

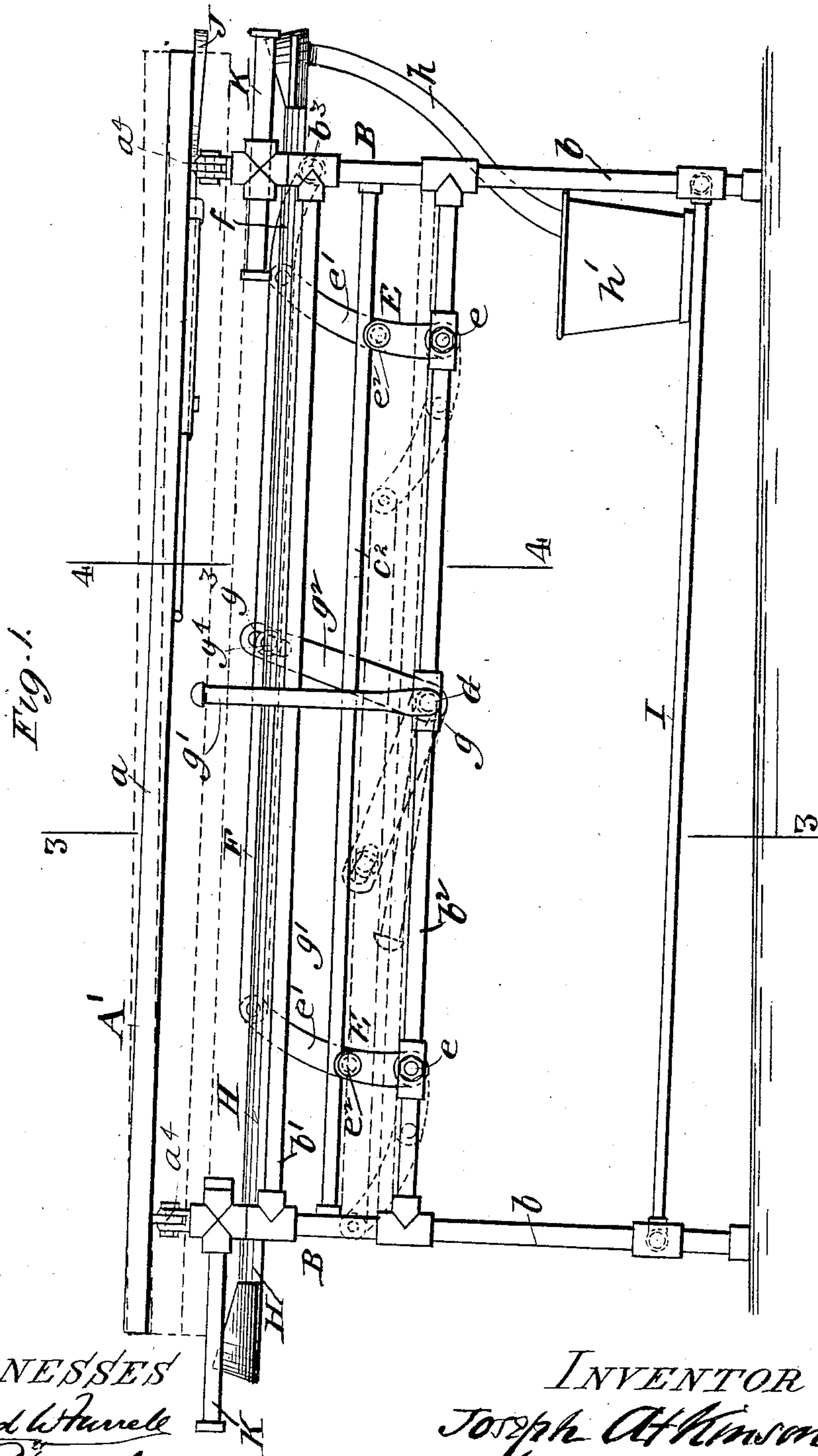
(No Model.)

3 Sheets—Sheet 1.

J. ATKINSON.
OPERATING TABLE.

No. 452,331.

Patented May 12, 1891.



