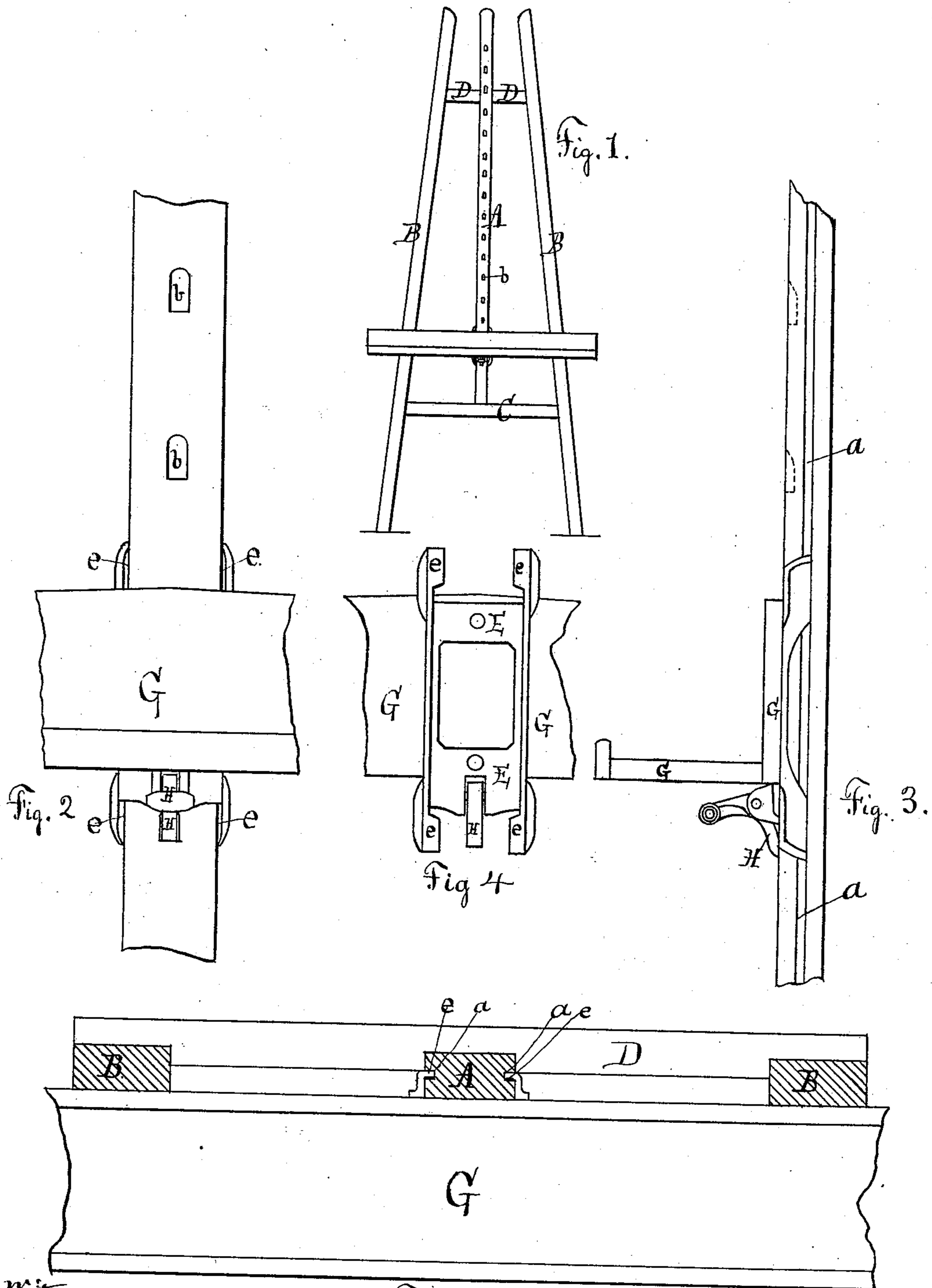


F. S. FROST.
Easel.

No. 215,731.

Patented May 27, 1879.



Witnesses.
A. J. Davis
R. L. Larcell

Fig. 5.

Inventor.
Francis S. Frost.
per Chas. F. Sleeper, his atty.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

FRANCIS S. FROST, OF ARLINGTON, MASSACHUSETTS.

IMPROVEMENT IN EASELS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **215,731**, dated May 27, 1879; application filed January 18, 1879.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, FRANCIS S. FROST, of Arlington, in the county of Middlesex and State of Massachusetts, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Easels, which improvement is fully set forth in the following specification and accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a view of an easel with my improvement. Fig. 2 is a front view, Fig. 3 a side view, and Fig 4 a rear view, of my improvement. Fig. 5 is a section of the frame above the upper bar.

My invention is an improvement upon that patented to me June 5, 1877, No. 191,579; and consists in a different adaptation, construction, and application of that invention, so as to make it with fewer parts and at much less cost. It is to be applied to the central post of an easel, the front frame of which is constructed with three upright pieces and two cross-bars.

A is the central upright post, to which my contrivance is applied, (the uprights B B and cross-bars C and D forming the remainder of the frame,) and it has grooves *a* on each side,

as shown in Fig. 5, and notches *b* down the center of its front at intervals, to form a ratchet. I prefer to make the ratchet in this way for cheapness.

E is a clasp, firmly secured to the shelf G, having lugs *e e* at its upper and lower ends, which fit into and slide in the grooves *a*. H is a pawl, having a weighted handle, and it is journaled to the clasp E beneath the shelf.

On raising the shelf, the weight of the handle causes the pawl to engage with the notches and hold it in position; and to lower the shelf the pawl is disengaged by raising the handle; and in whatever position the shelf may be set the clasp E prevents it from wobbling.

What I claim as my invention is—

The shelf-supporting clasp E, provided at its top and bottom with the side lugs *e e*, in combination with the center post A, having the grooves *a a* and the ratchet *b* therein, all constructed and adapted to operate substantially as described.

FRANCIS S. FROST.

Witnesses:

CHAS. F. SLEEPER,
ELLA A. LAWRENCE.