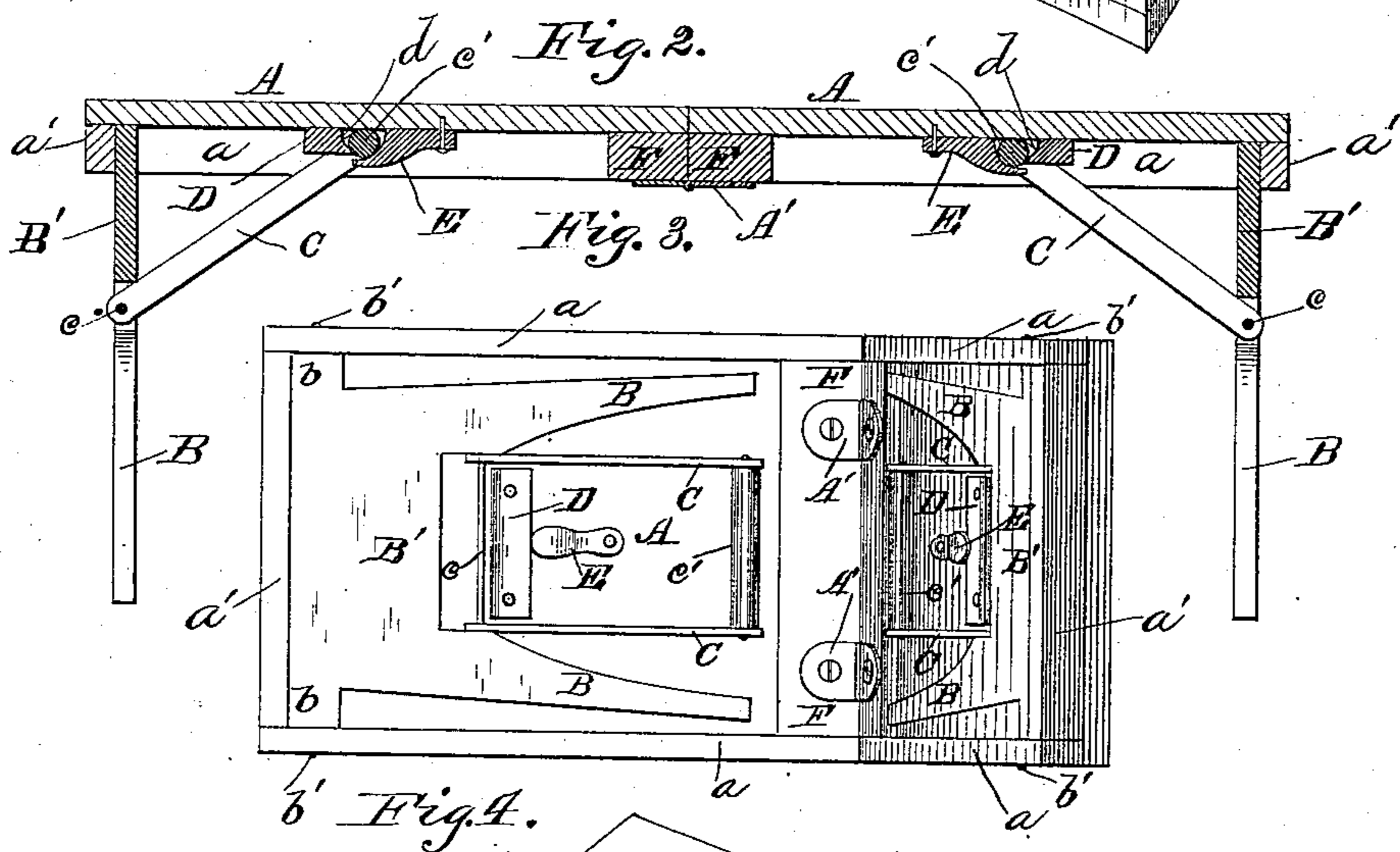
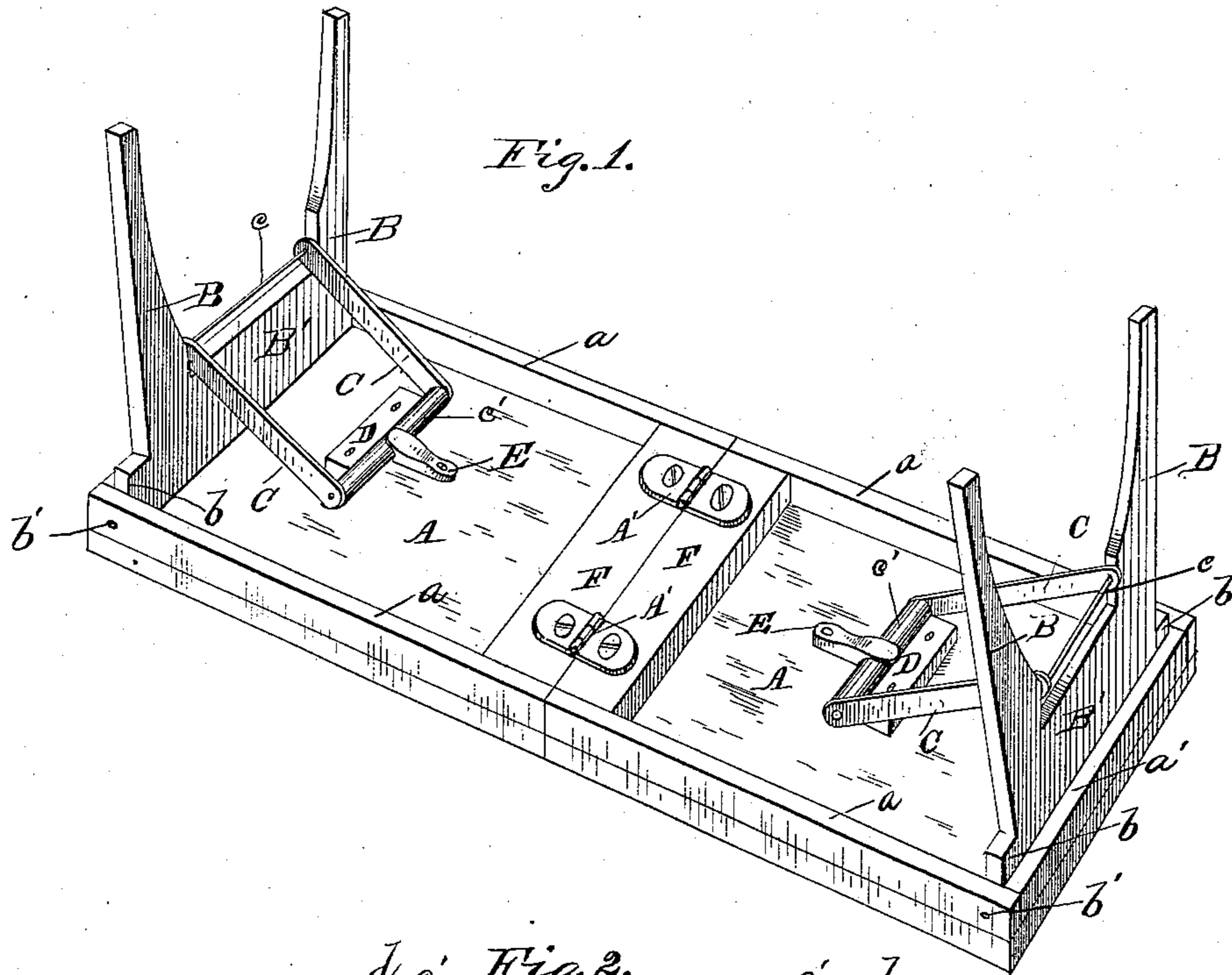


