

(No Model.)

M. A. MERRILL.

SKETCHER'S EASEL.

No. 274,629.

Patented Mar. 27, 1883.

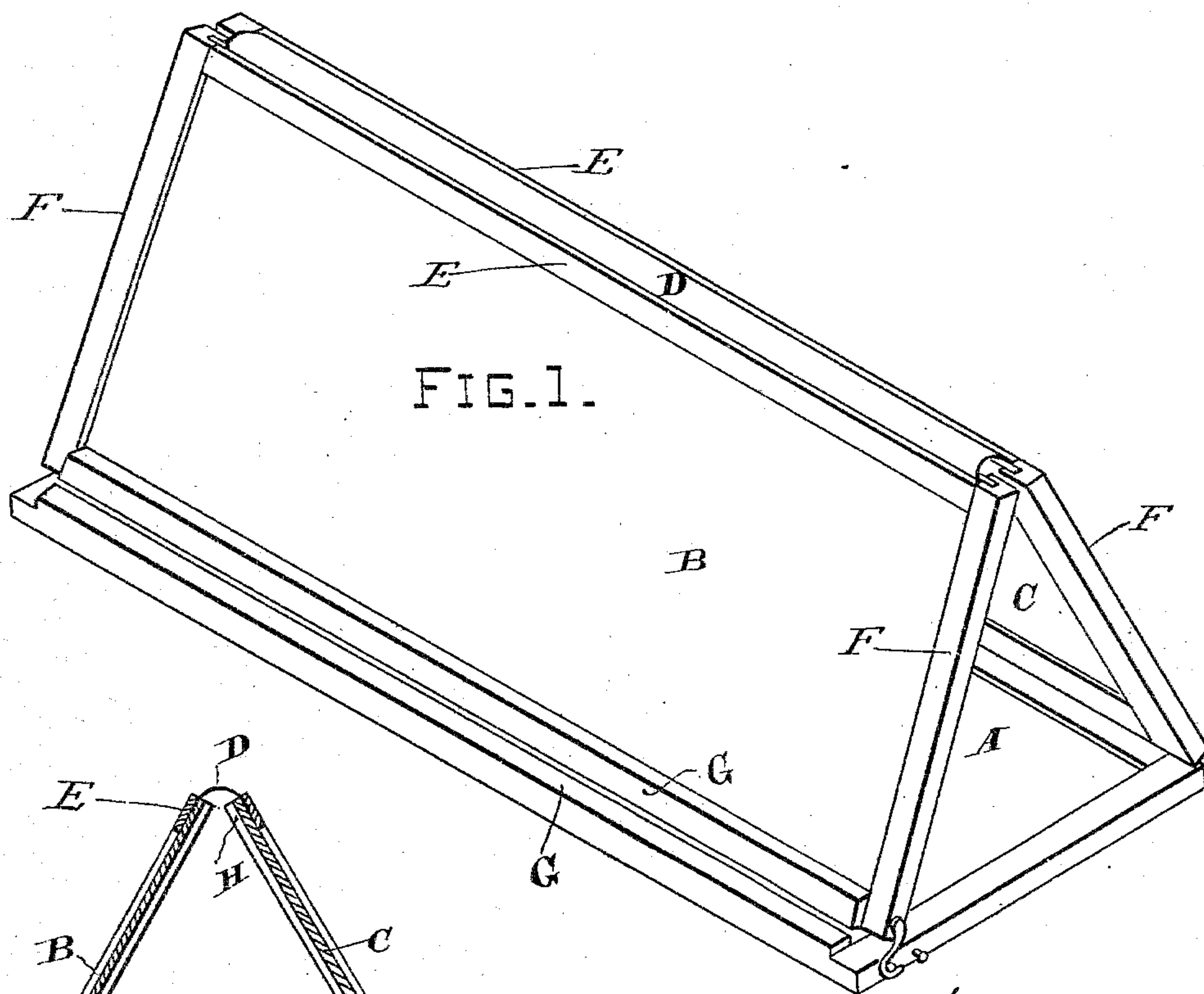


FIG. 1.

