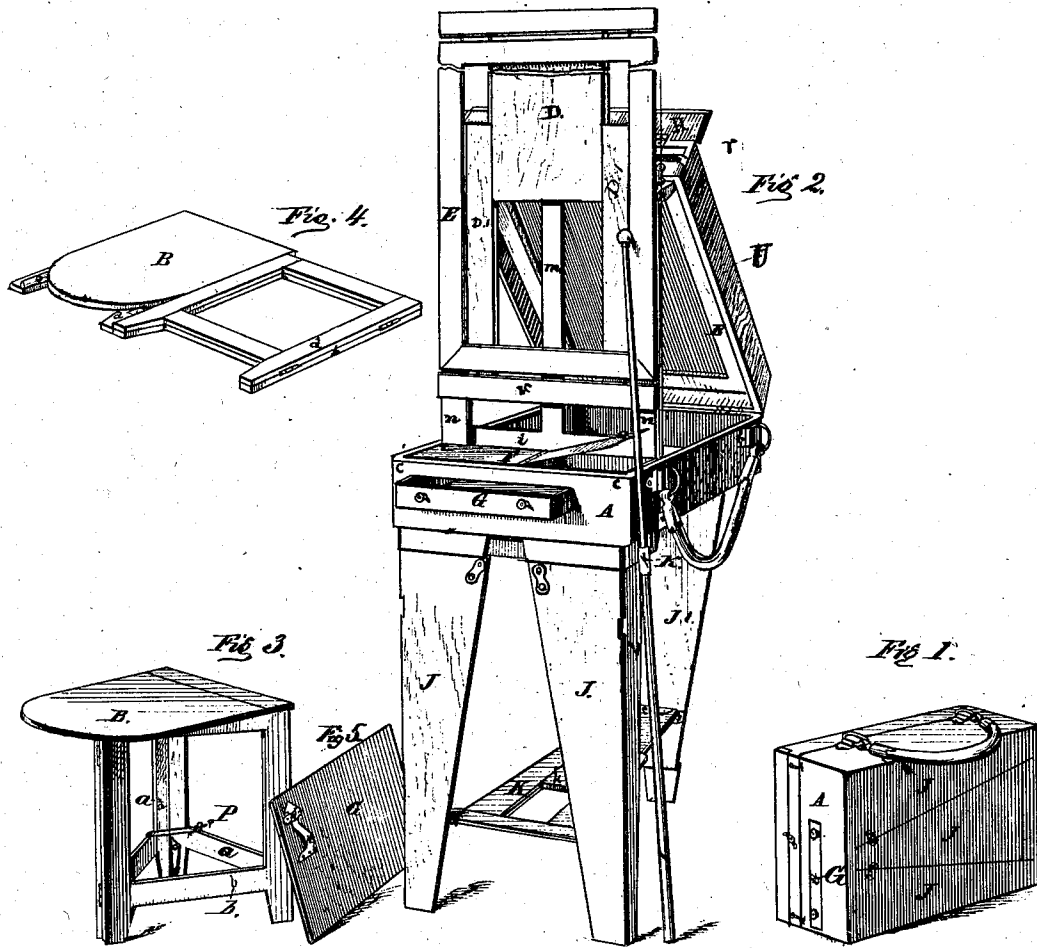


E. G. CHORMANN.
Artists' Kits.

No. 154,583.

Patented Sept. 1, 1874.



Witnessed
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ERNEST G. CHORMANN, OF PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA.

IMPROVEMENT IN ARTISTS' KITS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 154,583, dated September 1, 1874; application filed December 26, 1873.

To all whom it may concern :

Be it known that I, E. G. CHORMANN, of Philadelphia, county of Philadelphia and State of Pennsylvania, have invented certain Improvements in Sketching-Easels, of which the following is a specification:

My invention relates to the construction of the several parts, and their arrangement and combination in such a manner that the easel proper, the stretchers for the canvas, the palette and colors, a stool to sit upon, and all the materials and subordinate implements necessary for sketching, including, also, the legs to sustain the whole apparatus, may be folded, packed, and inclosed in a rectangular box, of smooth exterior, and may be carried by a handle in the hand.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 represents a perspective view of the whole apparatus, in a condition to be carried, like a valise, in the hand; Fig. 2, a like view of the same, with the stool, palette, and maul-stick removed, mounted ready for use; Figs. 3 and 4, like views of the stool, in different positions; and Fig. 5, a like view of the palette, with its thumb-strap.

