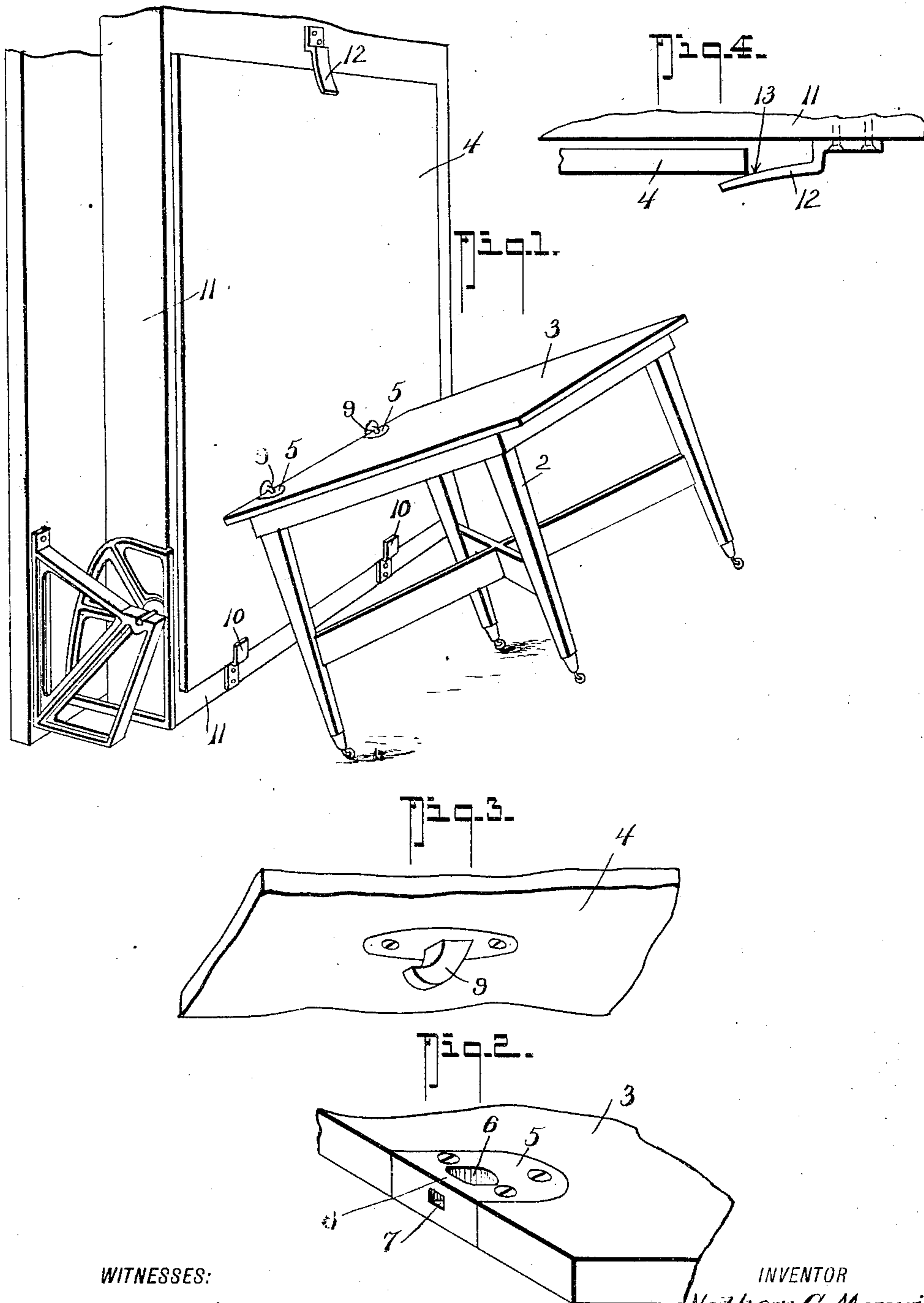


No. 886,623.

PATENTED MAY 5, 1908.

N. C. MERRILL.  
REMOVABLE TABLE TOP.  
APPLICATION FILED SEPT. 18, 1907.



WITNESSES:

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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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## REMOVABLE TABLE-TOP.

No. 886,623.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented May 5, 1908.

Application filed September 18, 1907. Serial No. 393,517.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, NATHAN C. MERRILL, citizen of the United States of America, residing at Vancouver, in the Province of British Columbia, Canada, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Removable Table-Tops, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to a means for removably securing a supplementary top to a table and for attaching the removed top to a wall or to other vertical frames or surfaces, such as the under side of an uptilted bed.

It is particularly designed for use in apartment houses where space requires to be closely economized and where one room may be called upon to serve the combined purpose of a parlor or living-room and a bedroom.

In a small room a table large enough for dining would be obviously in the way when the room is to be used as a sitting-room or parlor and the difficulty is commonly experienced of disposing in such a room of a table top of any size, where it will not be unsightly or inconvenient. To accomplish this purpose in a satisfactory manner I attach the larger table top to the smaller one by a hinge joint of particular form that will permit the larger top to be turned vertically upward, in which position it may be moved against and deposited in hook supports on the bottom of my upfolding bed, on which an application for Letters Patent was filed on the third day of October, 1906, under Serial No. 337197 which bed being mounted on a rotatable panel can be turned within the bed recess while some article of parlor furniture secured to the opposite side of the panel is exposed to the room.