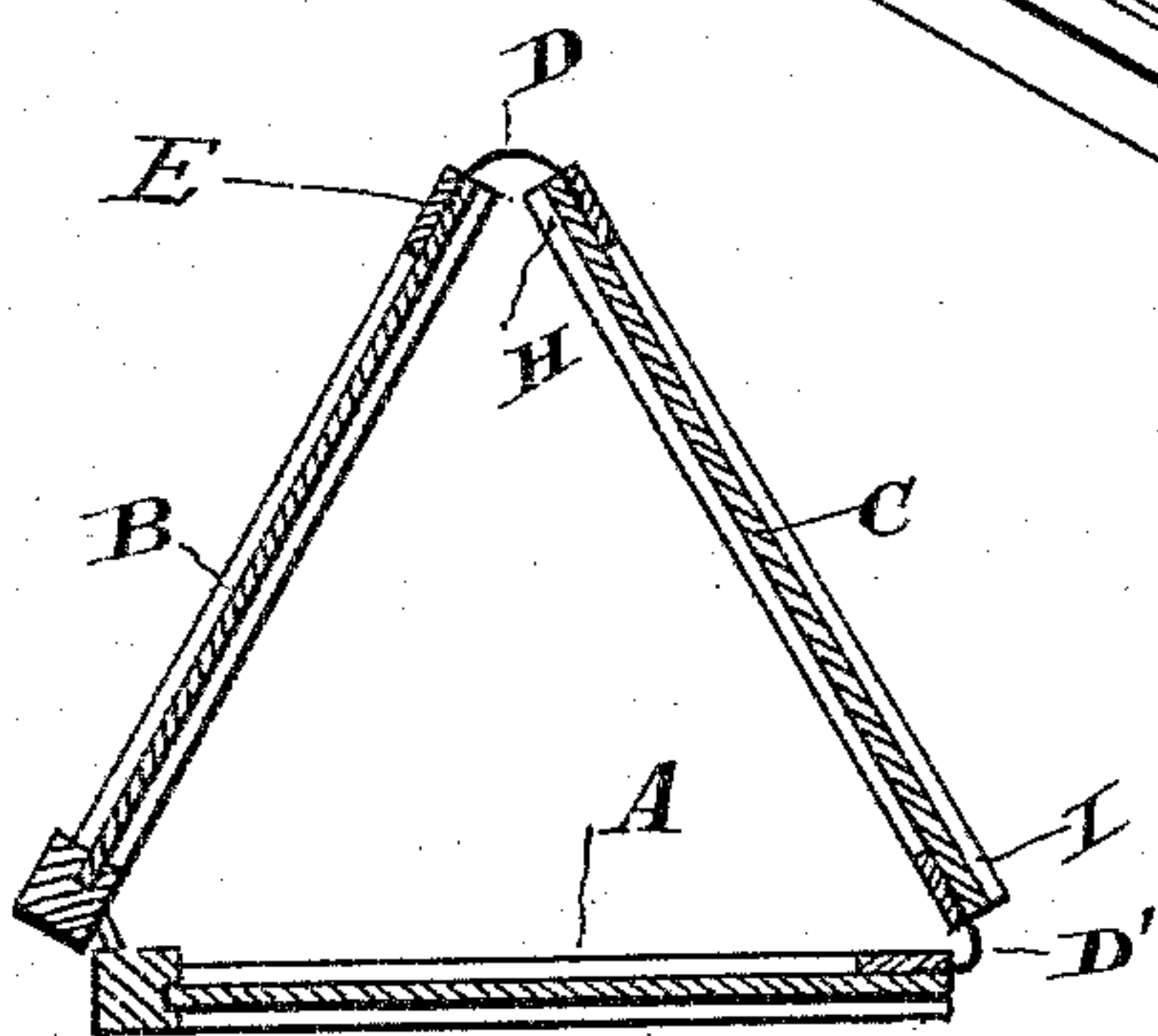


FIG. 2.

