No. 896,907. PATENTED AUG. 25, 1908.

H. L. HASKELL.

FOLDING TABLE.

APPLICATION FILED DEC. 30, 1907.

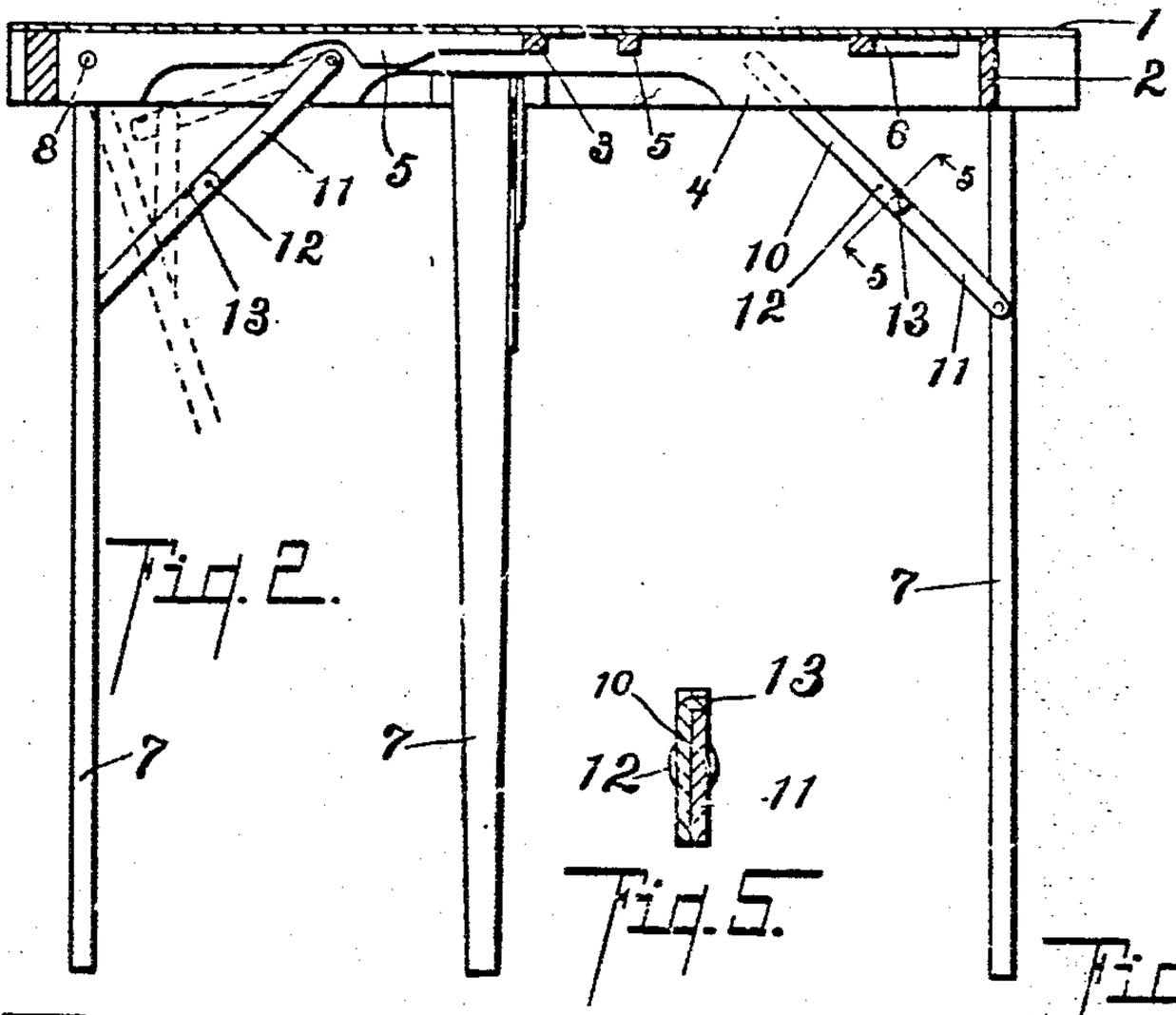



Fig. 2.




