A. J. Holmes,

Picture Frame,

No. 59,719. Patented Nov. 13, 1866.

Fig. 1

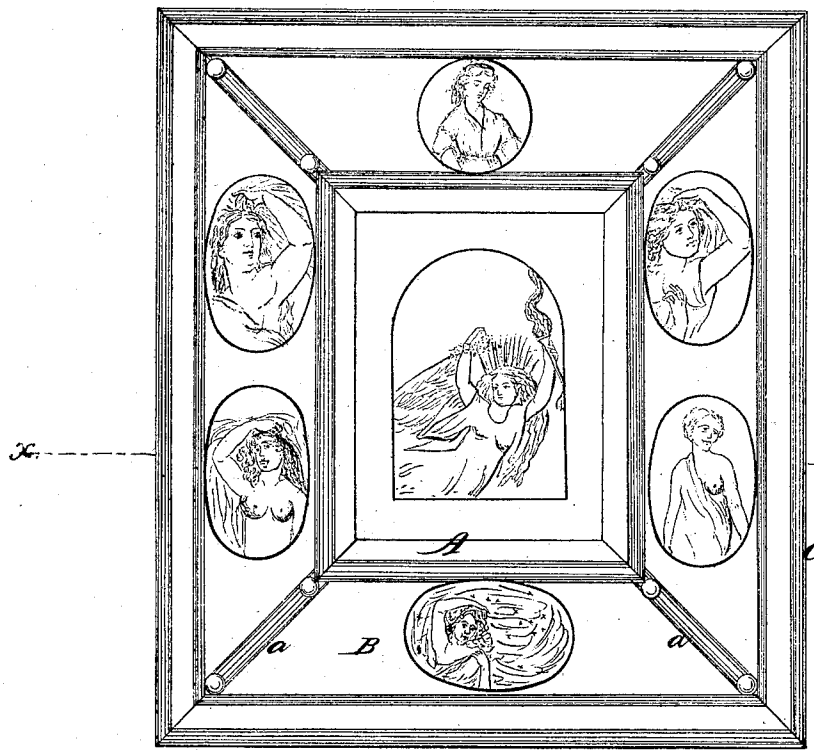
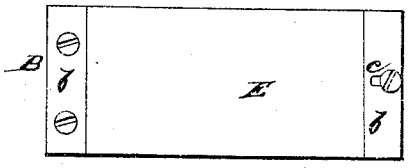


Fig. 3



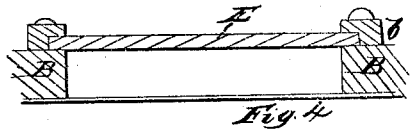
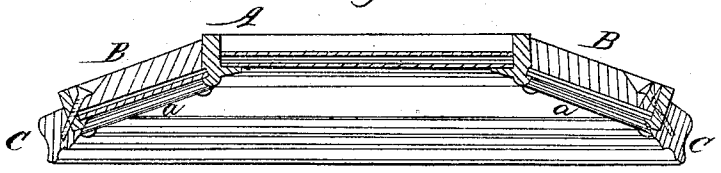


Fig. 4

Fig. 2



Witnesses.

Jno. Austin

W. [illegible]

Inventor

A. J. Holmes

By M. Dodge

atty

AM. PHOTO-LITHO. CO. N.Y. (OSBORNE'S PROCESS)

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

A. J. HOLMES, OF SARATOGA SPRINGS, NEW YORK, ASSIGNOR TO WELLS L. ROBBINS, OF SAME PLACE.

IMPROVEMENT IN PICTURE-FRAMES.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **59,719**, dated November 13, 1866.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, A. J. HOLMES, of Saratoga Springs, in the county of Saratoga and State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Frames for Pictures and similar purposes; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description thereof, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and to the letters of reference marked thereon, making part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 is a front view, and Fig. 2 is a transverse section, taken on the line of *x x* of Fig. 1.

The nature of my invention consists in constructing a frame having a central frame made in the ordinary manner, between the edges of which and an outer frame an intermediate frame is placed, at an angle affording space for a series of smaller pictures surrounding the central frame, or, in lieu of said small pictures, any other species of ornamentation, as may be desired.

To enable others skilled in the art to construct and use my improved frame, I will proceed to describe it.

A represents the central frame, which may be constructed in any of the usual methods, and in which is mounted the central or main figure. C represents another similar frame, but of a considerably larger size, within which the frame A is placed centrally. These two frames are then secured in position by an intermediate frame, B, inclining forward at its outer edges, as shown clearly in Fig. 2, and filling the space between the inner and outer frames, A and C.

Strips *a*, secured by ornamental studs or nails, are placed over the points at the angles or corners of frame B, to secure the glass, in case any is used, and cover the joints.

The principal figure or picture is placed in the central frame, while the space surrounding this is filled with a series of smaller pictures, as shown in Fig. 1; or, if preferred, this space may be occupied with an ornamental border of any suitable kind.

In order to remove or change any of the pictures in the border or intermediate frame, and to adapt the frames more readily to the purpose of exhibiting advertising-cards, which require to be changed more or less frequently, I propose to cut holes through the frame B, as shown in Figs. 3 and 4, and secure the picture or card over the hole, on its rear side, by means of a cover, E, which may be held in place by a stationary cleat, *b*, at one end, and a movable cleat, *b'*, at the opposite end; or, in large frames, these covers may be secured by hinges and catches, or any similar means.

By these means I am enabled to produce a new style of frame that is highly ornamental, and that is specially adapted for family groups and similar purposes.

It is obvious that frames constructed on this plan may be made octagonal, or in any other style desired.

By having the intermediate frame inclined, as shown, the light is reflected inward upon the central figure and concentrated thereon, thus serving to illuminate it and make it stand out more distinctly.

Having thus fully described my invention, what I claim is—

A new article of manufacture, consisting of picture and similar frames, constructed substantially as herein described.

A. J. HOLMES.

Witnesses:

CHARLES S. LESTER,

JAS. S. B. SCOTT.