No. 894,918. PATENTED AUG. 4, 1908.

H. TOMLINSON.

PHOTOGRAPHER'S BACKGROUND CARRIER.

APPLICATION FILED MAY 11, 1907.

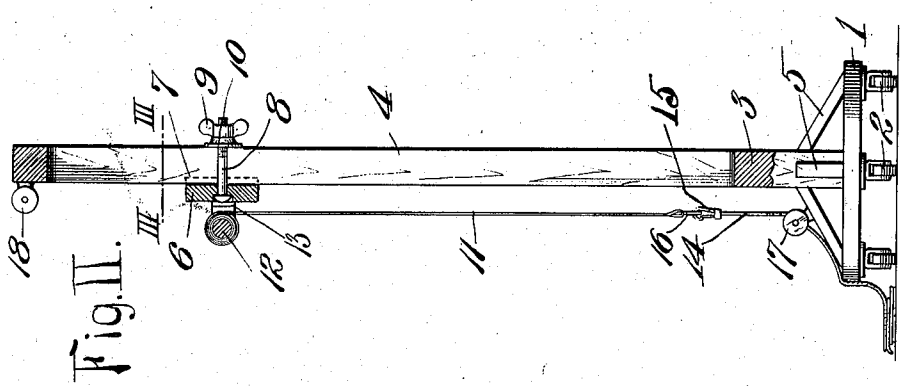


Fig. II.

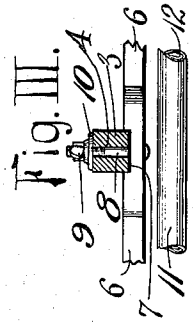


Fig. III.

Fig. I.

Attest

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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PHOTOGRAPHER'S BACKGROUND-CARRIER.

No. 894,918. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Aug. 4, 1908.

Application filed May 11, 1907. Serial No. 373,049.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, HERBERT TOMLINSON, a citizen of the United States of America, residing in Hannibal, in the county of Marion and State of Missouri, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Photographers' Background-Carriers, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description, reference being had to the accompanying drawing, forming part of this specification.

My invention relates to a background carrier for use by photographers and it has for its object to provide a carrier of this description on which the background may be readily and quickly raised and lowered to suit the demands in the use of the background according to the elevation at which a photograph is to be taken; also a carrier that provides for the background being inverted so as to place the shading portion of the background at either side of the carrier by inversion of the means to which the background is attached; also a carrier having parts that may be readily folded into smaller compass than the carrier occupies when in its condition for service, thereby providing for economy of space occupied by the carrier when not in use.

Figure I is a front elevation of my background carrier with the background supported thereby. Fig. II is a vertical section taken on line II—II, Fig. I. Fig. III is a horizontal cross section taken on line III—III, Figs. I and II.

The frame of my background carrier comprises a base 1 that is mounted upon casters 2 and a post 3 surmounting the base and provided with a vertical slot 4, said post being rigidly held in upright position upon the base by braces 5.

6 designates a background supporting cross arm that is mortised centrally as indicated at 7, and fitted to the post 3. This cross arm is held to the post by means of a clamping bolt 8 that is seated in the cross arm and extends through the slot in the post 3, the shank of the bolt being threaded and having applied thereto a thumb nut 9 that bears against a washer 10 that is interposed between the nut and the rear face of the post 3. The means of connection between the cross arm and the post provides for the ready vertical adjustment of the cross arm on the post when the nut 9 of said means is loosened and again tightened in order that said arm may be raised and lowered to positions at either the top or bottom of the post or to positions intermediate of the first named.

11 is a background of flexible material, such as fabric, that is attached to a roller 12 on which it may be wound and which is mounted in brackets 13 attached to the cross arm 6, the roller being of the spring controlled type commonly utilized as hangers for window shades. No invention is herein claimed, however, for the construction of this roller and the spring mechanism thereof is not shown. To provide for the manipulation of the background 11 I utilize a pull cord 14 that is preferably supplied with a snap hook 15 and attached to the edge of the background is an eye 16. The pull cord 14 is adapted to operate in conjunction with either a pulley 17 attached to the lower end of the carrier frame or a pulley 18 attached to the upper end of the post of said frame, the said pulleys being preferably of a cam grooved type as illustrated. The object in locating the two pulleys at the bottom and top of the carrier frame respectively is to provide for either a downward pull upon the background in unwinding it from the roller 12 when the supporting cross arm 6 is in an elevated position and the pull cord 14 is to be operated in conjunction with the lower pulley and to provide for the raising of the background when the cross arm is in a lowered position on the post of the carrier and the background is to be drawn upwardly while the pull cord 14 is operating on the upper pulley 18.

It will be seen that as the background supporting cross arm is held to the post of the carrier frame by the clamping bolt 8 and its nut, said cross arm may be readily turned over or rotated in a vertical plane relative to the post of the carrier after the nut of the clamping bolt is loosened to invert it from its former position and that therefore when the cross arm is lowered after being inverted the background may be drawn upwardly in unwinding it from the roller 12 when the pull cord 14 is drawn upon while mounted on the upper pulley 18. The shifting of the cross arm to provide for either a downward pull upon the background in unwinding it from the roller to which it is applied or an upward pull upon the background in unwinding it is required at times for the reason that the background is provided with a shading spot A, see Fig. I,

that it is desirable to place at either the right or left hand side of the carrier, according to the position in which the subject is posed in front of the background.

Attention is directed to the fact that the cross arm 6 being connected to the post of the frame of the carrier by a single clamping bolt, said arm may be readily shifted into an upright position and parallel to the post of the carrier when the carrier is not needed, thereby placing the entire carrier in smaller compass so that the space occupied by it will be economized.

I claim:

1. A photographer's background carrier, comprising a post, means extending crosswise of said post and vertically adjustable thereon, a cross arm mounted on said means so as to enable said cross arm to be turned and inverted, and means for securing a background to said cross arm.

2. A photographer's background carrier, comprising a post having a vertical slot, means extending crosswise of said post and vertically adjustable in said vertical slot, a cross arm mounted on said means so as to enable said cross arm to be turned and inverted and means for securing a background to said cross arm.

3. A photographer's background carrier, comprising a post, a clamping bolt extending crosswise of said post and vertically adjustable thereon, a cross arm mounted on said clamping bolt so as to enable said cross arm to be turned and inverted and clamped to said post, and means for securing a background to said cross arm.

4. A photographer's background carrier, comprising a post, a clamping bolt extending crosswise of said post and vertically adjustable thereon, a cross arm having a mortise fitting said post so as to adapt it to slide thereon and rotatably mounted on said clamping bolt so as to enable said cross arm to be turned over and inverted and clamped to said post and means for securing a background to said cross arm.

HERBERT TOMLINSON.

In presence of—
R. R. McIntyre,
M. W. Spencer.