

(No Model.)

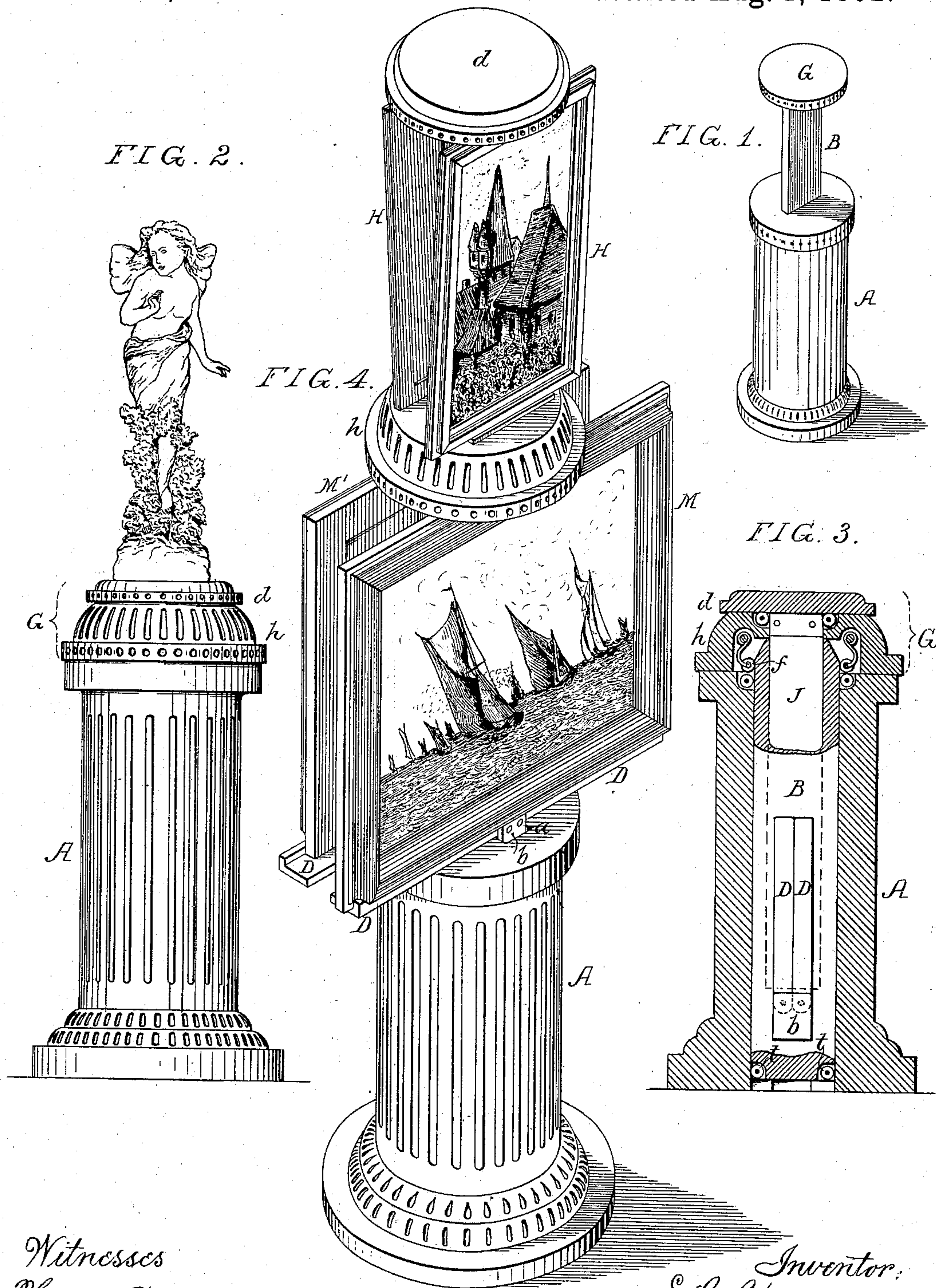
2 Sheets—Sheet 1.

