(No Model.)

E. WERNER.

EASEL.

No. 281,591. Patented July 17, 1883.

Fig. 1.

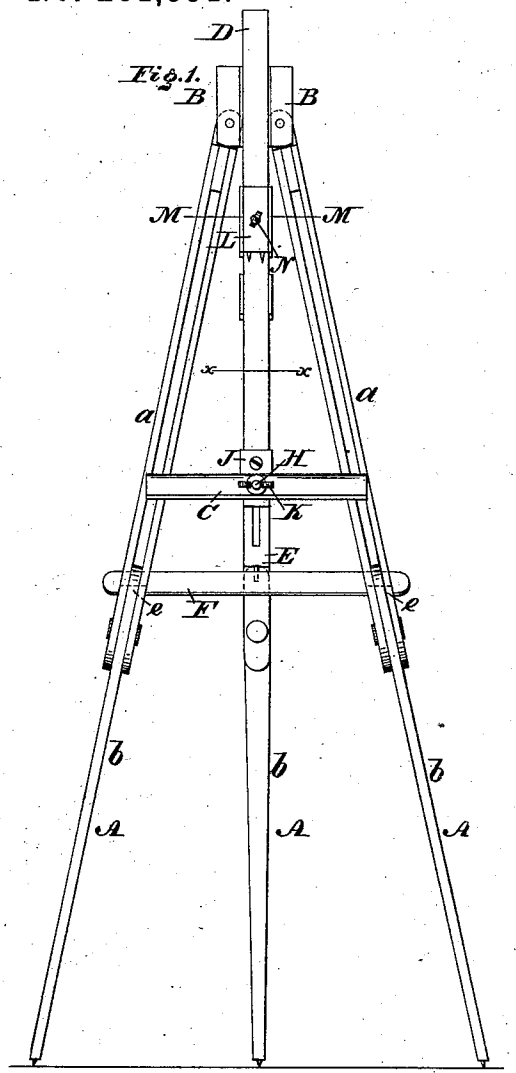


Fig. 2.

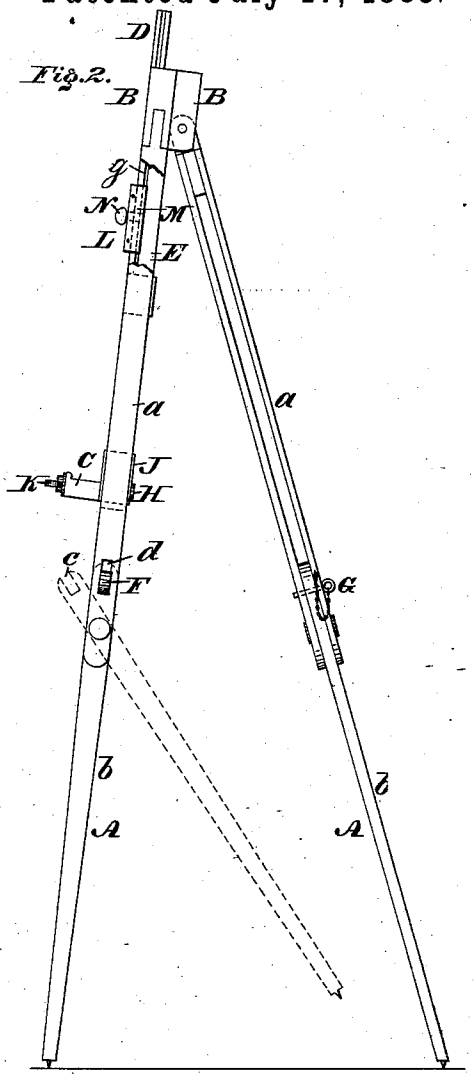


Fig. 3.

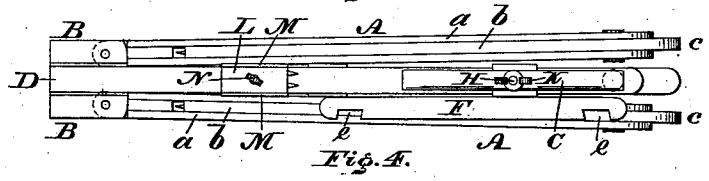
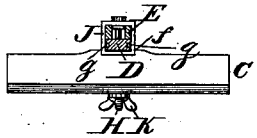


Fig. 4.



WITNESSES:

A. D. Grant,

W. F. Fischer

INVENTOR:

Emil Werner,

BY John A. Diedersheim

ATTORNEY.

N. PETERS, Photo-Lithographer, Washington, D. C.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

EMIL WERNER, OF PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA.

EASEL.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 281,591, dated July 17, 1883.

Application filed March 15, 1883. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, EMIL WERNER, a citizen of the United States, residing in the city and county of Philadelphia, State of Pennsylvania, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Easels, which improvement is fully set forth in the following specification and accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a front view of an easel embodying my invention. Fig. 2 is a side elevation thereof. Fig. 3 is a view of the easel folded. Fig. 4 is a horizontal section in line *x x*, Fig. 1.

Similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts in the several figures.

My invention consists of an easel having folding legs, each of which is formed of parts adapted to be folded one within the other, and a stretcher, as hereinafter described, for holding apart the legs of the easel and preventing unfolding of the parts of which each of the legs is constructed.

It further consists of a tray, which may be readily moved from position to occupy but little space, and is provided with means for clamping it to the slide, to which it is attached, and the bar to which said slide is fitted.

Referring to the drawings, A represents the legs of the easel, which are pivoted at top to blocks B. C represents the tray of the easel, the same being connected with a sliding bar, D, which is fitted to a stationary bar, E, which depends from and is secured to the blocks B. The legs A are each formed of two parts, *a b*, pivoted together, the part *a* being vertically slotted, to permit the part *b* to be folded thereinto. The top of each part *b* of the side legs is recessed or notched, as at *c*, and in the side pieces or side walls of the part *a* are slots *d*, which occupy coincident places with said notches, and are deeper than the same, so as to receive the ends of a stretcher, F, which, when the parts of the legs are unfolded and the legs spread apart, serve to retain the same in operative position. On the under side of the ends of the stretcher F are recesses *e*, the object whereof is to permit the stretcher to lock the parts of the legs when unfolded, as will be hereinafter set forth. The parts of the rear leg, when unfolded, are prevented from displacement by means of a pin or key, G, which is passed through the bottom of the part *a* and top of the part *b*, thus connecting said parts, as more readily seen in Fig. 2.

The tray C is secured to the sliding bar D by means of a bolt, H, which is passed loosely through said bar, a metal band, J, and a vertical slot in the fixed or stationary bar E, said band J being screwed or otherwise connected with the lower end of the bar D and loosely encircling the bar E. The inner side of the tray C is cut out, forming a recess, *f*, to receive the band J, and the outer end of the bolt H is threaded, and has thereon a winged or thumb nut, K, for tightening purposes. It will be seen that by loosening the nut K the tray may be disengaged from the band J and rotated so as to occupy a position parallel with the bars D E, convenient for packing and storing purposes, as shown in Fig. 3. By again placing the tray in proper horizontal position and tightening the nut K, the tray, band, and bars D E are clamped together, thus securely holding the tray, the recess *f* assisting to prevent rotary movement of the tray, the bar D being also prevented from shifting on the bar E. When the tray is to be raised or lowered, the nut K is loosened and the tray moved the required direction, the bar D sliding on the stationary bar E, after which the nut is again tightened and the tray is securely held in its adjusted position.

On the sliding bar D is fitted a sliding clamp, L, which is above the tray, and adapted to be moved toward and from the same, the bottom of the clamp having spurs or teeth for engagement with the frame or article resting on the tray.

On the sides of the bar E are vertical grooves *g*, (shown in the broken-away part of Fig. 2,) to receive the inwardly-bent ends of lips M, which are secured to the sides of the clamp L, said lips thus serving to connect the clamp and bar and guide the clamp in its raising and lowering motions. In order to prevent the clamp from shifting, I employ a screw, N, which is fitted to the clamp and tightens on the bar D.

In practice I form the legs, blocks, stretcher, bars, tray, and clamp of wood and other parts of suitable metal, thus forming a light, strong, durable, and inexpensive easel, the side legs

being securely held apart and prevented from accidental folding, owing to the locking action of the walls of the recesses *c* of the stretcher with the walls of the slots *d* of the parts *a* of the legs, said stretcher also locking the top parts, *b*, of the legs and preventing them from rotation, it being seen that the walls of the recesses *c* straddle the sides of both parts *a b* of the legs adjacent to the pivots of said parts, the security of the legs in their operative position thus being assured.

By removing the stretcher F and withdrawing the pin G, the legs may be folded within each other, and are then brought together. The tray is moved around parallel with the bar D, and the stretcher may be laid on any part, the whole forming a compact bundle, as seen in Fig. 3, convenient for shipment, carrying, or stowing.

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

1. An easel having legs formed of folding parts, and a stretcher adapted to lock said parts and hold the legs apart, said stretcher having recesses the walls of which straddle the sides of both parts of the legs adjacent to the pivots thereof, substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

2. In an easel, a stationary bar and a sliding bar fitted thereto, in combination with a tray which is connected with said sliding bar by a bolt adapted to clamp both bars and said tray, substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

3. The tray with recess *f*, in combination with the sliding bar, stationary bar, band, bolt, and nut, said bolt passing through the bars and band and clamping both bars and tray, substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

4. The sliding bar fitted to a stationary bar, in combination with a sliding clamp fitted to said sliding bar by lips which are secured to the clamp, and enter grooves in the sides of the sliding bar, said sliding clamp having fitted to it a screw which tightens against the sliding bar, substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

5. In an easel, a leg formed of pivoted parts, one part having a notch and the other part having slots, in combination with a stretcher whose ends enter the said notch and slots and interlock with both parts of the leg, substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

EMIL WERNER.

Witnesses:
JOHN A. WIEDERSHEIM,
A. P. GRANT.