

(No Model.)

S. R. PAY.
PLAQUE EASEL.

No. 354,211.

Patented Dec. 14, 1886.

FIG. 2.

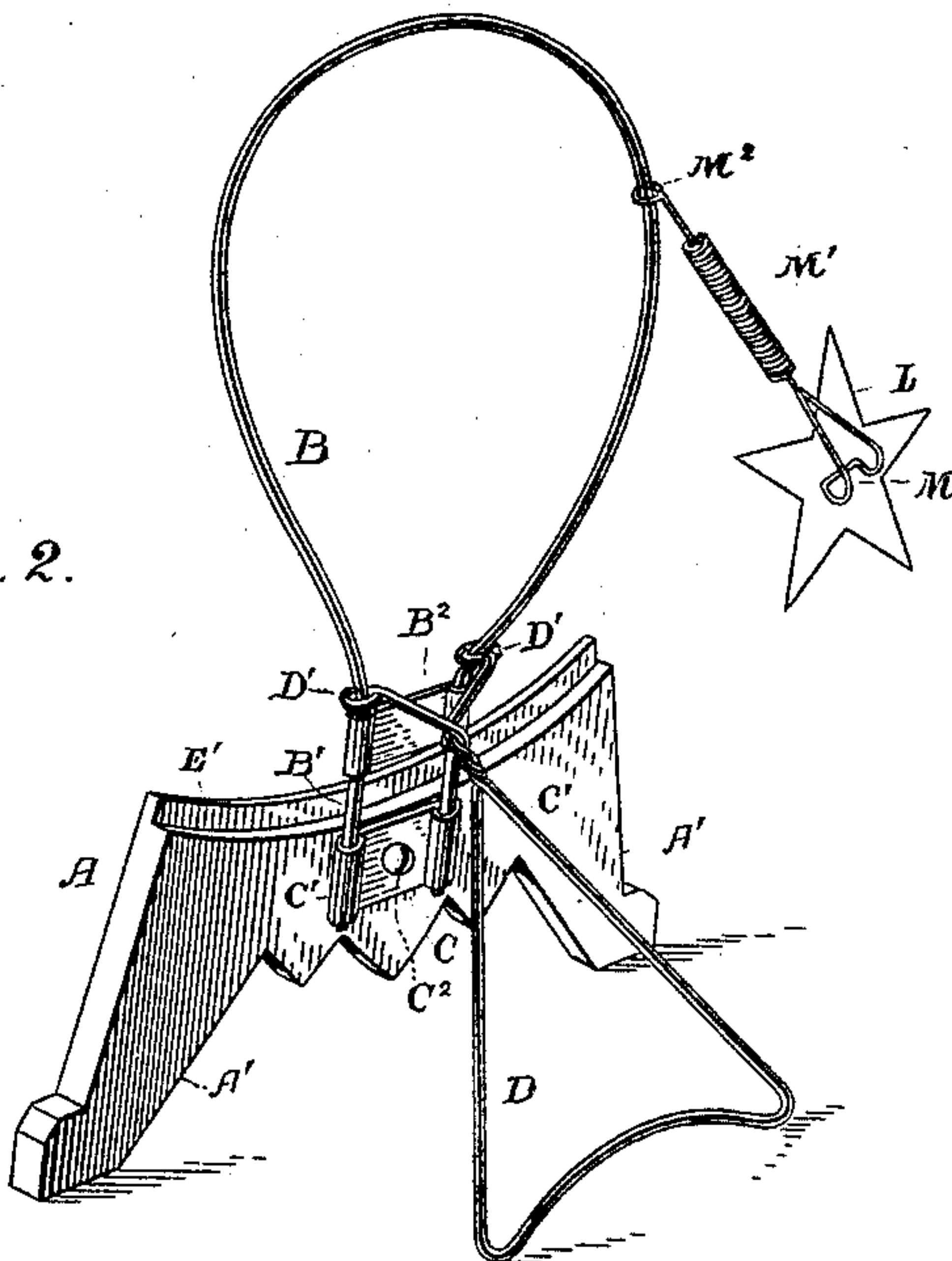


FIG. 1.

