No. 643,033. Patented Feb. 6, 1900.

G. BACON.

IRONING BOARD.

(Application filed Mar. 18, 1899.)

(No Model.)

Fig. 1.

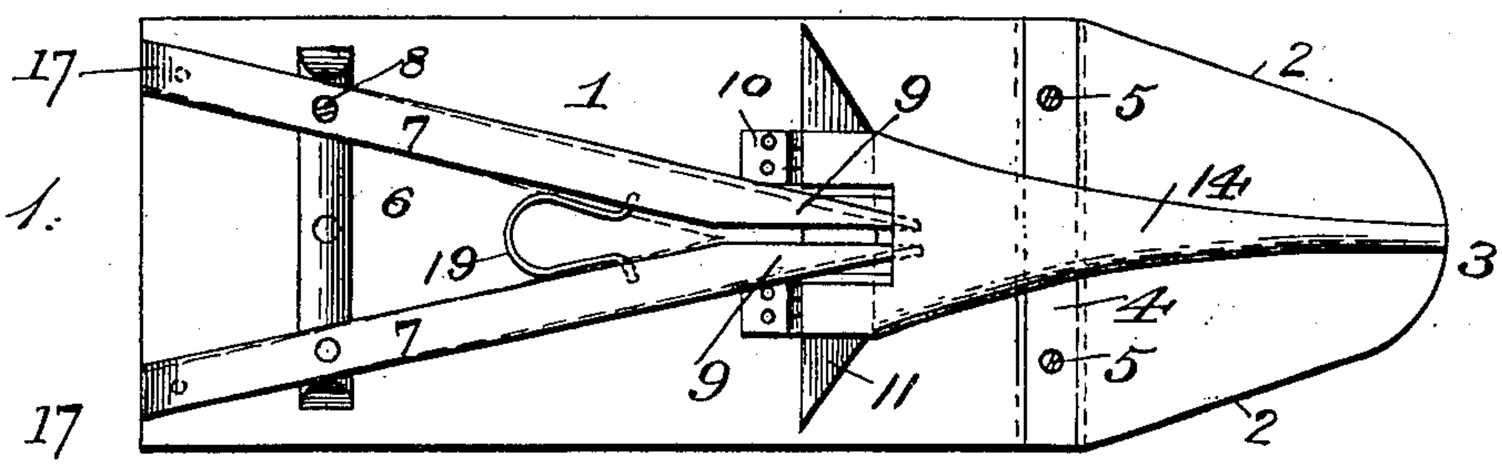

Fig. 2.