E. G. CHORMANN.

PARLOR EASEL.

No. 261,908.

Patented Aug. 1, 1882.



Witnesses
Harry Drury
Harry Smith

Inventor:
E. G. Chormann
by his Attorneys
Howson and Sons

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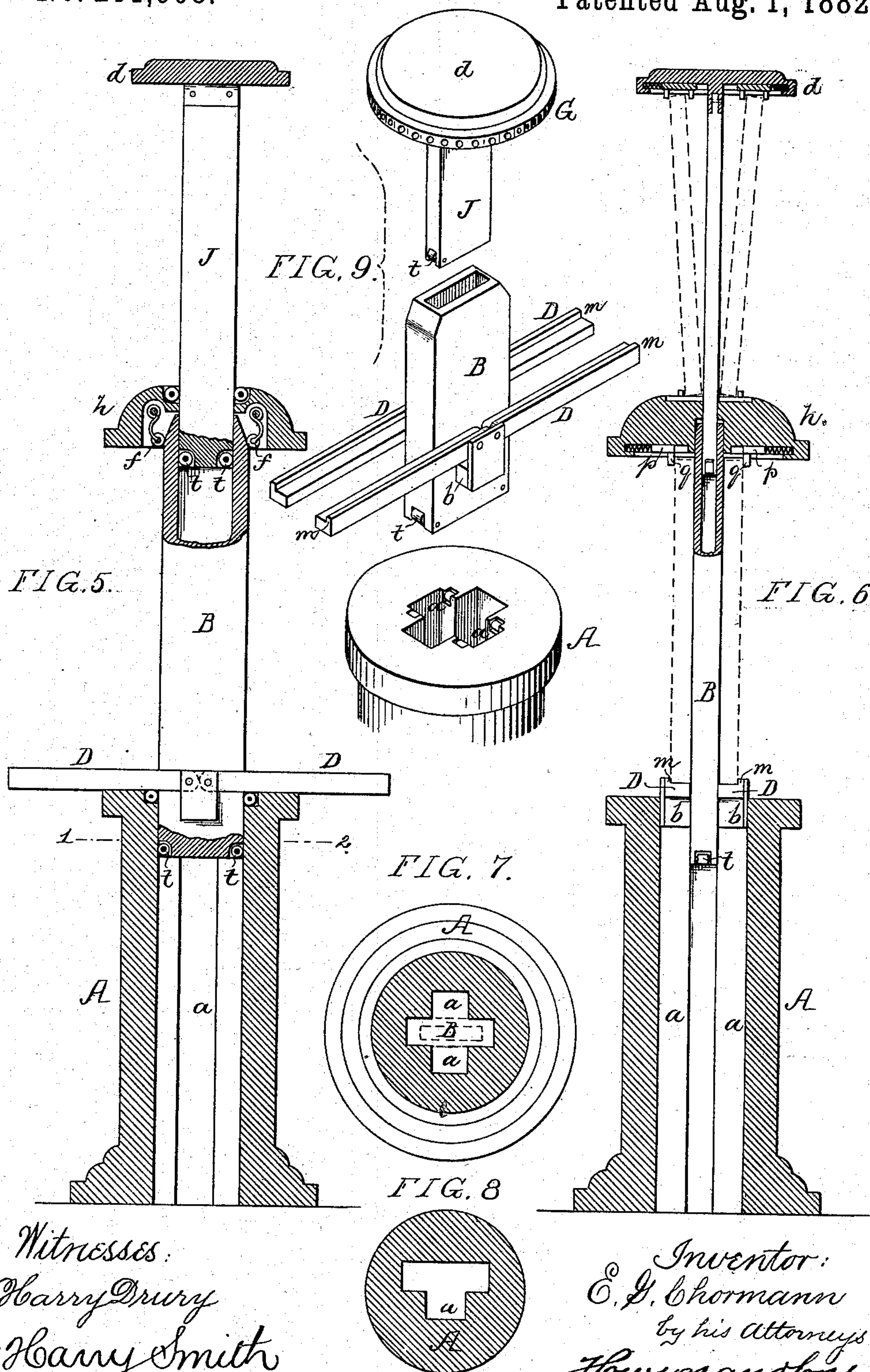
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ERNEST G. CHORMANN, OF PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA.

