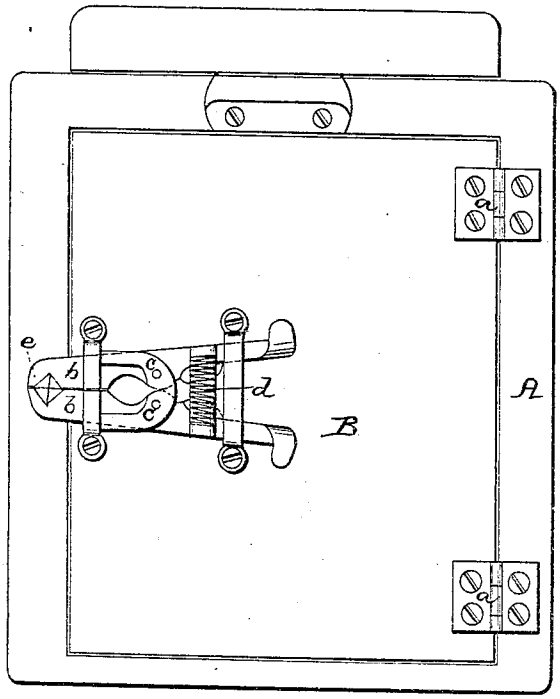
H. C. Eddy,

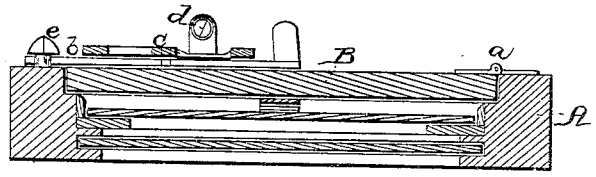
Catch for Photographic Plate-Holder.

No. 44,169. Patented Sep. 13, 1864.

Fig; 1.



Fig; 2.



Witnesses;
Thos. Tweed
Wm. F. McNamara

Inventor;
Henry C. Eddy

A.M. PHOTO-LITHO. CO. N.Y. (OSBORNE'S PROCESS)

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

HENRY C. EDDY, OF JERSEY CITY, NEW JERSEY.

CATCH FOR A PHOTOGRAPHIC-PLATE HOLDER.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 44,169, dated September 13, 1864.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, HENRY C. EDDY, of Jersey City, in the county of Hudson and State of New Jersey, have invented a new and Improved Plate-Holder Catch; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description thereof, which will enable others skilled in the art to make and use the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, forming part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 is a face view of my invention. Fig. 2 is a horizontal section of the same.

Similar letters of reference indicate like parts.

This invention relates to an improvement in the catch or latch which closes the lid of the plate-holder of a photographic camera, and which is so arranged that it is not liable to open accidentally.

Plate-holders of the ordinary construction are provided with a simple lever-catch, calculated to close the lid and keep it closed from the time the plate has been inserted until it arrives in the dark-room. The slide in front of the plate, which is pushed down as soon as the picture has been taken, is not liable to open spontaneously as long as the plate-holder is held in an upright position; but the lid, being closed by an ordinary latch or catch, may open if by some accident the catch becomes entangled with the garment of the operator or if it strikes against something, and if it opens only instantaneously the smallest ray of light admitted to the plate darkens the picture or spoils the effect, and sometimes the operator is unable to account for the reason. To avoid this difficulty and to arrange the catch so that it will hold without fail and perfectly secure the lid of the plate-holder is the object or my invention.

A represents the plate-holder of a photographic camera constructed in the ordinary manner. Its lid B is connected to the frame A by hinges *a*, and it is closed by a spring-catch, C. This catch is made with double spring-jaws, *b b*, which have their fulcrum on pivots *c c*, and are subjected to the action of a spring, *d*, which forces their shanks apart, and consequently throws the points of the jaws together. These jaws catch over the conical head of a stud, *e*, which forms a shoulder, and is so formed that when the lid is closed the two jaws strike the inclined planes of the same and are forced open until they pass the lower edge of said head, when they close round the shank of the stud and hold the lid firmly closed. This double catch is not liable to open spontaneously, for if one of the shanks is accidentally brought in contact with the body of the operator or with some other thing, whereby the same should be forced back, thus causing that jaw to open, the other jaw still holds the lid firmly closed, and no light is enabled to find access to the picture.

The two jaws, being made to open in opposite directions, are not liable to be thrown open simultaneously by a mere accident, and at the same time they are easily opened and closed, so that the operator has no trouble in opening the lid in the dark room.

I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent—

The double catch C, consisting of two spring-jaws *b b*, and operating in combination with the conical-headed stud *e* and hinged lid B, in the manner and for the purpose substantially as herein shown and described.

HENRY C. EDDY.

Witnesses:

THEO. TUSCH,

M. M. LIVINGSTON.