

No. 641,042.

Patented Jan. 9, 1900.

B. M. SCHAUMAN.
SELF LEVELING TABLE.

(Application filed Mar. 17, 1899.)

2 Sheets—Sheet 1.

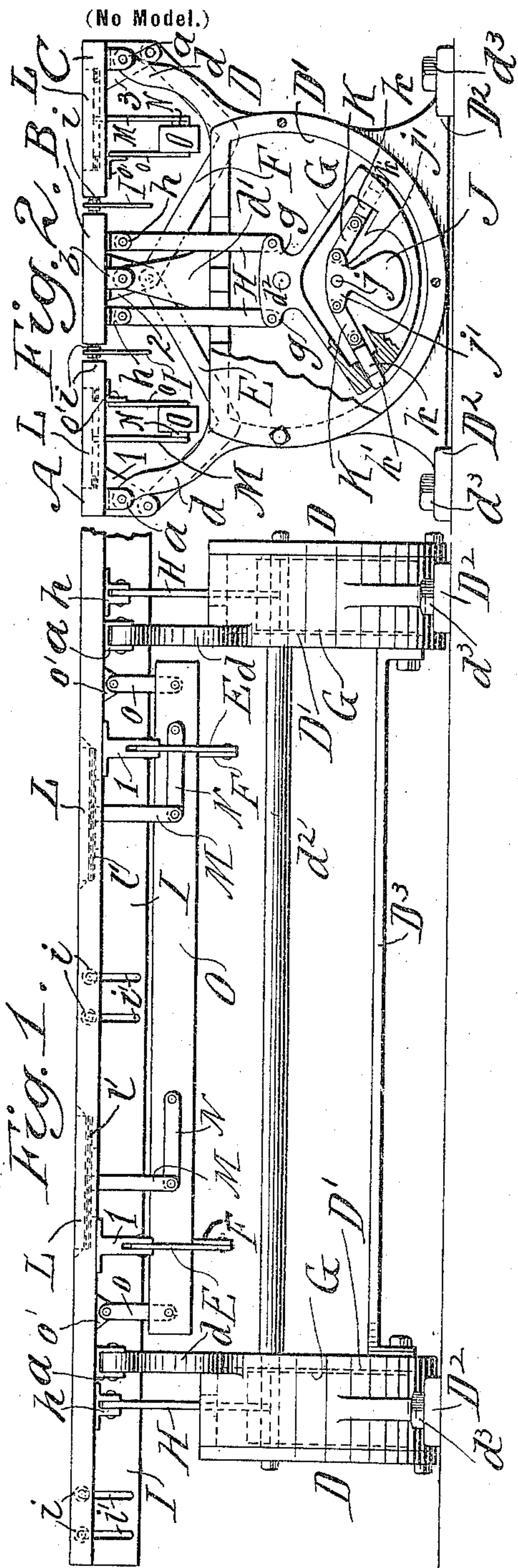
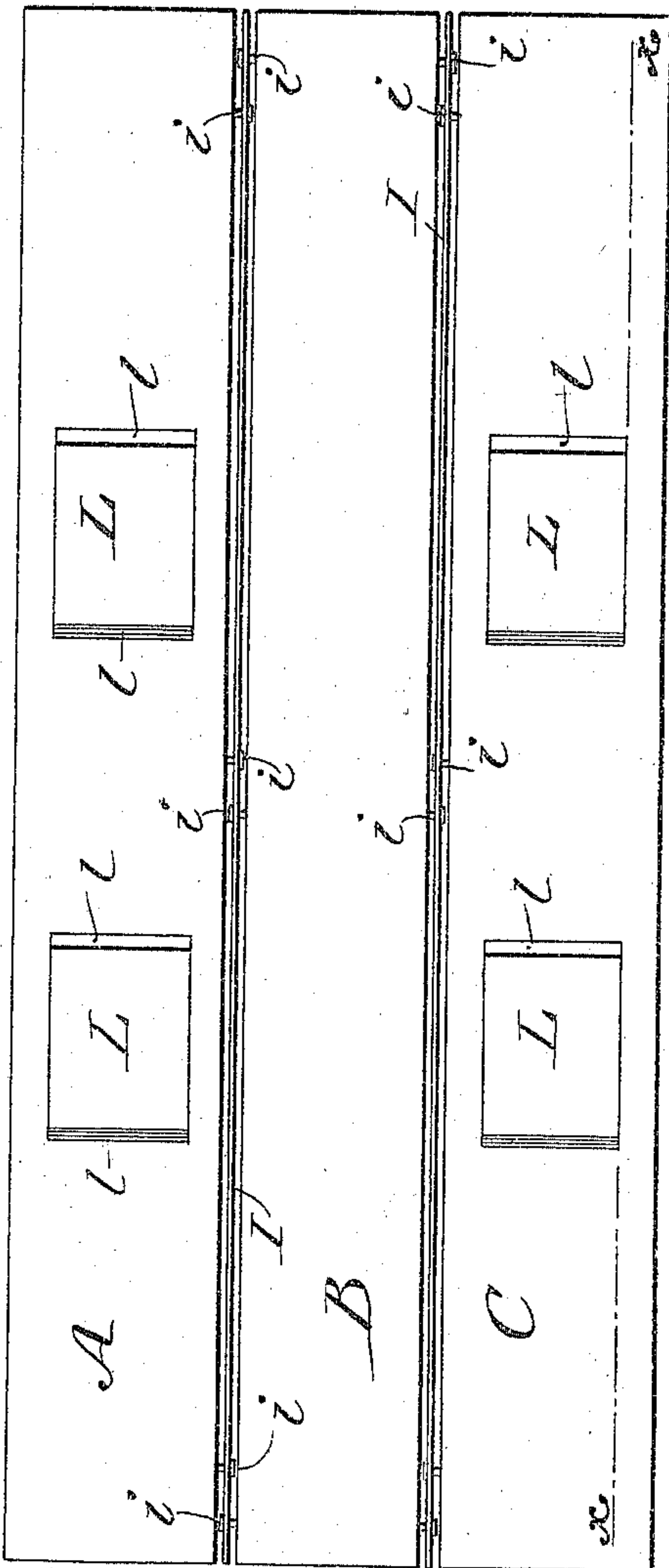


