UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

SAMUEL R. LANG, OF INDIAN ORCHARD, MASSACHUSETTS.

CARD HOLDING OR EXHIBITING DEVICE.


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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, SAMUEL R. LANG, a British subject, and a resident of Indian Orchard, in the county of Hampden and State of Massachusetts, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Card Holding or Exhibiting Devices, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description.

This invention relates to exhibition-devices, and more especially to holders or stands adapted to contain pictures, cards, etc., and it has for one of its objects the provision of a collapsible article of this kind, which may be "set up" in the form of an easel.

My invention has, furthermore, for its object the provision of means for holding the object to be exhibited, in firm contact with the holder without the employment of extraneous or special devices.

My invention has, furthermore, for its object the provision of improved means for maintaining the easel or card holder in distended condition, these means comprising a brace which is preferably formed from a portion of one of the holder-sections.

Further objects of the invention will hereinafter appear and be pointed out in the claim.

The particular purpose of the invention is the provision of an easel stand adapted to receive a card, photograph or any other object which is to be shown in raised or practically vertical position, such easel being at the same time adapted to be collapsed when desired and without rendering it necessary to remove the article held thereon.

In the accompanying drawings, in which similar characters denote similar parts,—Figure 1 is a front perspective view of a holder embodying my invention. Fig. 2 shows a rear view of the same.

The holder shown in Figs. 1 and 2 comprises two independent parts, viz: a front plate F, and rear bracing plate R, connected in the manner best shown in Fig. 2, in which it will be seen that the rear plate R has a lip portion 10 adapted to be passed through slits 11, 12, of the front plate F, said slits constituting the bounds of, and forming what may be termed a "band" 13 whereby the lip 10 will be snugly retained. The latter is narrower than the main body portion of the rear plate R, so that shoulders 14, 15, are established which will contact with the rear surface of the front plate F, and consequently offer a substantial support for the same, when the plate body is bent outward on the lip-junction line.

The distending member or brace for the easel is in the present instance formed of a portion of the rear plate R cut at 16 to form a tongue 17 which may be bent forward on the crease line 18, and the forward end of which is reduced in width (observe cut line 19 in Fig. 2) to form a lip 20 which is adapted to be passed through a slit 21 in the front plate F, and then bent 55 toward the face thereof, thus locking the front edge of the tongue in the same, inasmuch as the tongue can not be pushed through said plate on account of the shoulders 22, 23, resulting from the cut 19.

The means for retaining the card or other object to be exhibited in contact with the holder or easel, consist in the present instance of a series of flaps 25, 26, formed by slitting the front plate F, and adapted to project over the edge of the card, the outline of which is indicated by broken line x in Fig. 1. The number and shape of these flaps is, of course, immaterial, and they may extend the entire length of the side if so desired. In connection with the flaps 26 it may be stated, however, that they perform a certain function beside that of preventing the card from slipping downward, this new function being apparent in the combination with the card and the tongue lip 20, which latter will be maintained in its flattened condition by the card, which, again, is held from springing outward by the flaps 26, so that in reality these flaps in combination with the exhibit card serve to lock the tongue-end or lip 20 in place and against rearward or pulling-out movement.

If desired, the upper portions of the front and rear plates F and R may be prevented from separating, by the employment of a button, eyelet, or other fastener passed through registering apertures a b in said plates respectively.

I claim:

The combination, with a pair of connected plates, and a tongue attached to one of said plates, and projecting through and beyond the outer face of the other of the plates, of a card, and flaps cut from one of said plates and bent outward, for supporting said card and for holding the same in engagement with said projecting portion and for locking the same against displacement.

Signed by me at Springfield, Mass., in presence of two subscribing witnesses.

SAMUEL R. LANG.

WITNESSES:

WM. S. BELLows,
G. R. DRISCOLL.