

C. Briggs,

Extension Table,

N<sup>o</sup> 3,249.

Patented Sep. 1, 1843.

Fig 1.

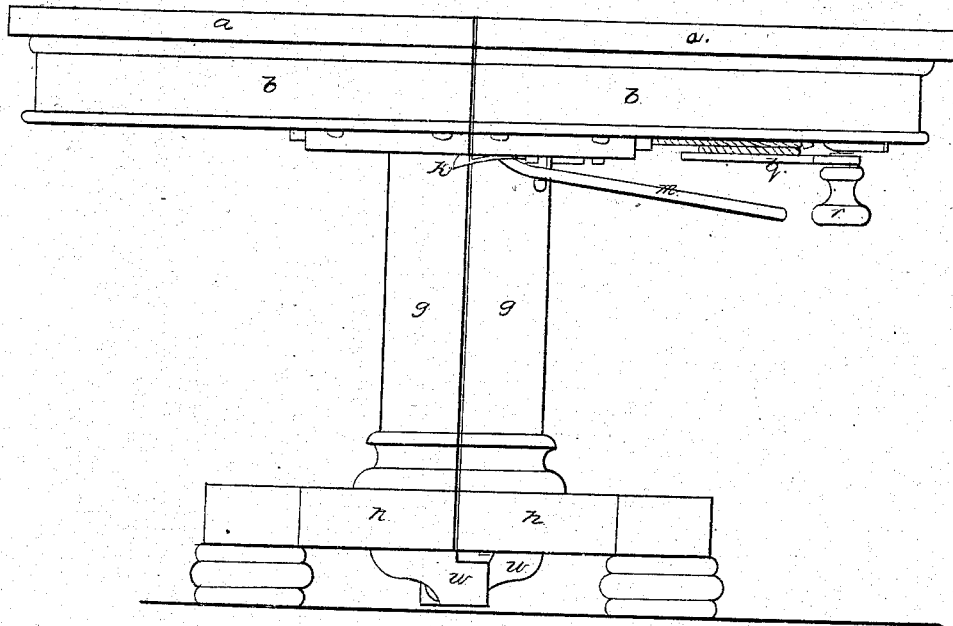
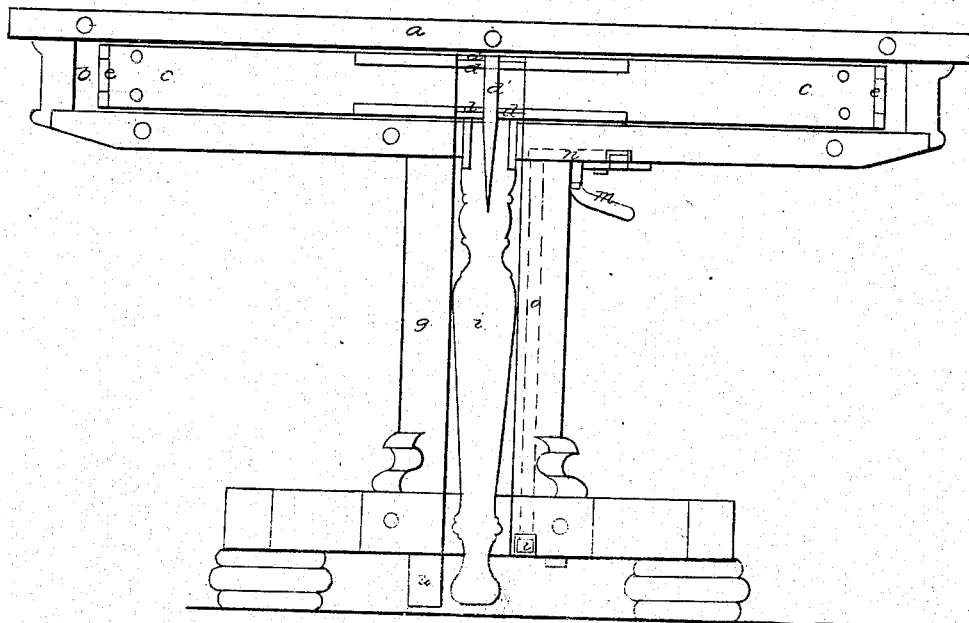


Fig 5.



