G. W. GATES.

FOLDING-TABLE.

No. 192,252. Patented June 19, 1877.

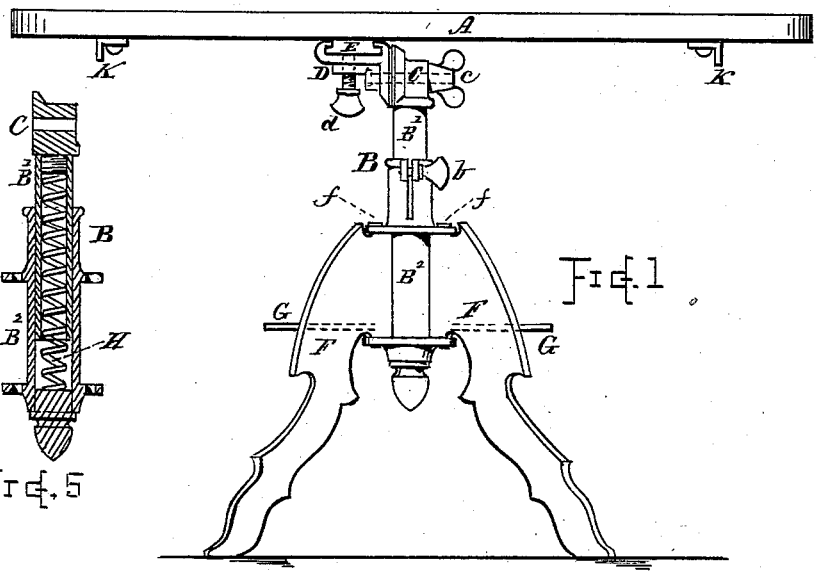

FIG. 1

FIG. 5

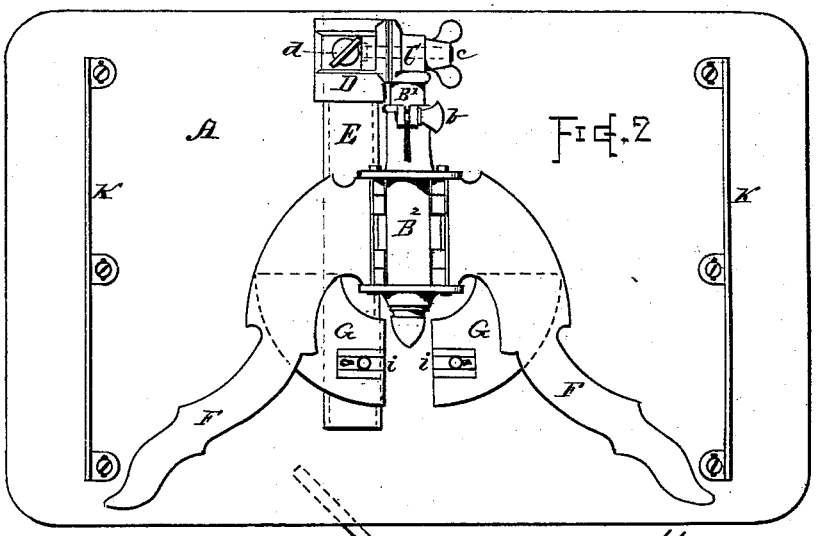

FIG. 2

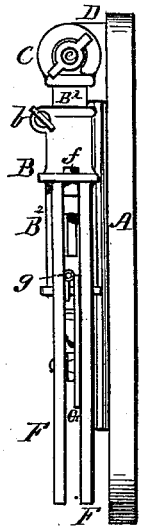

FIG. 3

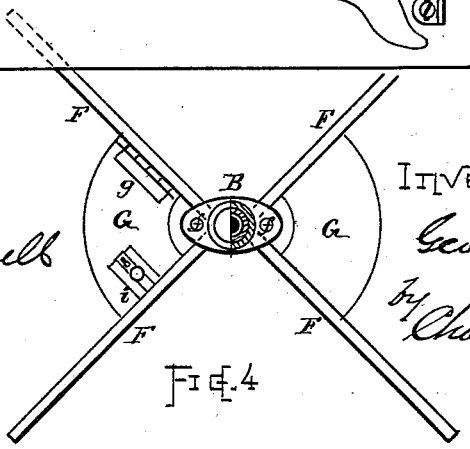

FIG. 4

Witnesses

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GEORGE W. GATES, OF WORCESTER, MASSACHUSETTS.

