

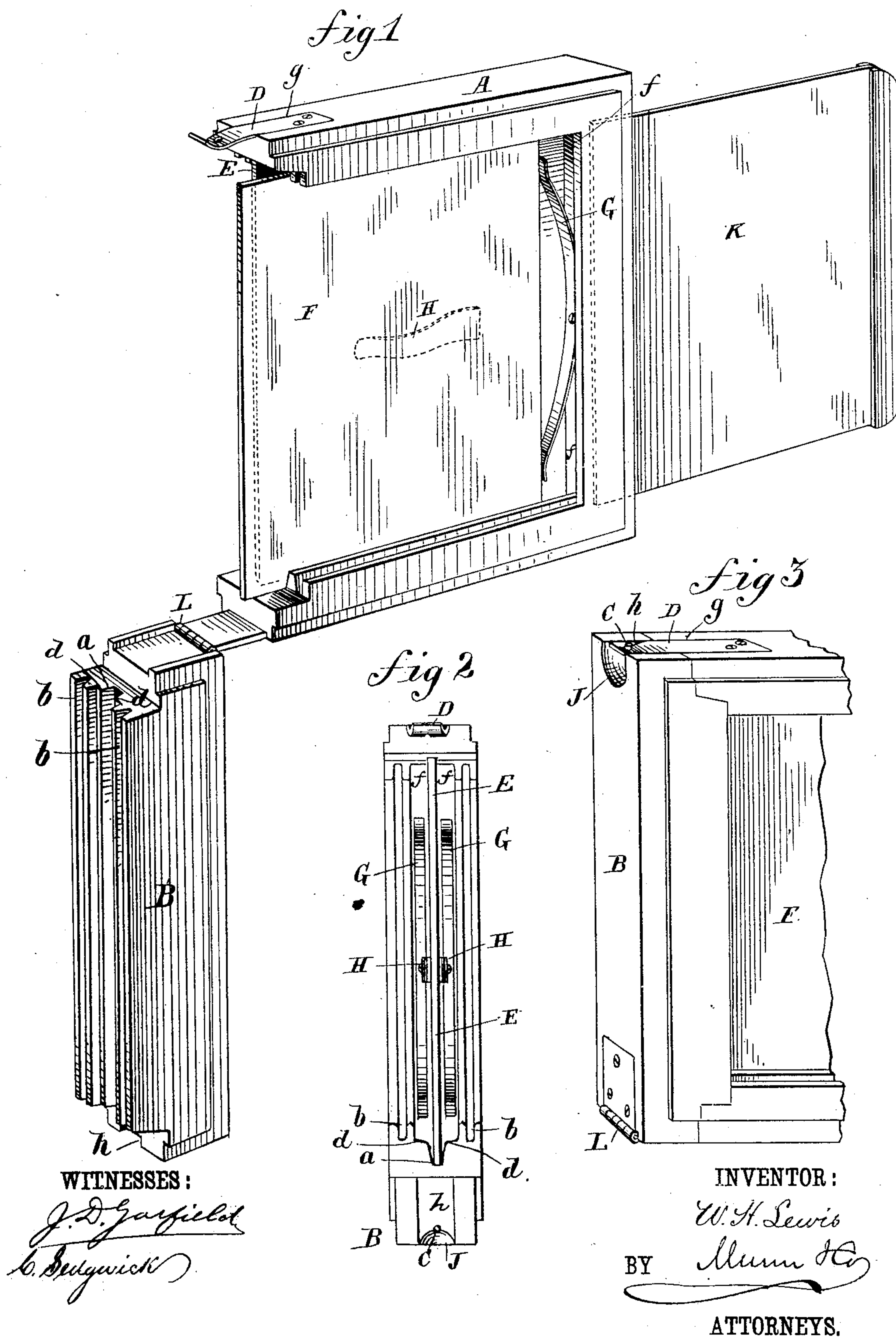
(Model.)

W. H. LEWIS.

PLATE HOLDER FOR PHOTOGRAPHIC CAMERAS.

No. 272,717.

Patented Feb. 20, 1883.



# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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## PLATE-HOLDER FOR PHOTOGRAPHIC CAMERAS.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 272,717, dated February 20, 1883.

Application filed July 17, 1882. (Model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, WILLIAM H. LEWIS, of Brooklyn, in the county of Kings and State of New York, have invented a new and Improved Plate-Holder for Photographic Cameras, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description.

The object of my invention is to facilitate the inserting and removing of sensitized plates from the plate-holder of photographic cameras.

