(Model.)

M. COOK.

FOLDING TABLE.

No. 283,211. Patented Aug. 14, 1883.

Fig. 1.

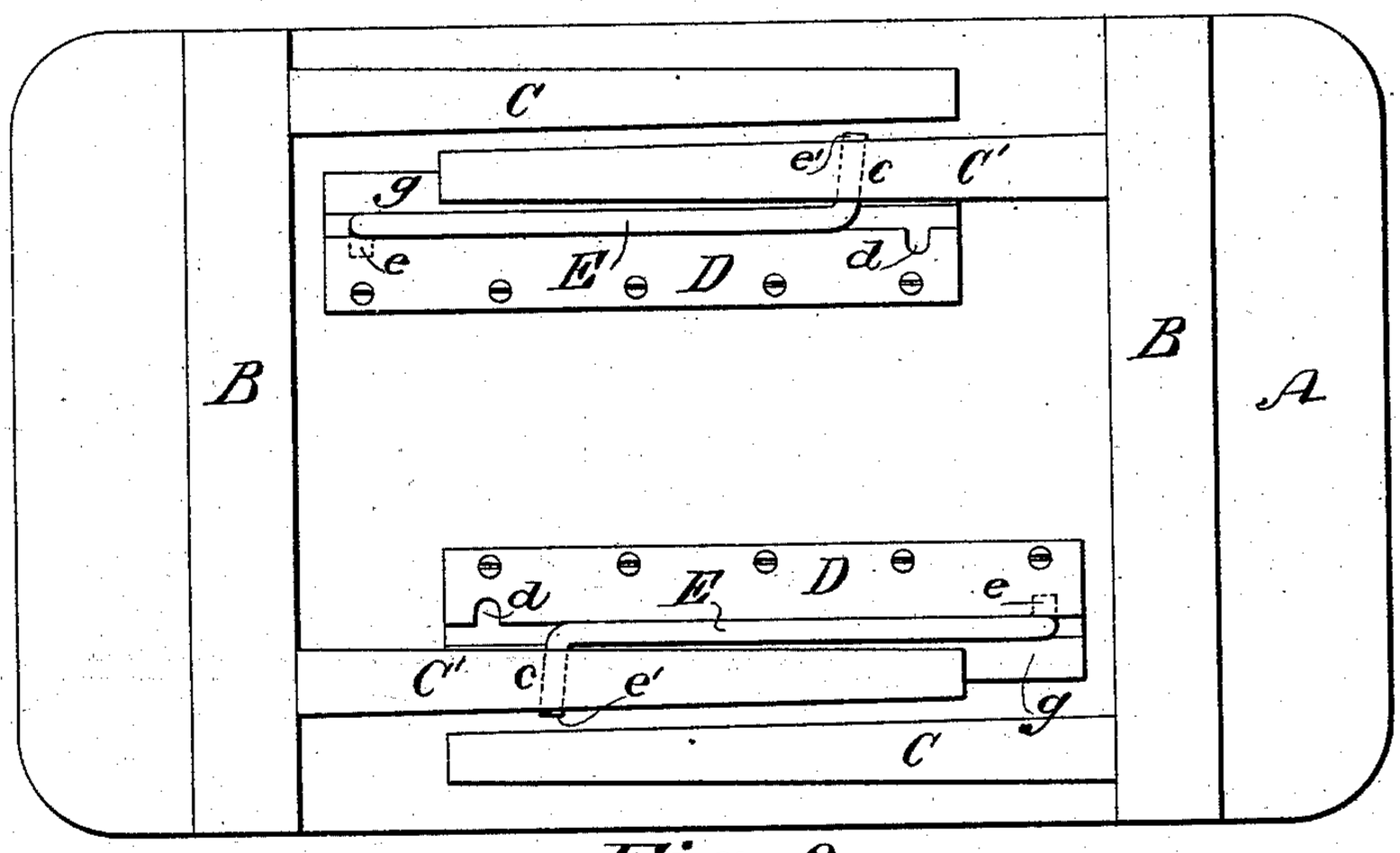

Fig. 2.

