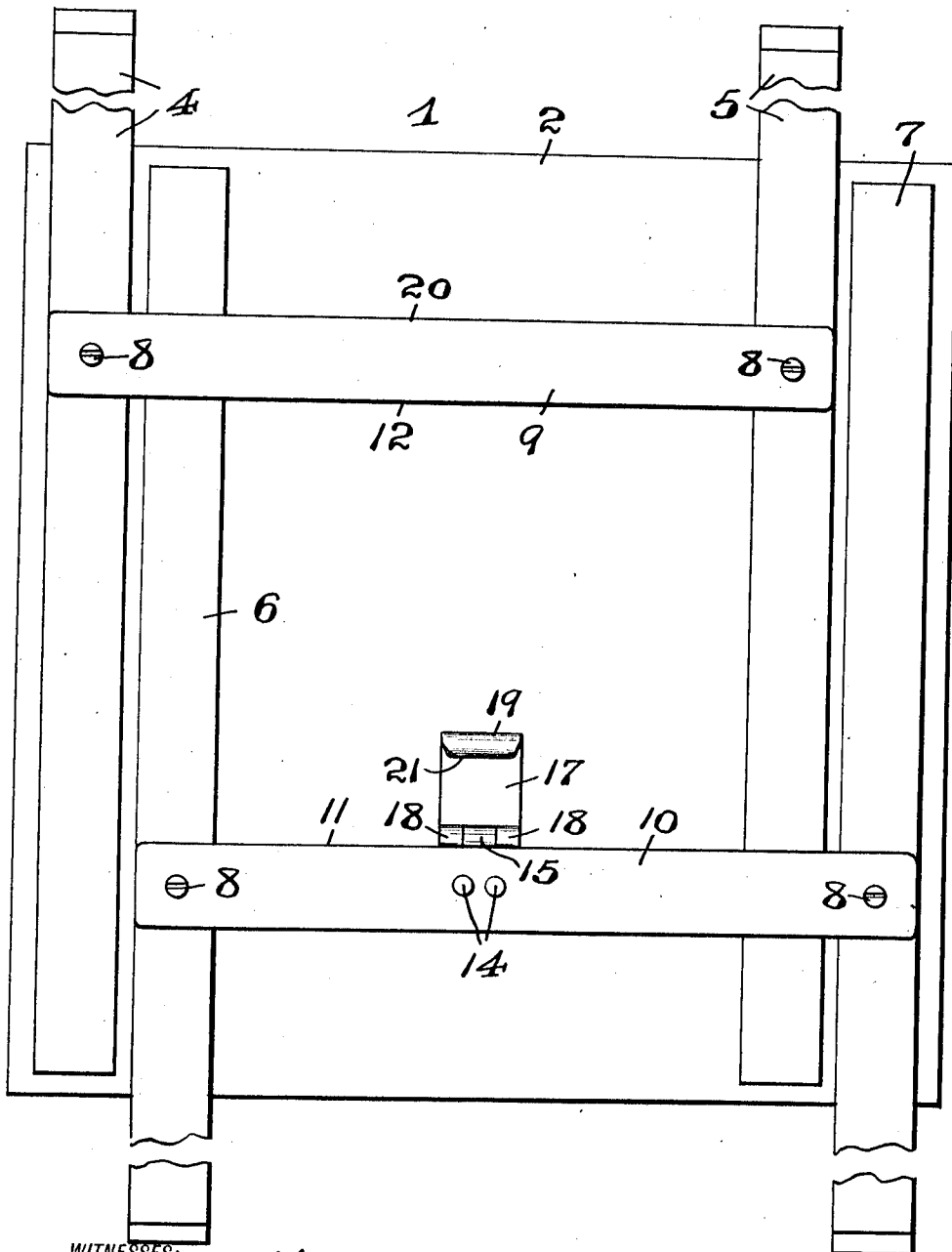
WITNESSES:
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WITNESSES:
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FIG-3

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOSEPH DEFATSCH, OF NEWARK, NEW JERSEY.

FOLDING TABLE.

1,034,885.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Aug. 6, 1912.

Application filed October 24, 1911. Serial No. 656,473.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOSEPH DEFATSCH, a citizen of the United States, residing at Newark, in the county of Essex and State of New Jersey, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Folding Tables; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and to characters of reference marked thereon, which form a part of this specification.

This invention relates, generally, to improvements in tables; and, the present invention has reference, more particularly, to improvements in that class of tables, in which the legs or supporting members are foldably connected with the table-member, with a view of providing a novel and simply constructed folding table which is especially adapted for use at card parties and the like, and the legs or supporting members of which are adapted to be folded close upon or against the back of the table-member, when not in use, so that a great many tables may be placed upon each other and still occupy a small space.

The invention has for its further object to provide a novel and readily manipulable locking or holding means to be used with the legs or supporting members of the table, so as to retain the table in its upright position and to prevent the collapsing of the legs thereof, when the table is in use.

Other objects of this invention not at this time more particularly enumerated, will be clearly understood from the following detailed description of the same.

With the various objects of the present invention in view, the said invention, consists, primarily, in the novel folding table hereinafter set forth; and, the said invention consists, furthermore, in the novel arrangements and combinations of the various parts thereof, as well as in the details of the construction of the same, all of which will be more particularly described in the following specification and then finally embodied in the clauses of the claim which are appended to and which form an essential part of the present invention.

The invention is clearly illustrated in the accompanying drawings, in which:—

Figure 1 is an elevation of a folding table

made according to and embodying the principles of the present invention, the said table being represented in its upright position with the leg-members thereof in their locked engagement to prevent collapsing of the table. Fig. 2 is a vertical section of the table shown in said Fig. 1, said section being taken on line 2—2 in said Fig. 1, looking in the direction of the arrow *a*; and Fig. 3 is a bottom plan view of the table, with its legs or supporting members in their disconnected relation and folded directly upon the back of the table-member.