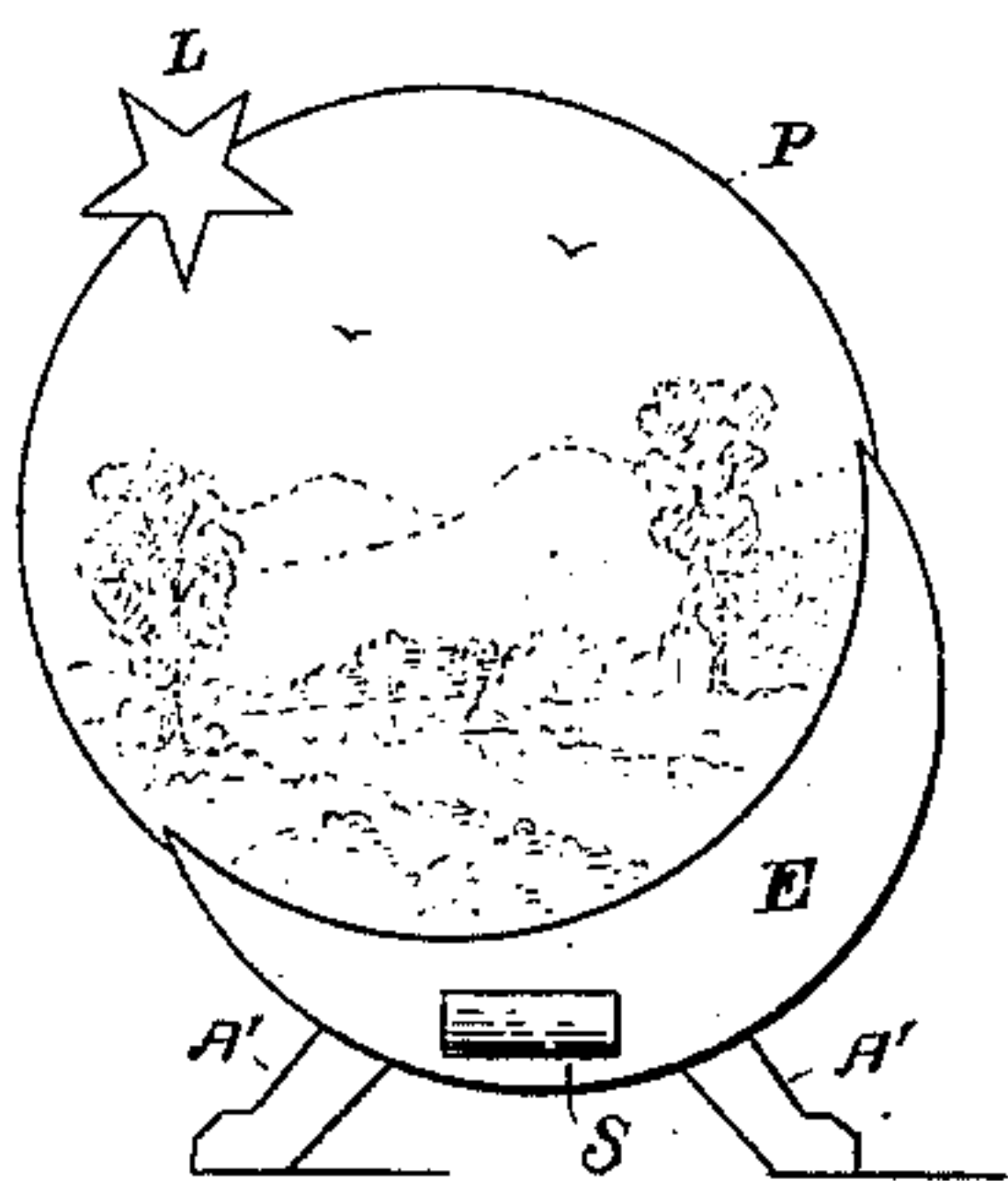


FIG. 3.

