

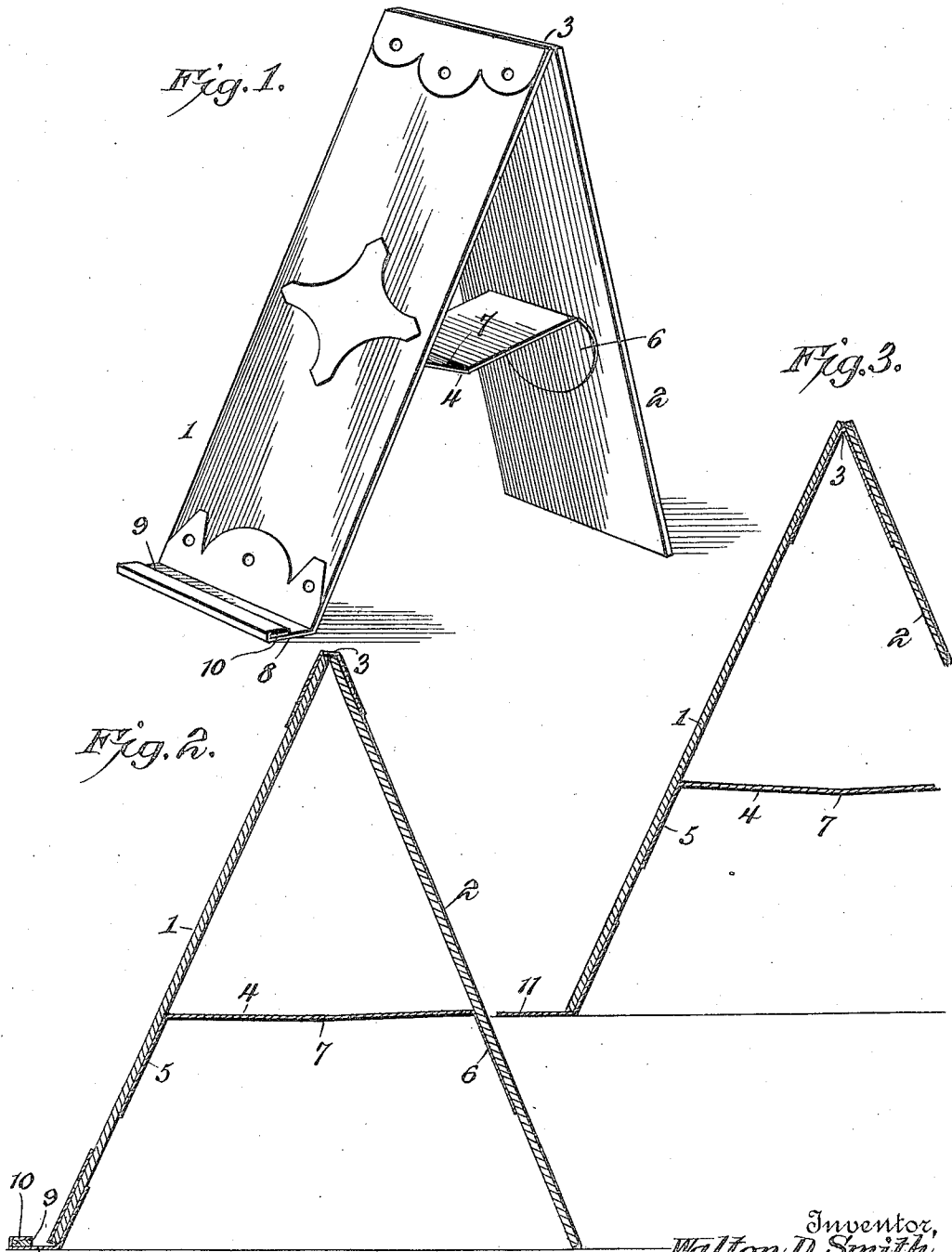
No. 875,220.

PATENTED DEC. 31, 1907.

W. D. SMITH.

EASEL.

APPLICATION FILED OCT. 4, 1906.



Witnesses
Howard D. Carr
J. F. J. P. Carr

By

Inventor,
Walton D. Smith,
E. J. Siggers

Attorney

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WALTON DUANE SMITH, OF PROPHETSTOWN, ILLINOIS, ASSIGNOR OF ONE-HALF TO JULIUS H. TASCHER, OF PROPHETSTOWN, ILLINOIS.