Fig. 3.



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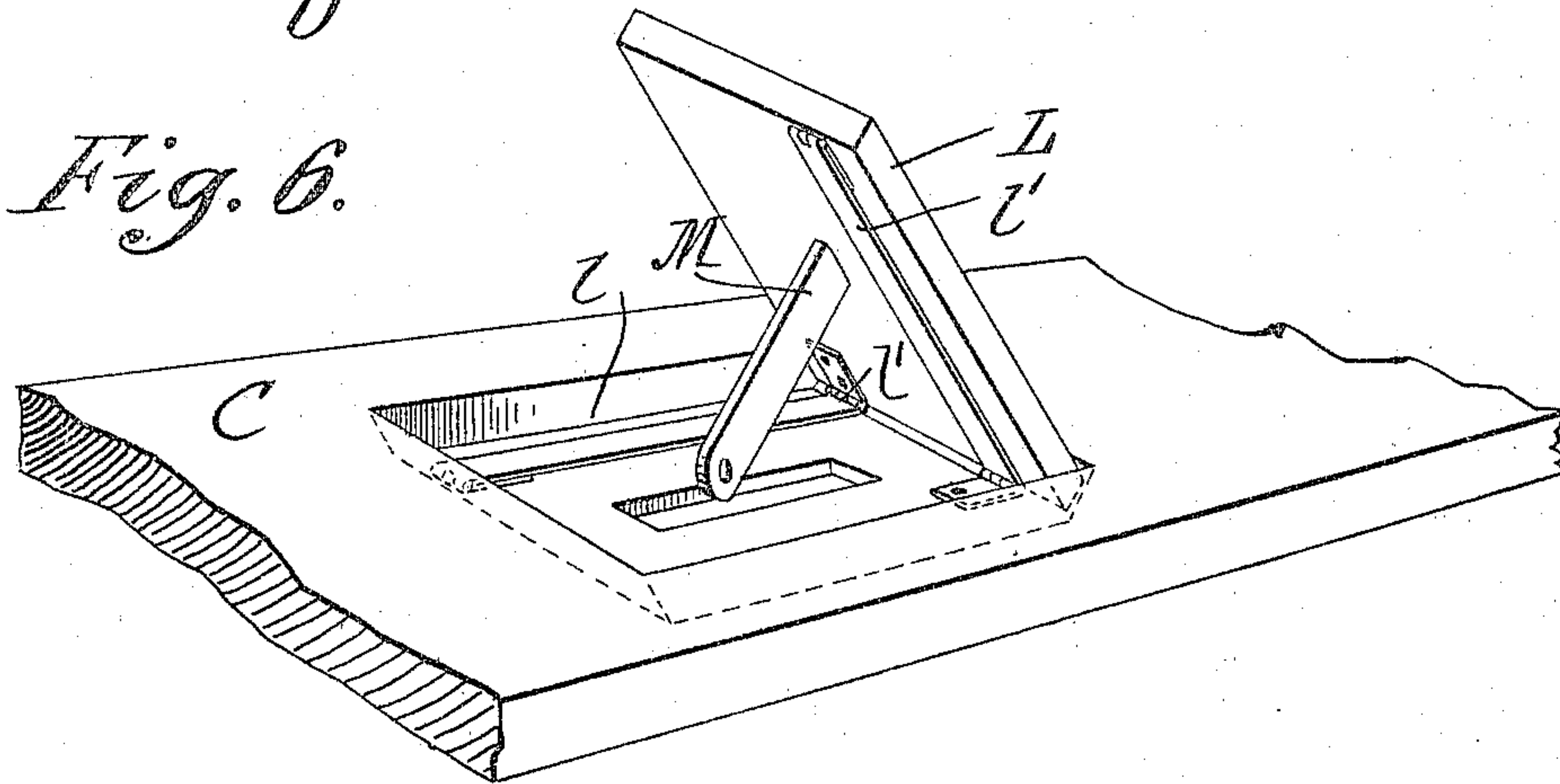
