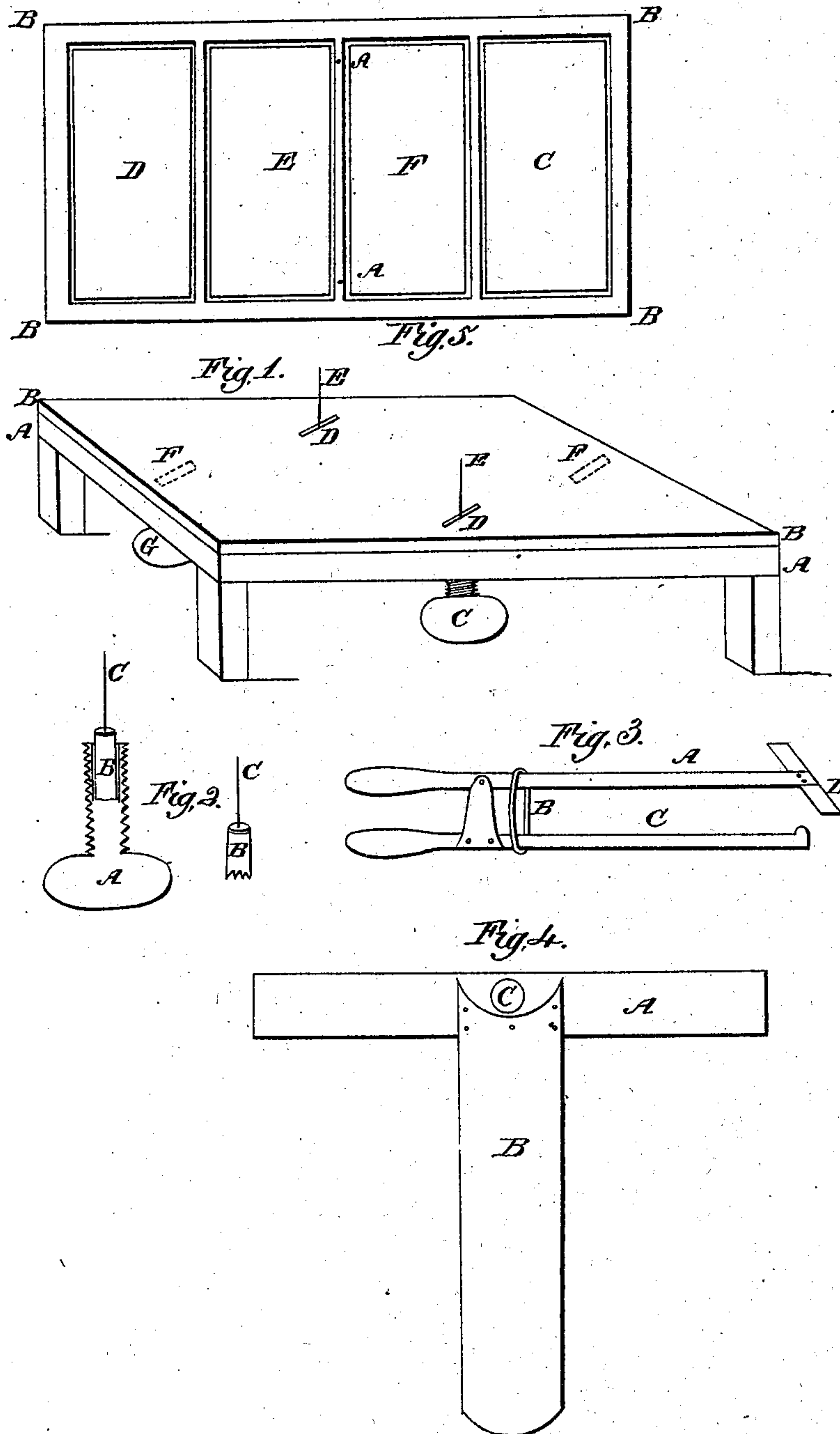


F. G. JOHNSON.

TABLE FOR HOLDING BANK NOTES WHEN OUT.

No. 10,575.

Patented Feb. 28, 1854.



UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

FRANK G. JOHNSON, OF BROOKLYN, NEW YORK.

TABLE TO HOLD BANK-NOTES WHEN CUT.