EASEL.

No. 875,220.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Dec. 31, 1907.

Application filed October 4, 1906. Serial No. 337,442.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WALTON DUANE SMITH, a citizen of the United States, residing at Prophetstown, in the county of Whiteside and State of Illinois, have invented a new and useful Easel, of which the following is a specification.

The invention relates to improvements in easels.

10 The object of the present invention is to improve the construction of easels, and to provide a simple, inexpensive and efficient device designed for displaying various kinds of merchandise in show windows, on coun-
15 ters, in show cases, and other places, and adapted to support an article in an inclined position and permit the same to rest upon the counter, or other supporting surface, whereby the easel will be relieved of the
20 weight of the article displayed to permit a relatively light easel to support a relatively heavy article.

A further object of the invention is to provide an easel of this character, constructed
25 independently of the article displayed and adapted to be held in place by the weight of the same, and capable of being compactly folded for shipment.

With these and other objects in view, the
30 invention consists in the construction and novel combination of parts hereinafter fully described, illustrated in the accompanying drawings, and pointed out in the claim
35 hereto appended; it being understood that various changes in the form, proportion, size and minor details of construction, within the scope of the claim, may be resorted to with-
out departing from the spirit or sacrificing any of the advantages of the invention.

40 In the drawings:—Figure 1 is a perspective view of an easel, constructed in accordance with this invention, and provided with a flexible foldable foot. Fig. 2 is a vertical
45 sectional view of the same, the flexible foldable foot being shown extended in full lines and folded in dotted lines.

Like numerals of reference designate corresponding parts in all the figures of the drawings.

50 1 designates the front supporting member of an easel, designed to be constructed of paper, paste board, or any other suitable material and provided with a foldable rear member 2. The easel, which is designed for
55 displaying various articles of merchandise in

show windows, show cases, on counters and various other places, is constructed independently of the article to be displayed, and the front and rear oppositely inclined mem-
bers 1 and 2 are hinged at the top at 3, and
60 are connected at an intermediate point by a foldable brace or connecting piece 4, which is secured at its ends 5 and 6 to the inner faces of the front and rear members. The
hinge connection 3 may consist of a piece of
65 paper, cloth, leather, or any other suitable material, and any other form of hinge joint may be employed to suit the character of easel to be constructed. The intermediate
connecting piece is provided with a central
70 crease or bend 7, which enables the said connecting piece to fold downwardly between the front and rear members, when the easel is folded.

The easel is provided at the lower end of 75 the front inclined member 1 with a forwardly projecting foot 8, adapted to receive the article to be displayed and permit the same to rest upon the counter, or other supporting surface, whereby the easel is relieved of the
80 direct weight of the article. By this arrangement the easel is not only held in position by the weight of the article displayed, but, by being relieved of the direct weight of the article, it may be constructed of light, inex-
85 pensive material, and a relatively light easel is adapted to support a relatively heavy article at an inclination. This will enable easels to be cheaply constructed, but the easel may be ornamented in any desired
90 manner and may be constructed of any desired size and strength.

The foot 8 is provided at its outer portion with a shoulder 9, and forms a catch for re-
taining the article in engagement with the
95 foot. The shoulder may be formed by a strip 10, secured to the upper face of the foot by folding the outer edge of the foot inward over the strip and securing the parts to-
100 gether by adhesive material. The flexible foot is foldable against the front or outer face of the inclined member 1 of the easel, to enable the parts to be compactly arranged for shipping or storing. This form of foot may
be constructed of any suitable material such
105 as cloth, paper, leather and the like, and the inner or rear portion of the material may be secured to the lower end of the front member in any preferred manner and by any suitable
means.

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

5 An easel provided with a foldable foot
constructed of flexible material and pro-
vided at its outer portion with a strip form-
ing a shoulder and secured to the foot within
a fold of the flexible material.

In testimony, that I claim the foregoing
as my own, I have hereto affixed my signa- 10
ture in the presence of two witnesses.

WALTON DUANE SMITH.

Witnesses:

F. L. ADAMS,
D. H. ELLISON.