

W. J. JOHNSON.
Wire Stand for Picture-Holders.

No. 197,554.

Patented Nov. 27, 1877.

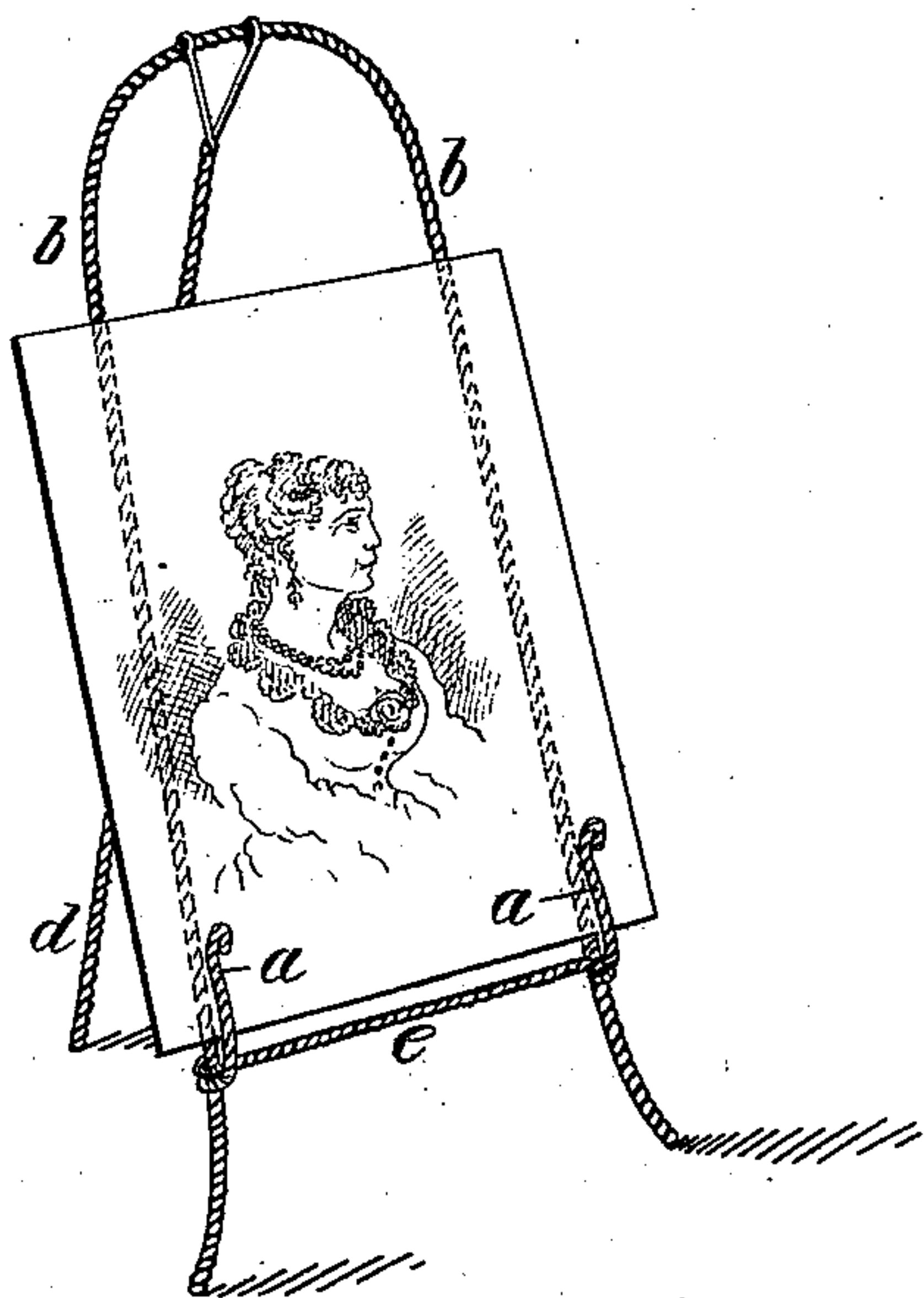


Fig. 1.