(No Model.)

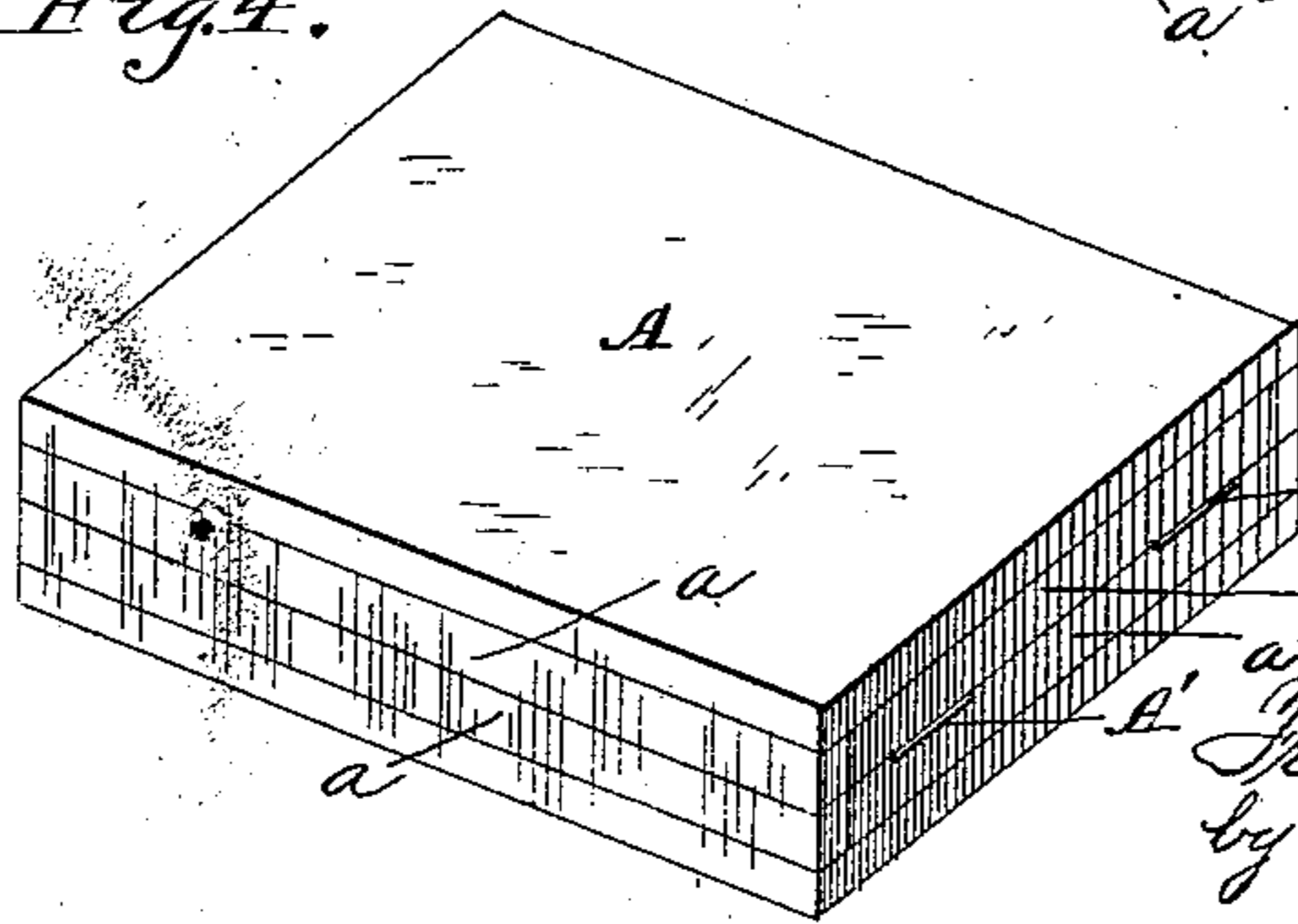
F. HANSON.
FOLDING WASH BENCH.

