G. B. STREIT.

EASEL.

APPLICATION FILED JUNE 10, 1911.

1,050,403.

Patented Jan. 14, 1913.

2 SHEETS—SHEET 1.

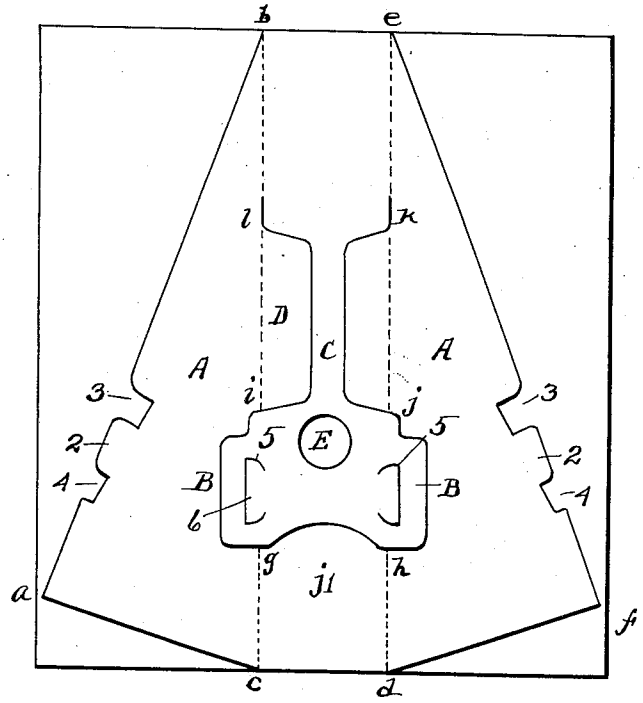

Fig. 1.

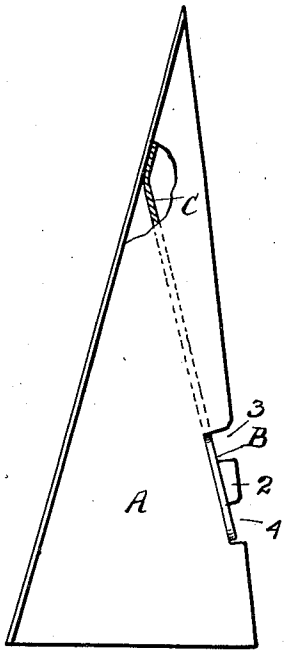

Fig. 2.

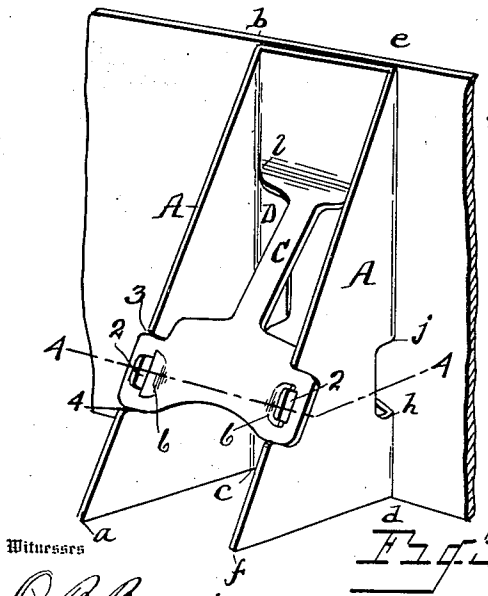

Fig. 3.

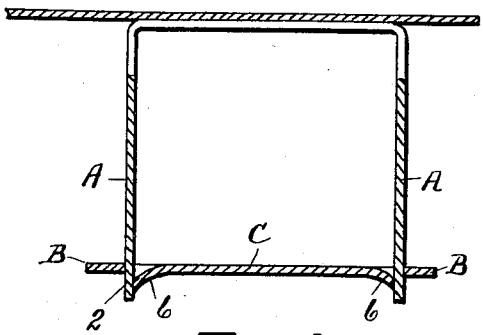

Fig. 4.

Witnesses

O. B. Baenziger.

V. C. Spratt.

Inventor

George B. Streit

By Parker & Burton

Attorneys

G. B. STREIT.

EASEL.

APPLICATION FILED JUNE 10, 1911.

1,050,403.

Patented Jan. 14, 1913.

