DANIEL BULL.

Improvement in Table-Leaf Supports.

No. 128,108. Patented June 18, 1872.

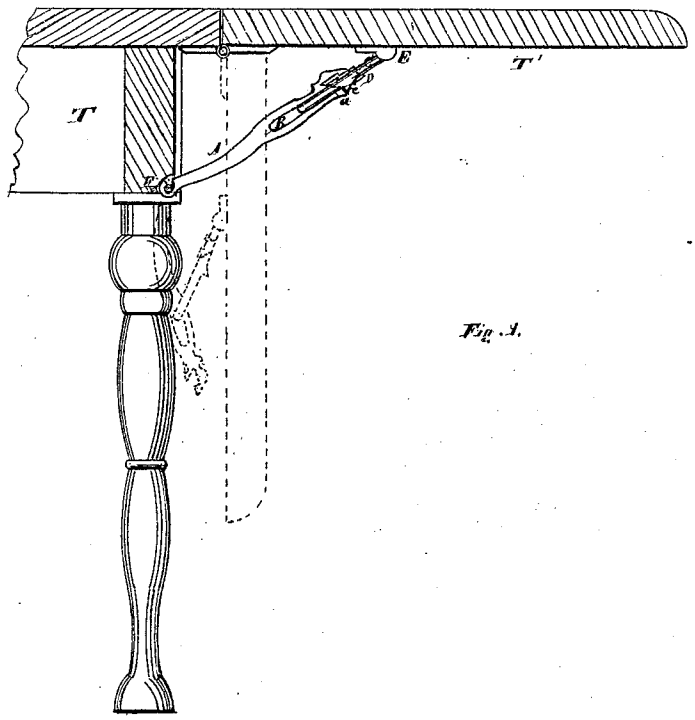

Fig. 1.

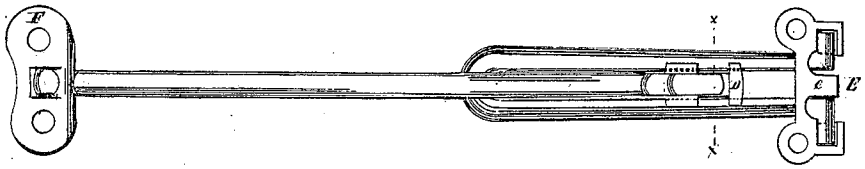

Fig. 2.

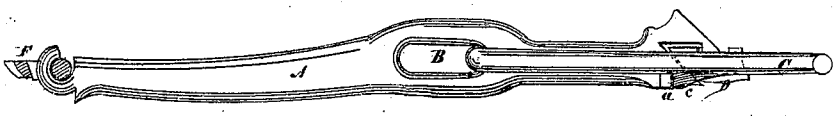

Fig. 3.

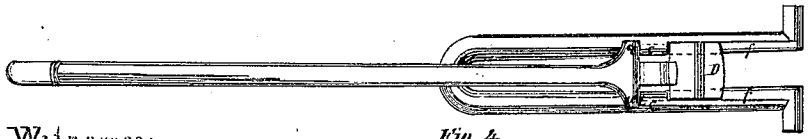

Fig. 4.

Fig. 5.

Witnesses:
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

DANIEL BULL, OF AMBOY, ILLINOIS.

IMPROVEMENT IN TABLE-LEAF SUPPORTS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 128,108, dated June 18, 1872.

SPECIFICATION.

I, Daniel Bull, of Amboy, in the county of Lee and State of Illinois, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Table-Leaf Supports, of which the following is a specification, reference being had to the accompanying drawing, which forms a part hereof.

Nature and Object of the Invention.

The object of my invention is to make a table-leaf support which will lock automatically when the table-leaf is raised, and which will not be liable to become unlocked by careless handling by children or otherwise, but which can be readily unlocked when it is desired to let the leaf fall.

The nature of my invention consists in providing the lower piece A with an oblong slot, B, in which the upper hinged piece C is inserted, and in which it plays back and forth when the support is unfolded; and it also consists in the beveled cut or catch upon the upper end of the slotted piece A, in combination with the beveled slide-block D, which lock the support; and it further consists in the combination of the upper piece C, made open at one end, and the plate E, which is fastened to the under side of the table-leaf, and provided with a projection extending between the arms of the upper piece C to hold the arms from springing so as to interfere with the working of the slide-block D. My invention also consists in making my support of the several pieces shown, and in their peculiar construction and arrangement in other respects than those mentioned, as will be hereafter more fully described.

