

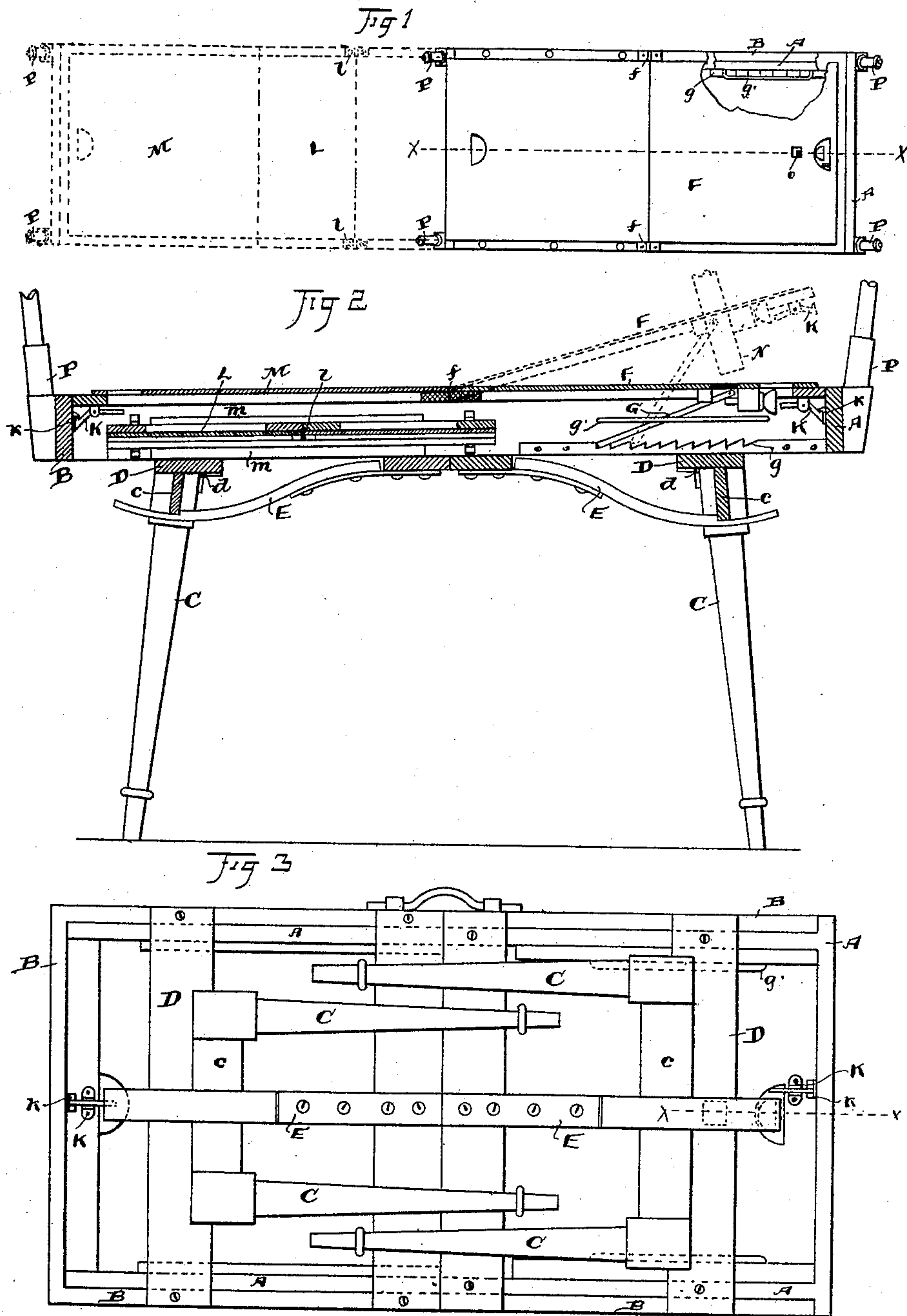
(No Model.)

2 Sheets—Sheet 1.

W. N. CLARK.
EMBALMING BOARD.

No. 452,070.

Patented May 12, 1891.



Witnesses
Helen S. McNamee.
R. B. Moser.

