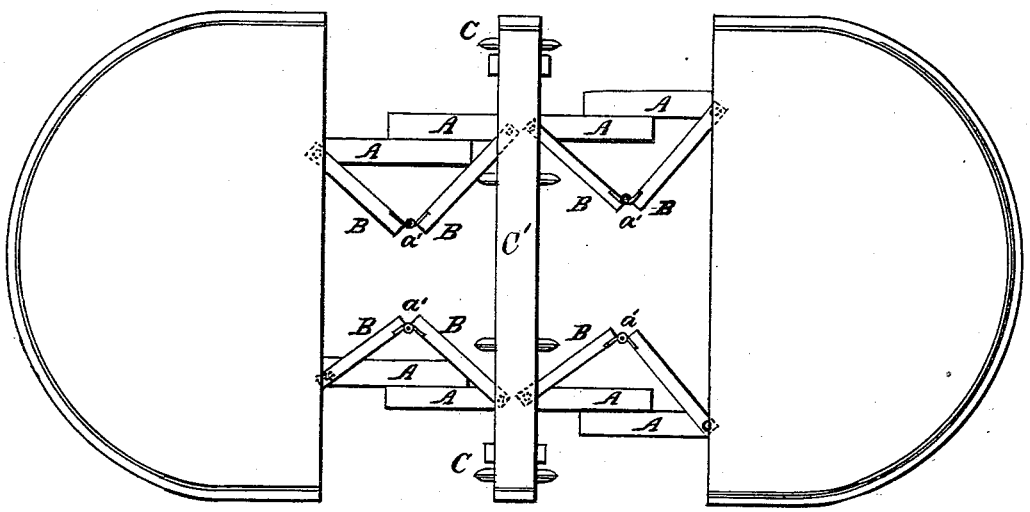
J. W. BENT.

Extension-Tables.

No. 166,679. Patented Aug. 17, 1875.

Fig. 1.



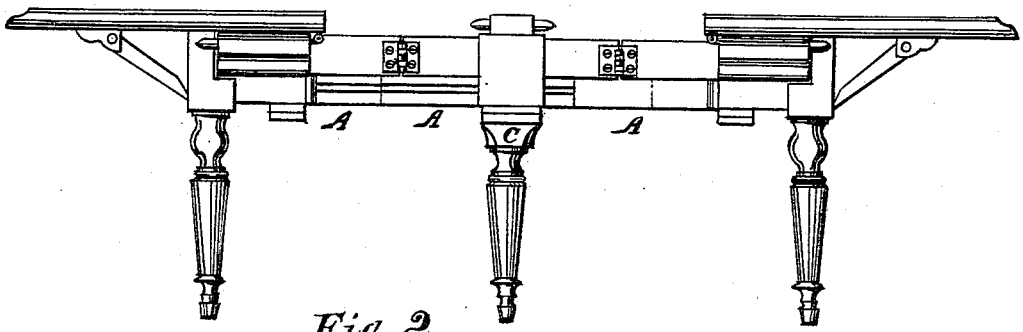


Fig. 2.

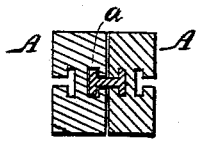


Fig. 3.

Witnesses:

F. F. Warner.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOHN W. BENT, OF CHICAGO, ILLINOIS.

IMPROVEMENT IN EXTENSION-TABLES.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **166,679**, dated August 17, 1875; application filed June 7, 1875.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOHN W. BENT, of Chicago, in the county of Cook and State of Illinois, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Extension-Tables, of which improvement the following is a full, clear, and exact description, which will enable others skilled in the art to which my invention appertains to make and use the said improvement, reference being had to the accompanying drawing forming a part hereof, and in which—

Figure 1 is a top or plan view of a table provided with my improvement; Fig. 2, a side elevation of the same, and Fig. 3 a vertical cross-section through the extension-slides.

Like letters of reference indicate like parts.

My invention relates to that class of extension-tables wherein the supporting-rails are made in sections, hinged together at the ends in such a manner, and so arranged, as to automatically assume a folded position when the ends of the table are pushed toward each other, and to admit of the extension of the table by unfolding when the ends are drawn apart.

These rails have heretofore been used in connection with sliding extensions; but an objectionable feature of this class of tables is, that the folding rails or extensions above referred to, owing to the fact that they have not been sufficiently supported, are liable to sag and move unevenly.

My object is to remedy this defect; and to that end my invention consists in employing sliding extensions, supported by a central leg or support, in connection with folding rails arranged for support on the sliding extensions, substantially as hereinafter specified.

In the drawing, A A represent the sliding extensions. These extensions may be constructed in any way which will admit of the extension and contraction of the table in the usual manner, and form a connection between the ends for the support of the superimposed parts.

As these extensions have been long used in tables, and have been constructed in various ways, and as I do not here intend to limit myself to any particular construction thereof, but expect to make them in any suitable manner, a particular description of their construction and operation will not be essential; but a common, simple, and suitable construction is represented in Fig. 3, which may be briefly described by stating that the part *a* therein shown represents a double T-shaped key, firmly fastened in one end of a correspondingly-formed groove in the side of one of the rails, and playing in a like groove in a contiguous rail, a key, *a*, being also arranged in the opposite end of the latter groove, so that the parts *a a* serve as stops as well as keys, and not only prevent the rails from being moved laterally from each other, but also from being drawn apart when the table is extended.

B B are the folding rails. These rails are arranged above and rest upon the extensions A A, and are hinged in pairs, as shown at *a'*, and the outward unhinged ends are pivoted to the end rails A A, and the inner unhinged ends to the central rails A A, as represented in Fig. 1. C is a central leg or support, to which is attached a box or pocket, C', for supporting the central bars of the extensions A A, and for the reception of the inner rails B B when the table is not extended.

By supporting the central bars of the extensions in this manner, and allowing the rails B B to rest upon the slides A A, a very firm support is made for the supplemental leaves, and the joints of all the extension-rails are greatly relieved from strain, and all the parts work smoothly together.

I do not here claim the combination of the folding rails and sliding extensions, broadly; but,

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

The combination, in connection with a table, of the sliding extensions A A, folding rails B B, and central support C C', the parts A A being supported by the central support, and the parts B B by the parts A A, substantially as specified, for the purposes set forth.

JOHN W. BENT.

Witnesses:

F. A. HERRING,

F. F. WARNER.