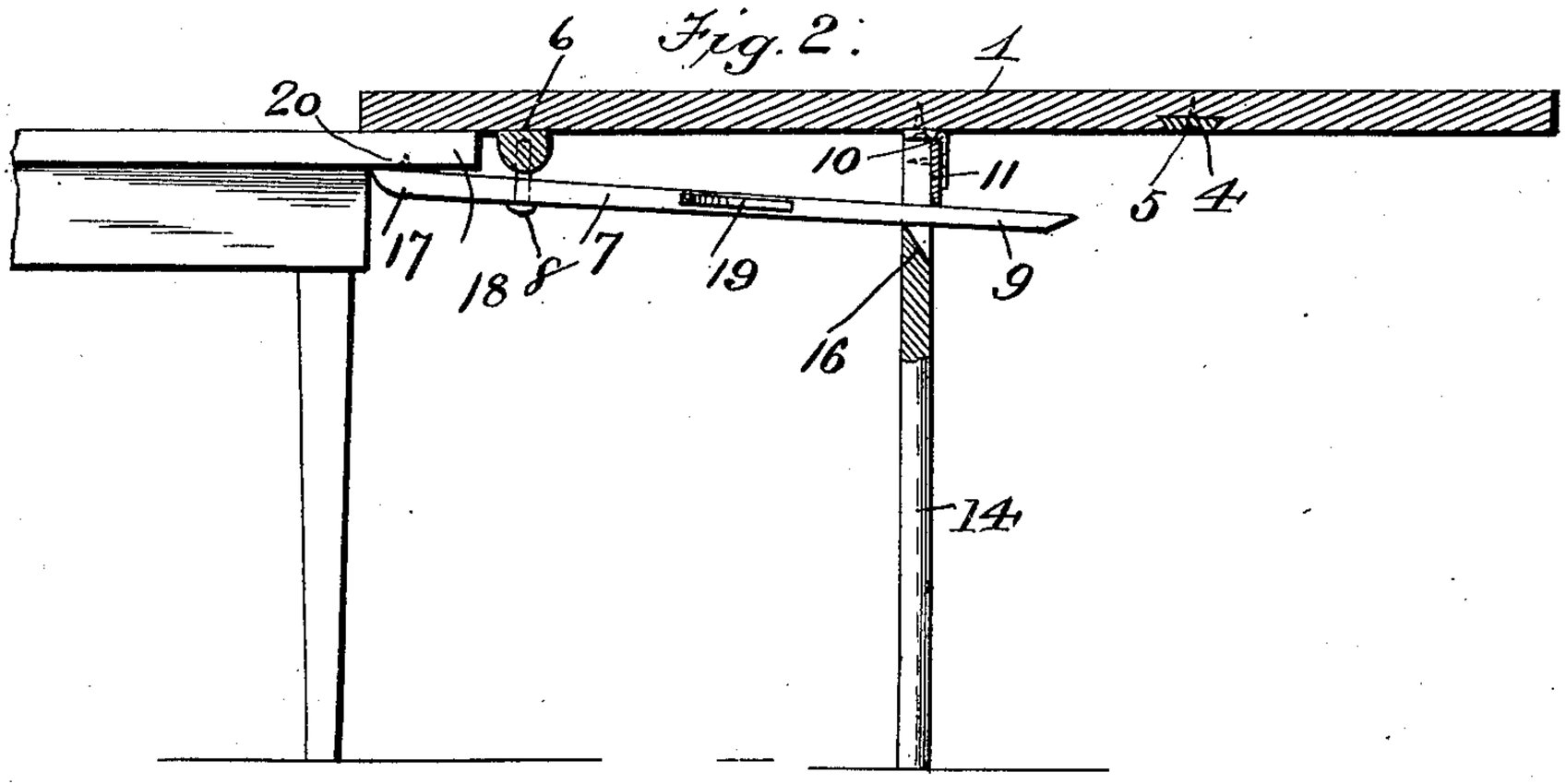

Fig. 3.

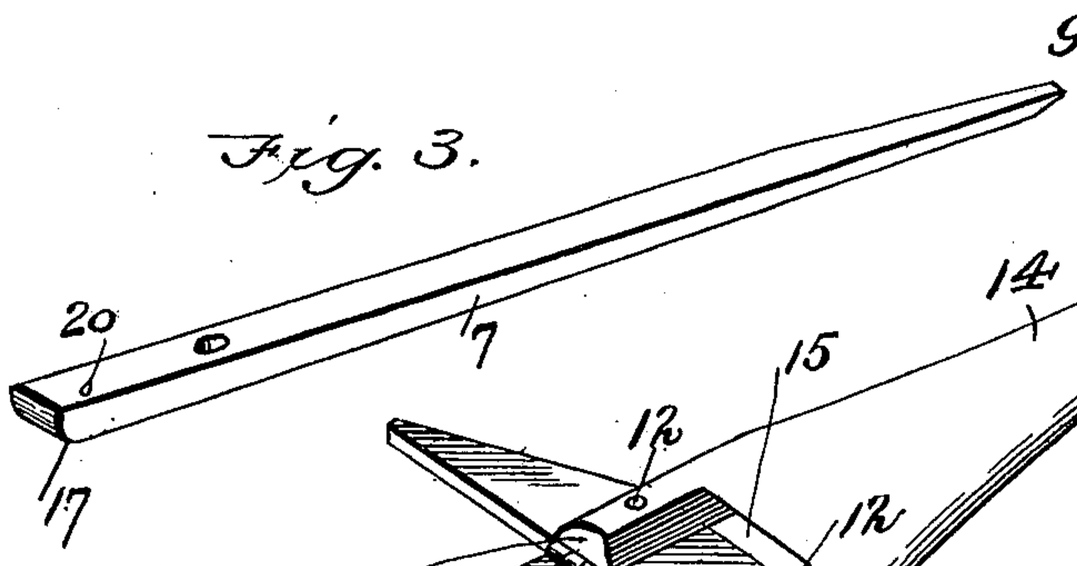

Fig. 4.

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GILBERT BACON, OF ANTIGO, WISCONSIN.

IRONING-BOARD.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 643,033, dated February 6, 1900.

Application filed March 18, 1899. Serial No. 709,641. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, GILBERT BACON, a citizen of the United States, residing at Antigo, in the county of Langlade and State of Wisconsin, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Ironing-Boards; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same.

My invention relates to certain new and useful improvements in a folding ironing-board, the object being to provide a convenient form of ironing-board which may be very cheaply constructed and yet which will prove reliably efficient in the performance of its office and may be folded out of the way when not in use.

With the foregoing object in view attention is called to the following specification, in which several details of my invention and their coöperating accessories are designated by numerals.

In the accompanying drawings, made a part of this application, Figure 1 is a bottom plan view showing my invention complete in a folded condition. Fig. 2 is a longitudinal section of my improved ironing-board on the median line thereof and showing the position of the parts in their operative positions. Figs. 3 and 4 are perspective details of certain parts of my invention separated from the board proper.