2 SHEETS—SHEET 2.

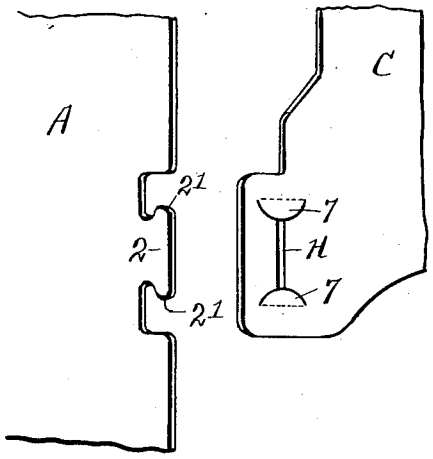

Fig. 5.

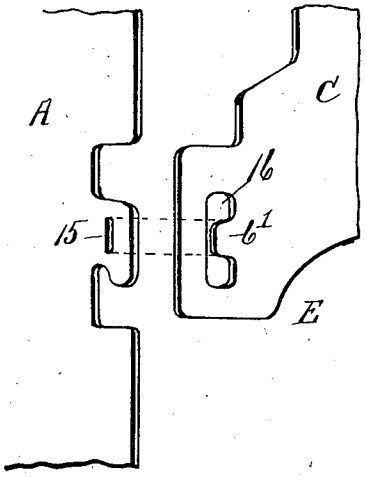

Fig. 8.

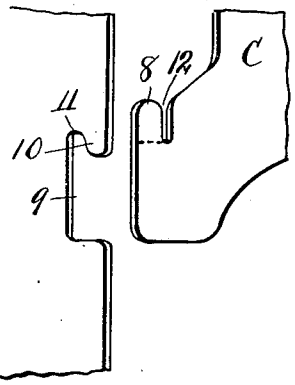

Fig. 6.

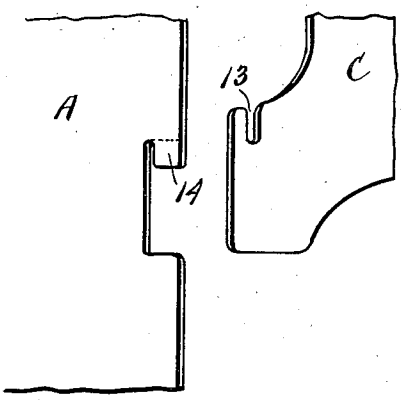

Fig. 7.

Witnesses

O. B. Baenziger.

V. C. Spratt.

Inventor

George B. Streit

By Parker & Burton

Attorneys

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

GEORGE B. STREIT, OF DETROIT, MICHIGAN.

EASEL.

1,050,403. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Jan. 14, 1913.

Application filed June 10, 1911. Serial No. 632,327.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, GEORGE B. STREIT, a citizen of the United States, residing at Detroit, county of Wayne, State of Michigan, have invented a certain new and useful Improvement in Easels, and declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the same, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it pertains to make and use the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, which form a part of this specification.

This invention relates to easels for supporting advertising cards and other articles, and has for its object an easel which may be securely locked. The value of an easel depends upon its security in this particular, as when the easel comes apart the advertising card is usually thrown away.

This invention provides locking means which cannot be separated without practically destroying the easel itself.

In the drawings:—Figure 1, represents a front view of the collapsed easel attached to a card and ready for shipment. Fig. 2, is a side elevation. Fig. 3, is a perspective of the easel set up. Fig. 4, is a cross section through the line 4—4 of Fig. 3. Figs. 5, 6, 7, and 8 are modified forms of the latch-like interlock, which is included in this invention.

The easel is shown in the drawings in the double wing or back-stay form, although it will work fully as well with a single back-stay member. It comprises a vertical rectangular strip, on each side of which is a triangular piece, extending the full length and forming a back-stay member A. The boundary of the rectangular strip is scored along the parallel lines *b*—*i* and *e*—*j*, also at the continuation of these lines, *g*—*c*, and *h*—*d*. Half-way on the line *b*—*i* at *l*, and half-way on the line *e*—*j*, at *k*, there is cut a curved line indenting into the rectangular strip, and the cut on one side returning at *i*, and on the opposite side the other cut returns at *j*. At both *i* and *j* a cut indents into each of the back-stay members, returning at *g* and *h* respectively forming lobes B. The cut-line crosses the vertical strip from *g*, to *h*, forming a locking-tongue C which is traced through the points *l*, *i*, *g*, *h*, *j*, and *k*. The portion between *b*, *l*, *k*, and *e* constitutes a supporting member upon which the article to be supported rests. The curved lines *l*—*i* and *k*—*j*, each indent into the vertical strip and form reinforcing or rib-stay members D which aid the rigidity of the back-stay members. The portion included within the points *g*, *c*, *d*, *h*, forms a tie member T connecting the back-stay members together at the bottom. The outside edge of each back-stay member is provided with a cut-away portion from which rises a projection 2 that divides the cut-away portion into two notches 3 and 4. Along the lines *b*—*e* and *e*—*d* in the blank are cut two slits 5 in the locking-tongue, one on each side. These slits are in the form of a straight slit with short slits at each end curving in toward the opposite end. In the center of the main part of the tongue is a circular aperture E by which the tongue may be lifted.

