J. Bragdon,

Work Bench.

No. 71,126. Patented Nov. 19, 1867.

Fig. 1.

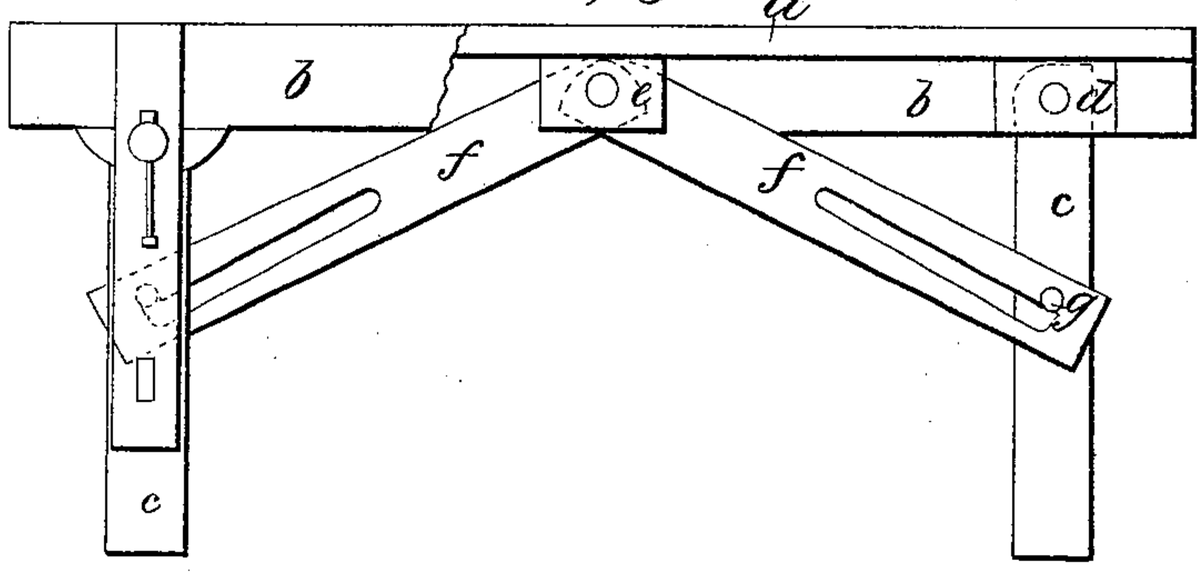


Fig. 2.

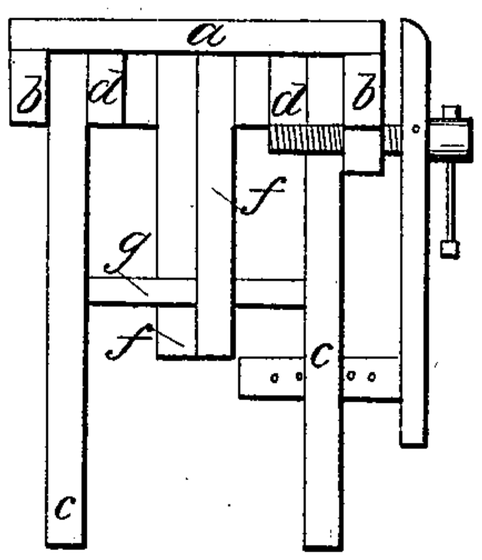
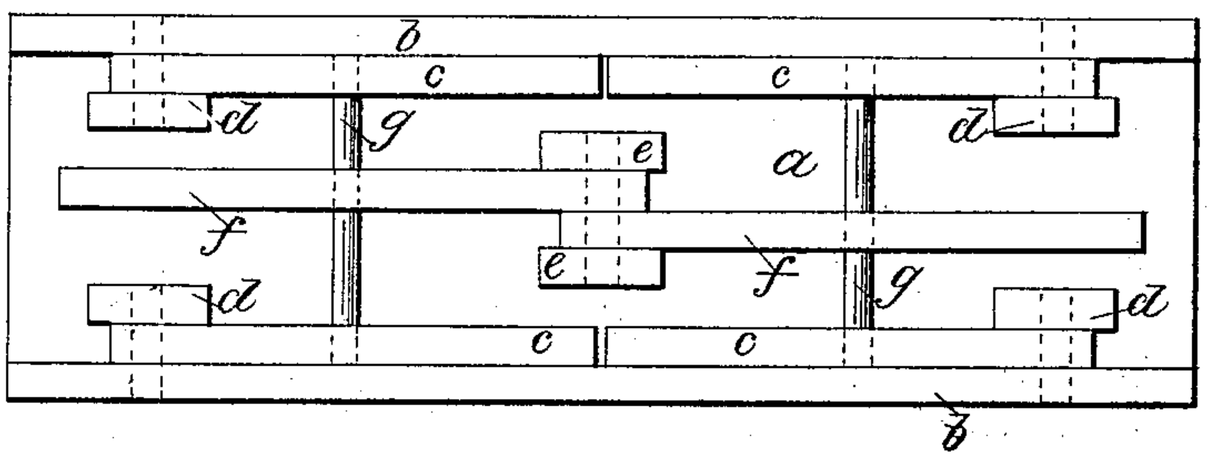