No. 324,320.

Patented Aug. 11, 1885.



Witnesses
L. A. Smith
William A. Garver.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

FREEMAN HANSON, OF BAR MILLS, MAINE, ASSIGNOR TO JAMES W. MESERVE
AND GEORGE W. HANSON, OF SAME PLACE.

FOLDING WASH-BENCH.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 324,320, dated August 11, 1885.

Application filed January 3, 1885. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, FREEMAN HANSON, a citizen of the United States, residing at Bar Mills, in the county of York and State of Maine, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Folding Wash-Benches, of which the following is a specification, reference being had therein to the accompanying drawings.

Figure 1 is a perspective view of the bench inverted, with the legs extended and braced. Fig. 2 is a longitudinal vertical central section of the bench, showing the legs and their braces. Fig. 3 is a bottom plan view of the bench, showing the legs and braces folded and bench partly folded. Fig. 4 is a perspective view of the box form of the device when entirely folded.

This invention relates to folding benches or supports which are especially designed for supporting wash-tubs; and it consists in a bench having folding box-top in combination with hinged legs, stops, and braces therefor, and cleat and button fastenings for firmly holding the legs in an extended position and allowing the same to be folded and inclosed inside of the folding box-top when it is desired to stow the bench away, all of which will be fully understood from the following description, when taken in connection with the annexed drawings.

The top of the bench, table, or stand is composed of two box halves or sections, A A, which are connected together by means of hinges A' A', that allow the sections to be folded, as shown in Fig. 3. Each section A is constructed with side strips, a a, and end strips, a' a', which latter serve as battens to prevent the boards from warping, and with the side strips form boxes for inclosing the legs and their braces when the sections are folded one upon the other. The legs B B are formed on or secured to heads B' B', which are allowed to fold within the side and end strips of their respective top sections, A A. The heads of the legs are constructed with side offsets, b b, which receive pivots b' b', that hinge

the legs to the side strips, a a. The pivots b' b' are so located that when the legs are extended the upper portions of their heads abut against the end strips or battens, a' a', as shown in Fig. 1, thereby preventing the legs from spreading too far.

C C designate braces, each one of which is composed of two side bars connected together by a cross-bar, c. These braces are pivoted to cross-rods c', which pass transversely through the legs B B, near the heads B' B', and serve to strengthen these legs.

D D designate short cleats, which are secured to the bottom sides of the bench-tops A A and undercut, as shown at d d, for the purpose of receiving the cross-rods c' c' of the braces C C, when the legs of the bench are extended, and preventing outward thrust of these legs. When the rods c' c' of the braces are adjusted against the cleats D D and locking-buttons E E are turned over the latter, the braces and the bench-legs will be rigidly held in the position shown in Figs. 1 and 4, and the bench will afford a substantial support for a wash-tub or other object.

When the legs are unfolded, as shown in Fig. 2, and the buttons E E are turned over one of the limbs of each brace C, the tops A A will serve as a good ironing-board. When the tops A A are folded together, as shown in Fig. 3, the device will be very compact and portable.

Having described my invention, I claim—

A portable bench consisting of the folding box-tops A A, folding legs, the abutments a' a' therefor, the folding braces pivoted thereto, the undercut cleats D D, and the turn-buttons E E, all constructed substantially as and for the purposes described.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature in presence of two witnesses.

FREEMAN HANSON.

Witnesses:

JOHN J. PERRY,
J. F. MCINTYRE.