

(No Model.)

E. AUSTIN.
BOX COVER PRESS.

No. 252,414.

Patented Jan. 17, 1882.

Fig. 1.

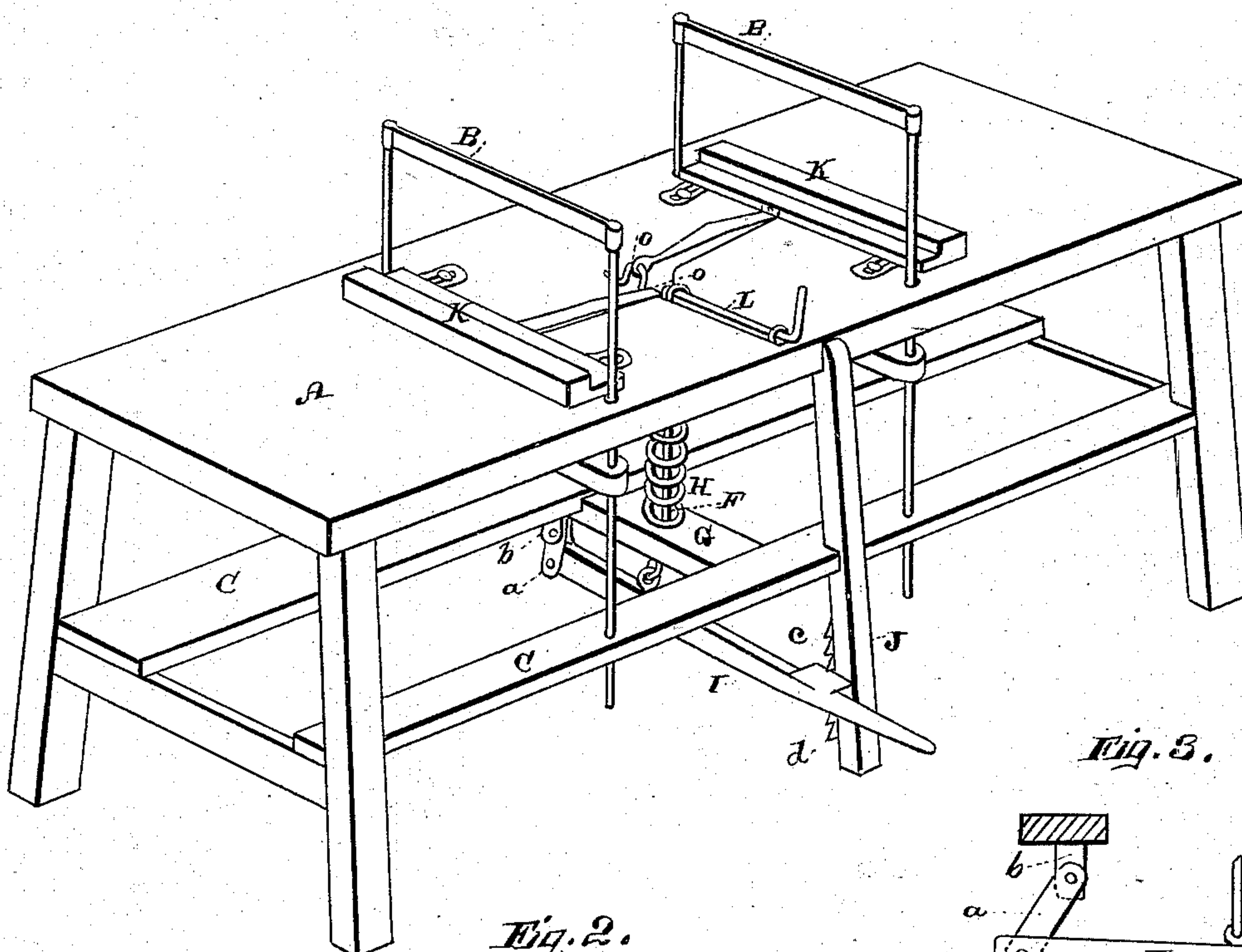


Fig. 3.