PARLOR-EASEL.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 261,908, dated August 1, 1882.

Application filed November 14, 1881. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ERNEST GEORGE CHORMANN, a citizen of the United States, residing in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, have invented certain Improvements in Parlor-Easels, of which the following is a specification.

The main object of my invention is to so construct a picture-exhibiting easel that when the structure is not required for the display of pictures it can be at once converted into a pedestal for supporting a bronze bust or statue.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1, Sheet 1, is a perspective view, illustrating my invention in its simplest form; Fig. 2, a front view of a more elaborate structure as it appears when adjusted to form an ornamental pedestal for a bust, statue, or other ornamental object; Fig. 3, a vertical section of Fig. 2; Fig. 4, a perspective view of the structure adjusted to form a parlor-easel supporting four pictures; Fig. 5, Sheet 2, a vertical section of Fig. 4; Fig. 6, a transverse vertical section of Fig. 4; Fig. 7, a sectional plan on the line 1 2, Fig. 5; Fig. 8, a modification of Fig. 7, and Fig. 9 perspective diagrams illustrating my invention.

I will in the first instance describe my invention in its simplest form, as shown in the perspective view, Fig. 1, in which A represents a pedestal of wood, terra-cotta, papier-maché, or any other suitable material or combination of materials, the pedestal being either round, square, or of any other form, and being ornamented as the taste of the constructor may suggest.

An extension-slide, B, is so adapted to an opening in the pedestal that it can be raised and lowered, and on the top of this slide is a cap, G. When the extension-slide is depressed the cap rests on the top of the pedestal and forms a base on which the bust or statue rests; but when the structure has to be arranged for exhibiting pictures the extension-slide is elevated and two pictures arranged back to back, and one on each side of the slide, may be placed with their lower edges on the top of the pedestal, the cap bearing on the upper edges of the pictures, the outward displacement of which may be prevented by ribs or other suitable devices on the top of the pedestal and under side of the cap. The pedestal and cap

may be made of semi-cylindrical form, for fitting against the wall when one picture only has to be exhibited.

I will now proceed to describe the more elaborate structure, reference being had to the remaining figures of the drawings.

As shown in Fig. 7, the opening in the pedestal is cruciform, and the extension-slide B, preferably of quadrangular section, is arranged to fit snugly, but to move in that part of the cruciform opening indicated in Fig. 7, so that when the slide is within the pedestal two openings, *a a*, will be presented in the latter, one on each side of the slide—an arrangement which will be best understood by reference to the perspective diagrams, Fig. 9.

To each side of the extension-slide B is secured a lug, *b*, Figs. 4 and 9, and to each lug are hinged two arms, D D, which, when the extension-slide has been elevated to the extent shown in Fig. 9, can be moved outward and downward, so as to bear on the top of the pedestal, and in this condition they form a rest for the lower edge of the picture M. In like manner two similar arms are hinged to the other lug on the opposite side of the extension-slide; and these arms, also resting on the pedestal, form a second support for the lower edge of another picture, M', the two pictures being thus arranged back to back, one on each side of the slide. It should be here understood that in this instance the cap G is in two sections, *d* and *h*.

To the interior of the extension-slide B is adapted a second extension-slide, J, to the top of which is attached the above-mentioned section *d* of the cap G of the pedestal, the other section, *h*, being adapted to but loose on the second extension-slide, so that the latter, when depressed, can slide in the said section.

