

N. L. JACOBUS.
 FRAME.
 APPLICATION FILED MAR. 4, 1912.

1,034,621.

Patented Aug. 6, 1912.

Fig. 1.

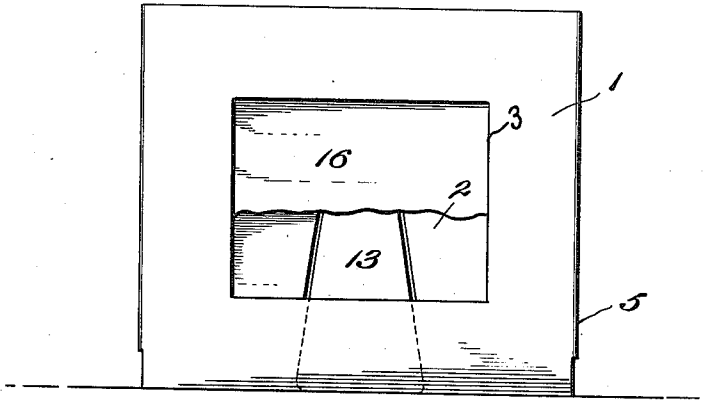


Fig. 2.

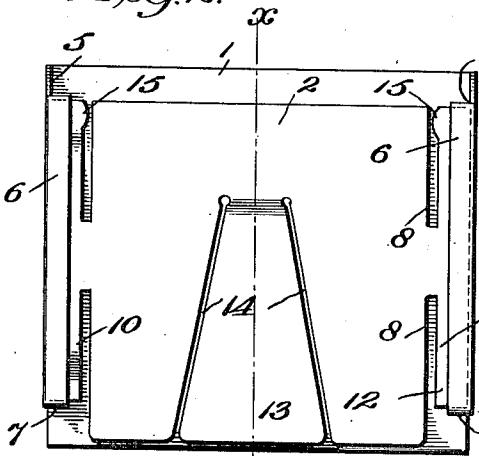


Fig. 4.

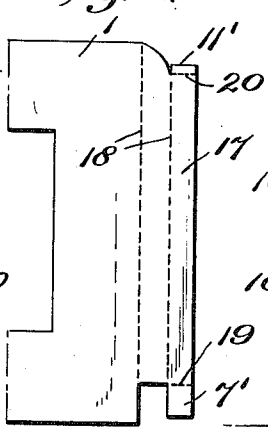


Fig. 3.

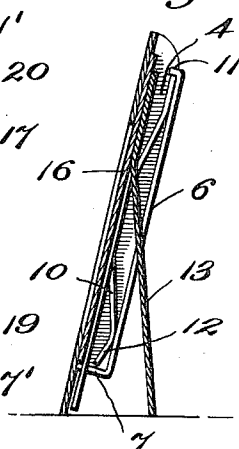
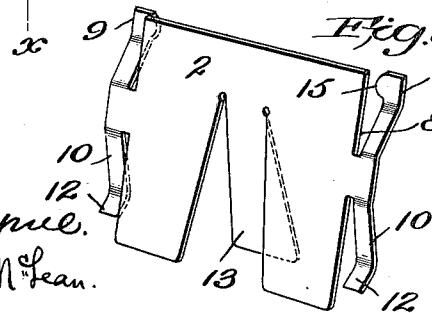


Fig. 5.



WITNESSES

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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FRAME.

1.034.621.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Aug. 6, 1912.

Application filed March 4, 1912. Serial No. 681,444.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, NELSON L. JACOBUS, a citizen of the United States, and a resident of West Orange, in the county of Essex and State of New Jersey, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Frames, of which the following is a specification.

The general objects of my invention are to provide a frame for cards, pictures, calendars, and the like, which shall be attractive and ornamental in appearance and which shall at the same time be extremely simple in construction and inexpensive to make.