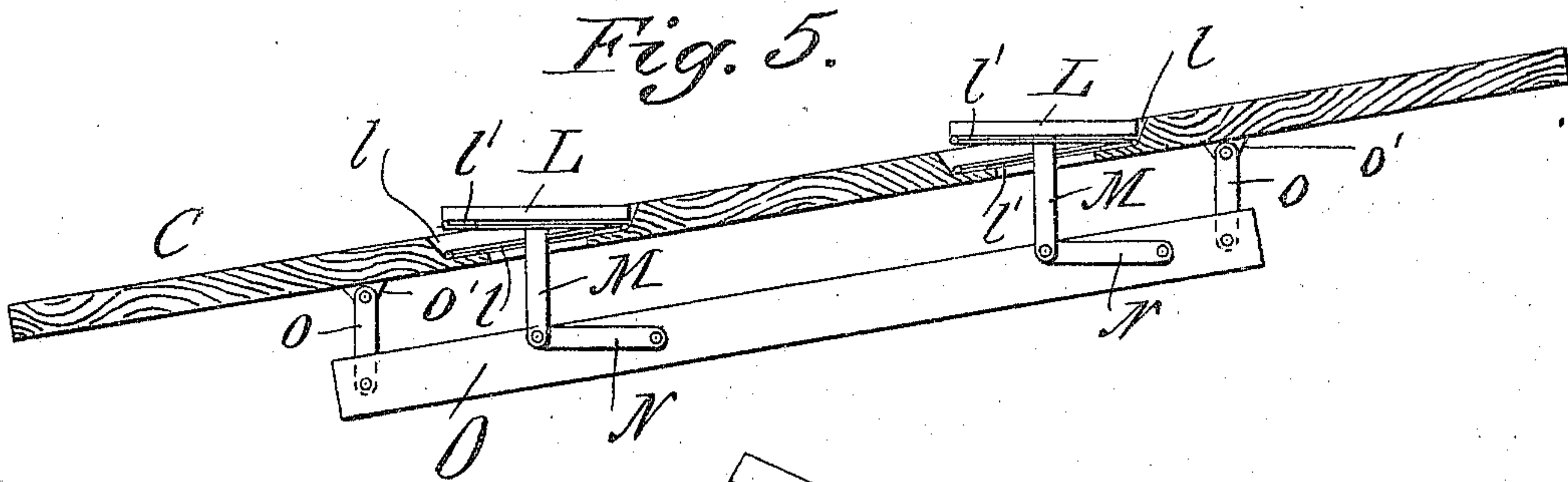
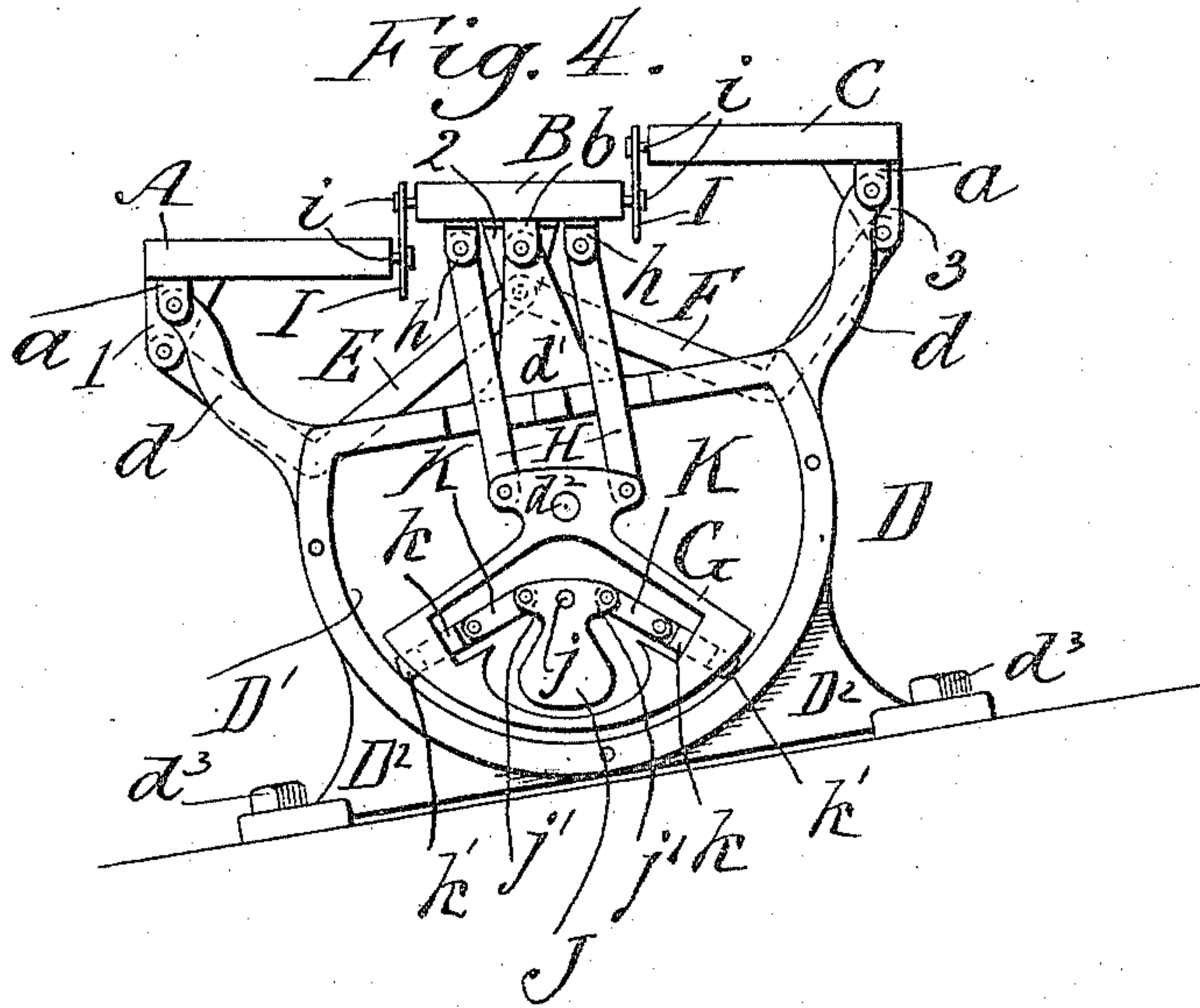
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2 Sheets—Sheet 2.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

