

March 11, 1924.

1,486,652

J. J. FROELICH

COMBINED PHOTOGRAPH FOLDER AND EASEL

Filed Aug. 6, 1923

FIG - 1 -

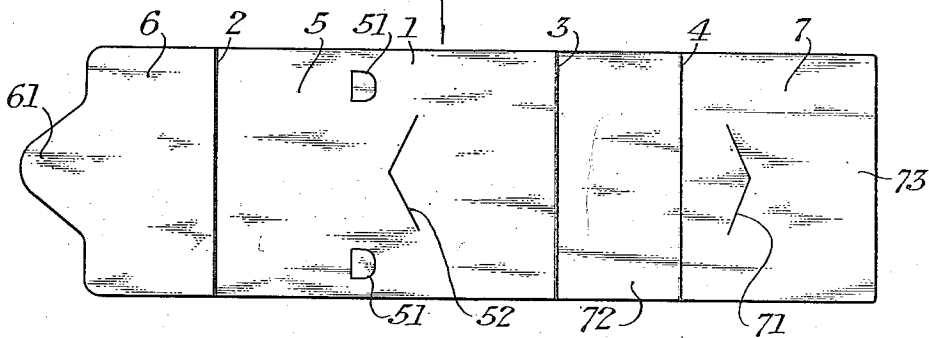


FIG - 2 -

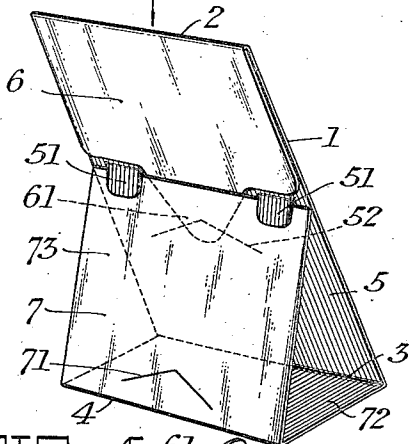


FIG - 3 -

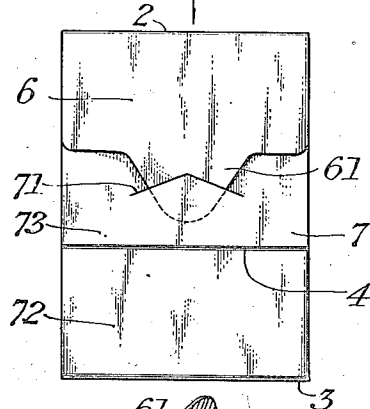


FIG - 4 -

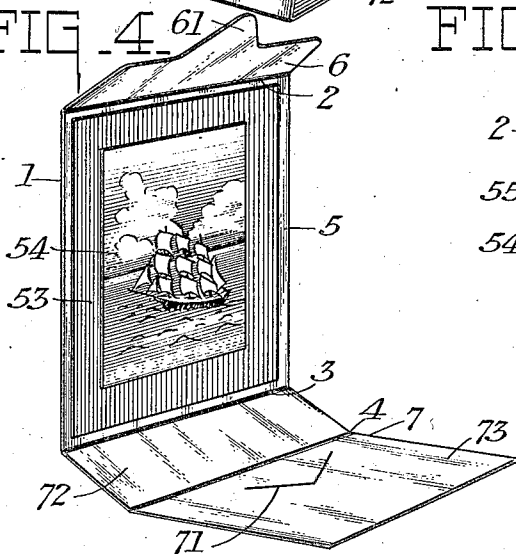
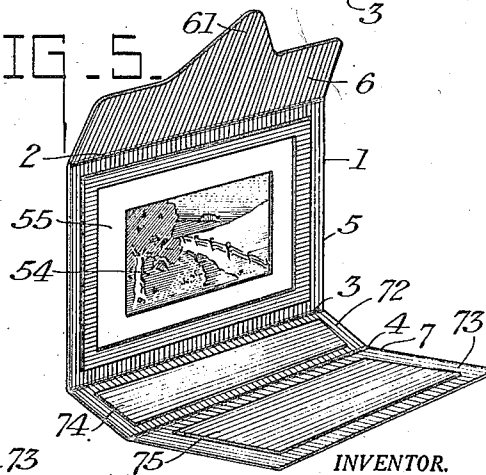


FIG - 5 -



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COMBINED PHOTOGRAPH FOLDER AND EASEL.

Application filed August 6, 1923. Serial No. 655,953.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOSEPH J. FROELICH, a citizen of the United States of America, residing at Kaukauna, in the county of Outagamie and State of Wisconsin, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in a Combined Photograph Folder and Easel, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact specification.

10 This invention relates to combined folders and easels. One object of the invention is to provide a device of this kind of relatively inexpensive construction which can be quickly and positively converted into a
15 folder for protecting a photograph and an easel for displaying it. Other objects will hereinafter appear.

In the accompanying drawings:

20 Fig. 1 is a plan view of one form of a combined folder and easel embodying my invention by way of example;

Fig. 2 is a perspective view of the rear of my device, folded as an easel;

25 Fig. 3 is a plan view of my device employed as a folder;

Fig. 4 is a perspective view of my device at the stage where it is being converted from a folder to an easel or vice versa;

30 Fig. 5 is a similar view of a modification.

While I shall describe the preferred form of my invention by way of example, it will be understood that the invention is not restricted to this form, except as indicated in the appended claims. A strip of material 1, such as tough cardboard of the type commonly employed in photographic folders, is provided with a series of folds 2, 3 and 4, which divide it into four sections. The largest section 5 constitutes the panel upon
40 which the photograph is mounted. The face of panel 5 which receives the picture I shall designate as the front face. It will be noted that I prefer to have the folds 2, 3 and 4 substantially parallel. The folds
45 2 and 3 are especially flexible and permit the tongues 6 and 7 to be folded against either the front or back of panel 5.

