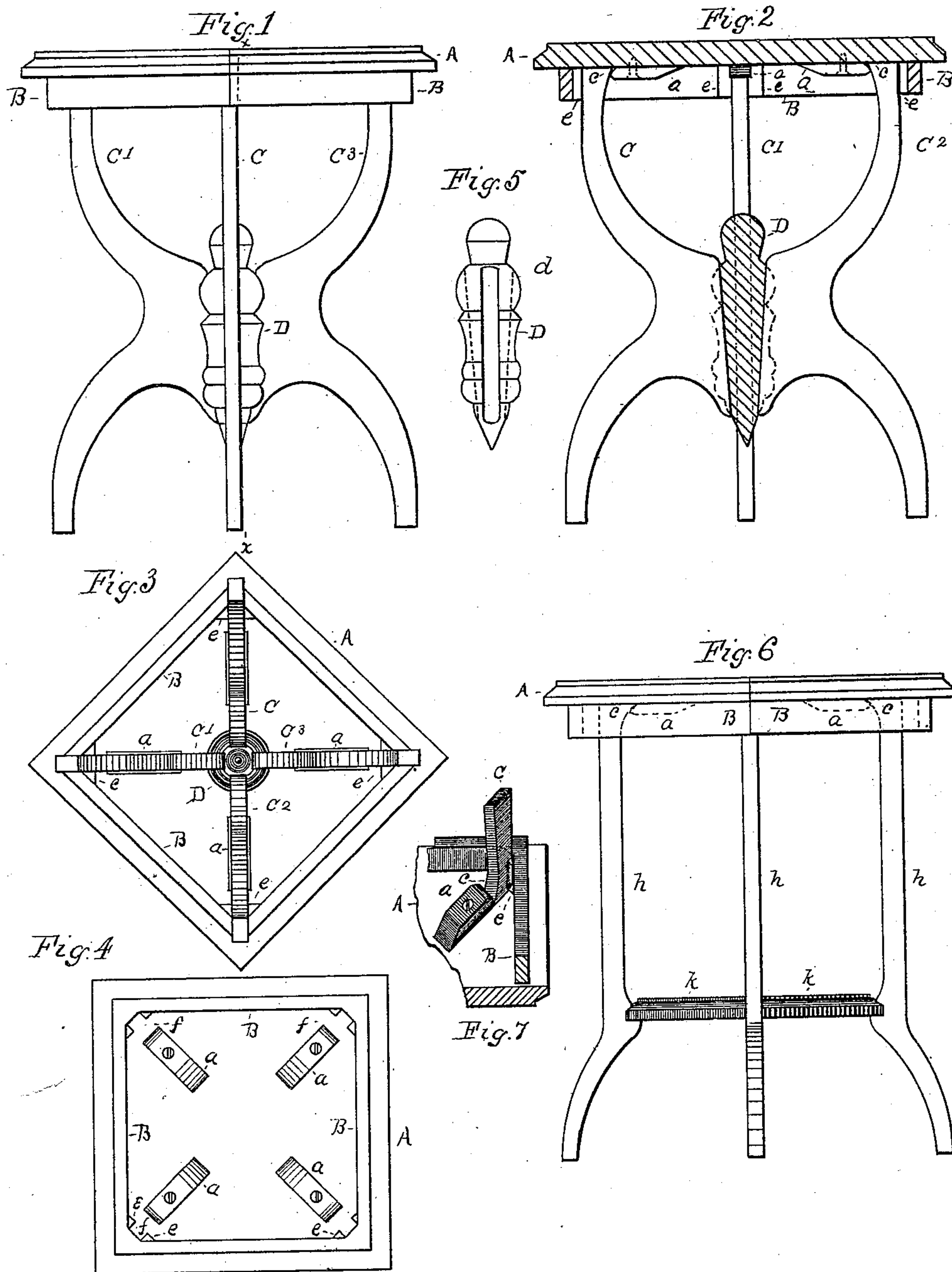


(No Model.)