BROR MAX SCHAUMAN, OF NEW YORK, N. Y., ASSIGNOR TO HIMSELF AND THE WHITE MANUFACTURING COMPANY, OF SAME PLACE.

SELF-LEVELING TABLE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 641,042, dated January 9, 1900.

Application filed March 17, 1899. Serial No. 709,393. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, BROR MAX SCHAUMAN, a subject of the King of Sweden and Norway, and a resident of New York city, county of New York, and State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Dining-Tables, of which the following is a specification, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, forming a part thereof, in which similar letters and numerals of reference indicate corresponding parts.

This invention relates to improvements in dining-tables for ships or similar floating vessels; and the object thereof is to supply an article of this class which is so constructed that its surface is constantly maintained in a horizontal position, so that dishes may be kept thereon without danger of being spilled or displaced by the pitching or rolling motion of the vessel containing the table.

The invention will be hereinafter fully described, and specifically set forth in the annexed claims.

In the accompanying drawings, forming part of this specification, Figure 1 is a side elevation of my improved table, showing the same at rest in a horizontal position. Fig. 2 is an end elevation thereof. Fig. 3 is a plan view. Fig. 4 is an end elevation showing the table tilted transversely. Fig. 5 is a detail longitudinal sectional elevation taken on the line *x x* of Fig. 3 and showing the table tilted longitudinally, and Fig. 6 is a perspective view illustrating a portion of the table-top in detail.

In the practice of my invention I employ, primarily, three longitudinal leaves A, B, and C, arranged parallel with each other and supported by uprights D, the leaves A and C being pivotally attached to arms *d* of the uprights D by means of lugs *a*, secured to the respective lower surfaces of the said leaves A and C at their outer edges. The center leaf B is pivotally attached to arms *d'* of the uprights D by means of lugs *b*, secured centrally to the under surface of said leaf. All of the said leaves are connected to each other by means of transversely-extended rods E and F, which are pivotally secured to depending hangers 1, 2, and 3, secured, respectively, to the under surfaces of the said leaves, the

hangers 1 and 3 being extended downwardly from the under surfaces of the outer edges of the leaves A and C and the hanger 2 being extended centrally from the under surface of the leaf B. This arrangement of rods maintains the leaves in relative parallel arrangement with each other when the table is tilted transversely by the rolling action of the ship. Each upright D forms a box D', which is normally closed by means of a removable plate.

Journaled within each box D' of the uprights D by means of a shaft or pinion *d²* is a segmental weight G, which has longitudinal extensions or arms *g* projected from the upper end thereof. These said arms engage parallel rods H, which are pivotally secured to lugs *h*, projected from the under surface of the leaf B at each side thereof. This weight maintains the center leaf B in a normal horizontal position, and by means of the transverse rods E and F the side leaves A and C are also maintained normally in horizontal position. Within the spaces between the leaf-sections I suspend thin metallic plates I, and they are connected to the said leaves by means of screws *i*, which engage slots *i'*. These plates form upwardly-extended horizontal flanges for the inner edges of the respective leaves when the table is tilted transversely. Within a recess *g'* of each weight G an auxiliary swinging balance-weight J is arranged. This said balance-weight swings upon a pivot *j*, extended from the inner wall of the said recess, and it has arms *j'* projected from each side of the upper end thereof. These arms engage rods K, and they are pivotally attached to bolts *k*, which extend through the weight G and bear upon the inner segmental surface of the box D'. The said swinging balance-weight J acts as a means for governing the weight G to prevent undue oscillation thereof, and the ends of the bolts *k* are preferably supplied with rubber shoes *k'* upon their outer ends for frictional contact with the inner surface of the segmental wall of the box D'. In constructing this table any suitable number of uprights D may be employed, depending upon the length of the leaves A, B, and C; but in the drawings I have simply illustrated two—one at each end of the table. These uprights are respectively supplied with support-