Fig. 5.

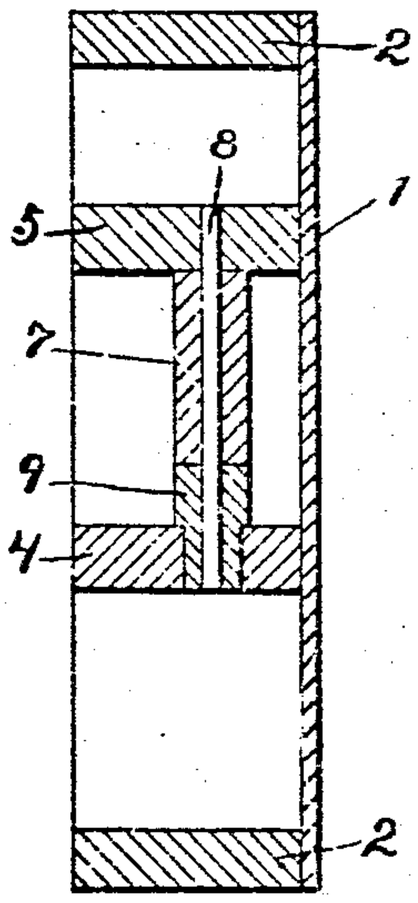



Fig. 4.

Fig. 1.

