

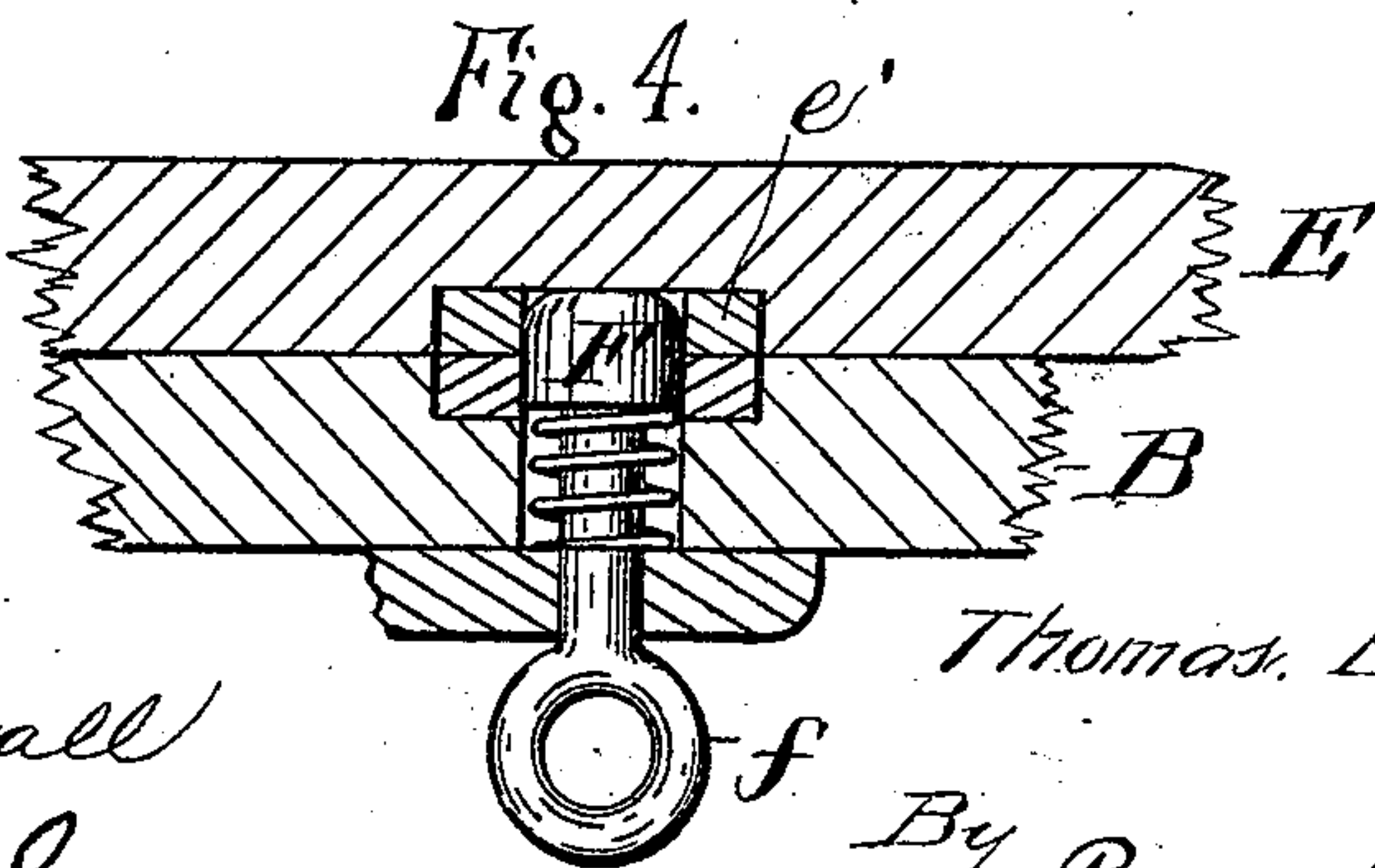
