

E. BIERSTADT.

STEREOSCOPE.

No. 174,893.

Patented March 21, 1876.

Fig. 1.

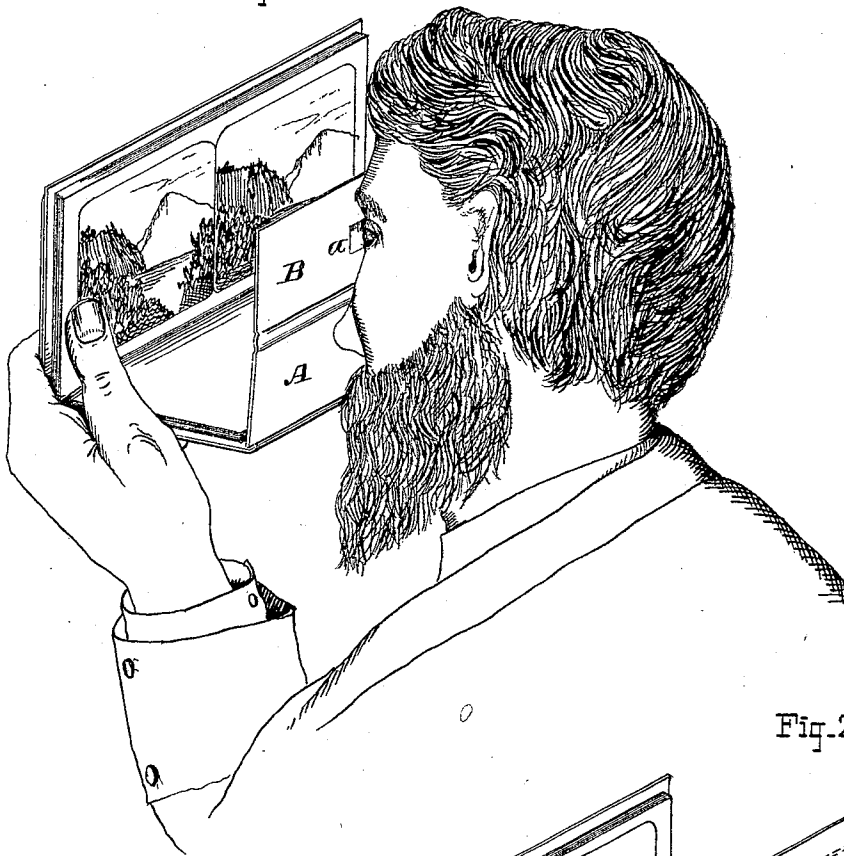


Fig. 2.

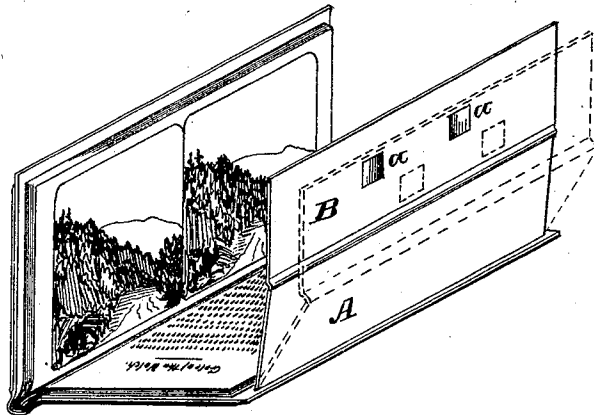
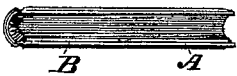


Fig. 3.



ATTEST:

Alfred Rix
George J. Doe

INVENTOR:

Edward Bierstadt.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

EDWARD BIERSTADT, OF JERSEY CITY, NEW JERSEY.

IMPROVEMENT IN STEREOSCOPES.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **174,893**, dated March 21, 1876; application filed November 17, 1875.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, EDWARD BIERSTADT, of Jersey City, county of Hudson and State of New Jersey, have made a new and useful Improvement in Stereoscopes, of which the following is a specification, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a perspective view, showing how the stereoscope is used. Fig. 2 is also a perspective view, the dotted line indicating the adjustment of the focus. Fig. 3 is an end view, showing the stereoscope closed and the flaps folded in.

The stereoscopic pictures or views are bound in book form, with their bottoms to the back of the book, and their faces to the front or upward when the book lies on its back. To the outer edge of the front cover is attached a double flap, A B. The two parts A and B are stiff, like the cover, while their junctions with the cover and with each other are flexible or jointed. The two parts of the flap, taken together, may have about the same width as the cover, or a little less, so that they fold inward, and lie extended on the inside of the cover and shut into the book as a part of it, as shown in Fig. 3. In the outer leaf B of the flap are set two eyeglasses, *a a*, about two and a half inches apart from center to center. These glasses are known as prismatic lenses—that is, they are a double-convex lens, divided transversely, and so set that their thin edges are toward each other. The holes through the leaf in which the glasses are set may be a little more than half an inch square. They are a trifle larger than the holes, and are so placed therein as to make their general outer surfaces as nearly parallel as practicable with the surface of the leaf in which they are set. This causes the general lines of their inner

surfaces to incline toward each other, whereby the lines of light are brought into the proper relative positions.

The width of the front cover and the focal distance of the lenses should be proportioned so as to suit the average eye when the whole flap is perpendicular to the cover, leaving exceptional eyes to be accommodated by the adjustability of the glasses.

The operation is as follows: To inspect the pictures the book is held open in one hand, with the picture to be examined vertical, while all the leaves between the picture and the front cover are laid horizontally, as shown in Fig. 1. With the other hand the glasses are adjusted to the eyes. The double flap not only enables this to be done easily and perfectly, but also allows the planes of the glasses and picture to be parallel with each other at all times. The manner of adjusting is clearly shown in Fig. 2.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

As a new article of manufacture, a stereoscopic album consisting of a book, the leaves of which are illustrated with stereoscopic pictures, and to one of the covers of which is hinged a flap made up in two parts, connected together by a flexible joint, the upper part of the flap carrying two stereoscopic lenses, said flap being adapted to fold closely between the cover and leaves of the book when closed, giving the same the appearance of an ordinary book, substantially as described.

EDWARD BIERSTADT.

Witnesses:

ALFRED RIX,
GEORGE I. DOE.