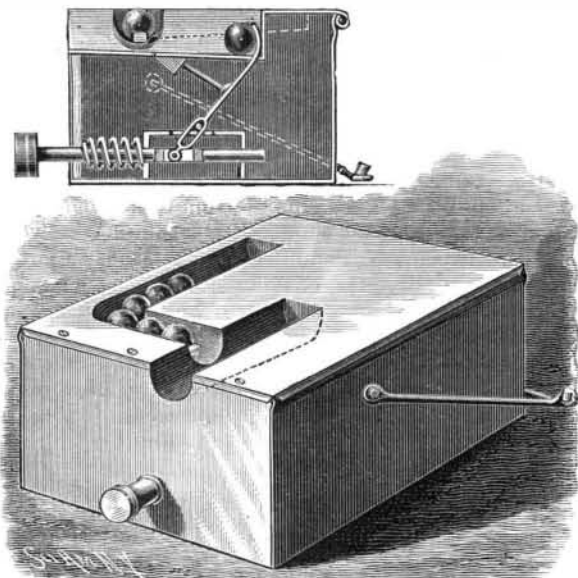


A NOVEL TOY.

The game box shown in the accompanying illustration is designed to afford amusement for young and old. It has been patented by Mr. Charles W. Fishel, of Carbondale, Col. The cover is hinged at one end



FISHEL'S TOY OR GAME BOX.

and fastened with screws at the other end, and has a longitudinal groove slightly slanting downward toward the center; this groove being intersected by another groove having a turn. In the latter groove is a projection to prevent the marbles rolling into the end groove by gravity, and in this end groove is a longitudinal slot with an enlarged portion through which projects a lever which turns on a fixed pivot, and is pivoted at its lower extremity to a rod projecting through an opening in the front of the box. This rod is surrounded by a spiral spring which serves to force the rod outward after it has been pushed in. The pushing in of the rod releases a marble from the angled groove, and the marble falls into the main groove in front of the lever. Now, by striking smartly on the button at the end of the rod, the lever will be instantly moved forward, and the marble in front of it will be projected with great velocity. At the same time an arm, not shown in the drawing, pushes another marble over the obstruction in the angled groove ready to be discharged into the main groove, when the apparatus will be ready for another shot.

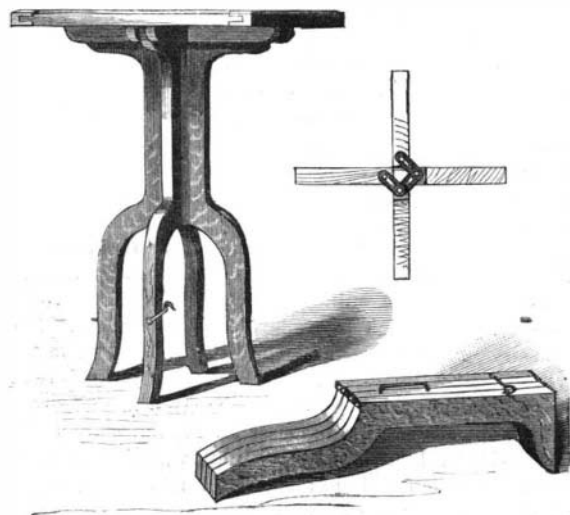
The box is anchored as shown in the engraving. It is obvious that a variety of games may be adapted to this apparatus.

NEW FOLDING TABLE.

In the annexed engraving is shown a folding table which is designed to be used as an ordinary table, and also as a pedestal for the use of undertakers for supporting coffins and caskets.

The table top is provided with a cruciform groove, to which are fitted the upper ends of the table legs. The upper and lower ends of the legs near their adjacent sides are provided with slotted straps, as shown in the detached plan view, which hold the parts in proper relation to each other, whether the table is folded or arranged for use.