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Fig 2.

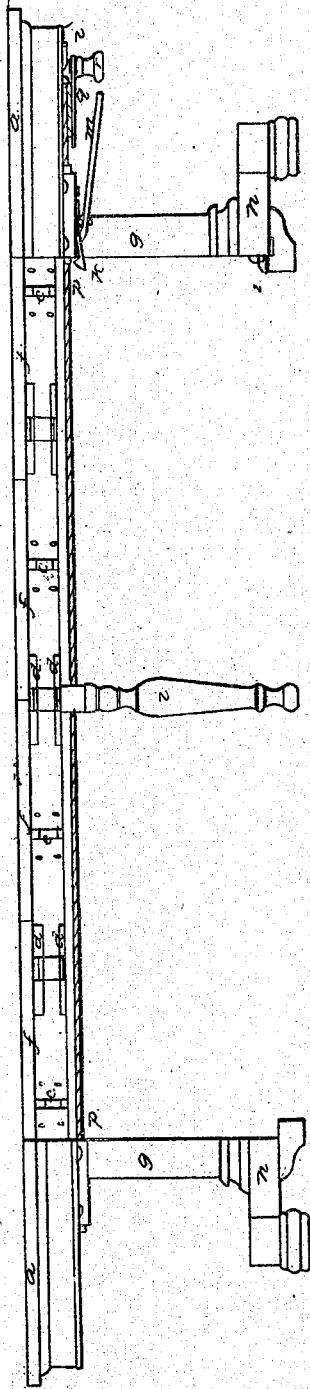
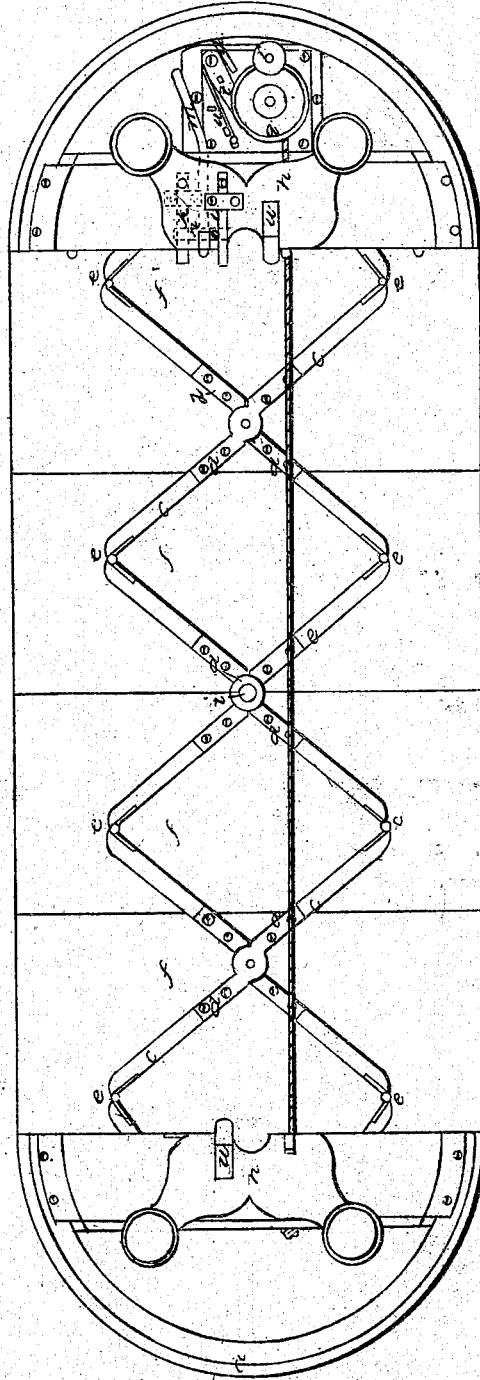