The invention is particularly described in the following specification reference being made to the drawings by which it is accompanied, in which:

Figure 1 is a perspective view showing the table in the position of depositing the removable top in supports secured to the bottom of an uptilted bed, or as in the act of removing the table top therefrom. Fig. 2, a perspective view of that portion of the hinge joint which is attached to the smaller or permanent top of the table, Fig. 3, a similar view of the other portion of the hinge which is secured to the under side of the removable top, and Fig. 4, a detail of the cleat which supports and carries the upper end of the removable

top showing it in the horizontal position as when the bed to the bottom of which it is supported is in the horizontal or downward position.

In these drawings, 2 represents the frame of the table, 3 being the smaller and permanent top thereof, and 4 the removable upper top.

Secured to one edge of the permanent top 3 are hinge plates 5 each having a socket aperture passing from the upper surface, as at 6, toward the outer edge of the top as at 7: thus leaving a portion 8 corresponding to a hinge pin along the upper outer edge of the top. This aperture is tapered from its entering end at 6 to its lower end at 7 to afford facility for the entrance of a corresponding hook member 9 secured to and projecting from the under side of the removable top 4.

The hook members 9, when the removable top 4 is in place as a table, will hold the top secure against lateral movement and will provide hinges on which it may be turned to the vertical or upright position, in which position the hook members 9 may be lifted out of the sockets 6, 7 or, if the top 4 is supported the sockets 6, 7, may be lowered from engagement with the hook members 9.

On the bottom of the tiltable bed 11 such as is described in my patent application before referred to are two hook supports 10 secured at a height from the floor line slightly less than that of the lower end of the removable top 4, when it is in the upended or vertical position, so that when the table, with the removable top in the upended position, is run on its casters against the bottom of the uptilted bed, the lower edge of 4 will clear the tips of the hooks 10 and by canting the table upward, somewhat as shown in Fig. 1, the top 4 will be deposited in the hook supports 10 and the hinge sockets 6 be disengaged from the hook members 9.

The upper end of the top 4 is retained in place by a cleat 12 secured to the bottom of the tiltable bed, and downwardly projecting toward the hook supports 10, the lower end of the cleat 12 being such a height from the floor level that the table will require to be canting as shown in Fig. 1 to enable the upper edge of the top 4 to be passed up behind the cleat 12 a sufficient distance to enable the lower edge of the top to clear the tips of the supporting hooks 10. The face 13 of the cleat against which the table top rests is curved or tapered outward somewhat as

shown in Fig. 4, which conformation is designed to prevent the accidental disengagement of the table top from the hooks 10 when the bed frame 11 is lowered, as the end of 4 which is carried by the cleat 12 will rest on the curvature 13 toward its outer end, and will require to move up the incline 13 before it can disengage from 10.

In the operation of removing the removable top from its supports on the bottom of an uptilted bed applying the same to the table 2, the table 2 is canted somewhat as shown in Fig. 1 and the hook members 9 are inserted in the apertures 6 of the hinge plates. The outer legs of the table 2 are then brought to their normal position on the floor which movement elevates the hinge edge of 3 a sufficient amount to lift the removable top 4 clear of the tips of the hook supports 10. The table is then drawn back slightly from the bed and again canted which will lower the upper edge of the removable top 4 and free it from engagement with the cleat 12, after which the table may be run on its casters to the desired position and the top 4 lowered on its hinges to the horizontal position on the top 3. Conversely when it is desired to transfer the top 4 from the table 3 to the bottom of an uptilted bed, 4 is turned on its hinges to the upended position and the table is run on its casters against the bottom of the uptilted bed; the table 3 is then canted upward in the manner shown in Fig. 1, to bring the upper edge of 4 under the cleat 12. It is then brought to the normal position and pushed in to bring the lower edge over the hook supports 10 and again canted to deposit it in the hooks, and to disengage the hinge sockets 6 from the hinge hook members 9.

Although lengthy to describe, the operations of applying and removing the supplementary top 4 are exceedingly simple to perform, and the facility with which the top 4 may be removed from off the table 3 when desired and transferred within the bed recess where it is entirely out of sight, is exceedingly convenient and particularly so for use in the rooms of apartment houses, for which it has been designed.

Having now particularly described my invention and the manner of its use I hereby declare that what I claim as new and desire to be protected in by Letters Patent, is:

1. The combination with a table having a top and a supplemental top removably hinged thereto, of a support, upwardly directed supporting hooks secured to said support at a position below the table, a downwardly directed hook secured to said support in a position above the table, socket members secured to the top of said table, hooks secured to said supplemental table top, all being arranged substantially as shown and described whereby when the supplemental top is supported in said support hooks and the table tilted up, the table top hooks may be brought into engagement with the table top sockets to cause the table to act as a lever in removing the supplemental top from the support hooks.

2. The combination with a table having a fixed top and a supplemental removable top, of a vertical support, supporting hooks secured to said vertical support in a position adjacent the floor and below the plane of the top of the table, another supporting hook secured to the support above the first mentioned supporting hooks and in a position above the top of the table, said supporting hooks adapted to support the removable table top in a vertical position; said removable table top having table engaging hooks arranged in a position below the top of the table, said table having sockets to cooperate with said last named hooks, all being arranged so that as the table is tilted with its top at an angle to the horizontal, the table engaging hooks may be entered into the table sockets and the supplemental table top pried up and out of the supporting hooks and swung down parallel with the top of the table substantially as shown and described.

In testimony whereof I have signed my name to this specification in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

NATHAN C. MERRILL.

Witnesses:

ROWLAND BRITAIN,  
CLIVE S. CARMAN.