

(No Model.)

B. A. STEVENS.  
SECTIONAL MEAT BLOCK.

No. 381,654.

Patented Apr. 24, 1888.

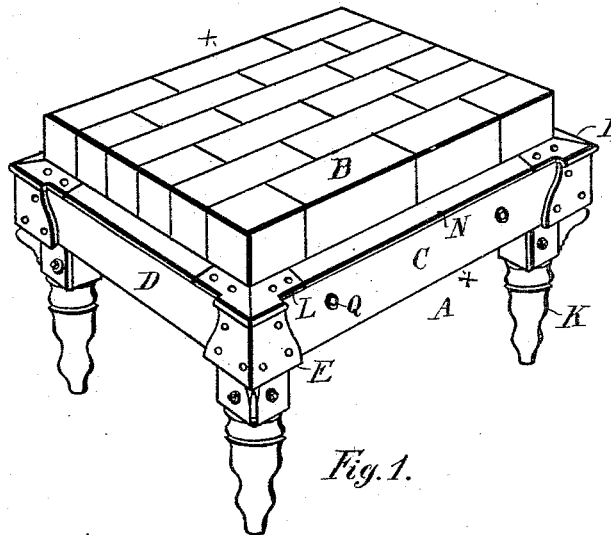


Fig. 1.

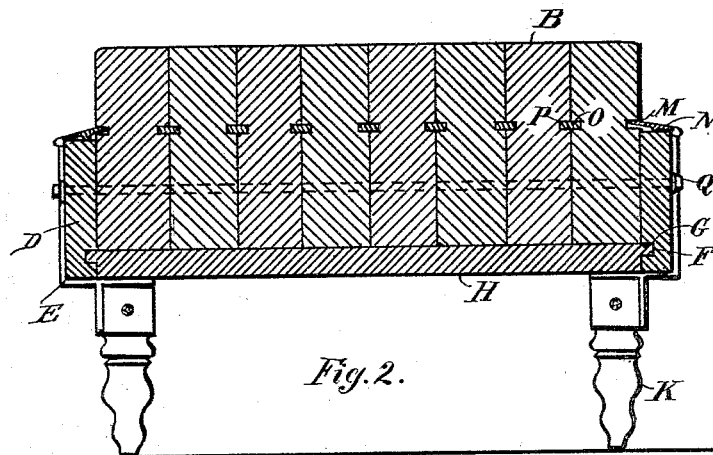


Fig. 2.

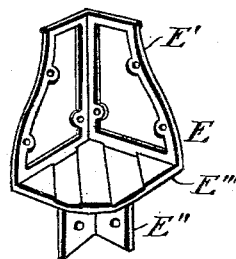


Fig. 3.

Witnesses.

Wesley Smith.  
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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

BENJAMIN ABBOTT STEVENS, OF TOLEDO, OHIO.

## SECTIONAL MEAT-BLOCK.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 381,654, dated April 24, 1888.

Application filed November 22, 1887. Serial No. 255,930. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, BENJAMIN ABBOTT STEVENS, a citizen of the United States, residing at Toledo, in the county of Lucas and State of Ohio, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in a Sectional Meat-Block; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, which will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and to the letters of reference marked thereon, which form part of this specification.

My invention relates to a sectional meat-block, and has for its object to assemble a series of hard-wood blocks to form an even flat surface, thereby avoiding the danger of cracking by shrinkage, as is usual in the block of ordinary use.

The invention, however, pertains more particularly to the construction of the frame or table for holding the blocks in place, having reference mainly to rigidity, economy of construction, and cleanliness. I have also provided a means of holding the blocks in fixed relation to each other, and which also admits of the removal of such blocks as may be subjected to great wear and the substitution of new ones therefor.

In the drawings, Figure 1 is a perspective view of a complete block. Fig. 2 is a longitudinal cross-section on lines *x x*, Fig. 2. Fig. 3 is a detail view of one of the corner-irons.

Like letters of reference indicate like parts throughout the views.

A designates a table, into which are fitted sectional blocks B, in such close relation as to form a block practically equivalent to a solid block. The table is formed of side bars, C, and end bars, D, which rest upon and are secured to corner-irons E, so as to form a rectangular frame of any desired size. At the lower portion of sides C are formed grooves F, into which fit tongues G of the bottom board, H, on which rest the lower ends of block B. The table is supported at any desired height by legs K, securely attached to the lower angled portion of corner-irons E.

L represents corner-plates which fit over the upper ends of the corner-irons and also into groove M, cut into and entirely around the outer side of the outer row of blocks, plates N completing the circuit of the block, and being also of a width to rest with their

inner portion within groove M and entirely overlap the upper edges of the side and end bars, C and D, respectively. The blocks are held from displacement by means of strips O, preferably formed of wood and inserted into mortises P, formed by cutting a portion from each block.

Q are rods extending transversely of the table for the purpose of holding the side bars, C, closely against the blocks.

Corner-irons E are constructed with two angled portions, the upper portion, E', being larger than the lower portion, E'', thereby forming a shoulder, E''', upon which the side bars rest, and also throwing the legs K beneath the table out of the way in passing around the same.

It will be seen that the corner-irons can be cast, rendering them very inexpensive, and are susceptible of any desired ornamentation, being also a convenient means by which the legs as well as the sides can be attached.

By inserting plates L and N into groove M there is no possibility of grease, brine, moisture from any cause, or bad meat getting between the blocks and side of the table, a feature of great importance, not only with regard to cleanliness, but preventing decay of the wood.

What I claim, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. In a sectional meat-block, corner-irons having an upper angled portion and a lower angled portion of less area, side bars resting upon shoulders formed by the different areas of the angled portions, a base-board connected with the side bars, and legs attached to the lower angled portion, as and for the purpose set forth.

2. A sectional meat-block comprising a table formed of side and bottom boards, blocks inclosed within and extending above the side boards, the surfaces of the outer blocks being formed with grooves, and metal plates placed within the grooves and secured to the upper edges of the side boards, substantially as described.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing as my own I hereby affix my signature in presence of two witnesses.

BENJAMIN ABBOTT STEVENS.

Witnesses:

WILLIAM WEBSTER,  
JAMES E. RAYMER.