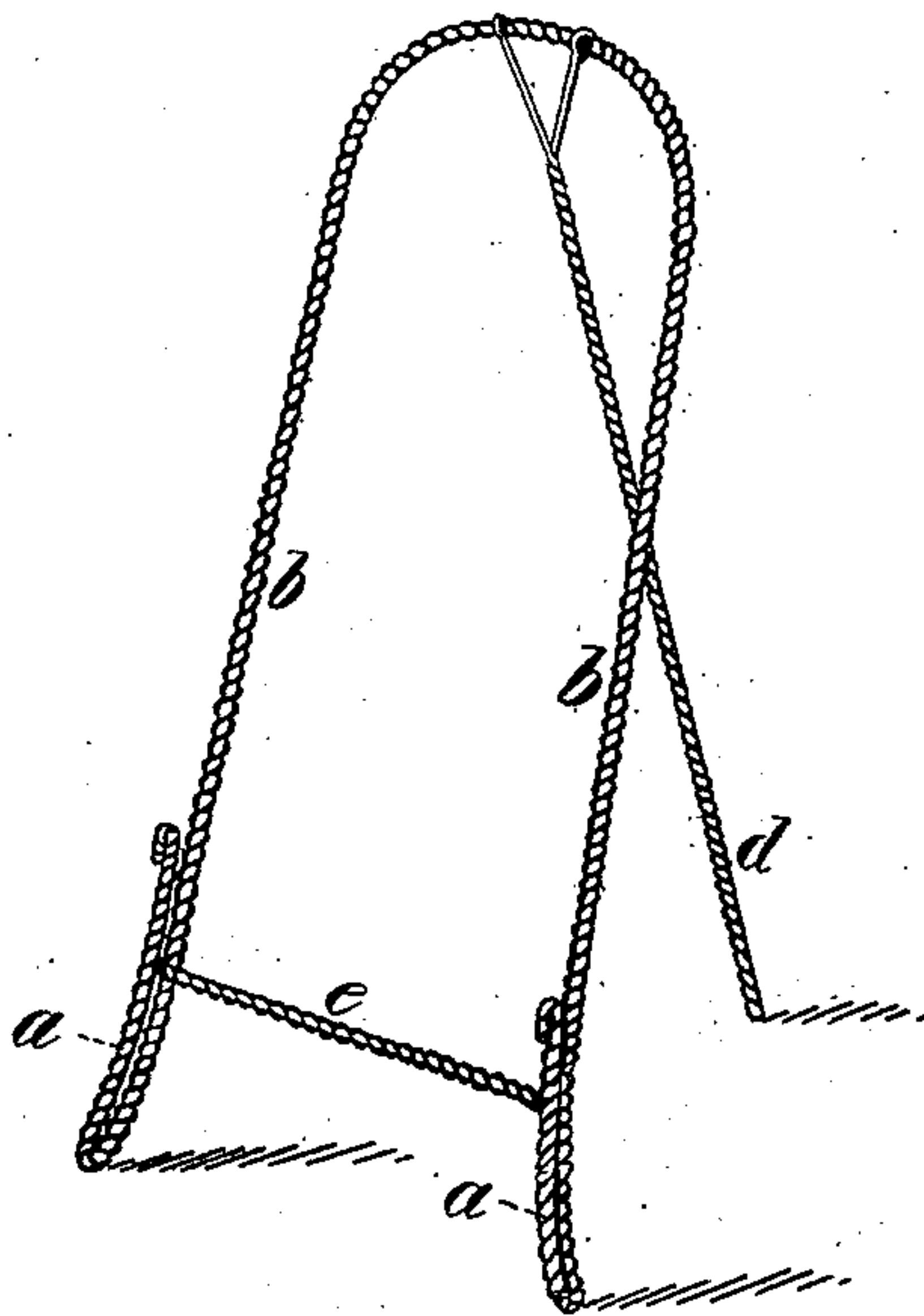


Fig. 2.