Fig 4



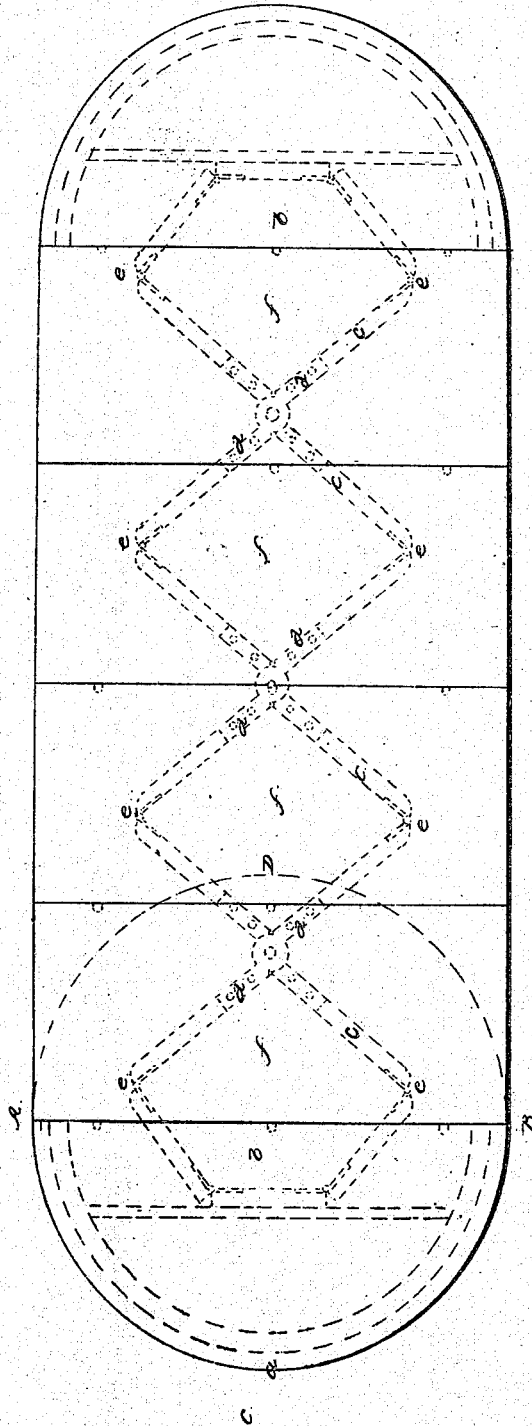
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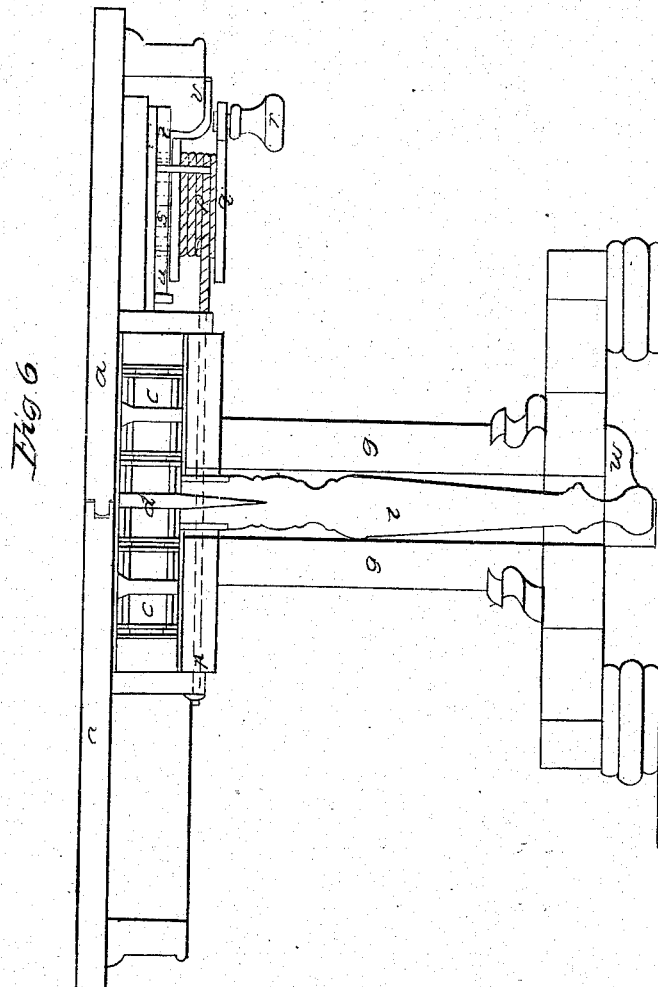
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Fig 3