Fig. 3.



Witnesses:

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JAMES BRAGDON, OF BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS.

Letters Patent No. 71,126, *dated November* 19, 1867.

IMPROVEMENT IN CARPENTERS' WORK-BENCHES.

The Schedule referred to in these Letters Patent and making part of the same.

TO ALL WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

Be it known that I, JAMES BRAGDON, of Boston, in the county of Suffolk, and State of Massachusetts, have invented an improved Portable Bench; and I do hereby declare that the following, taken in connection with the drawings which accompany and form part of this specification, is a description of my invention sufficient to enable those skilled in the art to practice it.

The object of my invention is to provide a bench or table, with supports so arranged that they may be folded within the skirting or stiffening ledges thereof, and thus occupy no more room than does the top and its skirts or ledges, and so that the supports may be without the aid of tools or screws, and by any person of ordinary strength extended and braced in such a manner that the table will be stiff and rigid, and capable of supporting weights and strains equally with ordinary framed tables or benches. And my invention consists in the detail of construction and arrangement by which said object is effected, which detail I will now proceed to describe, having reference to the drawings, in which—

Figure 1 shows my improved bench, partly in section and partly in side elevation.

Figure 2 shows the same in end view or elevation; and

Figure 3 in reverse or underneath plan.

The top of the table is marked *a*, and is provided with side ledges or skirts, *b*, and end skirts may be added if desired. The legs, which are marked *c*, are pivoted to the skirts, the upper inner corners of the legs being rounded off from the centres of their pivots; the outer corners being left square, so as to abut against the under surface of the table-top when the legs are fully extended. I prefer to locate blocks *d* against the inner side of the legs, and to secure said blocks to the table-top, so as to stiffen the legs against side movements and to support the leg pivots. At about the centre of the table-top, and to its under surface, I fix two blocks, *e*, at such a distance apart as to admit between them the brace-pieces *f*, which fill the spaces between the blocks, in which brace-pieces are cut slots, terminating at their outer ends on the upper sides in notches, which fit on cross-bars, *g*, as most clearly shown in fig. 1. When the legs are extended, as shown in figs. 1 and 2, the cross-bars *g*, having traversed the slots in the braces *f*, which are thereby made to assume an angular position, fit in the notched ends of the slots, so that to move the legs inwards to fold them it is necessary to raise the braces, and then the legs can be swung inwards so that they and the braces will lie flat upon the under side of the table-top, as seen in fig. 3.

For a portable bench, to be carried by mechanics from place to place, this construction is peculiarly adapted, as it may be fitted with a vise, as seen in the drawings, and with other needful and convenient appendages.

I claim the combination of legs *c* and slotted and notched braces *f*, when constructed, arranged, and operating substantially as specified.

JAMES BRAGDON.

Witnesses:

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