No. 693,077. Patented Feb. 11, 1902.

# P. N. STAFF.

## MIRROR FRAME.

(Application filed May 22, 1901.)

(No Model.)

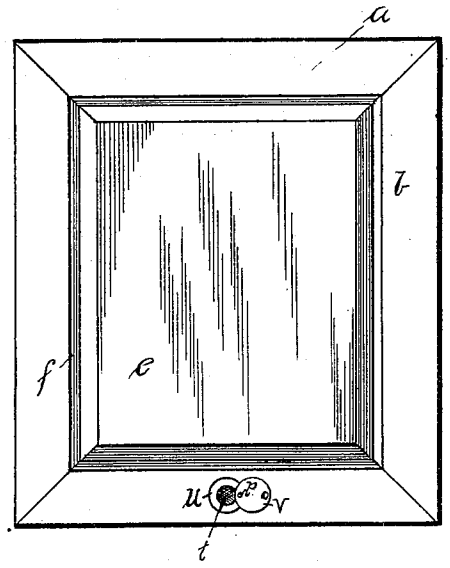



Fig 1

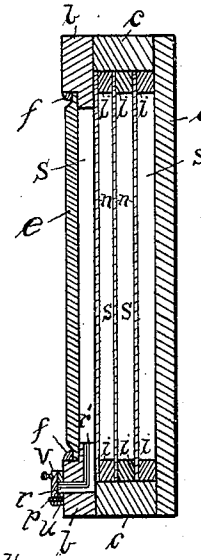



Fig. 2.

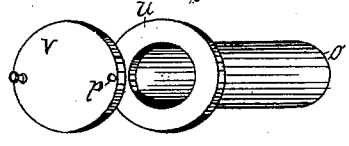



Fig. 3.

WITNESSES:

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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

PETER N. STAFF, OF TERRE HAUTE, INDIANA.

## MIRROR-FRAME.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 693,077, dated February 11, 1902.

Application filed May 22, 1901. Serial No. 61,473. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, PETER N. STAFF, a citizen of the United States, residing at Terre Haute, in the county of Vigo and State of Indiana, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Mirror-Frames; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, which will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and to the letters of reference marked thereon, which form a part of this specification.

My invention relates to that class of mirror-frames wherein mirrors are subjected to intense heat, cold, and great changes in temperature; and the objects of my invention are, first, to provide a frame which by reason of its peculiar structure will remove all danger of injury to the mirrors, either temporarily or permanent, from intense heat, cold, or great changes in temperature, and, second, to provide a mirror-frame which will afford a free circulation of air and an equal temperature upon each side of the mirror-glass, thereby obviating all danger of sweating the glass when subjected to cold, as in the case of mirrors located in doors and panels of refrigerators and similar objects, and at the same time obviating danger of cracking and checking mirrors when subjected to intense heat, as in the case of mirrors located against chimneys, above fireplaces, and other similar localities. I attain these objects by means of the mechanism illustrated in the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is an elevation of my mirror-frame. Fig. 2 is a sectional view of my invention, showing its internal structure and the method of ventilation. Fig. 3 is a detail view of the ventilating attachment.

Similar letters of reference refer to similar parts throughout the several views.

The letter *a* indicates a framework which consists of the face or front wall *b*, four side walls *c*, and a back *d*, all fastened together in the form of a flat box. The face or front wall is cut out and recessed to receive the mirror-glass *e*, which is held in place by a quarter-round or other suitable molding *f*. A series of two or more blocks *i* are firmly attached to the inner sides of the side walls *c* upon all four sides for the purpose of holding between themselves sheets *n* of asbestos paper or other similar impervious material. The sheets of asbestos paper being firmly stretched between the respective sets of blocks *i* form partitions, which subdivide the interior of the framework into two or more air-spaces *s*, as shown in Fig. 2.

The face or front wall *b* is perforated at a point just below the mirror *e* for the purpose of receiving the tube *o*, which is inserted in said perforation and extends nearly but not entirely through the wall *b* and forms a vent *r*. A further perforation or vent *r'* connects with the inner end of the vent *r* and extends upward therefrom to the open space behind the mirror-glass *e*, thereby forming an L-shaped air-vent through the face of the mirror and into the space *s* between the glass *e* and the sheet of asbestos *n* next thereto. The tube *o* consists of a hollow metallic cylinder adapted to fit into the vent *r* and is provided with a flange or face-plate *u*, adapted to fit against the outer surface of the face *b* of the frame. A circular door or check *v* is attached to the flange *u* by means of the pivot *p*, upon which it revolves for the purpose of either closing or opening the air-vent. A circular piece of wire screen *t* is attached to the inner end of the tube *o* for the purpose of intercepting foreign objects which may enter the tube.

The advantages which I claim my invention affords over prior mirror-frames consist, first, in the fact that either heat or cold subjected to the back of the frame cannot penetrate the successive sheets of asbestos or other impervious walls, and hence can have no injurious effect upon the back of the mirror-glass; second, as air circulates freely from the open space in front of the glass *e* to the space immediately behind the glass the face and back of the glass will always be of equal temperature and will consequently not be injured by uneven temperature, although the back of the frame be intensely heated or chilled, and, third, in consequence of the equal temperature maintained upon the two sides of the glass *e* the disfiguring condensa-

tion of moisture, commonly called "sweating," upon the face of the glass will be obviated.

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

As a new article of manufacture, the mirror-frame, consisting of the framework *a*, subdivided by two or more impervious walls *n* into two or more air-spaces *s*, the blocks *i* attached to the inner walls *c* of *a* and adapted to hold in place the impervious walls *n*, the cut-away and recessed face or front wall *b*, adapted to receive the mirror-glass *e*, and provided with the connecting air-vents *r* and *r'*, adapted to constitute a continuous air passage or vent to the air-space immediately behind the glass from the free air immediately in front of said glass, the tube *o*, provided with the flange *u* and the wire screen *t*, and the door or check *v*, affixed to the flange *u*, by means of the pivot *p*, all substantially as described and for the purpose set forth.

In witness whereof I have hereunto subscribed my signature.

PETER N. STAFF.

Witnesses:
E. M. CALL,
S. B. DAVIS.