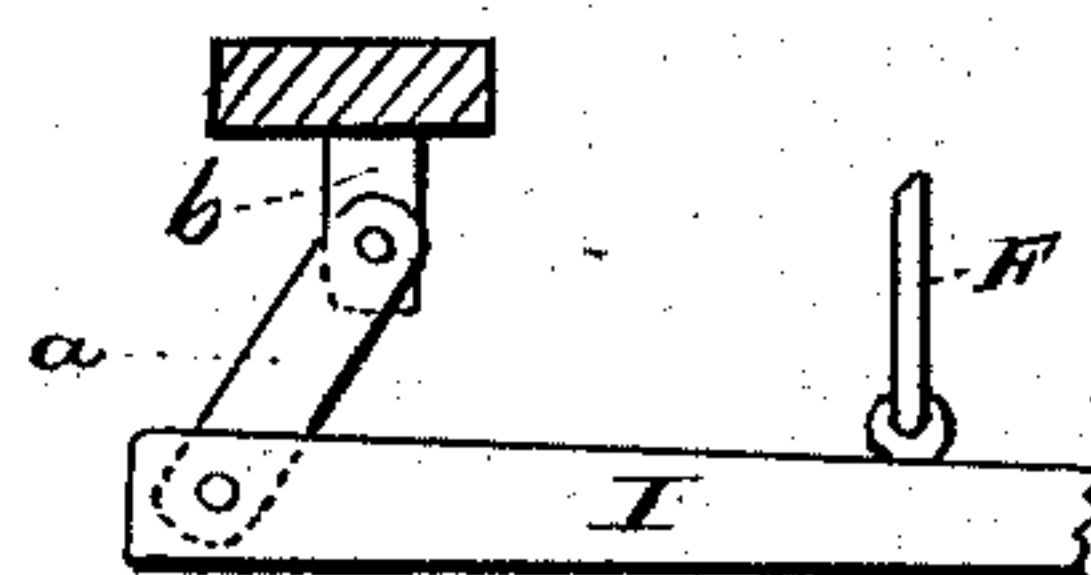
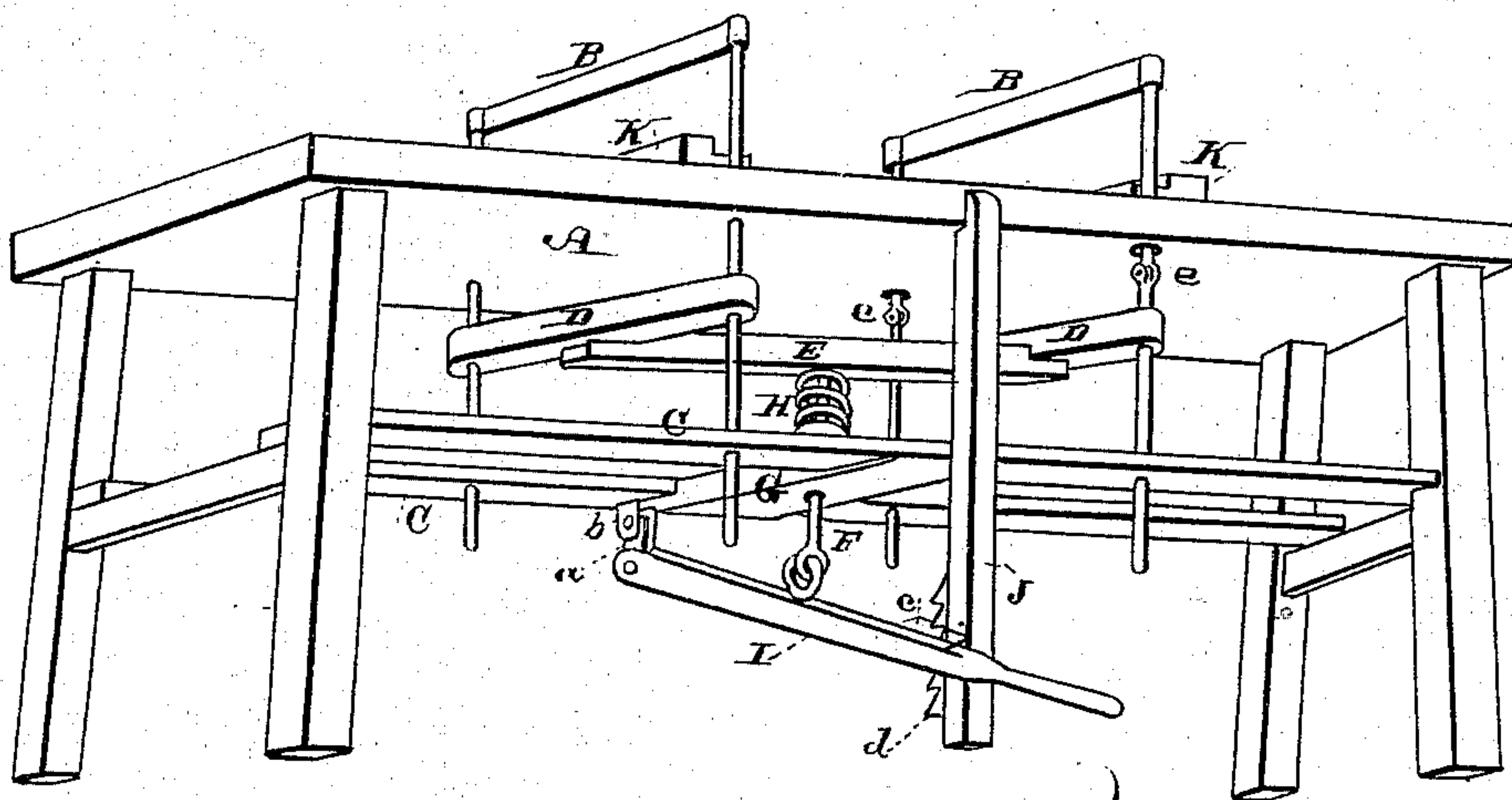


Fig. 2.