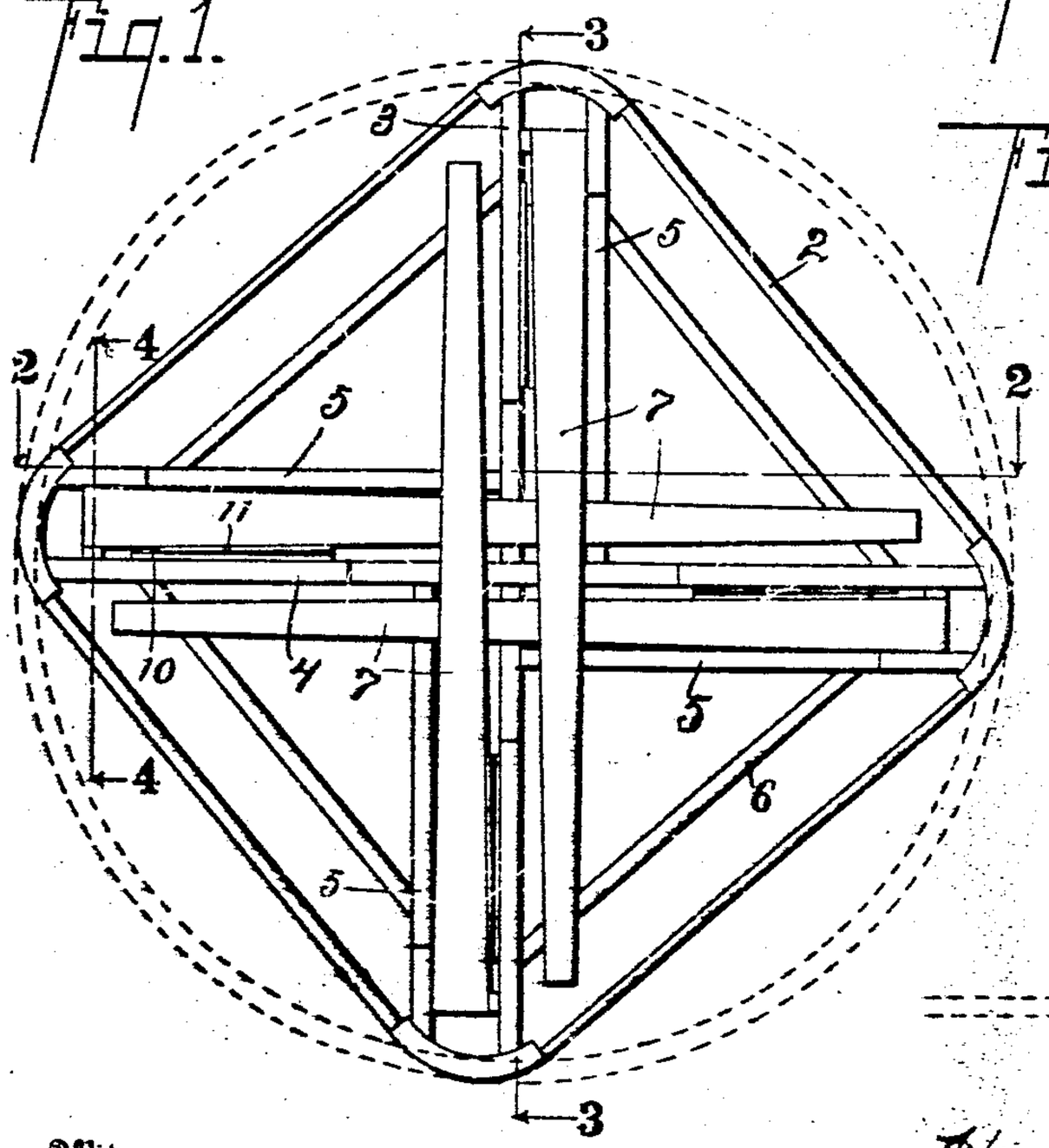
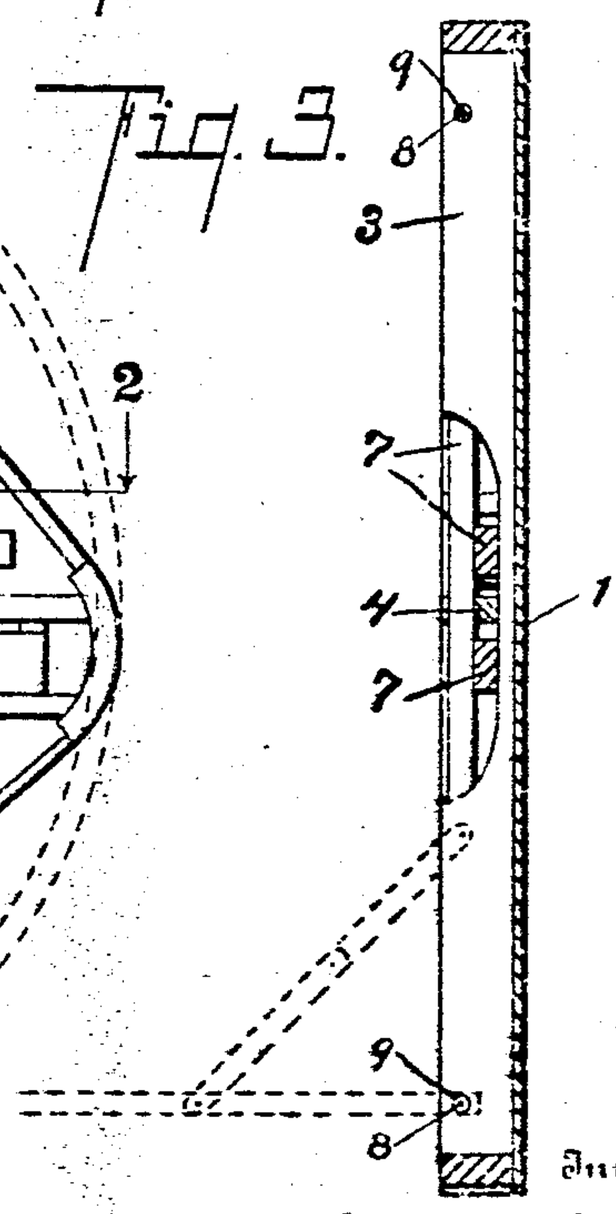



Fig. 3.




Witnesses

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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

HENRY L. HASKELL, OF LUDINGTON, MICHIGAN.