The invention in a preferred form consists of only the two parts, a front member and a back member, the front member having guideways on its back to receive the picture or other article, and the back member having spring fingers at the ends thereof, engaging in the guideways in the front member to yieldingly clamp the picture in place between the back member and front member. The two parts are preferably made of sheet-metal, in which event, the guideways on the front member are formed by bending the edges of the front plate rearwardly and then inwardly, and the spring fingers on the back member are produced by separating the edge portions from the body of the back plate and then bending the separated portions rearwardly the requisite distance.

Various other features of the invention will appear as the specification proceeds.

In the accompanying drawings I have illustrated a preferred embodiment of the invention but such changes and modifications as come within the scope of the appended claims may be made without departing from the spirit and scope of the invention.

In the drawings: Figure 1 is a front or face view of the frame or stand with a card held therein, the card being broken away so as to expose the back member of the frame. Fig. 2 is a rear view of the frame. Fig. 3 is a cross-sectional view thereof taken on the line X—X of Fig. 2, a card being shown in place in the frame and appearing in section in this view. Fig. 4 is a view illustrating in its preferred form the blank from which the front member is produced, only one end of the blank being shown.

Fig. 5 is a detached perspective view of the back member.

Like reference characters refer to the same parts in the several views.

In its preferred form the frame consists of but the two parts, a front member 1 and a back member 2. The front member will usually have some sort of a frame opening 3 therein through which the picture, card or other device will appear.

The picture or other device is clamped between the front and back members and for the purpose of guiding the picture in place, and for other purposes which will later appear, the front member is preferably provided with guides or guideways 4. The two parts of the frame are preferably made of sheet metal, and in such case the guideways are preferably produced by bending the edge portions of the front member rearwardly as at 5 and then inwardly as at 6, parallel to the body of the front plate, thereby producing parallel oppositely disposed inwardly facing guideways. The lower ends of the guideways are preferably closed as indicated at 7 to form a shelf for the support of the picture or other article.

For the purpose of yieldingly holding the picture in place against the front plate, the back plate is preferably provided with spring fingers which engage in the guideways on the front plate. These spring fingers may vary as to their precise construction but they are preferably, as shown in the drawings, formed by cutting out and separating the edge portions of the back plate from the main body of the plate along the lines of severance 8 which begin at the upper and lower edges of the back plate and extend inward to a point substantially central of the back plate. The separated end portions are then bent rearwardly, substantially as indicated in the sectional view, thereby forming an upper and a lower spring finger 9 and 10 respectively at each end of the back plate. In using the frame, the picture or other article is usually slipped into place between the guideways, resting with its lower edge upon the closures to the lower end of the guideways. Then the back plate is placed in position by sliding it so that the lower spring fingers will enter the guideways, the final position

of the parts being shown in the sectional view. When the two parts are thus connected together they are preferably locked against movement with respect to each other by reason of the fact that the lower spring fingers engage against the stops or closures to the lower end of the guideways and the upper spring fingers engage behind the stops 11 provided for that purpose at the upper ends of the guideways. The two parts may be disconnected at any time by pressing down on the upper spring fingers 9 to free them of the stops 11 and then sliding the back member until it is clear of the guideways. To afford an easy entrance for the spring fingers into the guideways, the ends of the lower spring fingers may be curved inwardly as indicated at 12, to form a nose which will slide into the mouth of the guideway. The frame is preferably provided with a prop 13 for supporting it in a substantially upright position. This prop may be and preferably is formed integral with the back plate. In the form illustrated the prop is produced by cutting the back plate on converging lines 14 to a point substantially central of the plate, and then bending this severed portion rearwardly. The purpose of cutting the prop on converging lines is to afford a wider supporting base.

To enable the upper spring fingers to be readily disengaged from the stops 11 when the parts are to be detached, these upper spring fingers are preferably widened out into the finger-holds 15.

Fig. 4 illustrates the preferred method for forming the guideways on the front plate. In this case the front plate is provided with end extensions 17 which, when bent along the dotted lines 18, constitute the end portions 5 and the back portions 6 of the guideways. A convenient method of providing for the stops 7 and 11 at the lower and upper ends of the guideways is to provide these end extensions 17 of the blank with tabs 7' and 11' which are turned in on the dotted lines 19—20 to form the necessary stops.