In materializing my invention I provide the ironing-board proper or body-section 1, which may be of suitable length and width, according to the uses to which it is applied, and is preferably provided with the tapered section 2 and the rounded end 3, and in order to insure the board against warping or buckling I prefer to form upon the under side thereof a suitable recess, preferably dovetail in form, in which I dispose the transverse section 4, which may be additionally secured in position, as by the screws 5. The opposite end of the board is also reinforced by the cleat 6, which also serves the additional purpose of providing the fulcrum-point for the clamping-levers 7, each being pivotally secured in position upon the rib 6 by means of the screws or bolts 8, it being clear that the convex outer surface of the rib 6 will tend to permit a free movement of the clamps 7. I prefer to dispose said clamps substantially in the manner illustrated in Fig. 1, their inwardly-inclined ends 9 being beveled upon the inner side, so that the extreme ends of the clamps will present an acute angle, though said ends are not fastened together.

It will be observed that the inner ends of the clamps have an upward bevel, as they will thereby more readily enter the slot 15 in the supporting-legs 14, and the bottom of the slot 15 is beveled inwardly, thereby forming a practically wider slot for the entrance of the ends of the clamping members when the leg is folded or is in an inclined position. The beveled ends of the levers will also when folded engage the beveled lower edge of the slot 15 to hold the levers in their folded position. The plate 11 extends down very nearly to the upper edge of the bevel in the supporting-leg, so that when the leg is moved into a supporting position it will bear down upon the members 7 and lock the table in position.

Between the cleats 4 and 6 I hinge to the under side of the body-section 1, as by the hinges 10, the controlling-plate or depressing-head 11, to which is secured, as by the screws 12, the bifurcated end 13 of the supporting-leg 14, said bifurcation being of sufficient extent to provide the opening 15, the greater part of it being above the edge of the depressing-head 11, through which the inner ends of the clamps 7 are adapted to extend, the outer edge of the opening being extended, as by the bevel indicated by the numeral 16, in order that the leg may be folded parallel with the body or ironing-board proper when not in use.

By pivoting the clamps 7 to the rib-section 6 it will be observed that the free outer ends 17 thereof are held out of contact with the ironing-board proper in order to permit the projecting edge 18 of an ordinary table to be received between said board and clamps, and it is clear that as the leg is folded downward in its operative position the lower edge of the head 11 will act upon the pointed ends of the clamps 7 and draw the same downward away from the ironing-board and incidentally forcing the opposite ends 17 thereof toward the ironing-board, and since the edge of the table is interposed between said parts a clamping action will be set up, thereby securing the ironing-board in an adjusted position as the leg is folded down into engagement with the floor.

By means of the clamping action set up between the clamping members 7 and the ironing-board all lateral movement of the board is prevented, and it is therefore unnecessary to provide more than one supporting-leg.

In order that the inner ends of the clamping members 7 may be held normally separated in order to extend the full width of the slot 15, I provide the spring 19, as shown in Figs. 1 and 2, and in order to insure that the free ends 17 of the clamps shall reliably grasp the under side of the table without mutilating the same to any appreciable extent I provide the outwardly-inclined points 20, one for each of said ends, and it is clear that inasmuch as the inner ends of the clamps are normally held outward by the spring 19 the tension of said spring will be overcome when the leg is moved downward to its operative position, inasmuch as the outer edges of said clamps will be engaged by the ends of the opening 15 and the inner ends of said clamps will be brought into close contact with each other, and at the same time imparting to the free ends 17 a slight outward movement sufficient to insert the outwardly-inclined points 20 into the table without mutilating the same to its positive injury, thus insuring that the grasp of the clamps upon the table will be more secure than if said points had not been provided. The points 20, acting on the under side of said table, will not be in sight, and whatever slight indentations may be made the same will not be observed, as they will be on the under side of the table. The points are not large, and it is not necessary that they should enter far into the material of the table.

While I have described the preferred construction of the several parts, it will be understood that the substantial equivalent thereof is comprehended by me, and I do not, therefore, wish to be confined strictly to the exact showing I have made.

It will be seen that I have provided a very convenient ironing-board, which may be quickly adjusted in its operative position, so that it will coöperate with any ordinary table.

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

1. In ironing-boards, the combination of the table proper, having a supporting-leg hinged to its under side provided with a depressor, said leg having a beveled slotted opening near its upper end, a pair of clamping members hinged to the under side of said table and having their inner ends beveled and adapted to pass through said beveled opening underneath the depressor, all arranged as set forth.

2. In ironing-boards, the combination of a board proper having a bifurcated supporting-leg pivoted thereto on its under side, separable clamping members pivoted to said under side having their separable ends extending through said bifurcation and a spring located between the clamping members whereby the separable ends will snugly contact against the sides of said bifurcation, as set forth.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature in presence of two witnesses.

GILBERT BACON.

Witnesses:
A. D. RICE,
H. A. FRIEDEMAN.