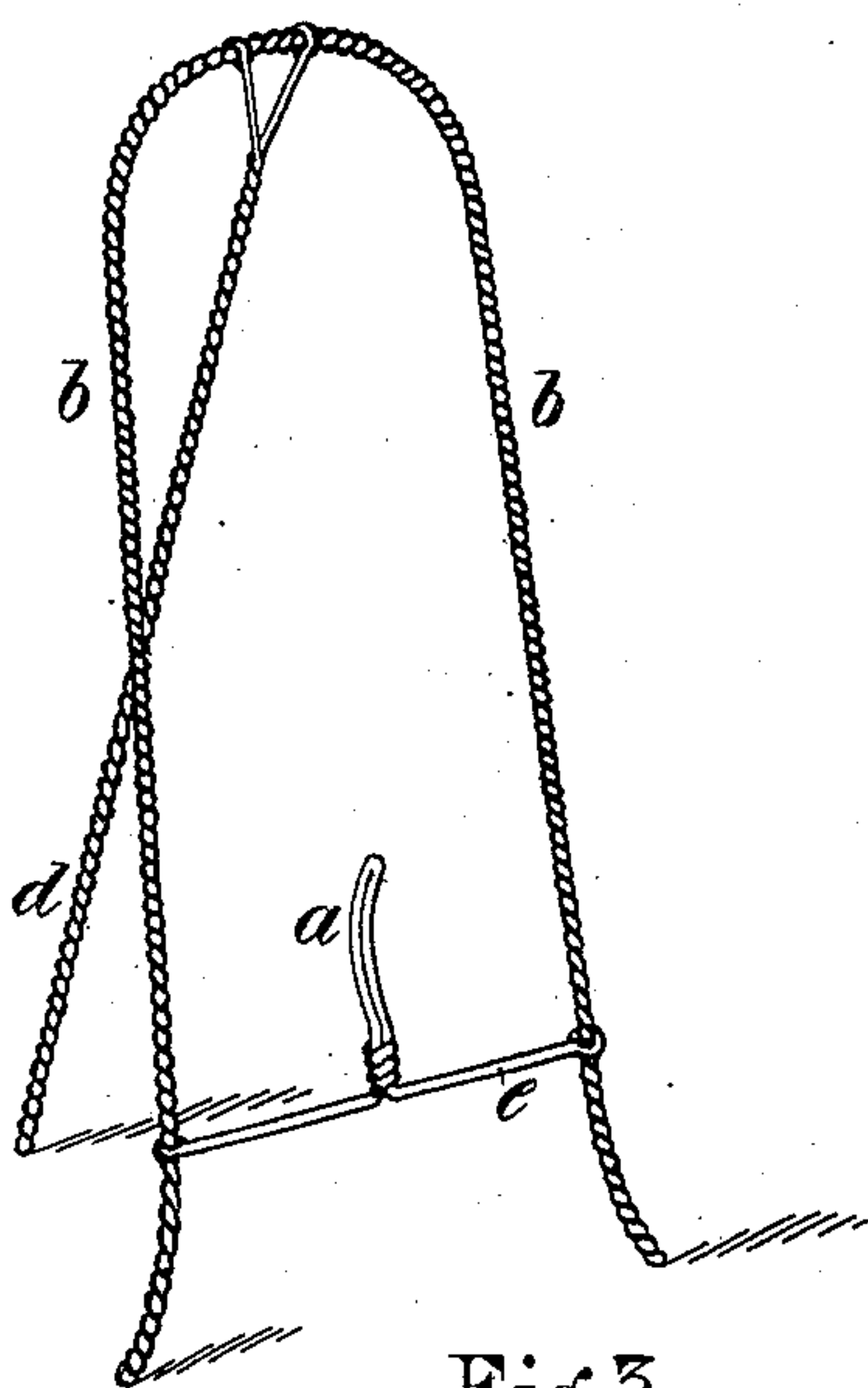


Fig. 3.