When the structure has been extended to its full height for supporting four pictures, as shown in Figs. 4, 5, and 6, the lower and larger pictures, M M', rest, one on one pair of stretched arms D D and the other on the other pair of arms, all these arms being provided with ribs *m m*, to prevent the outward displacement of the lower edge of the pictures. (See Fig. 4.) The section *h* of the cap of the pedestal rests on the upper edges of the frames of both pictures, and the outward displace-

ment of the upper edges of these frames may be prevented by different kinds of stops or catches on the under side of the said section *h* of the cap. In the present instance spring-bolts *p* are arranged to slide in the section *h*, each bolt having a lug, *q*, which is pressed against the frame by a spring.

Two smaller pictures, *H H*, are held by and between the two sections of the cap of the pedestal, preferably in the inclined position shown by dotted lines in Fig. 6, owing to the height at which these pictures are necessarily arranged above the floor, the lower edge of the picture-frames being retained on the section *h* by ribs or pegs and the upper edges by spring-bolts or other available fastenings on the under side of the upper section, *d*.

When the easel has to support two large pictures the section *h* may be elevated to any extent which the depth of the picture frame may demand, and the two pictures may be held by and between the outstretched arms *D D* and the said section *h*.

It will be seen on reference to Figs. 3 and 5 that the section *h* of the cap of the pedestal is recessed for the reception of two elastic arms, which are secured to the said section, each elastic arm being provided with a roller, *f*, of rubber or other yielding material, one roller bearing against one edge and the other against the other edge of the extension-slide *B*.

If the section *h* is elevated above the position shown in Fig. 6 for the purpose of adjusting a large picture to the easel, the rollers of the elastic arms will bear against the upper extension-slide, and when the section *h* is depressed the rollers will pass from the upper extension-slide and down the inclined top of the lower extension-slide and again occupy the position shown in Fig. 5, the elastic arms and their rollers thus serving to steady the section *h*, no matter what its position may be, and also serving by the friction which they impart to prevent the section from sliding downward without the exercise of force to depress it.

When the pictures have been removed from the easel the extension-slide *J* may be depressed into the extension-slide *B* and both slides into the pedestal, into which also will pass the arms *D D*, for the latter, in depressing the extension-slide *B*, will turn upward on their hinges and take their places in the openings *a a* of the pedestal, Fig. 7, the two sections *d* and *h* becoming the ornamental cap of the pedestal, as shown in Figs. 2 and 3.

In some instances the structure may be required for a locality where pictures arranged

back to back cannot be viewed conveniently, in which case one pair of arms *D D* for one lower picture will be required, and the opening in the pedestal may be of the shape shown in Fig. 8.

I prefer to provide the extension-slide *B* with rubber rollers *t t*, Fig. 5, for bearing against the interior of the pedestal, and to furnish the latter with similar rollers bearing against the slide, the lower edge of the second extension-slide and the section *h* being also furnished with similar rollers, which, being of yielding material, impart friction enough to retain the slides in any position to which they may be adjusted, but permit the slides to be moved by the exercise of a slight effort. These rollers may be attached to elastic arms, if desired, or spring-plates may be substituted for the rollers.

In making the structure it will not be necessary to adhere to the precise shape shown of the extension-slides, or to that of the openings in the pedestal for admitting the slides. In some cases there may be a third, and even a fourth, slide.

I claim as my invention—

1. The combination of the pedestal *A* and the central slide, *B*, having at the top a flat cap, *G*, projecting on both sides of the slide, the whole forming, when the slide is extended, a support for two pictures placed back to back, and when the slide is depressed constituting a flat-topped pedestal adapted to support a statuette, as set forth.

2. The combination of the hollow pedestal *A*, having a flat top, with the extension-slide *B*, having arms *D* hinged thereto, said arms being adapted to fold together and enter the pedestal with the slide *B*, but resting upon and being supported by the flat top of the pedestal when the slide is extended, all substantially as described.

3. The combination of the hollow pedestal *A*, the extension-slide *D* and its hinged arms, the second extension-slide, *J*, and the cap *G*, made in two sections, *d* and *h*, the former being attached to the slide *J* and the latter being adapted to slide thereon, all substantially as set forth.

In testimony whereof I have signed my name to this specification in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

E. G. CHORMANN.

Witnesses:

HARRY DRURY,
HARRY SMITH.