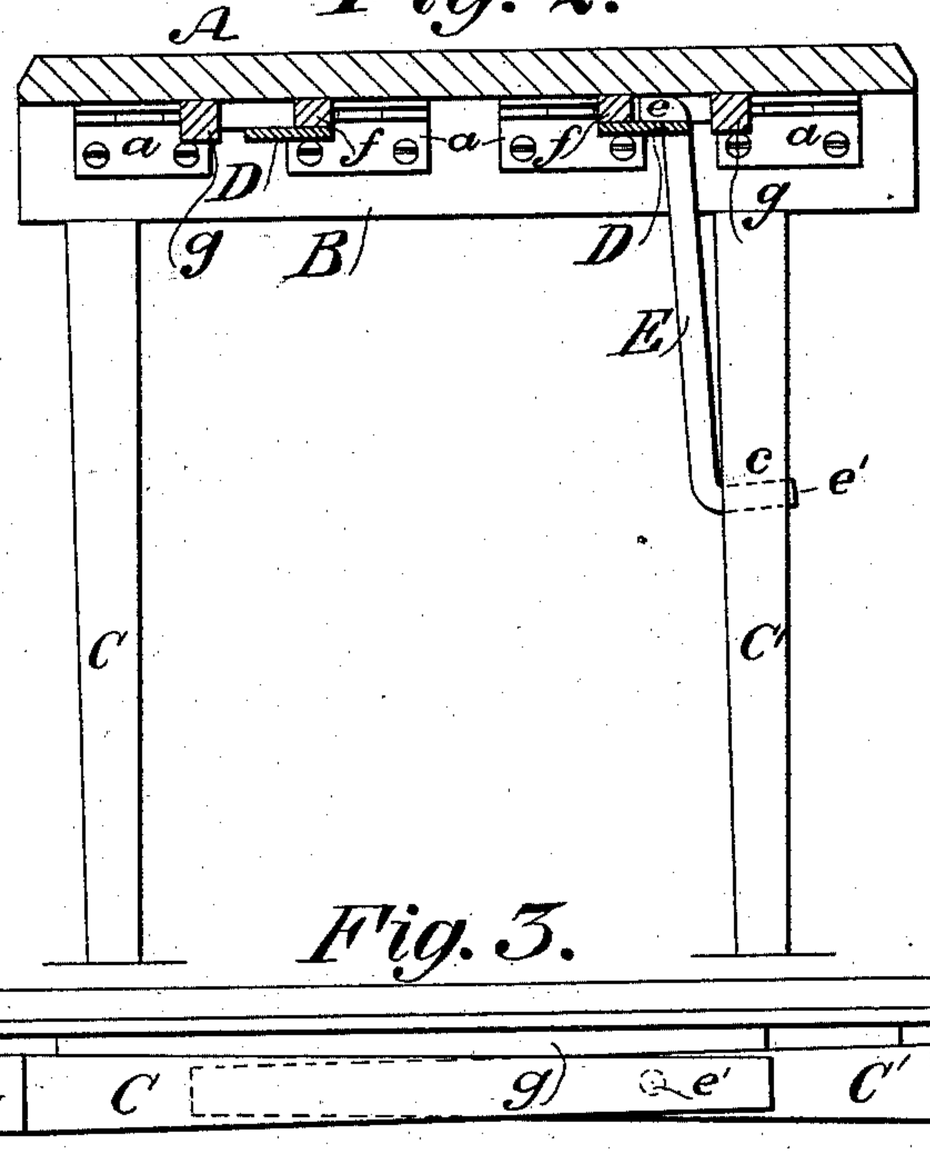

Fig. 3.

WITNESSES:

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MOSES COOK, OF ASHFIELD, MASSACHUSETTS.

FOLDING TABLE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 283,211, dated August 14, 1883.

Application filed April 11, 1883. (Model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, MOSES COOK, of Ashfield, in the county of Franklin and State of Massachusetts, have invented a new and Improved Folding Table, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description.

Reference is to be had to the accompanying drawings, forming part of this specification, in which similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts in all the figures.

Figure 1 is an inverted plan view of my new and improved table as it appears with the legs folded. Fig. 2 is a sectional elevation of the table in erect position, and Fig. 3 is a side elevation of the table folded.

The top A of the table has hinged to it by the hinges *a a* the cross-pieces B B, which have secured to them the legs C C′.

D D are plates of metal, secured to the under side of the top A upon the cleats *f f*. These plates D D are notched at opposite ends, as shown at *d d*, for receiving and holding the upper bent ends of the locking-braces E E when the legs are turned down to position for supporting the table. Parallel with the edges of the plates D D, and a distance therefrom about equal to the diameter of the locking-braces E E, are secured upon the under side of the top A the cleats *g g*, which, with the edges of the plates D, form ways for guiding the movement of the upper ends of the locking-braces E E, and serve also to always keep the bent portions *e e* of the braces properly above or behind the plates, as will be understood from Figs. 1 and 2. The locking-braces E E are made of spring metal, and their lower ends, *e′ e′*, are bent so as to stand at an angle with the main portions of the braces somewhat greater than a right angle, and the holes *c c*, made through the legs C′ C′, through which the bent portions *e′ e′* of the braces E E pass, are given a slight pitch from the outside of the legs downward, as shown clearly in Fig. 2, so that when the legs lie flat upon the table the braces will be parallel with the legs C C′, as shown in Fig. 1; but as the legs are opened out the bent portions *e′* in the holes *c* will have a gradual sidewise cramping action, which will convert the main portion of the braces into springs, causing the upper ends of the braces to press forcibly against the edges of the plates D D and to drop automatically into the notches *d d*, which are arranged in proper position for causing the braces to hold the legs in erect position. The sidewise action of the braces E E also serves to cause their upper ends to act as brakes against the edges of the plates D D to hold the legs in folded position.

Constructed in this manner, it will be seen that the table is made very cheap, durable, and practical, and that the legs may be very easily opened out and closed. In large tables each leg of the table will be provided with a brace, E, and although I have shown my invention applied to a lady's small sewing-table, it will be understood that it is applicable to large dining-tables and to other articles of furniture; and, instead of using the cleats *f f* and the plain plates D D, these plates may be cast of malleable iron, with short studs or pins upon the upper side of sufficient length to raise the plates from the table the diameter of the locking-braces, the studs taking the place of and being a substitute for the cleats *f f*, and many of the hinges *a a* will be used for attaching the cross-pieces B B, to prevent all possibility of warping of the table, without any other cleats or stays.

Having thus described my invention, I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent—

1. The combination, with a table-top having notched ways on its under side, of legs hinged thereto as described, and locking-braces having bent ends, the upper ends of the braces being constructed as described, and socketed in the said ways, and the lower ends bent, as set forth, and fitted in slanting openings in the legs, substantially as herein shown and described.

2. The combination, with the table-top A and the hinged legs C′, having holes *c*, of the notched plates D, secured to cleats attached to under side of the table, and the braces E, having bent ends *e e′*, substantially as herein shown and described.

3. The combination, with the table-top A, provided with the bars D, having notches *d*, and secured to the cleats *f* and the cleats *g*, of the hinged cross-pieces B, the legs C C′, and the braces E, having bent ends *e e′*, the legs C′ being provided with slanting holes *c* to receive the bent ends *e′* of the braces, substantially as herein shown and described.

MOSES COOK.

Witnesses:

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