## FOLDING TABLE.

No. 896,807. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Aug. 25, 1908.

Application filed December 30, 1907. Serial No. 408,680.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, HENRY L. HASKELL, a citizen of the United States, residing at the city of Ludington, county of Mason, State of Michigan, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Folding Tables, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to improvements in folding tables.

The main objects of this invention are:—First, to provide an improved folding table which is very light in weight, and, at the same time, one which possesses great strength and is very rigid when erected. Second, to provide an improved folding table which is very rigid, and, at the same time, has a very thin top, such as a wood veneer, or the like. Third, to provide an improved folding table embodying these advantages which is very economical to produce.

Further objects, and objects relating to structural details, will definitely appear from the detailed description to follow.

I accomplish the objects of my invention by the devices and means described in the following specification.

The invention is clearly defined and pointed out in the claims.

A structure embodying the features of my invention is clearly illustrated in the accompanying drawing, forming a part of this specification, in which,—

Figure 1 is an inverted view of my improved table in its folded or collapsed position, the table illustrated being a square top table, a round top being indicated by dotted lines. Fig. 2 is a detail cross section, taken on a line corresponding to line 2—2 of Fig. 1 the table being in extended or upright position. Fig. 3 is a cross section, taken on a line corresponding to line 3—3 of Fig. 1, one of the legs being indicated in its extended position by dotted lines. Fig. 4 is an enlarged detail, taken on a line corresponding to line 4—4 of Fig. 1, showing the supporting pivot for one of the legs. Fig. 5 is an enlarged detail, taken on a line corresponding to line 5—5 of Fig. 2, showing details of the leg braces.

In the drawing, the sectional views are taken looking in the direction of the little arrows at the ends of the section lines, and similar reference numerals refer to similar parts throughout the several views.

Referring to the drawing, the top 1 of the table is preferably in the form of a thin panel, and when the parts are arranged as I have illustrated and described, may be satisfactorily formed of a comparatively thin material and the table still possess great strength. The top 1 is supported by a frame or bed, comprising a rim 2 made continuous, which, when adapted to a round table, is preferably arranged at the edge, as is indicated by dotted lines in Fig. 1, and as illustrated in my application for Letters Patent filed May 20, 1906, Serial No. 331,325.

The cross-pieces 3 and 4 are arranged across each other, the cross-piece 4 being mortised to receive the crosspiece 3, so that their upper edges lie in the same plane as the upper edge of the rim and contact with the table top, supporting the same throughout. The ends of the cross-pieces 3 and 4 are secured to the rim, the cross-pieces 3 and 4 being preferably secured to each other at the point of crossing.

As the connections for the parts, such as dowels, nails, or brads and glue, will be readily understood, I have not illustrated the same in the drawing.

Each cross-piece is provided with a pair of auxiliary members 5, one member being arranged on each side of the cross-pieces, as clearly appears from Fig. 1. These auxiliary members are arranged in a spaced relation to the cross-pieces, and are secured at their ends to the rim and to the other cross-piece. The cross-pieces and the auxiliary members are further connected by brace-pieces 6, which connect the auxiliary members of one cross-piece to the other cross piece. These auxiliary members and the braces are arranged in contact with the table top to further strengthen and support the same.

The legs 7 are arranged in pairs to fold oppositely, and are pivotally connected to the cross-pieces and their auxiliary members by means of the pivots 8. When folded, the legs are adapted to lie alongside of the cross-pieces, one pair folding over the cross-piece 3 alongside of the cross-piece 4, and the other folding over these legs and the cross-piece 4 alongside of the cross-piece 3.