B. S. MOLYNEUX.
KNOCKDOWN TABLE.

No. 355,618.

Patented Jan. 4, 1887.



Witnesses:

A. Lewis
Wm B. Bibb

Inventor:

Barton S. Molyneux
By P. H. Gunkel
Attorney.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

BARTON S. MOLYNEUX, OF MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA.

KNOCKDOWN TABLE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 355,618, dated January 4, 1887.

Application filed May 24, 1886. Serial No. 203,076. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, BARTON S. MOLYNEUX, a citizen of the United States, residing at Minneapolis, in the county of Hennepin and State of Minnesota, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Knockdown Tables, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to knockdown tables in which the legs are detachable from the table top and rails and from each other.

The principal objects of the improvements are to enable the tables to be packed and shipped in small bulk, and to render the legs and tops interchangeable.

The invention consists, generally, in enlarging the top of the legs and providing sockets in the table-corners, into which the enlarged ends of the legs can be passed in a slanting position, but from which they cannot be withdrawn while in substantially vertical position, and then providing a key for pressing the legs outward and holding them to a vertical position.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is an elevation of my improved table. Fig. 2 is a sectional view on the line *xx* of Fig. 1. Fig. 3 is a plan view of the table inverted. Fig. 4 is the same with the legs removed. Fig. 5 is a detached view of the key, for holding the legs apart. Fig. 6 is an elevation of a modified form of the table, and Fig. 7 is a perspective view of a corner of the inverted table.

A represents the table-top, and B the rails, which are secured together in the usual manner.

C C' C'' C''' are the table-legs, which have the inner side of their upper ends projecting inwardly in curved or angular form, as shown at *c*, for fitting in receding sockets, and *f* are the sockets in the four corners, formed by the triangular strips *e*, fastened to the rails B, and the blocks *a*, secured on the under surface of the top A. The ends of the blocks *a* toward the table-corners are beveled at their under sides, forming recesses between the blocks and table-top to receive the projecting ends *c* of the legs. The ends *c* of the legs are inserted by inclining the legs toward the center of the table, and then turning them outward to an upright position. The blocks *a* prevent the legs from moving farther outward, and also from being removed lengthwise, and the strips

e prevent lateral movement. The middle portions of the legs are made to approach a common center, and their proximate surfaces incline on planes toward a common point.

D is a key or wedge having inclined groove *d*, into which the middle portions of the legs C, &c., fit. When the upper ends of the legs have been fitted into their sockets, the key D is pressed down between the middle inclined portions of the legs, pressing them outward to a proper degree of rigidity, and the table-legs are thus held firmly in place.

In Fig. 6 is illustrated a modified form of the table, in which the upper ends of the legs are constructed as in the table above described, and like sockets are provided for receiving the ends of the legs, but in which the legs *h* are made relatively straight with just sufficiently inward swell near the feet to allow a notched board, *k*, to be pressed down between them and force them outward to a rigid vertical position.

It is obvious that other modifications involving changes of form of the legs and of the key for holding them apart, as well as in construction of the sockets for the tops of the legs, can be easily made without departing from the principle of operation of my improvements; hence I do not desire to be limited to the exact structures illustrated and described.

I am aware of the patent to Kramer, No. 197,147, of November 13, 1877, and the patent to Bon, No. 333,500, and make no claim to matter therein shown and described.

I do not claim herein a construction in which the legs are held in sockets in the table-top by means of a key and nut, which serve to prevent the legs from being spread apart, such construction being the subject-matter of an application filed by me July 15, 1886, and No. 208,098.

What I claim, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

The combination, with a table-top and rails, of the pieces *e* and blocks *a*, forming the socket *f*, the table-legs C, having curved upper ends *c*, and the key D, constructed and arranged to operate substantially as set forth.

BARTON S. MOLYNEUX.

Witnesses:

N. LEWIS,

P. H. GUNCKEL.