No. 613,091. Patented Oct. 25, 1898.

H. STENGEL.

PICTURE FRAME.

(Application filed Mar. 8, 1898.)

(No Model.)

Fig. 1.

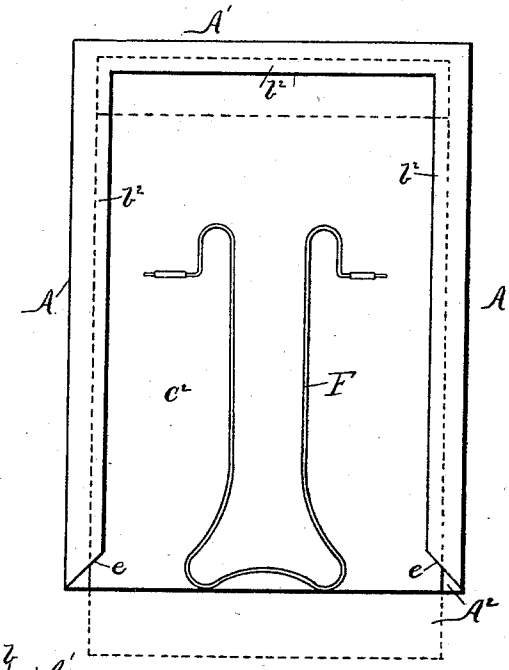


Fig. 2.

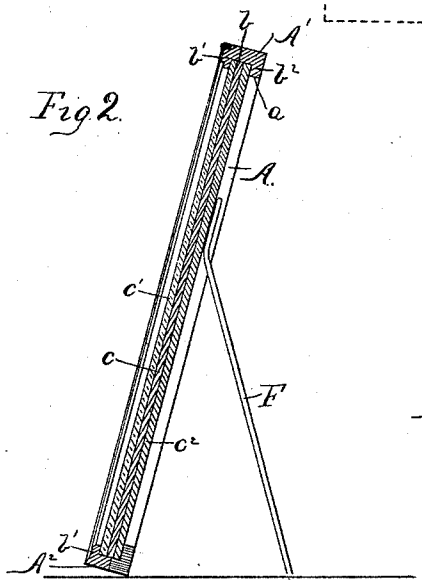
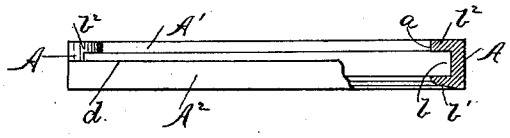


Fig. 3.



WITNESSES

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PICTURE-FRAME.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 613,091, dated October 25, 1898.

Application filed March 8, 1898. Serial No. 673,119. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, HENRY STENGEL, a citizen of the United States, residing at New York, in the county of New York and State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Picture-Frames, of which the following is a full and complete specification, such as will enable those skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same.

This invention relates to picture-frames; and it has for its object to provide a simple and improved picture-frame which will provide for the convenient removal of the picture, mat, and glass and operate to securely retain said parts in position.

A further object of my invention is to provide an improved picture-frame in which the securing of the back board by tacks or nails and the liability of the picture and other articles falling out when the frame is turned over into inverse position will be entirely obviated.

To these ends my invention comprises a depressed seat or socket in the inner face or edge of the bars of the frame, said socket being so constructed that the picture and mat and glass may be slid into the same and dropped down into their seat therein, in which position they will be retained by a sliding back board, all substantially as hereinafter fully described, and specifically pointed out in the claims.

The invention is fully disclosed in the following specification, of which the accompanying drawings form a part, in which the separate parts of my improvement are designated by the same letters of reference in each of the views, and in which—

Figure 1 is a rear elevation of a picture-frame embodying my improvements. Fig. 2 is a vertical sectional view taken through the frame and showing the removable members in position; and Fig. 3 is a bottom edge view, partly in section.

Ordinarily in picture-frames the strips or bars forming the frame are provided with a recess in their rear face at the inner edge, in which recess the removable members are simply set and secured by means of a back board, which is retained by tacking or nailing. The edges of the removable members are thus not inclosed within the bars of the frame, and the pressure or strain is directed against said tacks or nails.