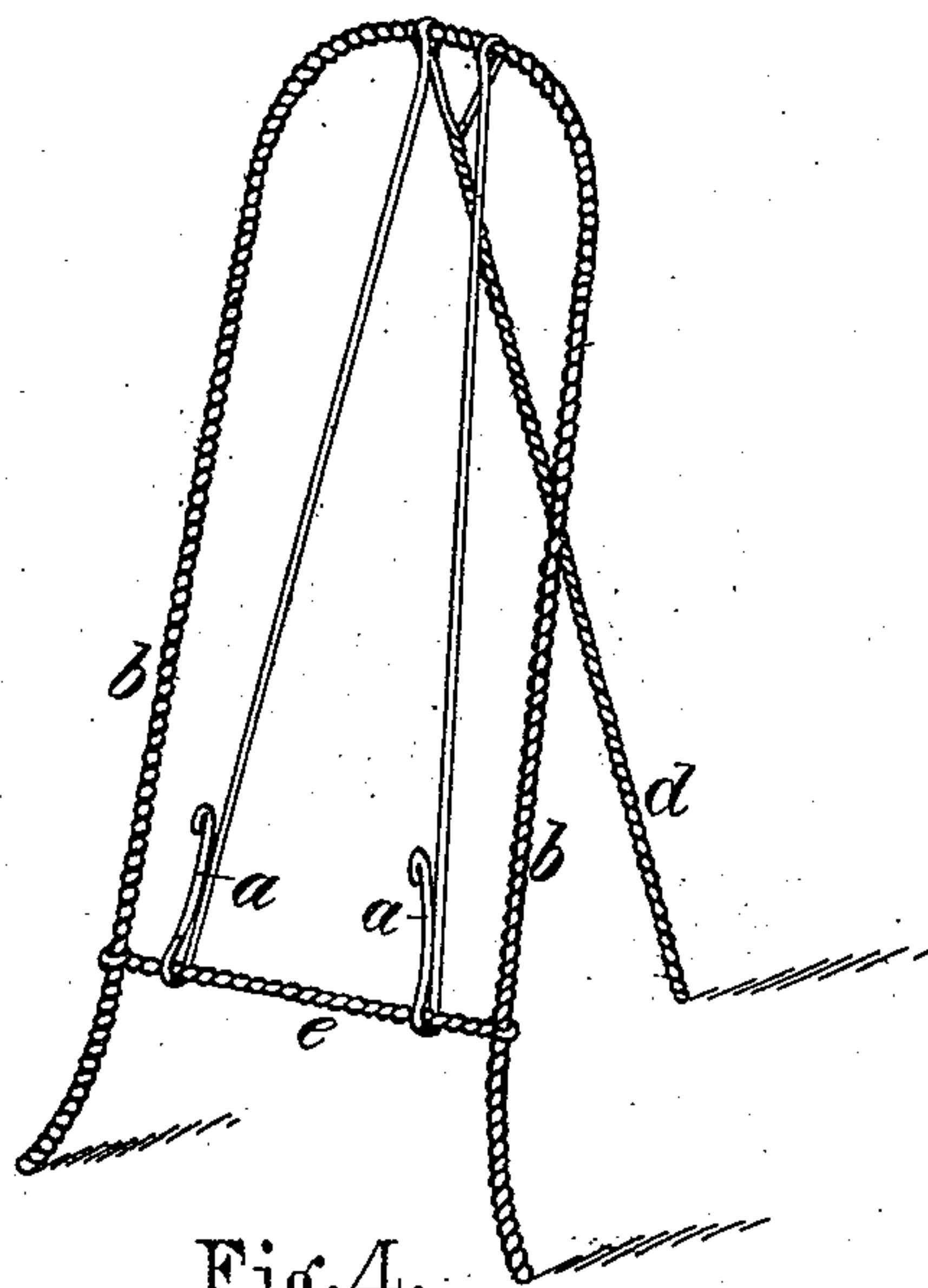


Fig. 4.

Witnesses:
H. E. Vermick.
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLIAM J. JOHNSON, OF NEWTON, MASSACHUSETTS.

IMPROVEMENT IN WIRE STANDS FOR PICTURE-HOLDERS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **197,554**, dated November 27, 1877; application filed April 7, 1877.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM J. JOHNSON, of Newton, Massachusetts, have invented a new and useful Wire Stand or Easel for Picture-Holder, of which the following is a specification:

This invention consists in a wire frame adapted to stand alone, as an easel, provided with a spring or springs to receive and retain a card-photograph or similar article.

The drawings represent various forms of frames embodying my invention, in each of which the spring is an essential feature, and is designated by the letter *a*.

Figure 1 represents my invention embodied in the form of an easel, having its front legs *b b* formed of two continuous wires twisted together and bent in a curve at the top, at which point the rear leg *d*, of similar construction, is united by clinching thereon the separated ends of the two wires of which it is composed. A cross-brace, *e*, also of twisted wire, unites the legs *b b*, and its upturned ends form the springs *a a*. The parts are also united and finished by tinning.

Fig. 2 is similar in construction, except that the ends of the legs *b b* are turned up to form the springs *a a*.

Fig. 3 differs from Fig. 1, in having a single central spring formed of a plain wire doubled upon itself, twisted once or twice, and its ends extended each way, so as to form the brace *e* and to clasp round the legs *b b*.

Fig. 4 differs from Fig. 1, in that the separated wires which, together, form the leg *d* are clinched to the top of the strand *b b*, and extend down so as to connect with the brace *e*, and return upward to form springs *a a*.

It is obvious that the construction of the frames and the arrangement of the springs may be varied as taste and convenience may dictate.

I disclaim a wire frame in any form, whether with or without a supporting-shelf or hooks, if destitute of a retaining-spring. I also disclaim all forms of book-holders; but

I claim as my invention—

The wire stand or easel herein described, having legs *b b d* formed of twisted wire, and provided with springs *a*, adapted to receive and retain a card or similar thin article, substantially as set forth.

WM. J. JOHNSON.

Witnesses:

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E. A. PHELPS.