Specification of Letters Patent No. 10,575, dated February 28, 1854.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, FRANK G. JOHNSON, of the city of Brooklyn, in the county of Kings and State of New York, have invented a new and useful Improvement in the Construction of Tables for the Purpose of Trimming and Cutting Thereon the Edges of Bank-Notes; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full and exact description thereof, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and to the letters of reference marked thereon, in which—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of my improved cutting table as completely adjusted for the cutting and trimming of bank notes. Fig. 2, the screw and needle used as at E E, (Fig. 1) in the cutting table, and introduced to illustrate the manner in which I construct the same. Figs. 3 and 4 represent, respectively, a spring clasp and T ruler, both used in connection with the table when cutting notes; and Fig. 5 represents a sheet of bank notes with margins uncut.

The only method heretofore practised in the trimming and cutting of the vast numbers of bank notes continually being made, is by means of common shears. The notes are usually printed four on a sheet, as is represented by Fig. 5, requiring to cut them at least thirteen distinct and accurate clips of the shears—so that the most brisk and experienced cutters are able to trim only from 700 to 1000 sheets per day, and are constantly liable to cut off too much or too little of the margins of the notes and hardly ever cutting them with a uniform and desirable accuracy; whereas by means of my improvement I am enabled to cut from five to seven thousand sheets, and even more, per day leaving the edges perfectly accurate and as smooth as if burnished.

In the accompanying drawings, A A, Fig. 1, represents a table elevated four or five inches by means of legs or standards; B B, cutting board, resting upon the table A A; C C, two thumb screws which work through the top of the table, A A; being provided with sockets into which the needles, E E, are fastened by means of wooden plugs, (B B, Fig. 2.)—The needles E E, pass through the cutting board, B B, by means of the slots D, D.

Directly under the dotted lines, F F, are slots in the table-top, A A, through which pass the two thumb screws, G G, working

in nuts on the under surface of the cutting board, B B, to fasten it to the table-top, A A.

By means of the thumb screws, C C, the points of the needles, E E, may be elevated or depressed above or below the upper surface of the cutting board, B B.

By means of the slots, D D, and those in the table-top under F F, the cutting board, B B, may be worked or moved a short distance diagonally across the table, A A, by starting back the thumb screws G G.

The manner in which I use my improved cutting table is as follows: Fifty to a hundred sheets of bank notes, (one of which is represented by Fig. 5) are to be placed or stuck upon the needles E E (Fig. 1), through the points A A, Fig. 5; this being done, by means of the ruler (Fig. 4,) and a sharp-pointed knife, the margin B B B B is first cut off;—the needles passing through the hole C, (Fig. 4,) while the side margins are being cut;—next the top and bottom notes, C and D, (Fig. 5), are cut off. To cut the notes E and F apart, (Fig. 5,) first grasp them with the clamps, (Fig. 3,) by placing the cross piece, D, on E or F (Fig. 5) while the other arm, C, is passed under the table, A A; now turn down or depress the needles, E E, by means of the thumb screws, C C; place on the ruler, remove the clamps then cut the notes (E F, Fig. 5), apart. By starting back the thumb screws, G G, the cutting board, B B, may be moved diagonally over the top of the table, A A, from time to time as the cutting board becomes gashed by the knife, which brings a new part of the cutting board under the knife as often as it is moved. The use of the depressible needles, E E, Fig. 1 is rendered necessary,—and their peculiar position in the table dependent upon the necessity of sticking the notes on the needles through their central margin, (A A Fig. 5); and this necessity depends upon the fact, that, owing to the paper upon which notes are printed being slightly uneven in thickness and being wet when printed, some sheets shrink and swell more than others,—so that if the sheets were stuck upon the needles at the corner or end of the same the notes would be even with each other at one end of the sheets, but quite uneven at the other end, rendering it impossible not to leave too much margin on some of the notes while others will be clipped off on the edges,—thus more

or less defacing them. This difficulty I overcome by adjusting the needles in a transverse central line of the table, and then sticking on the sheets through their central margin, (A A Fig. 5), which so divides the inequality of the size of the sheets in all directions from the more central part of the sheet as to allow the several notes to be cut off with sufficient and desirable accuracy.

10 I do not claim the movable cutting board B B, neither do I claim the depressible needle screws C C, but

What I do claim as my invention and desire to secure by Letters Patent is—

The combination with a table, of the movable cutting board, B B, and the depressible needle screws C C, combined together in the manner substantially as specified, for the purpose of cutting bank notes. 15

FRANK G. JOHNSON.

Witnesses

FRANCIS T. GARRETTSON,
DANIEL F. TOMPKINS.