The pivots 8 are preferably arranged so that, when the legs are folded, they lie substantially in parallel planes with the table top and within the rim, as clearly appears from Fig. 3 of the drawing. The center portions of the cross-pieces and their auxiliary members are preferably cut away to allow the legs

to fold into the rim. The legs are held in a spaced relation from the cross-pieces by means of the blocks 9, which are arranged on the pivots. These blocks are preferably in the form of spools, one end extending into the auxiliary members somewhat like a bushing. This holds them securely in place and prevents their becoming split, the spacing blocks being preferably formed of wood. The legs are held in their erected position by folding braces preferably consisting of the links 10 and 11, which are connected to each other by a pivot 12, and are pivoted to the legs and the cross-pieces.

When the legs are folded, the braces are adapted to fold down between the cross-pieces and the legs, as clearly appears from the drawing, the spacing blocks 9 being of sufficient size to provide the desired space.

To prevent the collapsing of a brace when extended, I provide a lug 13 on the member 10, adapted to engage the link 11, as illustrated in Fig. 5.

By arranging the parts as I have illustrated and described, I secure a table which is very compact and at the same time one in which the lugs are of the desired length. The structure is attractive in appearance, and is very strong and durable. The top is so supported that it may be made of thin material, and at the same time is held so that it is not likely to be broken or become warped. It is obvious that this is a very great advantage, as a top of high-grade wood may be furnished at a comparatively slight cost.

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

1. In a table, the combination with a top, of a supporting frame or bed therefor, comprising a rim; a pair of cross-pieces arranged across each other and secured at their ends to said rim, said cross-pieces being mortised together so that their upper edges and the upper edge of the rim contact with the table top; a pair of auxiliary members for each of said cross-pieces arranged in a spaced relation thereto and on opposite sides thereof and secured at their ends to said rim and to the other cross-piece; brace-pieces connecting said cross pieces to the auxiliary members of the other cross-piece, the upper edges of said auxiliary members and said braces being in contact with the table top; legs arranged between the cross-pieces and said auxiliary members thereof; pivots therefor mounted on said cross-pieces and said auxiliary members, said legs being arranged in pairs to fold oppositely, a leg of each pair being arranged on each side of one of the cross-pieces and adapted to fold alongside thereof, the central portions of said cross-pieces and said auxiliary members being cut away to receive said legs, said pivots being arranged so that the legs when folded lie in planes substantially parallel with the table top; and suitable braces for locking said legs in their extended position.

2. In a table, the combination with a top, of a supporting frame or bed therefor, comprising a rim; a pair of cross-pieces arranged across each other and secured at their ends to said rim, said cross-pieces being mortised together so that their upper edges and the upper edge of the rim contact with the table top; a pair of auxiliary members for each of said cross-pieces arranged in a spaced relation thereto and on opposite sides thereof and secured at their ends to said rim and to the other cross-piece; legs arranged between the cross-pieces and said auxiliary members thereof; pivots therefor mounted on said cross-pieces and said auxiliary members, said legs being arranged in pairs to fold oppositely, a leg of each pair being arranged on each side of one of the cross-pieces and adapted to fold alongside thereof, the central portions of said cross-pieces and said auxiliary members being cut away to receive said legs, said pivots being arranged so that the legs when folded lie in planes substantially parallel with the table top; and suitable braces for locking said legs in their extended position.

3. In a table, the combination with a top, of a supporting frame or bed therefor, comprising a rim; a pair of cross-pieces arranged across each other and secured at their ends to said rim, said cross-pieces being mortised together so that their upper edges and the upper edge of the rim contact with the table top; a pair of auxiliary members for each of said cross-pieces arranged in a spaced relation thereto and on opposite sides thereof and secured at their ends to said rim and to the other cross-piece; brace-pieces connecting said cross-pieces to the auxiliary members of the other cross-piece, the upper edges of said auxiliary members and said braces being in contact with the table top; legs arranged between the cross-pieces and said auxiliary members thereof; pivots therefor mounted on said cross-pieces and said auxiliary members, said legs being arranged in pairs to fold oppositely, a leg of each pair being arranged on each side of one of the cross-pieces; and suitable braces for locking said legs in their extended position.