In carrying out my improvements I provide at the inner edges or face a of the side bars A A and end bars A′ A^2 continuous grooves b, which form continuous projecting flanges b' at the front of the side and end bars of the frame and corresponding continuous flanges b^2 at the rear of the two sides and one end bar A′ of the frame, said rear flange b^2 being omitted at the opposite end bar A^2 for the purposes hereinafter described. Said groove b, with its front and rear flanges b' and b^2, thus forms a seat in which the edges of the removable members will be retained both at the front and rear.

I prefer to have the rear flange b^2 continuously arranged, as herein shown, and corresponding to the front flange b', whereby said continuous flanges will form a friction edge for the more secure retention of the removable members within their seat; but the rear flange b^2 may be formed by projections or in any other suitable manner which will provide a back seat or inclosure for the edges of the removable members. The removable members designated in the specification comprise a picture and its mat c, the glass c', and the back board c^2.

The rear flange b^2 is omitted upon the bottom end bar A^2 of the frame, and the groove b in said end bar A^2 is shallower than the connecting-grooves in the other frame members, so that the rear face or edge of said bar A^2 is on a plane a short distance below the plane of the rear flange b^2, as shown at d. This lower plane of the edge or face of the bar A^2 enables the picture and glass or other removable members to be slid up over said edge d into the frame and under the flange b^2, when they will drop into their seat in the groove b, which extends continuously at the sides of the frame, and will have their edges housed and carried in said continuous grooved seat. The back board c^2 is then slid in under the rear flange b^2, and when in position its lower end will rest upon the edge d.

To facilitate the sliding of the removable members into position, the lower ends of the side bars A of the frame at their flanged and grooved portion b and b^2 are preferably bev-

eled inwardly, as shown at *e*, said bevel extending downwardly to the plane of the edge or face *d*.

The back board c^2 may be provided with a standard or support F, adapted to project downwardly in an inclined position and form a rest by which the picture-frame will be maintained in standing position upon a table or other supporting-base, as shown in Fig. 2, or suitable devices by which the picture-frame may be suspended can be connected to said back board c^2 or to the bars of the frame.

It will be noted that the strain upon the back board c^2, when the picture-frame is supported in the position shown in Fig. 2, is upwardly, so that the action of said strain is to more securely set said back board in position under the flange b^2, and any outward strain or pressure is entirely resisted by said flange.

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

1. An improved picture-frame, having the inner edges or faces of its bars or members forming the respective sides of the frame provided with a continuous groove forming front and rear flanges or projections which provide a seat within which the edges of the picture and glass or other separable members are inclosed, one of the end bars of the frame being unprovided with the rear flange or projection and having its rear edge or face on a plane below said rear flanges or projections upon the other bar members of the frame, whereby the picture and glass or other separable members may be slid in over the edge of said end bar and under the rear flange or projection and dropped into their seat within the groove, substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

2. An improved picture-frame, the sides and one end of which are provided on their inner faces or edges with continuous front and rear flanges or projections forming a continuous groove, which provides a seat adapted to receive a picture, glass, mat or other articles, said groove being in communication at one end of the frame with a transverse opening which is partially closed by the crosspiece of the frame at said end, and through which said articles are adapted to be inserted, substantially as shown and described.

3. An improved picture-frame, comprising the usual sides and ends, said sides and one end being provided on their inner faces or edges with continuous front and rear flanges or projections forming a continuous groove, whereby a seat is provided which is adapted to receive a picture, glass, mat, or other articles, said grooves being open at one end of the frame, and said end of the frame being of less thickness than the sides and opposite end thereof, whereby the ends of said groove in the sides of the frame are partially closed, said frame being also provided with means for holding it in an upright position, substantially as shown and described.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing as my invention I have signed my name, in presence of the subscribing witnesses, this 7th day of March, 1898.

HENRY STENGEL.

Witnesses:
L. M. MULLER,
M. A. KNOWLES.