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EDWIN AUSTIN, OF WINTERS, ASSIGNOR OF ONE-HALF TO WILLIAM CANTELOW, OF VACAVILLE, CALIFORNIA.

BOX-COVER PRESS.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 252,414, dated January 17, 1882.

Application filed October 15, 1881. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, EDWIN AUSTIN, of Winters, county of Yolo, State of California, have invented a Box-Cover Press; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description thereof.

My invention relates to a new and useful device for holding down the lids of boxes in order that they may be nailed, and which I therefore term a "box-cover press."

It consists in vertically-moving clamps or straps mounted in a suitable frame or table, said clamps being adapted to fit over the ends of the lid or cover, and through the operation of a lever be drawn down tightly thereon to hold it fast down against the box while being nailed, all of which will hereinafter fully appear, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figures 1 and 2 are perspective views of my invention. Fig. 3 is a view of the hinge.

This device is intended to be used for all kinds of boxes the contents of which require to be pressed down tightly, so that it may be suitably transported. The most obvious example of this class is a fruit-box. In this case the fruit is filled in until it more than fills the box and is elevated above the edges. Ordinarily the lid is then nailed on at one end and the other pressed down to the edge of the box and nailed thereto. The strain thus caused frequently causes the nails in the secured end to bend or break, or they tear out the end of the box. The whole operation is, besides, very inconvenient, because of the varying pressure and the difficulty of equalizing it over a sufficient extent of surface.

The object of my invention is to provide means for pressing down and holding the lid in such a manner as to permit the nailing to be done with facility.

Let A represent a table or stand. B B are clamps or straps, the sides of which pass loosely down through the sides of the top of the stand and also through the side braces, C, in which they are guided. They are loose enough to have a vertical play.

Just under the top of the table, secured firmly to the clamps B B, are cross-pieces D, which

are themselves connected by a cross-piece, E. A rod is attached to the center of the piece E and passes down loosely through a cross-brace, G, whereby it is guided.

H is a spring surrounding the rod F, its ends being pressed between the cross-piece E and the cross-brace G. The end of the rod F is attached to a lever, I, having its fulcrum at its rear end, in which is pivoted a strip, a, the upper end of which is pivoted to a piece, b. This forms a double pivot or hinge, which allows the operation of the lever to be accomplished without straining or binding the rod F. The lever I is provided with a catch, c, which engages with a vertical rack, d, set upon a support, J. It will be seen that when the lever I is depressed it draws down the cross-frame attached to the clamps and draws said clamps down also. The lever can be engaged with the rack, and thus the clamps will be secured in position. When the lever is released the spring H returns the clamps to their first position.

In order to facilitate the introduction of the box under the clamps I hinge or joint one of them, as shown at e, and thus adapt it to assume a horizontal position, when the box may be put upon the table. If found preferable, I could hinge both. The box being under the clamps and the lid laid upon top, the clamps fit over the ends of the lid, and may be drawn down tight enough to press it down upon the edge, and it may then be nailed or secured with ease.

The boxes may be of different heights, as is usually the case with fruit-boxes, two sizes being in general use.

K K represent two bed-pieces set upon the table upon guides, as shown. They are notched out to have two levels.

L is a rocking shaft or lever journaled in the top of the table, and having oppositely-placed cranks O, to which are secured connecting-rods m, the other ends of which are attached to the bed-pieces. By the rocking of the shaft L the bed-pieces may be drawn together or forced apart.

The lower level of the bed-pieces is for the higher boxes and the upper level for the lower

ones. Both boxes being of the same length, the bed-pieces require to be moved, as shown, so that the respective boxes may fit thereon.

The object in having means to elevate a low
5 box to the height of a higher box is to keep within the limits of the vertical play of the clamps.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim, and desire to secure by Letters Patent,
10 is—

The arrangement and combination of the table A, vertically-moving clamps or straps B

B, and bed-pieces K K, said bed-pieces having different levels and adapted to slide together or apart by means of the rocking shaft L, with
15 its cranks O and the connecting-rods *m*, substantially as and for the purpose herein set forth.

In witness whereof I hereunto set my hand.

EDWIN AUSTIN.

Witnesses:

M. W. McGRATH,
EDWARD DOFOE.