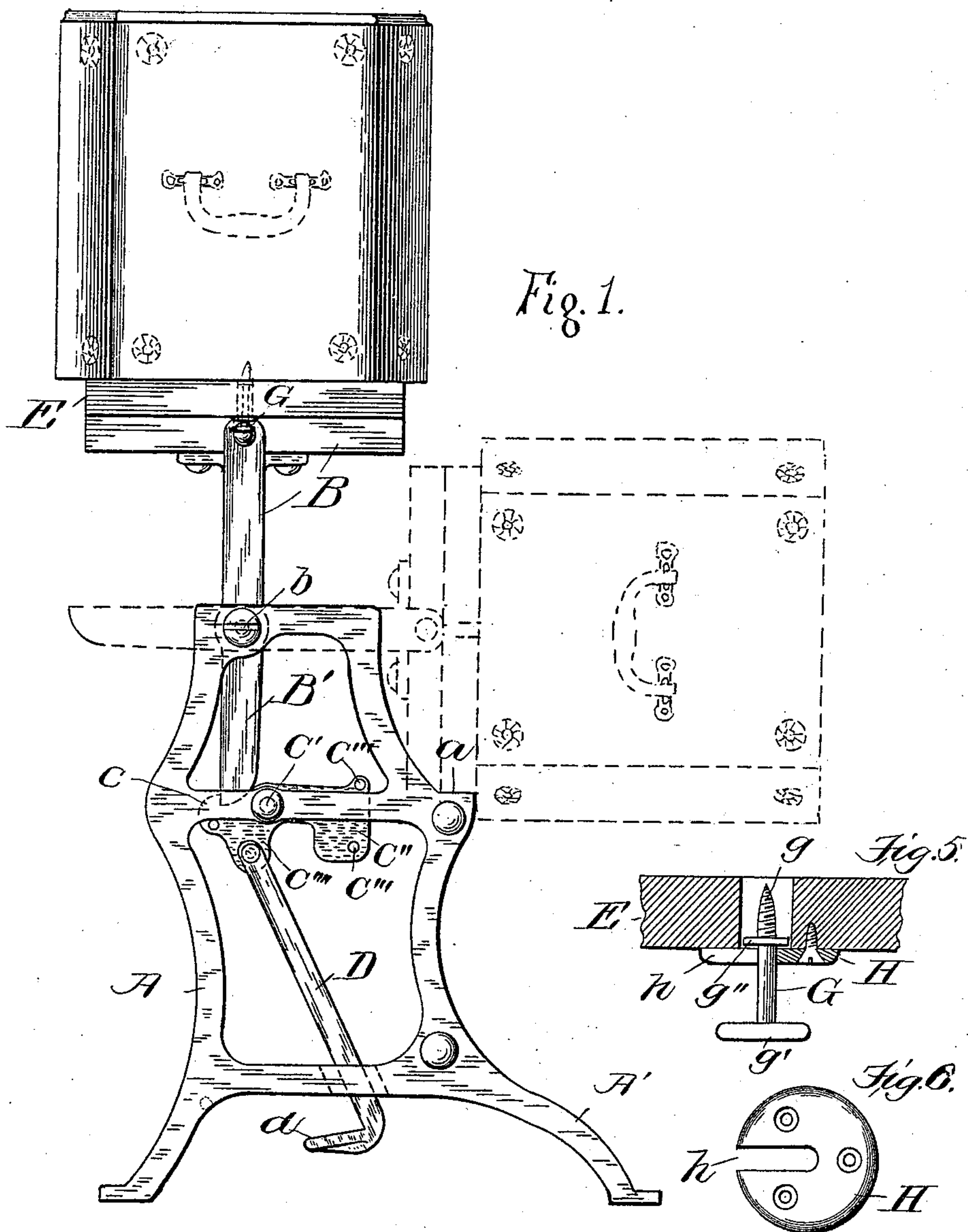
(No Model.)