Walter N. Clark Inventor

By his Attorney H. J. Fisher

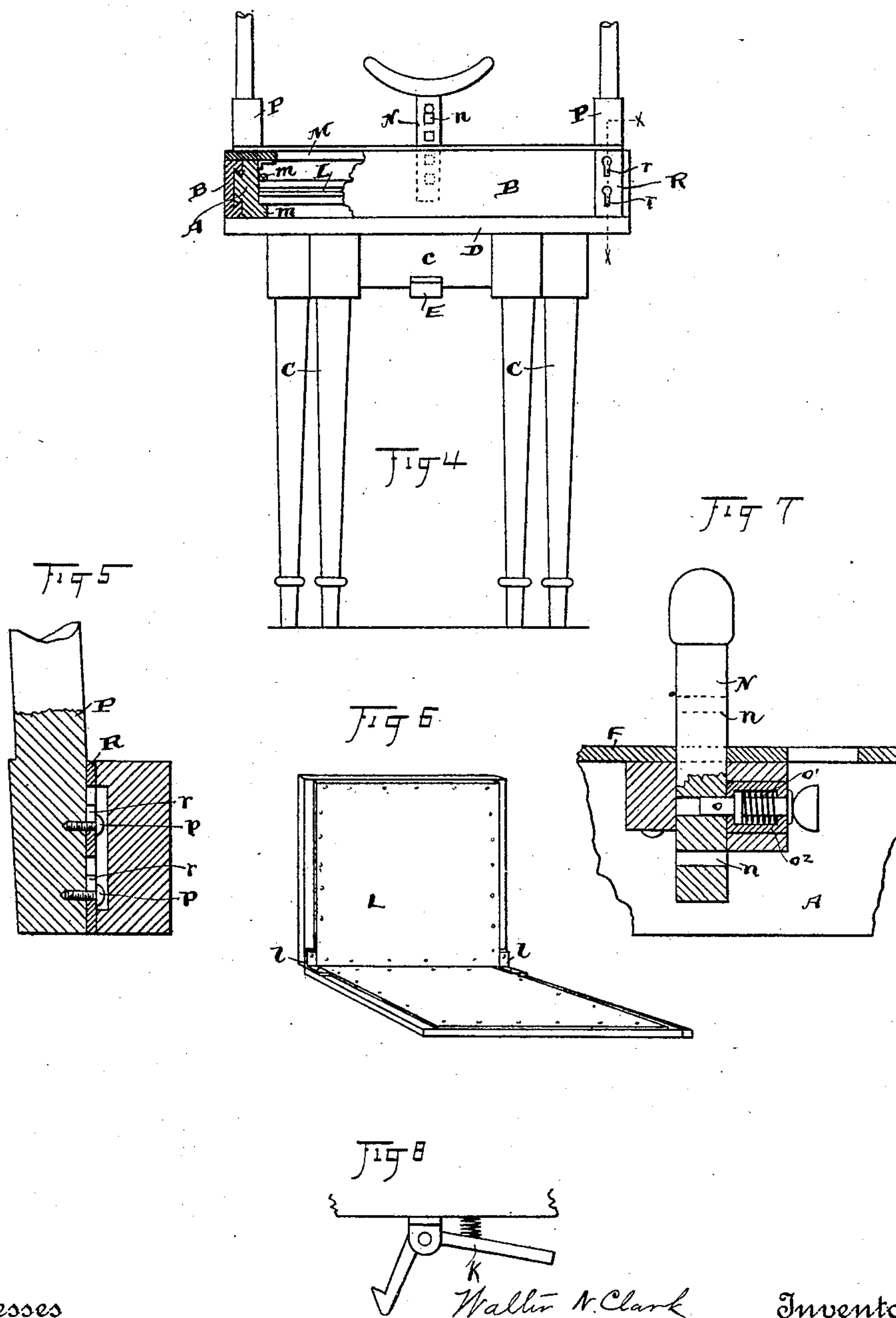
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WALTER N. CLARK, OF WARREN, OHIO.

EMBALMING-BOARD.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 452,070, dated May 12, 1891.

Application filed April 11, 1890. Serial No. 347,432. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WALTER N. CLARK, a citizen of the United States, residing at Warren, in the county of Trumbull and State of Ohio, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Embalming-Boards; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, which will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same.

My invention relates to improvements in embalming-boards; and the invention consists in an embalming-board constructed, combined, and operating substantially as shown and described, and particularly pointed out in the claims.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is a plan view of an embalming-board constructed according to my invention, the full lines showing the board shortened and the dotted lines showing it extended to full length. Fig. 2 is a longitudinal central vertical section, on an enlarged scale, of the board as it appears in full lines in Fig. 1 and on line *x x* on said figure. Fig. 3 is a bottom view of the full board shortened, as shown in Figs. 1 and 2, and having the legs folded, as in transportation or when set out of the way. Fig. 4 is an end elevation with a part at one side broken away in section to show the extensible features. Fig. 5 is a section on line *x x*, Fig. 4, showing the construction where the canopy-standards are removably attached to the frame. Fig. 6 is a perspective view of a section of the top or covering shown in dotted lines in Fig. 1, said section consisting of two hinged folding parts, as and for the purpose hereinafter described. Fig. 7 is a section, enlarged, on line *x x*, Fig. 3, showing the spring-pressed bolt for locking the head-rest. Fig. 8 is an enlarged detail of one of the spring-pressed catches for holding down the ends of the top.