4. In a table, the combination with a top, of a supporting frame or bed therefor, comprising a rim; a pair of cross-pieces arranged across each other and secured at their ends to said rim, said cross-pieces being mortised together so that their upper edges and the upper edge of the rim contact with the table top; a pair of auxiliary members for each of said cross-pieces arranged in a spaced relation thereto and on opposite sides thereof and secured at their ends to said rim and to the other cross-piece; legs arranged between

the cross-pieces and said auxiliary members thereof; pivots therefor mounted on said cross-pieces and said auxiliary members, said legs being arranged in pairs to fold oppositely, a leg of each pair being arranged on each side of one of the cross-pieces; and suitable braces for locking said legs in their extended position.

5. In a table, the combination with a top, of a supporting frame or bed therefor, comprising a rim; a pair of cross-pieces arranged across each other and secured at their ends to said rim; a pair of auxiliary members for each of said cross-pieces arranged in a spaced relation thereto; brace-pieces connecting said cross-pieces to the auxiliary members of the other cross-piece; legs arranged between the cross-pieces and said auxiliary members thereof; pivots therefor mounted on said cross-pieces and said auxiliary members, said legs being arranged in pairs to fold oppositely, a leg of each pair being arranged on each side of one of the cross-pieces and adapted to fold alongside thereof, the central portions of said cross-pieces and said auxiliary members being cut away to receive said legs, said pivots being arranged so that the legs when folded lie in planes substantially parallel with the table top; and suitable braces for locking said legs in their extended position.

6. In a table, the combination with a top, of a supporting frame or bed therefor, comprising a rim; a pair of cross-pieces arranged across each other and secured at their ends to said rim; a pair of auxiliary members for each of said cross-pieces arranged in a spaced relation thereto; legs arranged between the cross-pieces and said auxiliary members thereof; pivots therefor mounted on said cross-pieces and said auxiliary members, said legs being arranged in pairs to fold oppositely, a leg of each pair being arranged on each side of one of the cross-pieces and adapted to fold alongside thereof, the central portions of said cross-pieces and said auxiliary members being cut away to receive said legs, said pivots being arranged so that the legs when folded lie in planes substantially parallel with the table top; and suitable braces for locking said legs in their extended position.

7. In a table, the combination with a top, of a supporting frame or bed therefor, comprising a rim; a pair of cross-pieces arranged across each other and secured at their ends to said rim; a pair of auxiliary members for each of said cross-pieces arranged in a spaced relation thereto; brace-pieces connecting said cross-pieces to the auxiliary members of the other cross-piece; legs arranged between the cross-pieces and said auxiliary members thereof; pivots therefor mounted on said cross-pieces and said auxiliary members, said legs being arranged in pairs to fold oppositely, a leg of each pair being arranged on each side of one of the cross-pieces; and suitable braces for locking said legs in their extended position.

8. In a table, the combination with a top, of a supporting frame or bed therefor, comprising a rim; a pair of cross-pieces arranged across each other and secured at their ends to said rim; a pair of auxiliary members for each of said cross-pieces arranged in a spaced relation thereto; legs arranged between the cross-pieces and said auxiliary members thereof; pivots therefor mounted on said cross-pieces and said auxiliary members, said legs being arranged in pairs to fold oppositely, a leg of each pair being arranged on each side of one of the cross-pieces; and suitable braces for locking said legs in their extended position.

9. In a table, the combination with a top, of a supporting frame or bed therefor comprising a pair of cross-pieces; a pair of auxiliary members for each of said cross-pieces arranged in a spaced relation thereto; legs arranged between said cross-pieces and auxiliary members; pivots for said legs mounted on said cross-pieces and said auxiliary members; spacing blocks on said pivots for holding said legs in a spaced relation to said cross-pieces; and braces formed of two members, pivoted to each other and to said legs and said cross-pieces, said braces being adapted to fold between the legs and said cross pieces when the legs are collapsed.

In witness whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and seal in the presence of two witnesses.

HENRY L. HASKELL. [L. S.]

Witnesses:
W. L. HAMMOND,
J. L. MCINTOSH.