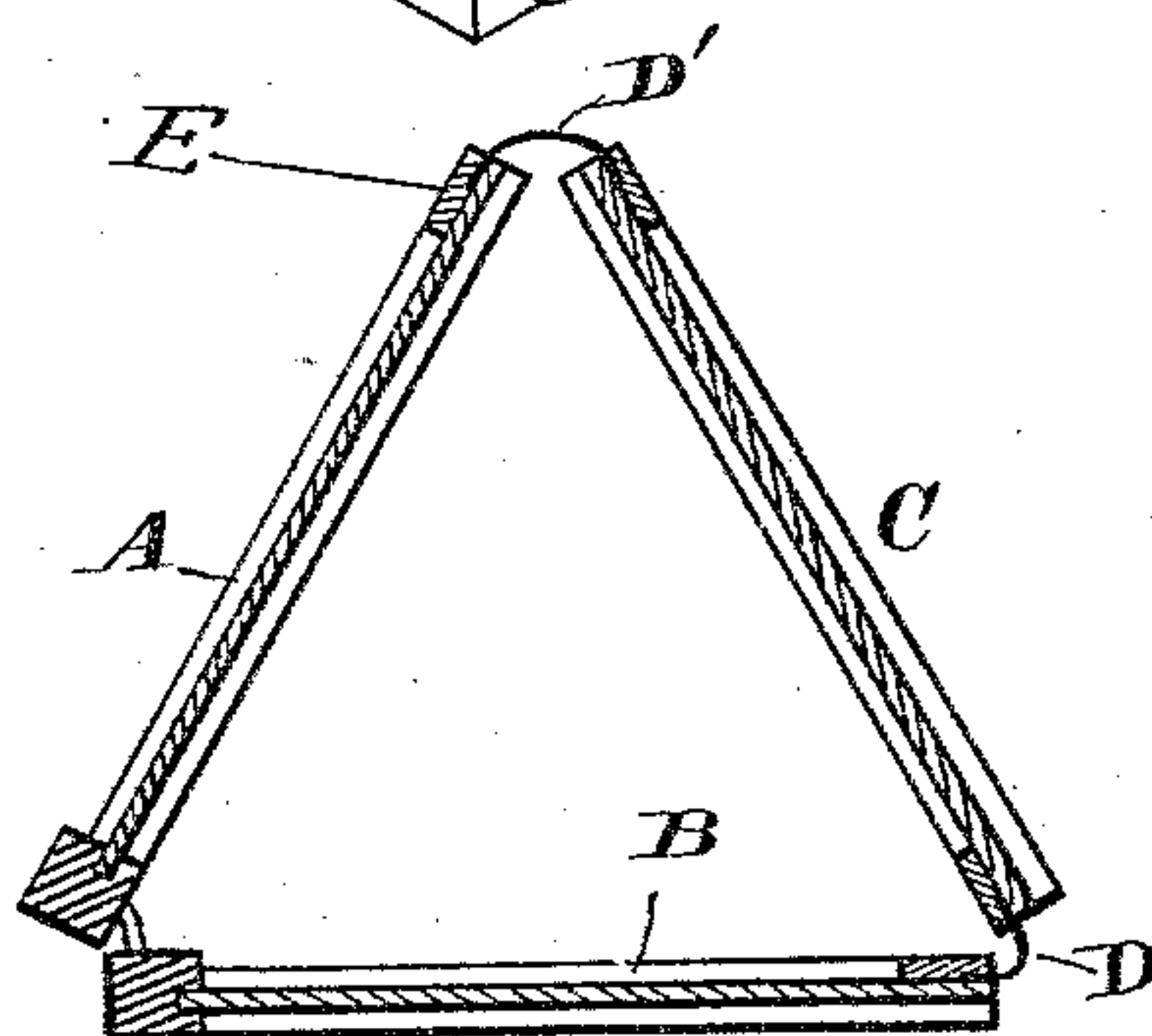


FIG. 3.

WITNESSES.

*Wilbur Bradford*

*E. Patten.*

INVENTOR

*Mrs. Mary A. Merrill*  
*Per C. W. M. Smith*  
*Attorney*



# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

MARY A. MERRILL, OF SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA.

## SKETCHER'S EASEL.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 274,629, dated March 27, 1883.

Application filed August 29, 1882. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, MARY A. MERRILL, a citizen of the United States, residing at San Francisco, in the county of San Francisco and State of California, have invented a new and useful Easel for Sketchers' Use, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to that class of easels which are mainly adapted to the sketching of landscapes in the field; and it consists of a peculiarly-constructed multifold tablet capable of being made interchangeable or reversible.

To enable others skilled in the art to which my invention more nearly appertains to make and use the same, reference is had to the accompanying drawings, forming a part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of my easel in position. Figs. 2 and 3 are cross-sections.

I construct my easel of three platens or tablets, A B C, connected together by suitable flexible hinges, D D', and these hinges are held in place upon the tablets by thin strips of wood, E, through which pass screws or tacks. In order to prevent warping, the ends of the tablets are tongued and grooved, the transverse strip F receiving the tongued end, as shown. The outer edges of the tablets A and B are provided with a raised strip, G, which strips do not extend across the tongued-and-grooved strip at the ends of these tablets, while all the edges of the tablets are provided with longitudinal strips on both sides, with the exception of the inner edge, H, and outer edge, I, of the tablet C and the outer lower edge of the tablet A. By this means I am enabled to fold all the tablets down one upon the other, and protect the sketchings thereon from dust or rain.

When the easel is in position or opened for use it is in the form of an equilateral triangle,

with the table or base A resting in the lap of the sketcher, in which position it is adapted to receive the card-board or paper upon four sides of the tablets—that is to say, on the inner face of A, outer face of B, and the inner and outer faces of C—and be folded up in such a manner as to cover and protect all of these sketches from the weather or harm from moisture in transporting the tablets from place to place or in passing from one subject to another by interchangeably folding one leaf upon another, the lower face of the tablet A being the base and the inner surface of the tablet B the upper or exposed face when folded up.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. A sketcher's easel composed of three reversible folding tablets having a hinged connection, as shown, said easel being adapted to form, when arranged for use, an equilateral triangle the base of which consists of one of said tablets, whereby the easel is capable of supporting subjects upon four distinct surfaces and protecting the same when folded, substantially as described.

2. The tablets A B C, hinged or connected in the manner described, and provided with raised edges or strips G, and plane or depressed edges H I upon the tablet C and the outer and lower edge of the tablet A, substantially as and for the purposes herein set forth and specified.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing I have hereunto set my hand and seal this 16th day of August, 1882.

MARY A. MERRILL. [L. S.]

Witnesses:

C. W. M. SMITH,  
JAMES MASON.