The invention consists in a photographic-plate holder having one end of its frame made removable in order to facilitate the insertion and removal of the sensitized plates.

The invention also consists in the combination, with the plate-holder, of a locking device, and of springs for moving the plates, and in certain other peculiarities of construction, all of which will be fully set forth hereinafter.

Reference is to be had to the accompanying drawings, forming part of this specification, in which similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts in all the figures.

Figure 1 is a perspective view of my improved plate-holder, showing one of the slides withdrawn, and showing the removable frame-piece opened and turned down. Fig. 2 is an elevation of the plate-holder, showing the movable end piece turned down and the glass plates and the slides removed. Fig. 3 is a perspective view of part of the plate-holder, showing the removable frame-piece closed.

In general the plate-holder is of the usual construction, with the exception of the improvements to be described hereinafter.

I have shown these improvements applied to a double plate holder; but they may be applied equally as well to a single plate holder.

The frame A of the photographic-plate holder has one end, B, made movable, and this movable frame-piece B is hinged to the fixed part of the frame at one end by means of a hinge, L, and at the opposite or swinging end it is provided with a stud, C, which catches in a spring-lock, D, fastened to the frame A, which stud and spring-lock hold and lock the movable frame-piece B to the frame A when it is closed or folded against the same. The inner longitudinal surface of the removable frame-piece B is provided with a central longitudinal

groove, *a*, for receiving the end of the septum E, with two longitudinal side grooves, *b b*, for receiving the inner ends of the slides K, and between each side groove, *b*, and the groove *a* with a longitudinal shoulder, *d*, for the ends of the sensitized glass plates F. These grooves and shoulders cause the removable frame-piece to fit closely against the ends of the septum, the slides, and the plates, thereby excluding the light at the removable end of the plate-holder. The end piece of the frame A, opposite the movable frame-piece B, is provided in its inner longitudinal surface with two longitudinal grooves, *f f*, in each of which a bow-spring, G, is fastened at the middle, so that the ends of the spring will be free and will press against the ends of the glass plates F, which are passed into the plate holder. The usual plate-springs, H, are attached to the septum. The spring-lock D and the stud C, in order that they may not project above the outer surface of the frame, are located in grooves *g* and *h* in the frame A and in the end of the movable frame-piece, respectively, and the movable frame-piece B is provided at its end with a finger-notch, J, which admits of inserting the finger to raise the lock D. To insert sensitized plates the frame-piece B is unlocked by raising the lock D, and the frame-piece B is then swung down below the grooves of the frame A, whereby the end of the frame A will be opened and the bottom grooves completely exposed, so that the plate F can be inserted and pushed home against the springs G. The plate-holder is then closed by swinging back the frame B, whereby the plates F will be pushed completely into the plate-holder, thereby flattening the spring G, and the frame-piece B will be automatically locked by means of the lock D and the stud C. If the plates are to be removed, the frame-piece B is opened and swung down, as described, and the springs G will then act to push the plates F outward—that is, toward the open end of the plate-holder—so that they can be seized very conveniently and withdrawn from the plate-holder.

I do not limit or confine myself to the exact form herein shown of the several parts, as they may be varied, as desired by the maker, without departing from my invention.



I am aware that a spring - catch has heretofore been employed in plate - holders, and I therefore lay no claim, broadly, to such invention.

5 Having thus fully described my invention, I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent—

10 1. A photographic-plate holder constructed substantially as herein shown and described, with one end of the frame and its end grooves made removable, as and for the purpose set forth.

15 2. The combination, with the fixed end of the frame, and with the removable end thereof, of a spring adapted to yield and allow the photographic plate to be pressed home to its place when the removable end piece is closed, and to push the plate forward for removal when the removable end is opened, as set forth.

20 3. The combination, in a plate-holder, with the fixed part A of the frame, of the hinged part B and spring-lock D C, constructed and

arranged to operate substantially as described, and for the purpose set forth.

4. The combination, with the extremity of 25 the fixed frame-piece and the extremity of the removable frame-piece, of a hinge, L, substantially as herein shown and described, adapted to allow the removable frame - piece to turn down below the level of the groove in which 30 the photographic plates move, as set forth.

5. The combination, with a photographic-plate holder, of a removable frame-piece having its inner surface grooved, so as to adapt it to fit over the ends of the septum, the photo- 35 graphic plates, and the slides, substantially as herein shown and described, and for the purpose of holding the sensitized plates in place, as set forth.

WILLIAM H. LEWIS.

Witnesses:

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