The main frame consists of two sections A B, extensibly connected by a tongue-and-groove joint, as seen in Fig. 4, or the equivalent thereof, the extensibility being such as to accommodate the longest bodies on the board, and the range being from this to the size adapted to infants, as seen in full lines, Fig. 1. Each section is provided with a pair of

legs C, connected by a bar *c*, to which they are firmly fastened by any suitable means and supported by hinges *d* on cross-boards D, fixed on the sides of the frame-section A or B, as the case may be. These legs C are so arranged that they do not interfere in folding, and are designed when folded to lie horizontally on the bottom of the frame and be out of the way as well as in a compact position for transportation. A spring-arm E to each section, secured to a center cross-piece of the main frame, extends to make engagement with the cross-bar *c*, connecting each set of legs, and has a shoulder on its top near its outer extremity to engage said bar and hold the same firmly when the legs are spread. The head-section F of the board is hinged at *f* and adjustable in elevation by brace-bars G, hinged on the under side of said section and adapted to engage ratchet-teeth *g* on a suitable bar or its equivalent fixed on the inside of the side pieces of the main frame. Keepers or guides *g'* serve to confine said brace-bars or pawls G in working position. By this means any desired elevation of the head and shoulder section of the board may be obtained, and the said section is readily lowered to a plane with the others. At each end is a spring-pressed hook K, engaging a catch K on the cross-bar of the end of the frame, which serves to hold the respective parts together.

L represents a folding detachable section of the top, having hinges *l* midway and adapted to form an extension of the board either the full length thereof or half the length, with one-half standing up as a foot-board. This hinged section and the supplemental section M, dotted lines, Fig. 1, serve to give all the extension to the board required. The said board-sections throughout are preferably made of perforated veneer. When not in use, the separate and removable sections are stowed away on suitable projections or supports *m* on the inner side of the main frame, Fig. 2. This is done before the ends of the frame are pushed together, as seen in said figure.

N represents a head-rest having a standard with perforations *n*, by or through which it is vertically adjustable, and *o* is a bolt having a collar and a spring *o'* bearing against the

collar and supported in a box o^2 , whereby the said standard is locked and held in any given position. The head-section of the board has a hand-hold, through which the said lock is
 5 reached, and an opening for the passage of the standard of the head-rest. Both head-rest and standard are independently adjustable.

P are the canopy standards or supports provided with headed screws p , adapted to en-
 10 gage in key-hole slots r in a plate R in the end of the main frame at the corners thereof. The form of these slots is shown in Figs. 4 and 5. By this construction the said stand-
 ards are readily attachable and detachable.

15 The idea underlying the construction herein described is to obtain an extensible embalming-board so constructed that the best results in embalming may be obtained. To this end it is necessary that the board should
 20 be capable of varying elevation for the head and shoulders of the subject to give the proper flow and density to the embalming-fluid when it is injected and in settling to the different parts of the body.

25 In many cases difficulty in embalming occurs because the body is not placed on a support by which the elevations to get the best effects can be obtained, and hence there is liability of discoloration in the face, which
 30 should be avoided. By my construction I can get as much elevation or depression to the shoulders and head as the case may require, and this may be varied during the process of embalming, or sometimes afterward, before
 35 the body is placed in the casket. The hinged section of the board or top (shown in Fig. 6) gives two lengths or sizes and affords a foot-rest when half the length or size is employed. When the board is used full length, as shown

in Fig. 1, the hinged section is at the bottom 40 or foot of the board.

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

1. An embalming-board comprising the ex- 45 tensible main frame, a hinged and adjustable head-section having at its free end a spring-pressed hook engaging a catch on the main frame, a supplemental section, as M, also having a spring-pressed catch engaging a hook 50 on the main frame, said sections having openings for giving access to said hooks, a folding detachable section, one of the parts of which is adapted to serve as a foot-board, and stand-
 ards on the frame for supporting the same. 55

2. An embalming-board comprising the following parts in combination: an extensible main frame constructed to provide an interior receptacle, a hinged and adjustable head-section having at its free end a spring-pressed 60 hook engaging a catch on the main frame, an independently-adjustable head-rest carried by said head-section, a supplemental section, as M, having a spring-pressed catch engaging a hook on the main frame, a folding detach- 65 able section consisting of a plurality of parts hinged together, one of which is adapted to serve as a foot-board, said folding section being located within the main frame when not in use, and standards on the main frame for 70 supporting the foot-board part of said folding section.

Witness my hand to the foregoing specification this 20th day of March, 1890.

WALTER N. CLARK.

Witnesses:

S. B. CRAIG,

E. D. SNIDER.