2 Sheets—Sheet 1.

T. B. HENNESSY.  
CASKET TRIMMING TABLE.

No. 517,976.

Patented Apr. 10, 1894.



Witnesses.  
*J. H. Cornwall*  
*A. Ramey*

Inventor.  
*Thomas B. Hennessy*  
By *Paul Bakewell*  
his atty

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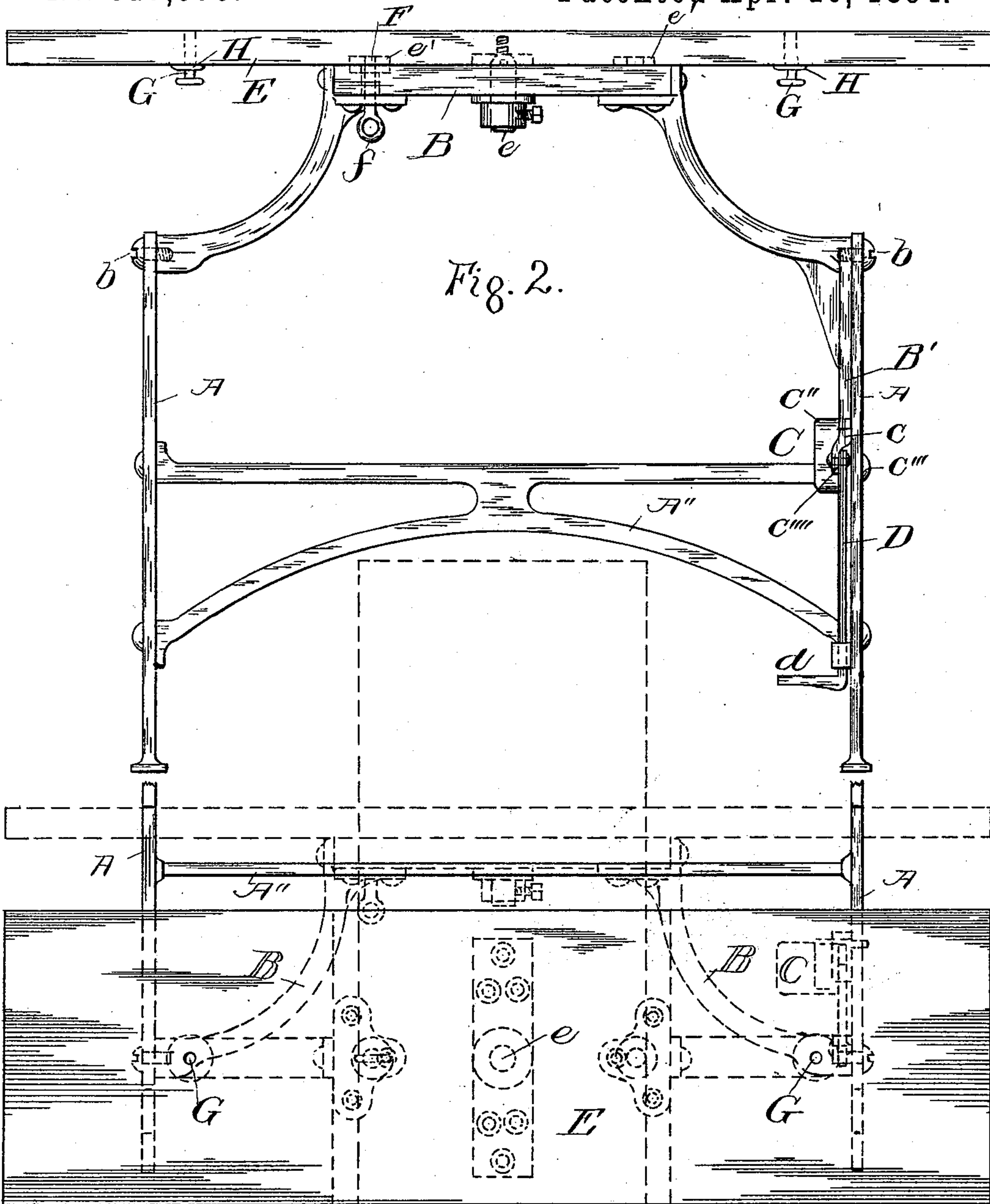


Fig. 3.

Witnesses.  
*J. P. Cornwall*  
*A. Rameel.*

Inventor.  
*Thomas B. Hennessy*  
By *Paul Bakerwell*  
his atty.



# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

THOMAS B. HENNESSY, OF ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI.

## CASKET-TRIMMING TABLE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 517,976, dated April 10, 1894.

Application filed May 12, 1893. Serial No. 473,965. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, THOMAS B. HENNESSY, a citizen of the United States, residing at St. Louis, in the State of Missouri, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Casket-Trimming Tables, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, forming a part of this specification, wherein like symbols of reference refer to like parts wherever they occur, and in which—

Figure 1 is a side elevation showing the table and casket in a tilted position in dotted lines. Fig. 2 is a front elevation. Fig. 3 is a top view. Fig. 4 is a sectional detail view of the locking bolt for the swinging table. Fig. 5 is a detail sectional view of the casket attachment screws. Fig. 6 is a plan view of the keeper plate therefor.

My invention relates to a new and useful improvement in casket trimming tables, being particularly designed for use by undertakers and others, who are called upon to attach what is known as the "trimmings" to a casket, just before its use.