WITNESSES
Edward W. Hurrell
A. Bonville

INVENTOR
Joseph Atkinson
by C. D. Moody
Attorney

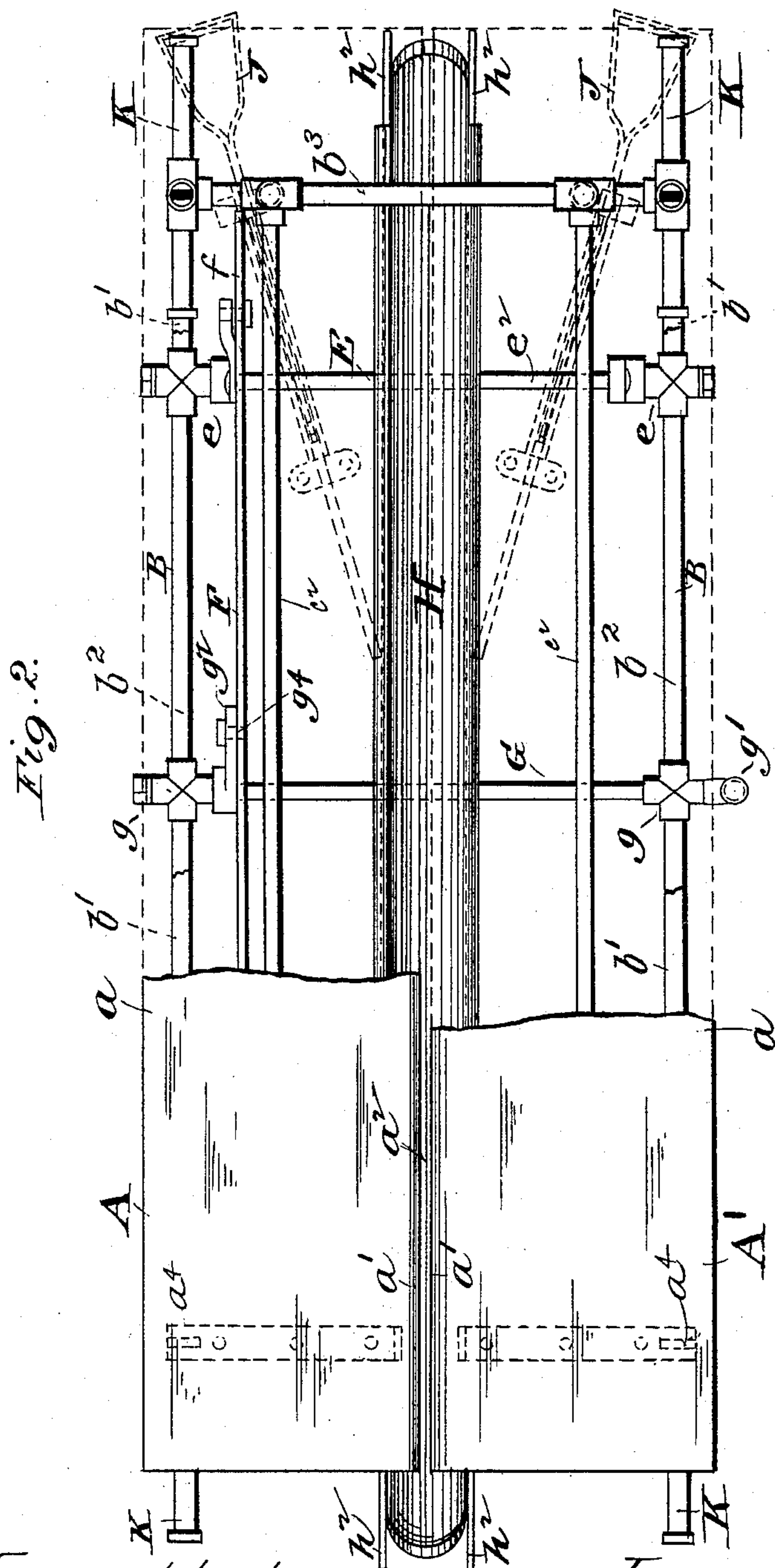
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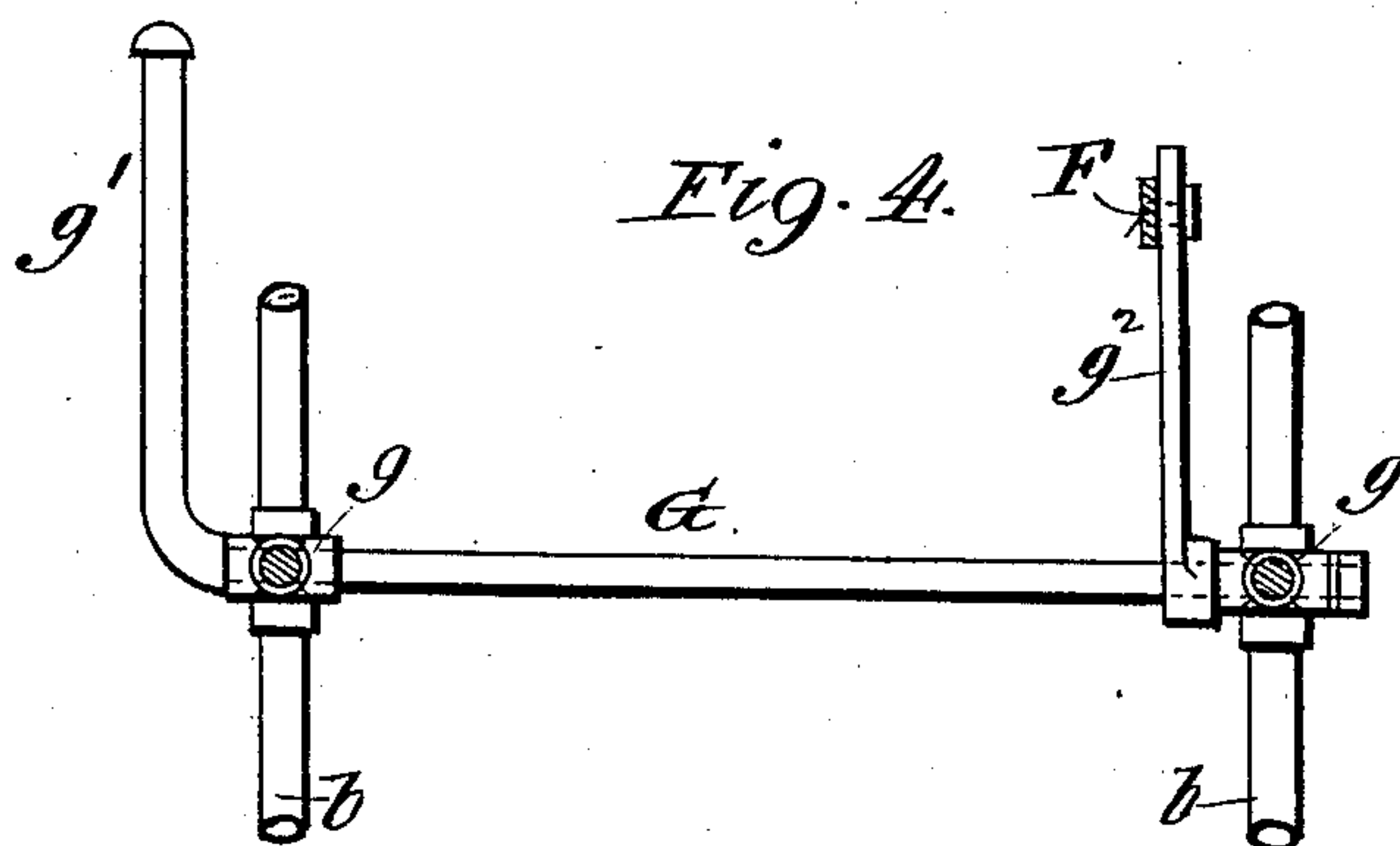