A is the lower portion of the containing-box, and U the top part, hinged thereto, as shown in Fig. 2. H is a door-shutter, hinged to the front end of the top, and through the door may be inserted one or more stretchers, E, for canvas, and they are sustained by and slide upon suitable cleats attached to the inner side of the top U. The lower portion A will contain the maul-stick, which is jointed so as to double up, but when extended the joint is covered and held rigid by a runner, k, and it will also contain the various implements and materials required by the artist. The palette C is also placed in the back part thereof, and sustained by cleats on each side, near the top edge, so as to leave as much free space as possible for brushes, pencils, &c. In the front portion is the color-box F, with two lids hinged in the center, as shown. G is a drawer to contain oil-tubes and extra colors. Against each inner side of the lower portion A, and just behind the color-box, are two shoes, into which are inserted the two feet of the upright stationary frame of the easel proper. That frame consists of the cross-pieces *i* and *i*, one at the bot-

tom and the other at the top, and the side uprights *n* and *n*, and the central upright *m*. The top of that frame is hinged to the top of the box by two metal plates, *r*, one on each side, in such a manner that the top of the frame may stand outside the top of the box when it is in use, and when it is not in use the feet may be raised out of their shoes, and the whole frame, including the easel proper, may be folded up and stowed away entirely within the said top; but when the top of the frame is outside, for use, it may be locked in that position, by means of the hooks and eyes shown.

The easel proper consists of the cross-piece *v* and the uprights *D*¹ *D*¹, provided on their outer sides with tongues to slide in corresponding grooves in the inner edges of the uprights *n* and *n* of the frame, and the uprights *D*¹ *D*¹ are provided in their inner edges with grooves for the corresponding tongues of the sliding board *D*, the upper end of which is provided with its cross-piece *D*².

The cross-piece *v* of the main slide may be provided with friction-pulleys, rolling upon the edges of the vertical bar *m* of the frame, or any other suitable regulation of motion may be used for the vertical adjustment of the easel proper, and then upon the easel may be mounted a stretcher, E, as shown in Fig. 2.

The palette C is made without the usual thumb-hole, but is provided upon the under side with the thumb-strap M N, as shown in Fig. 5, which serves the purpose better, and is free from the objections to which the thumb-hole is liable.

The containing-box may be provided with three legs, J J J, a single hinder leg at the rear end, and hinged thereto, so that it will fold up, inwardly, to the front, and two fore legs, framed together, and each hinged on the inner side, so that they will together fold inwardly toward the rear, and each is provided with a side wing, L, which is hinged to it so that it will fold against it, to save space in packing up.

When in use, the wing is held out at right angles to the leg by spring-catches upon the lower part of the box A. The wings serve to stiffen and strengthen the fore legs, which are also connected with the hinder leg by a sliding brace, which holds the fore legs exactly

the required distance apart, and also holds them and the hinder leg at the proper distance asunder. This brace is also hinged to the fore legs on the inside in such a manner that it will fold up against them in packing up. Its slide *k*, provided with side tongues for the grooves in brace *K*, is provided also on the rear end with a broad metallic hook to catch and fasten into a suitable metallic pocket on the inner side of the hinder leg. When the legs are to be folded together this slide is unhooked and drawn within the main brace *K*, so as to occupy little space lengthwise; but when the legs are sustaining the box the slide is run out, adjusted to the proper length, and fastened so by proper catch-pin. In folding up the legs the wings are first folded against the fore legs; then the brace *K*, being shortened by running in the slide, is turned up also against them, and between the two wings the fore legs are folded up against the bottom of the box, and then the hinder leg is folded up against it likewise, and between the fore legs, and is there fastened by catches, and then the bottom of the box presents the appearance shown in Fig. 1; but, before being so folded up, the stool, folded as shown in Fig. 4, is first stowed away under the bottom of the box, and the legs folded upon it.

The stool is composed of three rectangular frames, of exactly the same form and dimensions, to the top of the first of which the straight end of the seat *B* is hinged, so that it will turn down against the side of the frame. To the side of that frame the second is so hinged as to fold down upon it, and to the second the third is hinged in like manner. In Fig. 4 the third is folded down upon the second, and the seat down upon the first, ready for stowing away under the box; but in Fig. 3 the seat *B* has been turned up, and the three frames placed on end under it, and fastened firmly together by means of the strap and catch *P*, and

the seat is rendered still more steady upon the frames by means of slats fastened against its under side, in either side of the top bars of the frames, so as to prevent any lateral yielding.

My said invention does not relate to the materials of which the sketching-easel may be made, and it may, therefore, be made of any suitable material.

What I claim as my invention is—

1. The box composed of the bottom portion *A*, the top *U*, provided with hinged door *H*, and rests and spaces for the stretchers *E*, constructed substantially as and for the purpose described.

2. The combination of the two fore legs *J J*, framed together and provided with wings hinged to them, and they themselves hinged to the bottom of the containing-box, and the hinder leg *J'* likewise hinged to the bottom of the box, and the slide-brace *K* and *k*, all constructed and arranged substantially as shown and described, for the purpose set forth.

3. The combination of the stool shown in Figs. 3 and 4, the containing-box *A U*, and the legs *J, J*, and *J'*, constructed and arranged substantially as described, for the purpose set forth.

4. The combination of the palette *C*, provided with the thumb-strap *M N*, with the containing-box *A U*, constructed and arranged substantially as shown and described.

5. The combination of the stationary frame *n n m i i* and the sliding frame *v D¹, D¹, and D*, constructed and arranged substantially as and for the purpose described.

6. The combination of the jointed manl-stick *I*, having the runner *k*, with the containing-box composed of the parts *A* and *U*, arranged substantially as described.

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Witnesses:

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