C. D. MOSHER.

Photograph-Album.

No. 169,186. Patented Oct. 26, 1875.

Fig. 1.

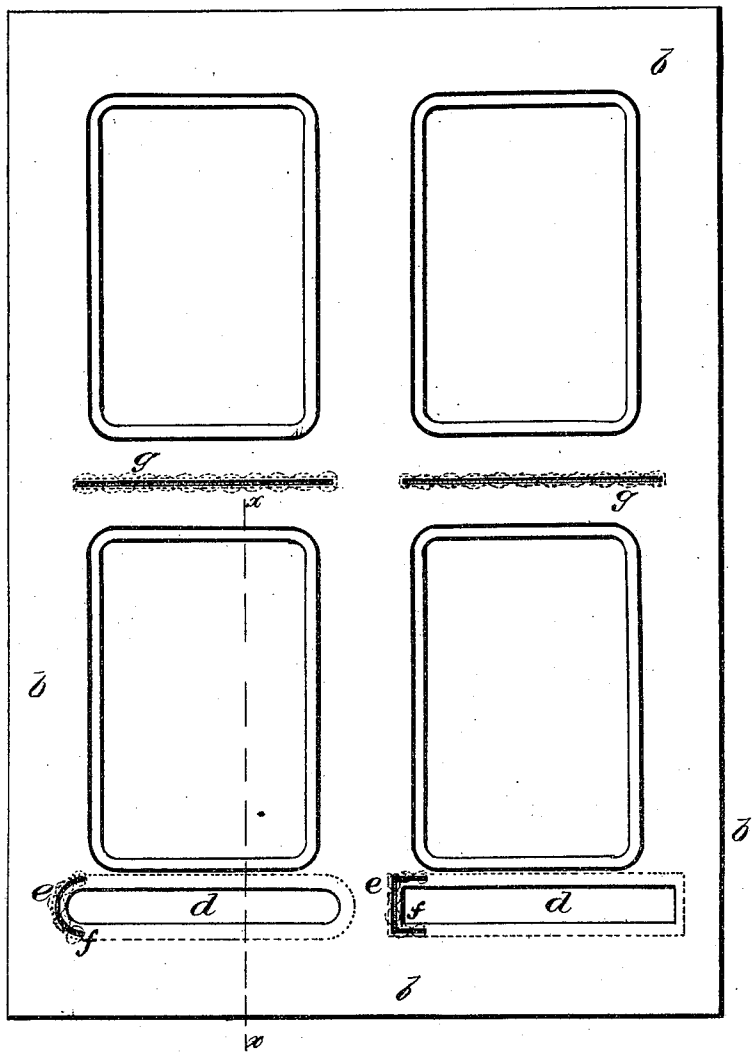
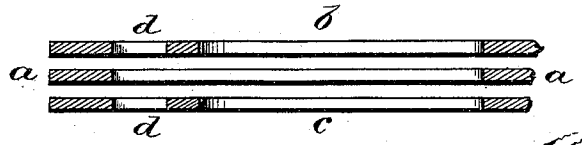


Fig. 2.

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CHARLES D. MOSHER, OF CHICAGO, ILLINOIS.

IMPROVEMENT IN PHOTOGRAPH-ALBUMS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **169,186**, dated October 26, 1875; application filed September 16, 1875.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, CHARLES D. MOSHER, of Chicago, Cook county, Illinois, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Photographic Albums, of which the following is a full description, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 shows a plan view of an album-leaf, adapted to receive four photographs, and represents two ways of securing the pictures in place. Fig. 2 is a vertical section at *x x* of Fig. 1, except that the three pieces of which the leaf is made are, for convenience, somewhat separated from each other.

As photographic albums have been heretofore made the photographs can be easily removed, and they are frequently removed without authority, to the great annoyance of the owner. Such albums have also been so made that the photographs soon become scratched or otherwise defaced by handling the book, because the pictures are placed behind a thin sheet of paper, and the surfaces of pictures in opposite leaves are liable to come in contact with each other.

The chief objects of my invention are to obviate these difficulties, which I accomplish by the means described. While providing for securing the photographs in place, I also provide, if desired, a receptacle for the name, autograph, or otherwise, of the person represented, and this is an important feature of my improvement. The leaves of my album are each made of three pieces, which is not new.

The interior of the middle piece *a* is cut away to make room for the photographs. A portion of the two other pieces, *b c*, is also cut away, leaving one or more open spaces for the photographs. Four are shown. These pieces I make of heavy card-board, so that when the pictures are in place they cannot rub one against another, being placed behind the thick board, and are thus materially protected from defacement. Below the opening for the card, picture, or photograph is a narrow, long opening, *d*, its length being equal to the width of the picture and somewhat longer than the width of the opening behind which the card is to be placed. At one end of this long opening *d* is a blind cut or slit through the part *b* or *c*, marked *e*. The three pieces *a b c* are to be secured together at the edges without leaving any openings in the edges for the admission of the cards, which are to be inserted through the openings *d*. After the photographs have been inserted through *d* a narrow strip of card, somewhat wider than the opening *d*, is to be inserted through the slit *e*, after which the lip *f* can be secured by the use of paste, thus securing the photograph so that it cannot be removed readily, as heretofore. The name of the person represented can be written upon the narrow strip or card, either before or after it has been inserted. It will be well to cut the slit *e* on a bevel.

I have shown a second method of making the leaf, so that the pictures can be secured in place. This can be done by cutting a long slit, *g*, in the outer piece of card-board, through which the photograph is to be inserted, and, when in place, the slit is to be permanently closed by means of paste. This method does not furnish a place for the person's name. This slit *g* I do not cut so that the edges will be at right angles to the leaf, but so that the edges will be beveled; then one edge of this slit *g* can be secured to the other edge by means of paste, completely and effectually closing up the slit or opening and securing the photograph in its place. If the edges of the slit *g* were straight, instead of beveled, they would be likely to draw apart, and would not adhere, and, the board being thick, it would be difficult to insert the photograph without scratching it. After the openings or cuts *e* or *g* have been made I run a suitable tool over the same, so formed as to be adapted to stamp or form an ornamental border over the slits or cuts; and this can be done in such a manner that the slits or cuts will be practically invisible, and the face of the leaf will not be marred by the slits or cuts.

The tool can be conveniently made by the use of a small wheel, having an ornamented edge, and revolving in a suitable handle; or, in place of such tool, a stamp can be used.

e and *g* are cut on a bevel to facilitate the insertion of the card bearing the name.

What I claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is as follows:

1. An album-leaf having one or more openings for photographs, and beneath such openings a long narrow opening, *d*, and a cut or slit, *e*, near the one end of such opening *d*, to receive a piece of card, *f*, substantially as and for the purposes set forth.

2. An album-leaf, composed of three or more pieces, the outer pieces *b c* made of thick card-board, provided with one or more openings for photographs, so that in use the pictures will be materially protected from injury.

3. An album-leaf, composed of two or more pieces, the outer pieces *b c*, having one or more openings for photographs, and beneath such openings a long beveled cut or slit, *g*, adapted to be closed up by paste, and practically concealed by means of an ornamental stamp over the same, substantially as and for the purposes set forth.

CHARLES D. MOSHER.

Witnesses:
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