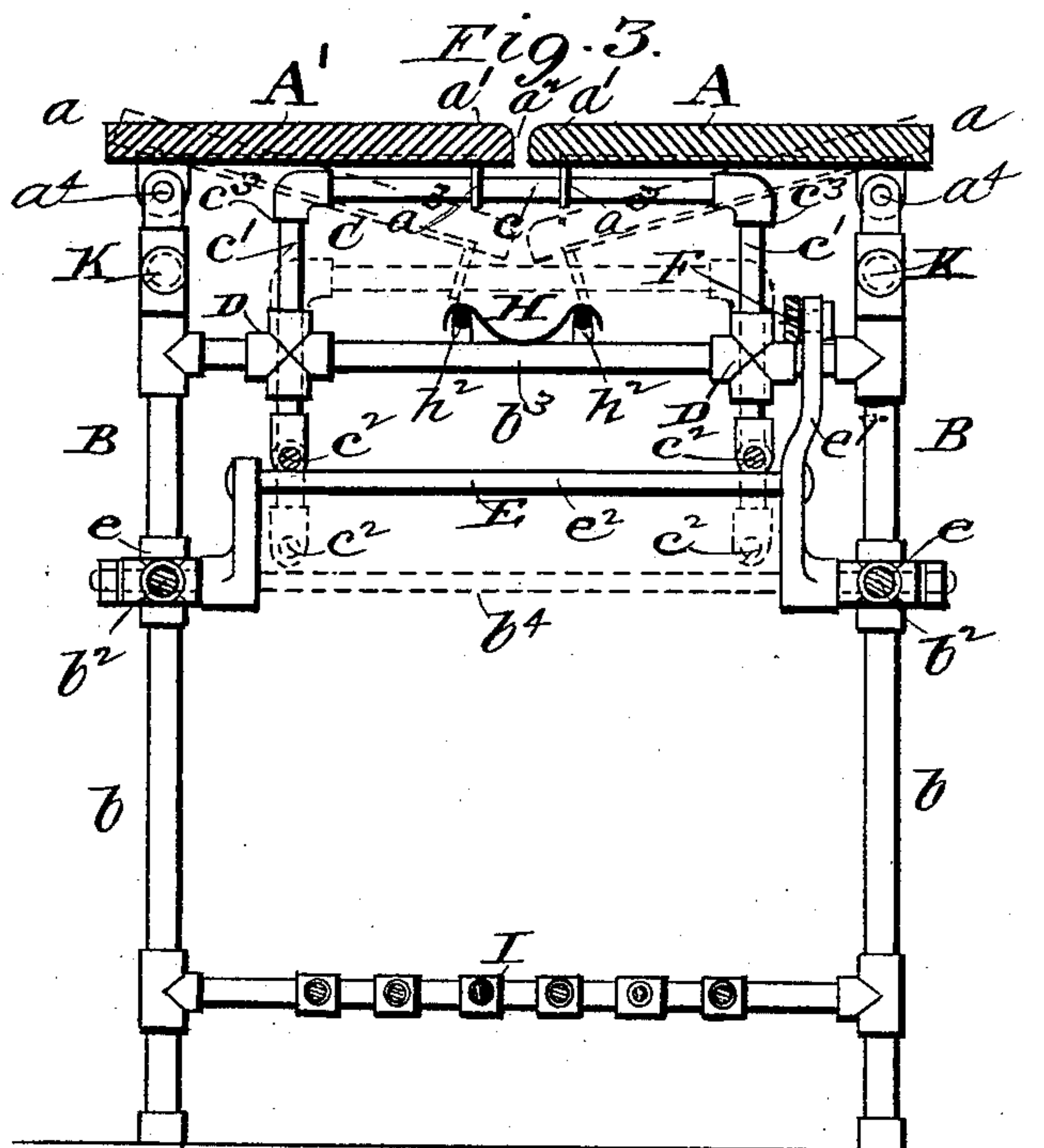
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOSEPH ATKINSON, OF ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI, ASSIGNOR OF ONE-HALF TO
WALTER B. DORSETT, OF SAME PLACE.

