

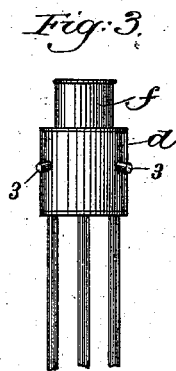
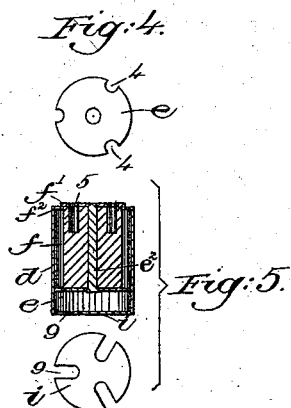
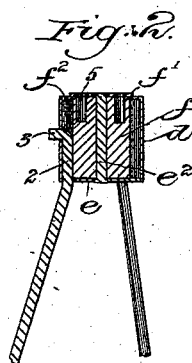
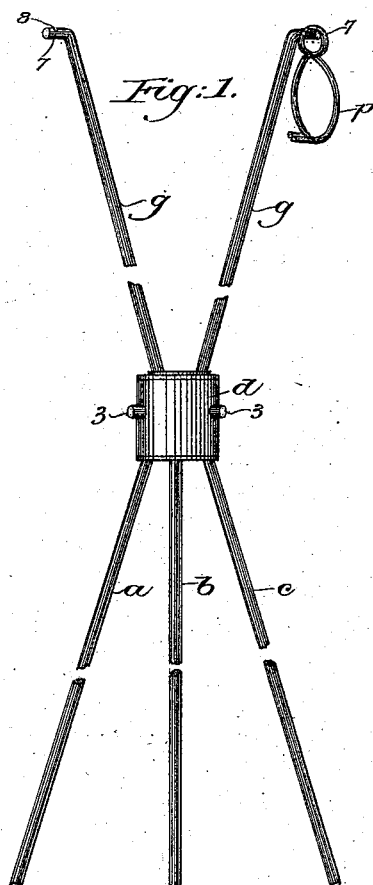
(No Model.)

F. N. COTTLE.

TRIPOD.

No. 381,340.

Patented Apr. 17, 1888.



Witnesses.
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

FREEMAN N. COTTLE, OF HYDE PARK, MASSACHUSETTS.

TRIPOD.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 381,340, dated April 17, 1888.

Application filed November 23, 1887. Serial No. 255,900. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, FREEMAN N. COTTLE, of Hyde Park, county of Norfolk, State of Massachusetts, have invented an Improvement in Tripods, of which the following description, in connection with the accompanying drawings, is a specification, like letters on the drawings representing like parts.

This invention has for its object to construct a tripod to be used, among other purposes, for supporting tablets, charts, &c., for exhibition.

The invention consists in a tripod composed of three independent supporting-legs combined with a shell or case to which the said legs or supports are pivotally connected, and a locking and retaining device co-operating therewith, the said device being herein shown as a plate sliding in a shell or case and having guiding-recesses for the rods or legs, and means for sliding the said plate, all as will be hereinafter more fully described. The legs or supports are preferably bent outwardly or made hook-shaped at their upper ends, and the shell or case is perforated to receive such outwardly-bent portions, the bent portions being of sufficient length to permit the legs or supports to be spread or to be laid parallel and yet retain their connection with the shell or case. The means herein shown for moving the guide-plate is a plug provided with sockets to receive arms to support any article to be exhibited, the said plug being free to be rotated in the shell.

Figure 1 shows in front elevation a tripod embodying this invention, the legs and tablet or chart supports being broken out to save space upon the drawing; Fig. 2, a vertical section of the shell or case which receives the upper ends of the legs and the retaining or locking device for the legs; Fig. 3, a side elevation of the shell or case and the locking or retaining device for the legs, said locking or retaining device being withdrawn to permit the legs to lie parallel; Fig. 4, a front view of the guiding-plate for the locking device, and Fig. 5 a modification to be referred to.