When the table top is removed the legs are folded together, as shown in the lower view, and held in this position by the slotted straps and by a hook attached to the first of the series of legs and an eye inserted in



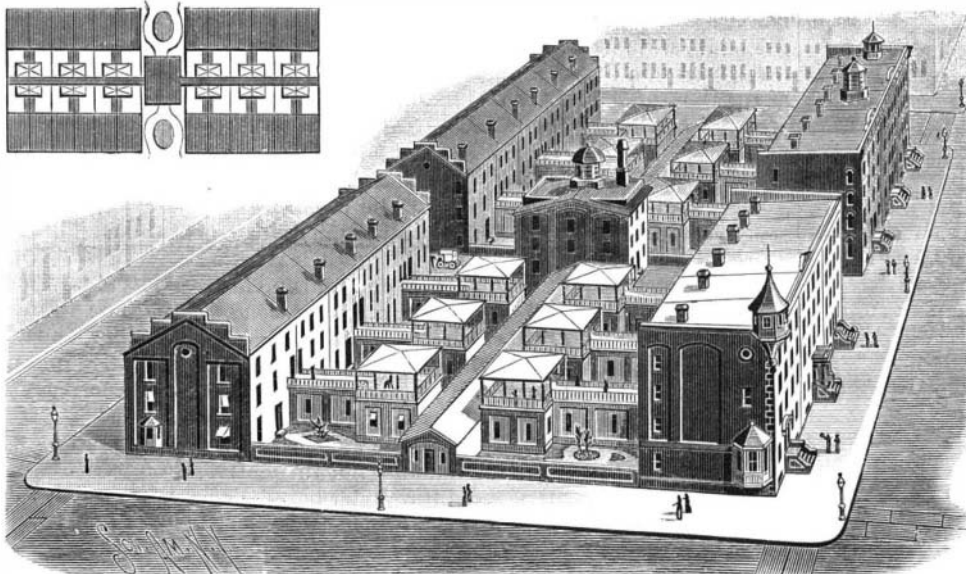
MOAN'S FOLDING TABLE.

the last. When the table is arranged for use it is very strong and capable of supporting considerable weight. When it is knocked down it is very compact, and may, therefore, be readily packed for storage or shipment.

This invention was recently patented by Mr. W. J. Moan, No. 145 India Street, Brooklyn, E. D., N. Y.

IMPROVED DWELLING HOUSES.

The illustration represents a model plan, recently patented by Mr. Leonard E. Ladd, of No. 2144 Mount Vernon Street, Philadelphia, for the building of improved dwelling houses. The plan provides for the erection of a block of buildings, and their connection in such way that the ordinary kitchen work and general supply features will all be cared for in one central building, the illustration showing twenty-four houses laid out after such a scheme, although the system would be equally applicable to at least as many as forty houses. As the average distance through the supply hall for forty houses 18 feet front would only be about 90 feet, the houses proper would admit of more than the usual variety of construction and interior arrangement, from the fact that the kitchen and dining room would not be in them, thus leaving more room for other purposes. From the rear of the ground floor a covered passageway or hall leads to a back building of sufficient size for the dining room, this building being preferably only one story in height, with a tent-like or canopy cover, to form a pleasant place to sit in favorable weather and to protect room from heat of the sun. From the dining rooms of all the buildings in the block a covered passageway or general supply hall extends to a central building, to be used as a common supply building, laundry, and kitchen, and fitted up with appliances for furnishing light and heat, room for servants' quarters, etc. When electric light is used, the dynamos would be located in this building, as also the plant for supplying heat, and the blowers for artificial ventilation, and cold storage, if this was desired. This central building would preferably be connected with each of the houses in the block by a speaking



LADD'S IMPROVEMENTS IN DWELLING HOUSES.

tube or by telephone, whereby the housekeeper could order supplies in advance for each successive meal, the superintendent of the general supply building thus having the opportunity to buy in larger quantities, and better suit individual tastes, according to the larger number to be served. Not only would all the food thus be served without the smell of cooking in the house, and the dishes removed, but there would be no laundry work in the house, no stocking of coal bins and no care of furnaces, with the many other cares incident to ordinary housekeeping, but the readiness of service, under proper regulation, would be vastly superior to that at present realized in most of what may be styled the "best regulated families." The plan of heating is far superior to covering the pipes in the ground, and the distance to carry it will be so short, all condensed steam can return to the boiler hot (if heated with steam), which will be a great saving.

