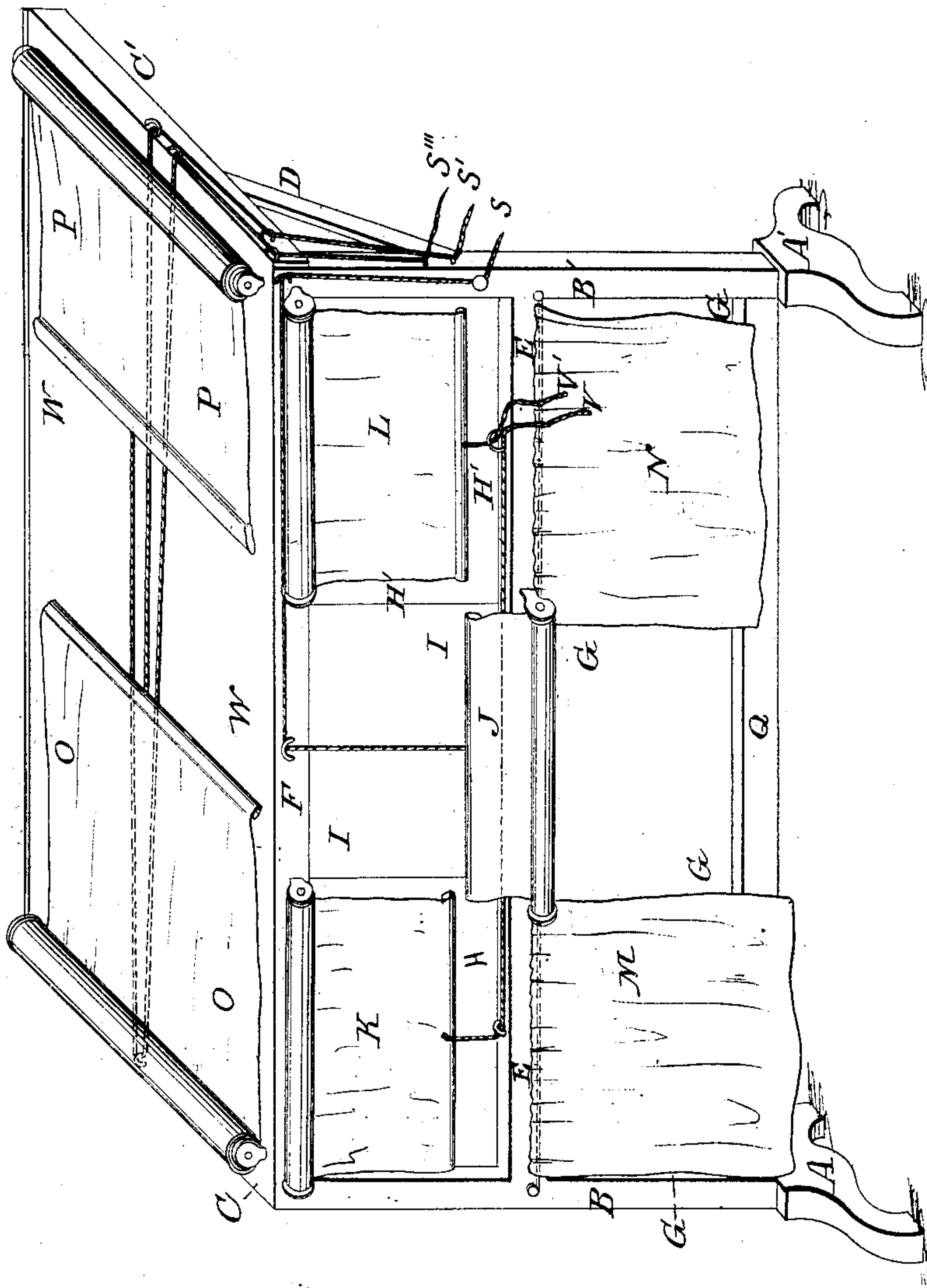


E. J. Foss,
Photograph Screen,
N^o 105,665. *Patented July 26, 1870.*



Witnesses.
Louise W. Foss.
John M. B. Kelder

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ELIPHALET J. FOSS, OF CAMBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS.

Letters Patent No. 105,665, dated July 26, 1870; antedated January 26, 1870.

IMPROVEMENT IN MOVABLE SCREENS FOR PHOTOGRAPHERS.

The Schedule referred to in these Letters Patent and making part of the same.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ELIPHALET J. FOSS, of Cambridge, in the county of Middlesex and State of Massachusetts, have invented an "Improvement in Photograph Screens," which I verily believe has not been known or used before the invention of the same by me; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full and exact description of the same and the mode of using the apparatus, reference being had to the accompanying drawing making a part of this specification.

This invention is designed to afford a convenient and ready mode of admitting the light that falls upon a person or object that is to be photographed, and so regulating and controlling both the quantity of light that is to fall upon the sitter, and the direction of the rays, as to produce a picture, or a negative, in which high lights, or white spaces and black shadows, are almost entirely avoided.

The pictures taken in the manner herein described are free from sudden transition from black to white; all cross-lights are excluded, and the gradation of light and shade is such as to give a full and rounded effect.

My object has been to produce a picture that will require little retouching, and in which white or light colored hair will have the appearance it has in nature, instead of showing, when printed, merely a blank.

By the use of both the top and side screens, as herein described, the sitter can be placed so that a single pencil of light can be made to fall upon any part of the figure, and the general or diffused light be also regulated as required.

The sitter may assume any attitude he pleases, and the operator will then adjust the curtains and screens so as to produce the best effect of the light.

A vertical frame, Q E F B B', about eight feet in height, and six to eight feet in length, is supported upon the stands on legs, A A', and has, at the top of the uprights, projecting horizontal arms, C C, supported by the brace D.

The lower part of the frame is covered, as at G, with thin cloth or tissue paper, extending from the bottom about half way up the frame. The cloth, W, is also stretched from the arm C to the arm C', forming a cover or canopy about three feet in width, and of the same length as the frame.

At about the middle of the upper part of the frame there is an opening, I, from one to two feet square, for the admission of direct light, the frame upon each side of this opening being covered with cloth or tissue paper at H and H'.

In front of the opening I there is a curtain, J, provided with a roller and suitable fixtures, so that it may be adjusted to any required height by means of the cord, S. The curtains K and L, upon each side of the opening I, are adjusted by the cords V V', and the top curtains, O and P, by the cords S' and S". The curtains M and N, near the bottom of the frame, slide on a wire horizontally to the right or left.

The sitter is placed at about the middle of the frame, under the canopy W, opposite to the opening or window I, and the curtains, both at the top and sides, are moved back and forth until the light is so distributed as to produce the best effect.

Casters may be attached to the base A A', and the whole screen and canopy placed at any required angle with the walls of the apartment.

What I claim, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

A single portable or movable screen, having a central open space or window for the admission of the direct light, and provided with curtains by which the general or diffused light under the screen can be increased or diminished, while, at the same time, light may be made to fall upon the figures or object in any required direction, as specified.

ELIPHALET J. FOSS.

Witnesses:

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