50 The flaps 6 and 7 when folded over upon the front or picture-receiving face of panel 5 substantially cover it, as indicated in Fig. 3. I find it convenient to have flap 7 nearly as large as panel 5, flap 6 being relatively smaller. Means is preferably provided for holding the two flaps together in the photograph-protecting position of Fig. 3. This

may conveniently take the form of tongue 61 at the outer edge of flap 6 which can be detachably engaged in slot or cut 71 in flap 7. To facilitate the slipping of tongue 61 into cut 71 the latter may be V shaped, as shown.

The fold 4 divides flap 7 into two portions, of which 72 serves as a supporting base when the device is used as an easel. The remaining portion 73 of flap 7 serves
65 as a supporting brace in the easel arrangement. During the transformation from a folder to an easel the tongue 61 is disengaged from the cut 71, the parts being open as indicated in Fig. 4. Portion 72 of flap
70 7 is turned backwardly about fold 3 until it forms an acute angle with panel 5, as indicated in Fig. 2. Portion 73 of flap 7 is then turned upwardly so as to engage the rear face of panel 5. It is convenient to hold
75 the outer or upper edge of portion 73 in engagement with the rear face of panel 5 by slipping it under tongues 51, preferably, but not necessarily, integral with the rest of the panel.

80 The disposal of flap 6 during the transformation from a folder to an easel can be effected in several different ways. It can, of course, be allowed to hang freely about the fold 2 in back of inclined panel 5, but
85 it is much neater and more preferable to fold it backwardly against the rear face of panel 5, as shown in Fig. 2. The tongue 61 may be sufficiently long to pass behind the upper edge of section 73, in which case
90 tongues 51 not only retain the upper edge of section 73 in position but indirectly hold tongue 61 and flap 6 in the best location. In case this retaining function puts too great a strain upon tongues 51 I
95 provide an angular cut 52 in the back of panel 5 into which the end of tongue 61 may engage. Of course, other suitable holding means than tongues and slots may be employed to hold the parts in their adjusted
100 positions, but I find the ones described above to be inexpensive and convenient.

In its simplest form the device uses a strip 1 of uniform thickness throughout. But one or more of the parts 5, 6, 72 and 73
105 may be provided with stiffening. For example, in Fig. 5 I have shown the section 72 stiffened by an additional piece of material 74, such as cardboard, the section 73 being correspondingly stiffened by an ad-
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herent piece 75. Pieces 74 and 75 may be pasted or dry mounted, or attached in any other suitable manner to sections 72 and 73. They are preferably of slightly smaller size, so as to facilitate the bending of the parts around the folds 3 and 4.

The photographs or pictures may be attached to panel 5 in any suitable way. They may be directly pasted or dry mounted on to the panel. Any other suitable means customarily employed in mounting photographs may be used. Panel 5 may be stiffened by an adherent stiffening piece 53 on which the picture 54 is located (see Fig. 4). Likewise, the picture 54 may be located beneath a relatively stiff cut-out cardboard frame 55, as indicated in Fig. 5. The stiffening of panel 5 by any suitable means, such as piece 53 or frame 55 is desirable because it tends to hold the panel in an unwarped or unbent condition, thus preserving the good appearance of the easel assembly.

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

1. A photographic folder and easel comprising a panel having a front photograph-receiving face and flaps joined to opposite edges of said panel by connections bendable through more than 180°, said flaps being of a size to substantially cover said front face when folded thereover, and one of said flaps having a transverse fold, the portion of said flap between said fold and said panel serving as a supporting base and the rest of said flap serving as a brace to support said panel when said flap is folded back and engaged with the rear face of the panel to form a triangular easel therewith, there being means to retain said parts in the form of said easel, said means being invisible at said front face.

2. A photographic folder and easel comprising a panel having a front

photograph-receiving face and flaps swingingly connected to opposite parallel edges of said panel, said flaps being of a size to substantially cover said front face when folded thereover, said flaps having inter-engaging means for retaining them in said covering position, one of said flaps having a fold parallel to said edges of the panel, the portion of said flap between said fold and said panel serving as a supporting base and the rest of said flap serving as a brace to support said panel when said flap is folded back to form a triangular easel therewith, the other flap being folded against the back face of the panel when in easel position, there being means on the rear face of said panel to retain the ends of both of said flaps in position, said means being foldable substantially flush with said rear face of the panel.

3. A photographic folder and easel comprising a strip of material having a panel with a front photograph-receiving face, and flaps swingingly connected to transverse parallel edges of said panel by folds in the strip, said flaps being of a size to substantially cover said front face when folded thereover, one of said flaps having a fold parallel to said edges of the panel, the portion of said flap between the fold and the panel serving as an easel base and the rest of said flap serving as an easel brace when said flap is folded back to form an easel with the panel, the other flap being folded against the back of said panel when in easel position, there being means on the rear face of the panel to retain the end of said easel brace in position, said end of the easel brace retainingly engaging the end of the other flap, said means being quickly detachable by a relative sliding movement of the parts.

Signed at Kaukauna, Wisconsin this 19 day of July, 1923.

JOSEPH J. FROELICH.