OPERATING-TABLE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 452,331, dated May 12, 1891.

Application filed October 15, 1890. Serial No. 368,245. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOSEPH ATKINSON, of St. Louis, Missouri, have made a new and useful Improvement in Operating-Tables, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description.

The leading feature of the present improved table is its adjustable top, whereby either a flat support or a sunken one, as may be desired, can be obtained.

An additional feature is the means for draining the table, all substantially as is hereinafter described and claimed, aided by the annexed drawings, making part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 is a side elevation of the improved table; Fig. 2, a plan of the same, a portion of the table-top being removed to exhibit the construction beneath; Fig. 3, a vertical cross-section on the line 3 3 of Fig. 1; and Fig. 4, a vertical cross-section on the line 4 4 of Fig. 1, but showing only the mechanism for raising and lowering the table-top support.

The same letters of reference denote the same parts.

The table-top is made in sections A A'. They are adapted to jointly form a substantially continuous support for the patient, and they are contrived so that such support may be a flat one or a depressed one—that is, the table-top, whenever desired, may be adjustable to form a trough-like support. The depression referred to is preferably arranged midway between the sides of the table, and it extends throughout the length of the table-top. This result is attained in the following manner: The sections A A' at or toward their side edges a a , respectively, are hinged to the frame-work B of the table, permitting them to be turned upward and downward, as indicated by their positions shown, respectively, in the full and broken lines in Fig. 3. A desirable frame-work is shown. It is composed mainly of the legs b b , the side bars b' b' , and the end bars b^3 b^4 , all of which may be of tubing united after the manner of steam-fitting; but any other suitable frame-work will answer. The sections A A' at their inner edges a' a' do not quite meet when they are up-
turned, and when they are turned down they