NEW LOCKING ATTACHMENT FOR BICYCLES.

The advantage of being able to lock the steering gear of a bicycle in a fixed position, when it is desired to lean the machine against a building, fence, or other support, will be appreciated by every cyclist. The improvement which we illustrate is applicable to any style of bicycle, whether provided with a central steering head or not. The engraving shows in one view a bicycle provided with the improvement leaning against a support, while the other view shows the parts enlarged and partly in section.

The bicycle frame is provided with a sleeve in the usual way, which contains the upper end of the shank of the steering wheel fork. Upon the sleeve is secured a perforated segmental plate, and to the shank are attached perforated arms, which receive a bolt adapted to enter the holes of the segmental plate. Between a collar on the bolt and the arm above it is placed a

spiral spring, which tends to press the bolt downward. In a slot in the upper end of the bolt is pivoted a lever having a shoulder which rests upon a bar extending across the aperture in which the bolt slides, and through the slot of the bolt. This lever is adapted



WITTLIG'S LOCKING DEVICE FOR BICYCLES.

to lift the bolt and hold it in an elevated position, so as to permit of freely moving the bicycle fork.

When it is desired to lock the fork and the steering wheel in a fixed position, the bolt is released by turning down the shouldered lever, when the spring will force the bolt into the aperture of the segmental plate, and thus lock the steering apparatus in a fixed position.

This device can be operated in an instant. It may be made light, and there is no danger of its being broken, as the collar on the head will turn before the bolt can be overstrained. The attachment adds to the appearance of the machine, and is, withal, very useful and desirable.

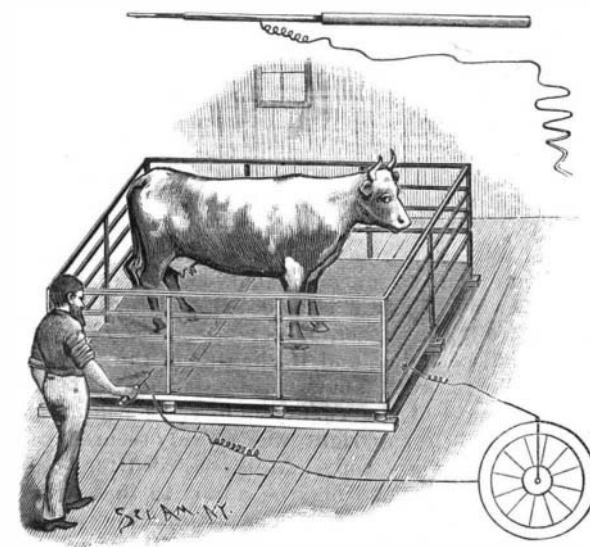
This invention has been patented by Mr. Fred E. Wittlig, of Marietta, Ohio.

ELECTRIC SLAUGHTERING APPARATUS.

The inventors of the slaughtering apparatus shown in the engraving have found by experiment that their method of killing animals by means of a high tension electrical current is less cruel and barbarous than the ordinary method. They also find that the animal bleeds more freely, and that the meat is benefited by the passage through it of an electric current. The inventors state that meat slaughtered by this method will keep longer than by other methods, and that pork slaughtered by electricity is found to be entirely free from trichinae.

The apparatus consists in a pen provided with a metallic floor divided into two sections, an electric generator for supplying a current of sufficiently high tension for the purpose, and a hand electrode for applying the current to the animal. The pen rests upon insulators, and one portion of the metallic floor is connected with the dynamo, which is represented diagrammatically in the engraving.

The animal to be killed is first driven through a shallow pool of water to wet its hoofs, so as to secure a good electrical contact with the sections of the metallic floor. When the animal stands partly upon each section, it may be killed by bringing the electrode into contact with the rear part of the floor, thereby causing



MILLER & DOFFLEMEYER'S SLAUGHTERING APPARATUS.