What is claimed, is:

1. A frame comprising a front member provided with guideways on its back, located substantially at the ends of the member, and a back member provided with spring fingers at the ends of the same, engaging in the guideways to force the back member toward the front member with a yielding pressure.

2. A frame comprising a front member having a frame opening therein and provided with guideways on its back, said guideways having closed lower ends to support a picture or like article held in the guideways, a back member provided with a prop for supporting the frame in substan-

tially upright position, and spring fingers on the ends of the back member engaging in the guideways to force the back member toward the front member with a yielding pressure.

3. A frame comprising a front member and a back member between which the picture or other article is held, the front member having guideways on its back, which guideways are provided with closed lower ends and with stops at the upper ends, the back member being provided with a prop for supporting the frame and with spring fingers at its ends engaging in the guideways, the said spring fingers engaging with the closed ends of the guideways to prevent sliding movement of the back member in one direction and engaging with the stops to hold the back member against movement in the opposite direction.

4. A frame comprising a front plate having its side edges bent back and then inward to form guideways, and a back plate provided with a prop and having its side edges separated from the main body of the back plate and bent rearwardly to form spring fingers, the said spring fingers being slidably engaged in the guideways to hold the back plate in sliding and yielding engagement with the front plate.

5. A frame comprising a front plate having its side edges bent backward and then inwardly toward each other to form inwardly facing guideways, closures to the lower ends of the guideways for the support of a picture or other article resting in the guideways, stops at the upper ends of the guideways, a back plate having its side portions separated from the body of the plate and bent rearwardly to form spring fingers, the said spring fingers engaging in the guideways to yieldingly hold the back plate toward the front plate and the fingers engaging with the closures and stops at the opposite ends of the guideways to normally hold the two plates against sliding movement with respect to each other.

6. A two-part sheet metal picture frame comprising a front plate provided with a frame opening and having its side edges bent rearwardly and then inwardly parallel to the body of the plate to form inwardly facing open guideways for the reception of the picture or other article, closures to the lower ends of the guideways, stops at the upper ends of the guideways, a back plate engaging the back of the picture or article resting in the guideways, the said back plate having an integral part struck rearwardly from the same to form a prop and being further provided with upwardly and downwardly extending spring fingers at each end thereof, the spring fingers on the back plate engaging in the guideways to force the back plate with a yielding pres-

sure toward the front plate and the closures and stops at opposite ends of the guideways being engaged by the spring fingers to normally lock the back plate against movement in the guideways.

7. A frame comprising a front plate having the edges thereof bent rearward and then inward substantially parallel to the body of the plate to form oppositely-disposed open guideways with the upper and the lower terminals of these inwardly bent substantially parallel portions bent over to form stops at the upper and lower ends of the guideways, a back plate having the end portions thereof separated from the body of the plate from the upper and lower edges inward to substantially the central portion of the plate, the said separated portions being bent rearwardly to form spring fingers, the said spring fingers engaging in the guideways to force the back plate with a yielding pressure toward the front plate, and the stops at the opposite ends of the guideways being engaged by the spring fingers to normally lock one member with respect to the other, the back plate further having a part separated from the body of

the same and bent rearwardly to form a prop.

8. A frame comprising a front plate having parallel guideways at the ends thereof, said guideways being formed by bending the ends of the plate first rearwardly and then inwardly parallel to the face of the plate, stops at the upper ends of said guideways, a back plate having an upper and a lower spring finger at each end thereof for engagement with the guideways to yieldingly hold the back plate toward the front plate, the upper spring fingers arranged to engage behind the stops in the guideways to secure the back member with respect to the front member, said upper spring fingers being enlarged to provide finger-holds for use in detaching the spring fingers from engagement with the stops.

Signed at Brooklyn, in the county of Kings and State of New York this 27th day of February A. D. 1912.

NELSON L. JACOBUS.

Witnesses:

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LULU L. FORMONT.