

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

GUSTAF L. R. DAHLBERG, OF ALLWOOD, NEW JERSEY.

EASEL.

No. 809,785.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Jan. 9, 1906.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, GUSTAF L. R. DAHLBERG, a citizen of the United States, residing at Allwood, in the county of Passaic and State of New Jersey, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Easels, of which the following, taken in connection with the accompanying drawings, is a full, clear, and exact specification.

This invention has relation to easels of the general variety illustrated in my previous patents, No. 569,410, of October 13, 1896, and No. 574,242, of December 29, 1896—that is, to small and light easels, such as are capable of employment on tables or shelves or in any other situations to sustain various articles for display, convenience, ornamentation, and such like purposes.

The principal object of my present invention is to provide or produce a simple, cheap, and effective easel having two side wings or standards and capable of being cut or formed from a single piece of material which may be shipped flat and readily and easily bent or folded to form the desired article, the parts being capable of being securely locked, so as to maintain their proper relative positions, and of being easily and quickly returned to their flattened position, if so desired.

Subordinate objects are to effect an economy in the amount of material employed as well as in the labor of manufacturing the article.

To accomplish the foregoing objects and to secure other and further advantages in the matters of construction and use, my improvements involve certain novel and useful peculiarities of construction and arrangements or combinations of parts, as will be herein first fully described and then pointed out in the claims.

In the accompanying drawings, forming part of this specification, Figure 1 is a perspective view showing my improved form of easel with the parts bent and locked in the position which they are made to assume when the easel is ready for use. Fig. 2 is a plan view representing the blank from which the easel to be formed is made, all the parts being shown flat or unbent.

In both figures like letters of reference wherever they occur indicate corresponding parts.

It should be understood that the blank for the improved easel may be cut from wood or paper or sheet metal or other suitable ma-

terial, and the cutting may be accomplished by a single die or by a number of different dies, as may be preferred.

From a flat piece of pasteboard or other material I cut a blank having the general outline shown in Fig. 2, the bottom lines *a* and *b* making each an angle with the line *c* such that when the winged portions are bent to their destined location the easel will stand on a flat surface with its front face at the desired angle, whatever that may be. The portion represented at A forms one wing and the portion represented at B forms the other wing, the two wings when the easel is in use constituting the backstay therefor or for the front plate or face thereof. The top part of the latter is represented at C, and it is against this face that the articles are generally placed to be sustained in their desired position; but having two wings either the front or the back of the easel may be employed for sustaining articles, as will be readily understood. To facilitate bending, I score the blank when made of pasteboard or wood or very thick paper along the lines *d d* and *e e*, which score-lines, with the margins, outline the blank into three principal parts and enable the parts to be bent one with respect to the other along the proper lines and without damaging the material. In each of the wings A and B, I make an opening, as at D and E, to receive the ends or ears of the locking flap. The upper margins of these openings are somewhat longer than the lower margins, so as to easily receive the locking ends or ears of the flap or locking-piece before the latter is bent down to place and to form, with the ears, an effective lock when the final adjustment is made. That the flap may swing down to its final position without binding the side margins of these openings are slightly curved.

The flap or locking-piece is represented at F. It is cut mainly from the central portion of the blank between the score-lines *d d* and *e e*. A cross score-line is made at *f* about on a line with the bottoms of the openings D and E. The sides of the flap are formed by cutting through the blank on the lines *g* and *h*, and the extreme swinging margin of the flap is formed by cutting through on the line *i*. The locking-ears *k* and *l* are cut out of the side portions A and B, the cut lines joining with the side lines *g* and *h* and the outer line *i*, substantially as indicated. The locking-ears are of size and shape to easily pass

through the upper parts of the openings D and E when the flap is sufficiently bent down on the score-line *f*, as on a hinge, the side wings being bent back to receive the ears—
 5 that is, to their final bent position. By forcing the flap down the ears engage the outside portions of the side wings, and when the flap is in its lowermost position, as in Fig. 1, all the parts will be locked in the position which
 10 they are intended to occupy when the easel is set up ready for use, and being so formed the easel is substantial.

Ordinary use of the easel will not disturb the stability of the parts in their locked position; but if it be desired to unfold the easel and lay it out flat, as it is when packed, then the flap is only to be raised and the parts swung back to the flat position, substantially as indicated in Fig. 2.

20 By cutting out the ears, as indicated, recesses are left in the side wings, and these may be employed, if so desired, for holding small articles, such as a pen or pencil, and similar articles might be passed through the
 25 openings D and E. The locking-flap when finally located constitutes a small shelf, which on occasion might be employed to sustain small articles.

The uses of the easel are sufficiently obvious.

30 The cutting of the blank to form the parts in the manner described enables me to make these small easels in large numbers at very trifling expense. The facility with which
 35 the cut blanks may be bent and locked in position enables any one to quickly set up the easel ready for use.

40 By making the two flaps continuous with the central part or face I obviate the necessity of any pasting or manufacturing manipulation after the blank leaves the cutting-die.

The improved easel will be found to admirably answer all the purposes or objects of the invention hereinbefore alluded to.

Having now fully described my invention, 45 what I claim as new herein, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. The combination in an easel formed of a single piece, of the face-plate, and the backstay composed of the two wings, said wings 50 being partly separated from the face-plate by score-lines to enable the backstay to be set in a position for supporting the face-plate in use and being provided with openings having curved sides, the face-plate having also a
 55 flap partly separated from it by a score-line, said flap being provided with ears arranged to engage with the two openings in the wings when the latter are bent back and the flap bent down, substantially as described. 60

2. The combination in an easel formed of a single piece, of the face-plate, and the backstay composed of the two wings, said wings being partly separated from the face-plate by
 65 score-lines to enable the backstay to be set in a position for supporting the face-plate in use, the locking-flap partly separated from the face-plate by a score-line and provided with ears on each side cut from the material
 70 of the side wings, the side wings having openings therethrough to receive the locking-ears, the upper margins of said openings being longer than the lower margins thereof and the side margins being curved, substantially
 75 as and for the purposes set forth.

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

GUSTAF L. R. DAHLBERG.

Witnesses:

C. SEDGWICK,
 J. M. HOWARD.