The easel is locked into position by lifting the locking-tongue C and bending the back-stay members along the scored lines to a position substantially right-angular with the tie members, the locking-tongue is then brought above the projection 2 on the edges of the back-stay members and each projection is forced up through the slits 5. It will be found that the piece 6 included within the slit, which may be called a latch, takes the form shown in Fig. 4, and when it is attempted to lift the locking-tongue from the projection, that the more effort that is applied the tighter the latches bear upon the projections, making it almost impossible to remove the locking-bar without destroying the easel. This lock is so effective that it is not necessary to use it in the form of a tongue, but it may be wholly disconnected and used as a separate locking-bar, although I prefer to connect it in the form of a tongue as shown in the drawings, as it is more convenient to have this piece tied to the other parts.

Fig. 5, shows another form of latch in which a projection 2 having knobs 2′ at each end is used. On the lobe portion an eye H is provided and at each end of the eye are cut semi-circular latch pieces 7. The eye can be slipped over the projection and the latches will be opened up by the knobs and the lobe will slip into position in the cut-away part, the latches springing back and engaging the under cut portions below the knobs, forming a secure lock.

Fig. 6 shows a form in which the tongue C has a hinged latch piece that folds along the scored line so that it may be inserted sidewise through the notch 9. When the

latch resumes its normal position the tongue is held by the projection 10 and the notches 9 and 12 interlock forming a notch-joint. Fig. 7 is the same form of an interlock but showing the hinged latch-piece 14 on the back-stay member and the rigid projection 13 on the tongue.

Fig. 8, shows a snap-lock latch constructed very similar to the drag latch shown in Fig. 1. An eye 15 is cut in the projection 2 and the latch-piece 6′ is made somewhat pointed so that when the eye 16 is fitted over the projection and the latch-piece registers with the eye 15, it will snap in and firmly lock the parts.

All of these forms of locks work on kindred principles, bringing about the results by the use of one piece that is readily pushed aside to let the parts interengage, but which successfully resists ordinary attempts to disengage the parts.

What I claim is:—

1. An easel, having in combination a supporting member, a back-stay member connected to one side of the supporting member and foldable to a substantially perpendicular position with respect to the supporting member, a locking member connected at one end with the supporting member and adapted to be swung back so that the opposite end engages with the rear of the back-stay member, and means for interengaging said locking member with the back-stay member, comprising a projection on one of the said members to be interengaged and a hinging projection or latch-like member on the other member to be interengaged, whereby said hinging projection or latch-like member can be swung to engage with the other projection but whereby it resists disengagement by presenting rigid portions to the disengaging effort, substantially as described.

2. An easel, having in combination a back-stay member, having one edge irregular, a supporting member connected with the opposite edge and foldable into angular relation with said back-stay member and a locking member provided with a swinging latch-like member, the said locking member being connected with the supporting member and interlocking with the irregular edge of the back-stay member by the latch-like member swinging to allow the locking member to engage an irregular portion, but resisting disengagement of the locking member from the back-stay member by said latch-like member encountering said irregular edge, substantially as described.

3. An easel, having in combination a back-stay member provided with a projection on one edge, a supporting member connected with the opposite edge thereof and foldable into angular relation with said back-stay member and a locking member having an eye adapted to engage over said projection and a latch-like member adapted to swing to allow said eye to engage over said projection, but engaging against said projection as a drag to prevent disengagement of the locking member from the back-stay member, substantially as described.

In testimony whereof, I sign this specification in the presence of two witnesses.

GEORGE B. STREIT.

Witnesses:
STUART C. BARNES,
VIRGINIA C. SPRATT.