ing legs or projections D^2 , which are secured to the floor of the ship's cabin by means of screws or bolts d^3 . I may also use any suitable number of transverse connecting-rods E and F, depending upon the length of the table, and it is obvious that each upright employed is provided with a weight and connecting-rods for attachment to the center leaf. The side leaves are preferably supplied with a suitable number of rectangular plates L, located within countersunk recesses l and secured by means of double-acting hinges l' . Each of these said plates has an arm M projected at right angles and centrally from its bottom surface. This arm is pivotally attached to a longitudinally-extended rod N, which is pivoted to a swinging weight O, the said weight being dependent from the under surface of a side leaf of the table by means of swinging hangers o , which are pivotally attached to lugs o' , secured to the under surface of the said side leaf. This arrangement causes the plates L to be maintained in horizontal position when the table is tilted longitudinally by the pitching action of the vessel, as illustrated by Fig. 5 of the drawings. The supports or uprights D are preferably composed of metal, and they are connected to each other by means of longitudinal rods or braces D^3 ; but I do not confine myself to any specific material nor to the details of mechanical construction, as it is obvious that under the scope of my invention I am entitled to structural variations.

In use the table is placed parallel with the ship's keel, and it is obvious that the upper surfaces of the table-leaves will be maintained in relative parallel horizontal arrangement with each other while the ship is rolling by the gravity of the swinging weights, which are normally maintained in an upright position.

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

1. A tilting table for ships, comprising side leaves and a center leaf arranged in parallel position, all of said leaves being collectively pivoted on uprights and attached to each other by means of transverse rods pivotally connected to said center and side leaves, and swinging weights pivoted to uprights and connected to the center leaf by means of the parallel rods extending upwardly from the respective sides of the pivot or fulcrum of said weight to a pivotal connection with the center leaf, the said weights adapted to maintain the leaves in relative horizontal position when the

table is tilted by the rolling action of the ship, substantially as shown and described.

2. A tilting table, comprising three longitudinal leaves arranged parallel with each other and respectively supported upon arms extending from uprights, the said arms being pivoted to downwardly-projected lugs of the said leaves, and transverse rods connecting the said leaves to each other for maintaining them in relative parallel arrangement, and weights pivoted to the said uprights and connected to the center leaf by means of parallel rods, the said weights adapted for maintaining the leaves in horizontal position when the table is tilted transversely, substantially as shown and described.

3. As a tilting table, the combination of three parallel longitudinal leaves connected to each other by means of transverse rods and supported by means of uprights, and swinging weights secured to uprights and connected to the center leaf by means of parallel rods, and auxiliary weights which are pivotally attached within recesses of the said swinging weights and connected with bolts projecting through the said swinging weights for the purpose of governing the motion thereof, substantially as shown and described.

4. In a swinging table, the combination of uprights comprising respectively a segmental box and upwardly-extended arms, and parallel leaves pivotally connected to and supported by said arms, and swinging weights within each of said boxes and connected to the central one of said leaves by means of parallel rods, and auxiliary swinging weights pivoted within recesses of each of the said main weights, and bolts bearing upon the inner walls of the said segmental boxes and connected to arms of the auxiliary weights, for the purpose of governing the main weights, and depending longitudinal plates between the said leaves, and double-acting hinged plates within recesses of the side leaves and means for operating the hinged plates comprising a swinging weight and lever attachments, to maintain them in horizontal position when the table is tilted longitudinally by the pitching action of a ship, substantially as shown and described.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing as my invention I have signed my name, in presence of two witnesses, this 25th day of February, 1899.

BROR MAX SCHAUMAN.

Witnesses:

M. G. MACLEAN,
V. E. DOREMUH.