Sheet 4 of 4 Sheets

*C. Briggs,*  
*Extension Table,*  
*N<sup>o</sup> 3,249.* *Patented Sep. 1, 1843.*



# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

CORNELIUS BRIGGS, OF ROXBURY, MASSACHUSETTS.

## EXTENSION-TABLE.

Specification of Letters Patent No. 3,249, dated September 1, 1843.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, CORNELIUS BRIGGS, of Roxbury, in the county of Norfolk and State of Massachusetts, have invented new and useful Improvements in Extension-Tables, and that the following description, taken in connection with the accompanying drawings hereinafter referred to, form a full and exact specification of the same, wherein I have set forth the nature and principles of my said improvements by which they may be distinguished from other inventions of a similar class, together with such parts or combinations as I claim and wish to have secured to me by Letters Patent.

Of the drawings above mentioned, Figure 1, is an elevation of the table, when not extended, in which view the article has the appearance of an ordinary round or "center table." Figs. 2, and 3, are, respectively an elevation and plan of the table when drawn out or extended. Fig. 4, is a plan of the table inverted and drawn out. Fig. 5, is a vertical section on the line A B, Fig. 3, and Fig. 6, is a longitudinal vertical section on the line C D or through the center when the table is closed.

*a, a*, Figs. 1, and 3, are the two semicircular tops which when closed form a center table top and which have suitable casings *b, b*, Fig. 6, underneath them to receive the jointed extension framework *c c c*, Figs. 4, 6, which works and is constructed in the same manner as in ordinary extension tables, having double hinges or jointed plates *d, d*, &c., at the centers of each joint and single hinges *e, e*, &c., at each end of the same. Circular or other suitably shaped mortises and tenons are formed in a proper manner in each of the parts *a, a*, where they join and also in the extension leaves *f, f, f*, Figs. 2, 3, for the purpose of supporting such parts as may be arranged for use and for keeping them in their proper positions.

The upright pillar of the standard frame is divided into two parts *g, g*, Figs. 1, 2, 4, 5, 6, and the horizontal part of the same is similarly divided into the parts *h, h*. Each half of the standard frame is properly grooved or channeled out as shown in Fig. 4, so as, (when the table is arranged in the center table form), to inclose or incase the supporting leg *i*. This leg is firmly fastened or secured to the center of the extension framework by means of an iron or metallic pin or rod *d'* Figs. 5 and 6, which

passes through both plates *d, d*, of the center joint of the framework and likewise is driven or enters vertically to a considerable depth into the leg as shown in the drawings. The leg is drawn out with the framework and serves effectually to support the said framework and the extension leaves which may be placed upon it. The use of this leg permanently attached to the framework as described and fitting into the grooves of the standard frame as specified constitutes one item of my improvements, as it takes the place of the ordinary horse or other similar support which has heretofore been placed under the center part of the extension framework as has to be removed and stowed away separately at considerable inconvenience.