do not meet. In this way an opening a^2 in the table-top is provided for drainage purposes. The sections can be raised and lowered as described and supported in either position in various ways. What I consider a desirable means for this purpose is a vertically-adjustable support C. This last-named part is arranged beneath the table-top, and the free edges of the table-top sections are supported on it, and by raising and lowering this support the sections are raised and lowered, as described. The movement of the support is a vertical one; but the sections draw apart as they drop, and the connection between the sections and their support is such as to permit of their movement. The support C extends well throughout the length of the table to properly uphold the table-top. The sections A A' in the present instance are connected with the support C by means of the clips a^3 , which in the movement of the support slip upon its top bars c . The support C, which is preferably of an open-work nature and composed, say, of tubing jointed together in the manner similar to the frame-work B, is made vertically adjustable, preferably in the following manner: The top bars c of the support are attached to its uprights c' c' , which are held and are adapted to be moved vertically in guides D D, and beneath the guides are attached to the horizontal bars c^2 c^2 of the support. These last-named bars ride upon the rock-shafts E E, which are arranged transversely in the table and respectively toward the ends thereof. These rock-shafts are journaled in the frame-work at ee , and at one end thereof are provided with arms e' e' , which extend upward, and at the upper end thereof are jointed together by means of a horizontally-arranged connecting-rod F, by which means the rock-shafts work in combination and rise and fall together.

The rock-shafts are operated as follows: G represents a shaft journaled in bearings g g in the frame-work and provided at one end with an arm g' and at the other end thereof with an arm g^2 . This last-named arm is slotted at g^3 to effect an engagement with a pin g^4 upon the rod F. By turning the arm g' downward, as indicated by the broken lines

in Fig. 1, the shaft is rotated, and, owing to the connection of the shaft with the rod F, the rock-shafts E E are turned in their bearings, and the bars $e^2 e^2$ of the rock-shafts, upon which the support C immediately rests, are raised and lowered, as indicated by their positions, shown, respectively, by the full and broken lines in Fig. 1. The described movement of the table-top support can be limited in various ways. In the present instance the downward movement is arrested by reason of the shoulders $c^3 c^3$ of the support encountering the guides D D, and in its up position the support is steadied by means of an extension f of the rod F encountering a fixed part of the frame-work B, substantially as is indicated by the broken lines in Fig. 1. The guides D D are attached to the upper end bars b^3 of the frame-work.

H represents a gutter extending longitudinally in the machine beneath the opening a^2 in the table-top. It is preferably adjustable longitudinally in the table, and it is suitably inclined, and it can be adapted to discharge its contents in any suitable manner—as, for instance, into a tube h , which in turn may lead to a vessel h' , supported, if desirable, upon a shelf I, which is preferably in the form of a rack supported upon the legs of the table. The gutter is conveniently supported in position by means of the bars h^2 , which in turn are attached to the end bars b^3 of the frame-work, and the gutter can be slipped endwise upon its support. The table-top can be inclined, as shown in Fig. 1, or it can be level, as indicated by the broken lines, same figure, in which case the rock-shafts and other connecting parts are suitably shaped to cause the table-top to be held level. The construction is rendered more complete by means of the foot-rests J J and the handles K K. Both the handles and the foot-rests can be closed into the table to be out of the way when not needed. The top sections A A' can not only be adjusted, as described, but also can be turned upon their hinges a^4 directly upward and outward to enable them to be readily cleaned. The clips a^3 are suitably constructed to permit of this movement.

The top sections can be made of glass, mar-

ble, wood, or any material suitable for surgical purposes.

I claim—

1. In an operating-table, the combination of the vertically-adjustable top sections with a vertically-adjustable support for said sections, said top section being hinged, respectively, at the sides of said table, to enable, by lowering the inner free edges of said top sections, a depression to be formed which is lower than the level of the top of said table-sides, and said support sustaining said top sections at or toward said inner edges thereof, substantially as described.

2. An operating-table whose top is composed of adjustable sections, said sections being hinged at or toward the outer edge thereof to the sides, respectively, of said table, leaving the inner edges of said sections free to be lowered beneath the level of the top of said table-sides, substantially as described.

3. In an operating-table, the combination of vertically-adjustable top sections, a vertically-adjustable support for said sections, and means for raising and lowering said support, said top sections extending throughout the length of the table, and hinged, respectively, to the sides thereof, and said means raising and lowering said top sections evenly throughout the length thereof, substantially as described.

4. The combination of the adjustable top sections A A', the frame-work B, the vertically-adjustable support C, and the rock-shafts E E, said top sections being hinged, respectively, at the sides of the table, substantially as described.

5. The combination of the frame-work, the top sections adapted to form a depression extending longitudinally throughout the length of the table, the vertically-adjustable support C, the rock-shafts E E, the connecting-rod F, and the shaft G, provided with the arms $g' g^2$, substantially as described.

Witness my hand this 3d day of October, 1890.

JOSEPH ATKINSON.

Witnesses:

C. D. MOODY,
A BONVILLE.