(No Model.)

T. A. BUNCE.

FOLDING TABLE.

No. 346,145. Patented July 27, 1886.

Fig. 1

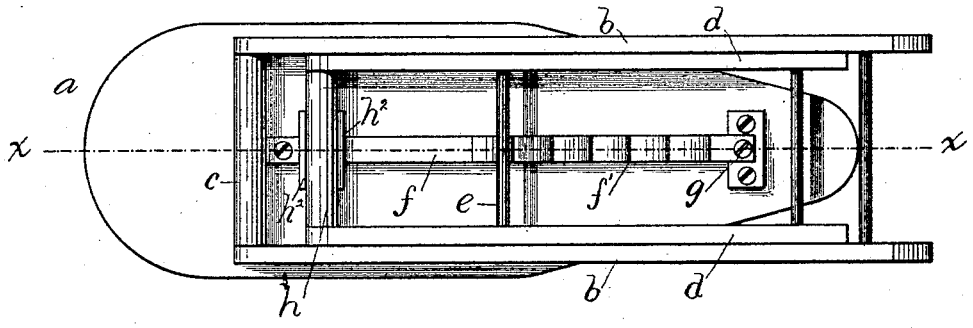

Fig. 2

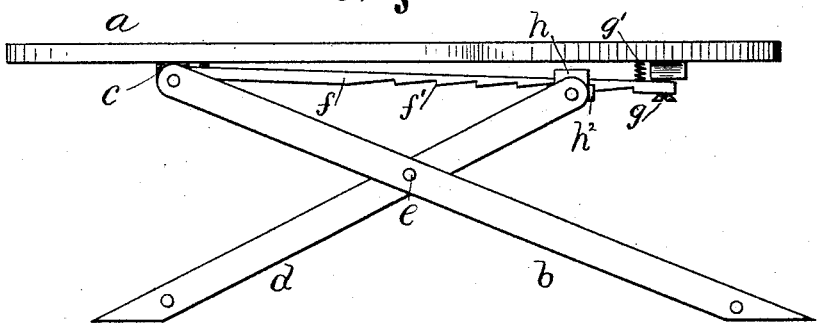

Fig. 3

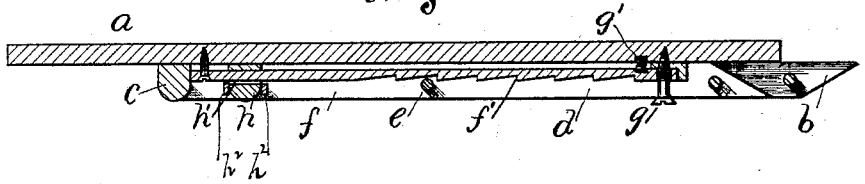

Fig. 4

Witnesses:
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

THOMAS A. BUNCE, OF BERLIN, CONNECTICUT.

FOLDING TABLE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 346,145, dated July 27, 1886.

Application filed October 13, 1884. Serial No. 145,321. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, THOMAS A. BUNCE, of Berlin, in the county of Hartford and State of Connecticut, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Folding Tables, of which the following is a specification.

Figure 1 is a bottom view of a folding table embodying my improvements, showing the legs folded. Fig. 2 is a side view of the same, showing the table with the legs extended, so as to support the table in position for use. Fig. 3 is a view in vertical longitudinal section through the center of the table on plane denoted by line *x x* of Fig. 1. Fig. 4 is a longitudinal sectional view of a table-top provided with a modified form of spring-bar, this view being taken on a line corresponding with *x x*, Fig. 1.

My invention relates to that class of tables having legs that may be folded up against the under side of the table, when desired, and which legs are also adjustable to permit it to stand at different heights.

The invention consists in a certain improved construction, which will be hereinafter particularly set forth, and pointed out in the claim.

In the accompanying drawings, the letter *a* denotes the top of the table, which may be of any desired shape or material; *b*, a pair of legs, each pivotally connected to the table, as to the cleat *c*, fast to its under side near one end; *d*, another pair, that are pivoted to the cross-rod *e*, that joins the legs of the pair *b*, so that these pairs of legs when extended cross each other and pivot on this rod *e*.

To the under side of the top *a* and extending, preferably, along the center of the table a ratchet-bar, *f*, is attached in such manner as to leave a space between the upper side of the bar and the under side of the table. The bar is provided with ratchet-teeth *f'* on its under side, and the end of the bar at this outer end is movable on a guide pin or screw, *g*, in a vertical plane and pressed downward by a spring, *g'*, interposed between the table and the said bar. This downward pressure of the bar may be obtained from the bar itself by securing it to the table at the inner end in such manner as to make it point at a considerable angle from the plane of the top, and then holding the outer end by the guide-loop g^3, depending from the under side of the table, as shown in Fig. 4.

Between the upper end of the inner pair of legs, *d*, a slide, *h*, is pivoted, and this slide moves on the ratchet-bar *f*, which is grasped by it in any convenient manner that will prevent displacement, as by passing the bar through a mortise, *h'*, in the slide. On each side of the slide at the lower edges of the mortise the stop-plates h^2 form the stops, against which any two adjacent teeth of the bar strike, to hold the slide and the legs from moving under any weight or pressure on the table-top.

The method of operating my device will be readily understood by an examination of the drawings. The inner and shorter pair of legs fold within the longer, so as to lie flat upon the under side of the table, as shown in Figs. 1 and 3, the slide moving freely upon the ratchet-bar, and when the legs are extended so as to support the table-top in a horizontal position convenient for use, the legs are held at the desired angle by the hold of the vertical faces of the ratchet-teeth against the stop-plates on the slide.

I claim as my invention—

The herein-described improved folding table comprising a top, a ratchet-bar having the teeth upon its under side and held normally away from the table-top, a stop to limit the movement of the said bar away from the table-top, a pair of legs, *b*, pivoted to said top, a pair of legs, *d*, pivoted to the legs *b*, and a slide having suitable stops pivoted to the legs *d*, moving upon said bar and engaging the teeth upon the under side of the same, all substantially as set forth.

THOMAS A. BUNCE.

Witnesses:
E. H. MEIGS,
R. W. MORSE.