Description of the Drawing.

Figure 1 represents a side elevation of the table-leaf support applied to a table, the full lines showing the table-leaf raised and the broken or dotted lines showing it down. Fig. 2 represents a top view of the several parts of my table-leaf support when the several parts are properly together. Fig. 3 represents a side elevation of the same, with the plate E detached. Fig. 4 represents a bottom view of the same; and Fig. 5 represents a vertical, transverse, sectional view through the slide-block D at the line *x x* in Fig. 2.

General Description.

In the drawing T represents any fall-leaf table, and T′ a leaf hinged to the table in any ordinary manner. One end of my table-leaf support is hinged to the under side of the table-leaf and the other end to the table, as shown in Fig. 1. The lower piece A of the support is hinged to the upper piece C by passing one end of the upper piece through the slot B, and by drawing the said piece through said slot, and then turning the said piece in the position shown in the drawing; by raising the upper or outer end of the piece C until the projections *c* are above the projections *a* the piece C may be made to play back and forth in the slot B, so that the pieces A and C may assume the position relative to each, shown by the broken lines in Fig. 1, when the leaf is folded or let down, as there shown, and when the leaf is raised the piece C will be drawn to the other end of the slot B. The support will then be in the position shown by the full lines representing it in Fig. 1. In order to lock the support so that it will support the leaf T′ in a horizontal position, I insert the beveled slide-block D between the arms of the piece C, and when the support is in the position last described the slide-block D will slide down between the arms of the piece C until it rests upon the beveled edge of the upper end of the piece A, as shown in Figs. 1 and 3, and when the block D is in this position the piece C cannot be lifted, so that the projections *c* will be raised above the projections *a*, owing to the projection upon the upper end of the piece A overlapping the slide-block D; in other words, the support is locked by the slide-block D, so that the leaf T′ is held in the position shown by the full lines in Fig. 1. When it is desired to unlock the support the slide-block D is drawn upward until it is disengaged from the projection upon the piece A, and the piece C may then be folded in the manner described, there being play enough between the projections *a* and the piece C to allow the piece A to be first raised sufficiently to release the projection *a′* from its engagement with the slide-block D, so that the latter may be drawn up in the manner described. A small rib, *d*, is made across the lower face of the slide-block D in order that

it may be the more readily caught by the fingers for the purpose of sliding it in the manner described. As the leaf T begins to fall, the sliding block D is released by the fingers, when it slides down the piece C until it reaches the lower end of the grooves *f f*, in which it slides. As the leaf T' is raised the piece C is drawn up in the slot B, and the upper bevel or incline upon the upper end of the piece A strikes the beveled end of the slide-block D and carries it up until the leaf is raised, when the slide-block D drops off the upper bevel or incline upon the piece A and slides down against the lower bevel of the same piece, so that the support is locked again—in other words, the leaf or support is in this manner automatically locked when the leaf is raised, and it is simple and easy to be unlocked by a person acquainted with its operation, and unlikely to be unlocked by chance or accident. In order to prevent the arms of the piece C from being brought together so as to obstruct the sliding movement of the block D, I have provided the piece E with a projection, *e*, which remains between the said arms in the position shown in Fig. 2.

The plate F is made sufficiently thin upon one end to be inserted into the hooked end of the piece A. The piece F is then moved laterally until the end of the hook is over the central opening in the piece F, which piece is then turned in the position shown in Figs. 1, 2, and 3, so that the hook is securely fastened therein when the plate F is fastened upon the table, that portion of the said plate then within said hook being larger than the opening in the hook between the end of the hook and the piece A.

Claim.

Having described the nature and object, construction, and operation, of my invention, what I claim, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. The combination of the slotted piece A and the piece C when constructed substantially as and for the purpose shown and described.

2. The piece A, when provided with a shouldered and beveled head, in combination with the slide-block D, when constructed substantially in the manner shown and described, and for the purpose set forth.

3. The combination of the piece C, the plate E provided with the projection *e*, and the block D, when constructed and operating substantially as and for the purposes specified.

4. The combination of the beveled slide-block D and the piece C, substantially as and for the purpose shown and described.

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Witnesses:

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