Similar characters of reference are employed in all of the above described views, to indicate corresponding parts.

Referring now to the several figures of the drawings, the reference-character 1 indicates a complete table, showing one embodiment of the principles of the present invention, the said table comprising a top or table-member 2 of any suitable shape or marginal configuration, and upon the bottom of which are pivotally secured by means of suitably constructed hinge-members 3, or any other suitably constructed connecting devices, suitably formed legs or supporting members 4 and 5, and 6 and 7. At points substantially midway between the hinged end-portions and the free supporting ends of the several legs or supporting members, are secured by means of screws 8, or other suitably formed fastening means, transversely extending cross-bars 9 and 10. The cross-bar 9 is secured at its respective end-portions to the legs or supporting members 4 and 5, and the cross-bar 10 is secured at its respective end-portions to the legs or supporting members 6 and 7 of the table, as will be clearly evident from an inspection of the several figures of the drawings, the said supporting members having a staggered relation, that is, the leg 6 lies between the legs 4 and 5, and the leg 7 lies without the leg 5, whereby the cross-bars 9 and 10 act as stops to prevent the legs unfolding beyond a certain limit, as will presently appear.

When the pairs of connected legs or supporting members of the table have been brought into their opened and supporting relation, in the manner illustrated in Figs. 1 and 2 of the drawings, the upper marginal edge-portion 11 of the laterally extending cross-bar 10 is brought directly beneath the marginal edge-portion 12 of the other cross-bar 9, substantially in the manner shown in

Fig. 2 of the drawings, and whereby the said cross-bar 10 serves as a support for the cross-bar 9, as will be clearly understood. To prevent the collapsing of the pairs of supporting members or legs of the table, when brought into their supporting relation, a suitably formed locking means is employed in connection with the said cross-bars just mentioned. One form of locking means is here shown, and the same consists, essentially, of a plate or member 13 which is suitably secured to the said cross-bar 10 by means of rivets 14 and is provided with a pintle-receiving ear 15. Pivottally connected with this plate or member 13, by means of a pintle 16 which extends through the ear 15 of the plate 13 and through the ears 18, is a snap-plate or member 17. This snap-plate or member 17 is formed with a curved locking portion which is adapted to be sprung into detachable holding engagement with the edge-portion 20 of the cross-bar 9 and is formed with a finger-piece 21 for removing the said snap-member from its holding engagement with the said cross-bar 9, as will be clearly evident. When the parts are in their relative positions indicated in Figs. 1 and 2 of the drawings, the pairs of connected legs or supporting members will be rigidly secured in their locked, but separable relation to each other, as will be clearly evident; and, by the disengagement of the said snap-plate 17 from its practical holding engagement with the cross-bar 9, the pairs of legs or supporting members are readily brought into their folded relation upon the back of the table-member 2, as will be clearly understood from an inspection of Fig. 3 of the drawings. In practice, I prefer to construct said table-member and the legs or supporting members of wood, and the cross-bars 9 and 10 are preferably made of band-iron, but of course it will be understood that these parts may be made of other suitable material. I am aware, also, that some changes may be made in the general arrangements and combinations of the various devices and parts, as well as in the details of the construction of the same, without departing from the scope of my present invention as set forth in the foregoing specification, and as defined in the several clauses of the claims which are appended thereto. Hence, I do not limit my present invention to the exact arrangements and combinations of the various devices and parts as described in the said specification, nor do I confine myself to the exact details of the construction of the said parts as illustrated in the accompanying drawings.

I claim:

1. A folding table comprising a table

member, pairs of legs foldably connected with said table-member, a transversely extending cross-bar connected with each pair of legs, the marginal edge-portion of one cross-bar being adapted to be brought into supporting engagement with the marginal edge-portion of the other cross-bar, and the said pairs of legs having a staggered relation to each other so that one of the legs of each pair lies between the legs of the opposite pair, whereby said cross-bars act as stops to prevent the legs unfolding beyond a certain limit.

2. A folding table comprising a table member, pairs of legs foldably connected with said table-member, a transversely extending cross-bar connected with each pair of legs, the marginal edge-portion of one cross-bar being adapted to be brought into supporting engagement with the marginal edge-portion of the other cross-bar, the said pairs of legs having a staggered relation to each other so that one of the legs of each pair lies between the legs of the opposite pair, whereby said cross-bars act as stops to prevent the legs unfolding beyond a certain limit, and means connected with one of said cross-bars having a portion adapted to be brought into holding engagement with the other cross-bar.

3. A folding table comprising a table member, pairs of legs foldably connected with said table-member, a transversely extending cross-bar connected with each pair of legs, the marginal edge-portion of the one cross-bar being brought into supporting engagement with the marginal edge-portion of the other cross-bar, the said pairs of legs having a staggered relation to each other so that one of the legs of each pair lies between the legs of the opposite pair, whereby said cross-bars act as stops to prevent the legs unfolding beyond a certain limit, and a snap-catch for retaining the table-legs in their unfolded relation, consisting of a hinge-plate secured to one of said cross-bars, a second hinge-plate pivottally connected with said first-mentioned hinge-plate, a curved retaining or locking portion connected with said second-mentioned hinge-plate, said retaining or locking portion being adapted to be snapped into holding engagement with the other cross-bar, and a finger-piece connected with said retaining or locking portion.

In testimony, that I claim the invention set forth above I have hereunto set my hand this 20th day of October, 1911.

JOSEPH DEFATSCH.

Witnesses:

FREDK. C. FRAENTZEL,

FREDK. H. W. FRAENTZEL.