The three legs *a b c*, of any suitable length and material, are bent at their upper ends slightly, as at 2, (see Fig. 2,) so that when the legs are spread the portion 2 will occupy substantially a vertical position. The extreme upper ends of the supports are also bent out-

wardly at substantially right angles, as at 3. The shell or case *d* is provided with perforations through its side walls, which receive the outwardly-bent portions 3 of the legs or supports. A locking or retaining device is provided to hold the supports firmly when spread, as when the tripod is in position for use, as in Figs. 1 and 2, and also which may be lifted or partially withdrawn from the shell, as in Fig. 3, to permit the supports to lie parallel or so as to occupy the least space, as when the tripod is to be laid away. This locking device consists of a guide-plate, *e*, having recesses, as 4, at its edges to receive the supports, said guide-plate *e* being of a shape corresponding with the interior cross-section of the shell or case, so as to slide freely therein.

The guide-plate *e* has erected upon it a stud, *e*², which receives on it loosely a cylinder or plug, *f*, which is made smaller in diameter than the shell or case *d*, to receive between it and the shell or case *d* the vertical portion of the supports. The cylinder or plug *f* is provided at its upper end with a flange, *f*¹, which co-operates with a flange, *f*², of the shell or case to limit the descent of the cylinder or plug.

The cylinder or plug *f* has at its top suitable sockets, as 5, which may be either straight or inclined to receive suitable brackets, supports, or arms, as *g*, to sustain a map, chart, or other thing or article to be exhibited, the upper ends of the said arms *g* being bent outwardly, as at 7, and provided preferably with notches, as 8, to aid in holding in place suitable clips, as *p*, made, preferably, from wire.

It will be seen that when the cylinder or plug *f* is elevated or partially withdrawn, as shown in Fig. 3, sufficient space is left within the shell or case to permit the supports *a b c* to be brought together parallel with each other, and by pressing the said cylinder or plug *f* into the shell or case, as shown in Fig. 2, the said legs or supports are spread and so held firmly.

If desired, in addition to the guide-plate *e*, which is employed to spread the supports, I may employ a second guide-plate, as *i*, (see Fig. 5,) which has radial slots, as 9, to permit the supports to move toward and from each other or prevent their rotation.

The entire top of the tripod, consisting of

the arms and plug *f*, may be rotated as and when desired, to exhibit the thing supported by the arms to an audience in any direction.

I claim—

5 1. In a tripod, the legs or supports *a b c* and the shell or case *d*, combined with the locking or retaining device sliding within the said shell, substantially as described, for holding
10 the supports spread and permitting them to lie parallel as desired, and with arms or brackets erected in the said locking device, substantially as and for the purposes set forth.

2. In a tripod, the legs or supports *a b c*, bent outwardly at their upper ends, as at 2,
15 combined with the shell or case *d*, having perforations in its cylindrical portion, as shown, and the locking or retaining device movable in the said shell, and provided with arm or bracket receiving sockets 5, substantially as
20 described.

3. In a tripod, the legs or supports *a b c*, bent as at 3, and also having the outwardly-bent portions 2 at their upper ends, combined with the shell or case *d*, having perforations,
25 as shown, to receive the said bent portions, and the locking or retaining device, as described, within the said shell, to hold and spread the legs or supports, and also adapted to receive in its top arms or brackets *g*, substantially as and for the purposes set forth.
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4. In a tripod, the legs or supports *a b c* and

the cylinder shell or case, combined with the locking or retaining device therein for the legs or supports, consisting of the cylinder or plug
35 *f*, provided at its top with sockets to receive arms or brackets, and the guide-plate *e*, loosely connected thereto, substantially as described.

5. In a tripod, the shell or case, the legs or supports *a b c*, made detachable, as shown and described, and the chart-sustaining arms or
40 brackets *g*, combined with the locking or retaining device within the said shell for and co-operating with the upper ends of the legs or supports, substantially as described.

6. In a tripod, the legs, the retaining shell
45 or case *d* therefor, the socketed rotatable sliding plug within the said shell, and arms to enter the said socketed plug, substantially as described.

7. In a tripod, the shell or case *d*, the ro-
50 tatable sliding plug therein, the legs intermediate the said shell and plug, and supports or arms *g*, erected in the said plug, substantially as described.

In testimony whereof I have signed my name
55 to this specification in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

FREEMAN N. COTTLE.

Witnesses:

G. W. GREGORY,
JOHN C. EDWARDS.