When the extension part of the table is not in use and it is desired to use the table as a center table, the two semicircular parts when brought together, are firmly fastened and held in contact by means of two spring catches or latches *k, l*, one being arranged underneath the upper part of the table as shown in Figs. 4, 5, 6, and the other beneath the horizontal part *h h* of the standard frame (see Figs. 4, 6). When it is desired to separate the parts *a, a*, of the table, and make use of the extension apparatus, the catches *k, l*, must be pressed down or unlatched, which is done by means of the lever bar *m* Figs. 1, 4, 6, which has an horizontal arm *n* Figs. 4, 5, which works above and presses down the catch *k*, and from this arm a vertical rod *o* depends and passes down through a proper space in one half of the upright pillar of the standard frame as shown by dotted lines in Figs. 4, 5, and the end of which presses down the lower catch *l*; so that it will be seen that by means of one lever bar both catches are thrown out at once. This arrangement of devices takes the place of the hooks and loops commonly used for the same purpose, in working which there is much inconvenience.

When the table is drawn out to any required extent and the extension leaves are placed upon the framework *c c c* the whole is held firmly together or the "extension table" is made rigid by the following arrangement of machinery. A cord *p p* Figs. 1, 2, 4, 6, is fastened at one end to the underside of one of the semicircular parts *a* and passes beneath the framework *c c c*, through proper holes in the other half to a pulley or wheel *q*, attached to said half as shown in

Figs. 1, 2, 4, 6. This pulley has a winch or handle *n*, attached to it, by which it is turned, and above it, and turning with it, is a ratchet wheel *s*, and pawl *q*, with spring *u* behind it, which arrangement, it will be perceived, keeps the cord *p p* from unwinding after it has been once wound upon the pulley and thereby as will readily be seen, the parts that are in use are kept firmly together how-  
 10 ever far the table may be extended. A bent cam lever, *v*, is properly arranged as seen in Figs. 2, 4, 6, so that by turning it, the pawl *q*, will be thrown out of connection with the teeth of the ratchet wheel, and when this is  
 15 accomplished the cord *p p* may be unwound from the pulley, and, if the table is closed, it may be extended, provided the catches or latches *k, l*, have been unfastened as hereinbefore explained. This arrangement of the  
 20 pulley, ratchet wheel &c., it will be seen, supersedes the use of the brass clamps ordinarily used on each side of the table for holding the extension leaves together, while it allows the table to be more easily and ex-  
 25 peditiously extended and holds the parts more rigidly when extended. The projections *w, w*, under the standard frame are for the purpose of supporting the main semicircular halves when the table is ex-  
 30 tended.

Having thus described my improvements, I shall now proceed to specify such parts as I consider original and new and claim to be my invention.

35 1. I claim, the supporting leg firmly and permanently attached to the center joint of the extension framework *c c c*, by means of the pin *a'* passing through both plates *d, d*, of said joint and driven vertically into said

leg as shown in the drawings, and the combination of said leg so arranged with the  
 40 semicircular grooves or channels in the two halves of the upright parts of the standard frame, the leg serving as a sufficient support for the extension part of the table, and  
 45 the grooves entirely incasing the leg when the table is closed, the whole being substantially as hereinbefore set forth.

2. I also claim, the spring latches or catches arranged as hereinbefore described  
 50 for holding the two main halves of the table together when the table is closed, and the combination with said catches of the lever bar *m*, with its horizontal arm *n*, and vertical rod *o*, for unfastening said catches when  
 55 it is desired to extend the table, the whole being arranged and operating as herein above described.

3. I also claim, the combination of a pulley, with its ratchet wheel, pawl, cord, &c.,  
 60 arranged together as herein above described, with the extension framework, leaves, &c. and with the two main or semicircular halves of the table, the whole being constructed ar-  
 65 ranged and operating, substantially as herein before specified, and for the purposes above set forth.

In testimony that the foregoing is a true description of my said invention and im-  
 70 provements I have hereto set my signature this eighth day of July in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and forty three.

CORNELIUS BRIGGS.

Witnesses:

EZRA LINCOLN, Jr.,  
 GRIDLEY I. F. BRYANT.