The object of my invention is to construct a simple, cheap and easily operated table of the kind described, upon which a casket to be trimmed can be readily attached and detached, and one which will permit the operator to change the position of the casket at will in order to work on its sides and top without changing his position and without removal of the casket from the table.

The features of this present invention reside in the peculiar construction of the base or stand upon which the table is mounted, which table is formed with a ledge, and in mounting upon said stand, a vertically tilting table, which is held in a vertical position by a suitable gravity catch. Upon this vertically tilting table, I mount a horizontally swinging table, upon which is provided the means for attaching a casket, which horizontally swinging table is adapted to be turned upon its pivot to present the different sides of a casket to the operator, and be held in such positions by suitable latches which are interposed between the two tables. By such a construction, a casket may be mounted upon the horizontally swinging table, and its

top operated upon from each side, which is accomplished by swinging the table on its pivot. After the top is finished, the gravity catch may be operated to release the vertically tilting table, (which, up to this time has been in an upright position), when the same, and the horizontally swinging table can be turned down so that the latter will rest upon the ledge formed on the stand, thus presenting one of its sides for operation by the operator. When this side is finished, the tilting table may be returned to its first position, and the horizontally swinging table turned one half a revolution, which, when the table is again tilted, will present the unfinished side of the casket to the operator. This I accomplish by the construction illustrated in the accompanying drawings, wherein—

A indicates the stand formed with the rearwardly extending leg A' to add rigidity thereto.

At a is formed a ledge acting in the capacity of a rest or support for the tilting table, which will hereinafter be described.

The frame is braced longitudinally by the trusses A'' as shown in Fig. 2.

Pivoted at the upper forward edge of the stand, at b, is the tilting table B, which has projecting downwardly near one end, an extension B' formed with an inclined end which is adapted to ride over a yielding nose c of a catch C mounted on the frame. This catch is preferably in the form of a gravity catch being pivoted at c' to the inner face of one of the end pieces of the frame, its front end extending forward to form the nose c and its rear end being in the form of a weight c'' provided with the stop pins C''' which engage the cross piece of the end frame piece and limit the movement of the catch.

Connected to an extension c'''' projecting downwardly in advance of the pivot point of the catch, is one end of a foot lever D, its other end extending downwardly passing through a guide formed on the end frame piece, where it is turned forward to form a treadle d. This lever D is inclined rearwardly to accommodate a direct pull on the nose c, so that when the treadle d is depressed, the nose c is lowered allowing the projection B' to swing forward, and permit the table to as-



sume its tilted position. It is obvious that instead of a gravity catch as herein shown and described, a spring catch could as advantageously be used.

3 Centrally pivoted by the pivot bolt *e* on the table B, is a swinging table E, which is preferably of a length sufficient to accommodate different sizes of caskets. This table E has formed on its under side two latch plates *e'*,  
10 which are arranged so as to co-operate with a latch F mounted in the tilting table B. This latch may be of any ordinary or approved construction being preferably spring controlled and provided with a handle *f*, with which it  
15 may be operated.

Loosely mounted in the swinging table near its ends, are attachment screws G, preferably of the form shown, they consisting of a threaded upper end *g* which is adapted to enter the bottom of the casket being operated  
20 by a handle *g'*, and having arranged thereon a radial projection *g''* which is located above a keeper plate H, which keeper plate is formed with an open ended slot *h* to permit  
25 ready insertion of the screw G therein, the screw having sufficient room to play between its operating handle and keeper plate as to permit the entrance of the screw end a depth sufficient to hold the casket in position.

30 I am aware that minor changes in the construction and arrangements of the parts of

my device can be made and substituted for those herein shown and described without in the least departing from the nature and principle of my invention.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim is— 35

1. The combination with a casket table, of keeper plates formed with open ended slots, a screw passing through and loosely mounted  
40 in said slots, said screw being provided with a collar, and an operating handle, substantially as and for the purposes described.

2. In a casket trimming table, the combination with the stand A formed with a ledge *a*,  
45 of the tilting table B pivoted thereto and formed with an extension B', a gravitating latch with which said extension engages when the table is in its vertical position, a swinging table pivoted in the center of the tilting  
50 table, suitable latches for retaining the swinging table in a longitudinally disposed position on the tilting table, and means for securing the casket to the swinging table, substantially as described. 55

In testimony whereof I hereunto affix my signature, in presence of two witnesses, this 4th day of May, 1893.

THOMAS B. HENNESSY.

Witnesses:

F. R. CORNWALL,  
A. RAMEL.