IMPROVEMENT IN FOLDING TABLES.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **192,252**, dated June 19, 1877; application filed April 3, 1876.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, GEORGE W. GATES, of the city and county of Worcester and State of Massachusetts, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Folding Tables; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description of the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, which form a part of this specification, and in which—

Figure 1 represents a front view of my improved folding table. Fig. 2 represents a bottom view of the same when folded; Fig. 3, a side view when folded; Fig. 4, a plan view (half bottom and half top) of the folding legs or feet, and Fig. 5 a central vertical section of the standard.

This invention relates to that class of tables used as ladies' cutting-tables, and for similar purposes; the object thereof being to provide a convenient and serviceable central-standard table of neat appearance, and capable of being folded into small space.

My invention consists in certain improvements in folding-tables, with special reference to the manner of combining the supporting-standard and table-top, and to the construction and method of expanding and folding the feet or legs, as hereinafter set forth.

In the drawings, A denotes the table-top. B indicates the central supporting column or standard, which is formed in two parts—the part B^1 being a tube sliding into the part B^2, where it can be held at any adjusted position by the clamp-screw *b*, which closes the slotted upper end of the part B^2 firmly against its outer surface.

The head C of the standard is made with a disk-face, against which the slide-piece D is clamped, at any adjustment, by the check nut or screw *c*, the slide D being provided with a disk-face to match that of the head C. The slide D is fitted to work on the flanged way or plate E, which latter is securely fastened to the under side of the table-top A, as indicated. Said slide D can be adjusted at any position along the way E by a clamp device or screw, *d*.

F F indicate the legs or feet on which the central standard B is supported. Said legs are hinged to the lower part B^2 of the standard by bolts *f*, which pass through suitable ears or lugs on the sides thereof in the manner illustrated. The legs F are, in the present instance, hinged in pairs, the hinges being set in such manner that each pair of legs can be folded together, and all the legs laid in parallel planes to each other. (See Figs. 2 and 3.)

Flat segmental pieces G are hinged to one of each pair of the legs, as at *g*, and provided with bolts or spring-catches *i*, whereby they can be locked to the other legs. These segmental pieces G, when the table is expanded, swing up between the legs, as shown in Figs. 1 and 4, and hold the legs extended, while they also serve as shelves on which to lay small articles, such as spools, scissors, &c. When the table is folded, said segments G lie flat and close in the space between the legs, as indicated in Figs. 2 and 3. The legs F F are prevented from opening to a greater distance than the width of the segments G by their ends striking and resting against the standard B. The legs F may be joined with the standard B by a compound hinge, if desired, so that all of the legs can be folded around to one side.

H indicates a coiled wire-spring arranged in the interior of the standard, which spring serves to counterbalance the table-top A when the standard-clamp *b* is released, thus obviating the necessity of lifting the weight of the top when adjusting the height of the table.

K K denote metal stiffening-bars for preventing the warping of the table-top. The ears have slotted openings for the attaching-screws to allow for their movement by the shrinking and swelling of the wood-work.

When the table is folded the parts are in position, as shown in Figs. 2 and 3. Then, to expand the table, the screws *c* and *d* are loosened, the slide D moved to a central position along the way E, and there clamped; the standard B is then raised to a position perpendicular to the top A, and also clamped by the screw *c*; the segments G are then swung into position between the legs F, and the table placed in an upright position ready for use, as shown in Fig. 1.

The table-top A may be adjusted at any desired height and at any desired degree of inclination, or it may be set in a vertical position.

The form and size of the various parts may be varied to suit the requirements of different styles and sizes of tables.

I do not herein claim the invention of a slotted tubular clamp and set-screw for retaining an adjustable central standard.

Having described my improvements in folding table, what I claim therein as new and of my invention, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. In combination with the table-top A, an adjustable rotating supporting-column, provided with hinged feet or legs, and having a laterally movable and adjustable connection with the table-top and a hinged head or adjusting-joint device, C, whereby the column, legs, and top can be folded or closed together, substantially in the manner described.

2. The combination, with the standard B and hinged legs F, of the hinged segments G, substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

3. In combination, substantially as described, the standard B^1 B^2, hinged legs F, segments G, adjusting-head C, slide D, plate E, table-top A, spring H, and clamp devices *b c d*, for the purposes set forth.

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Witnesses:
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