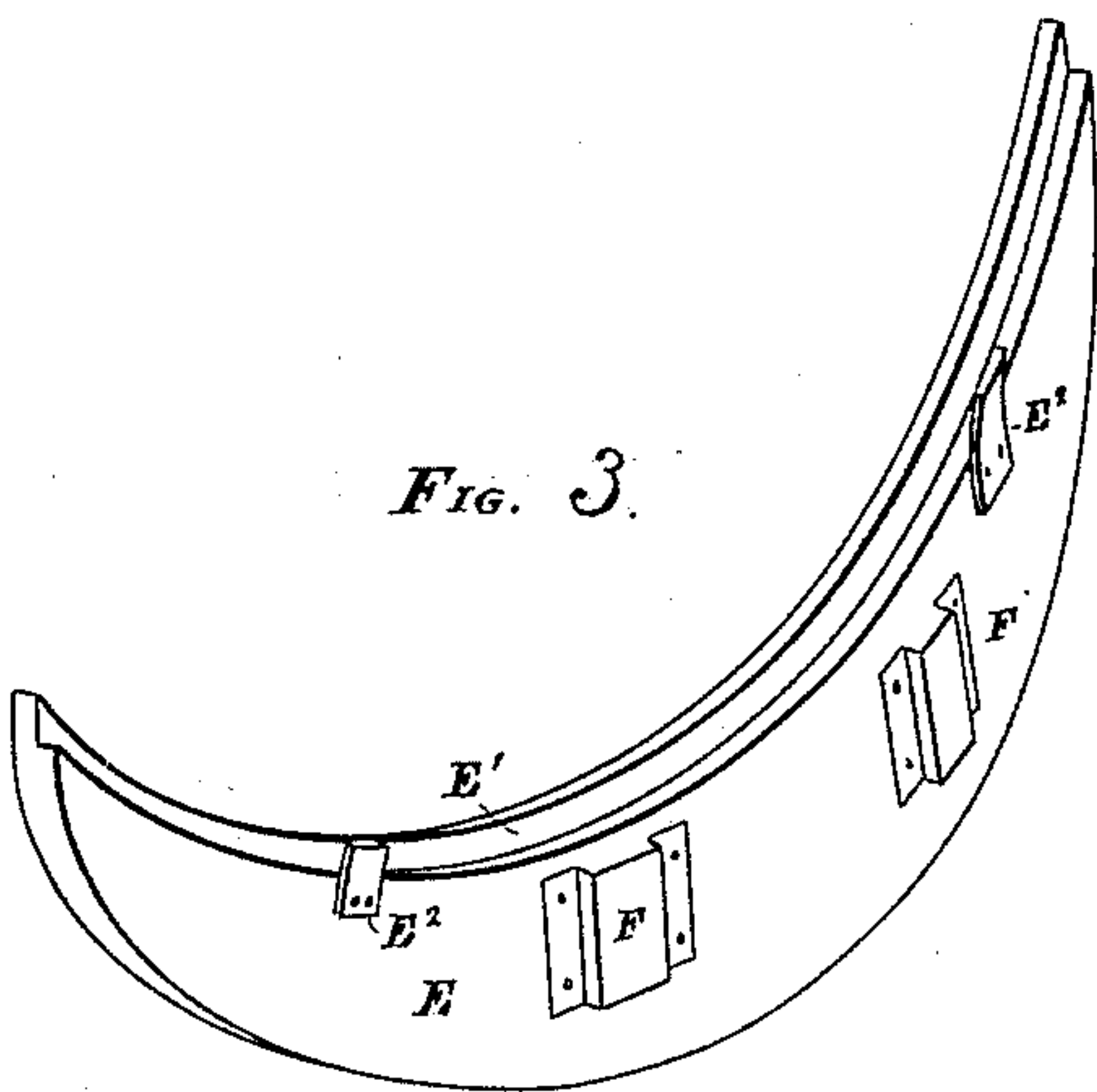
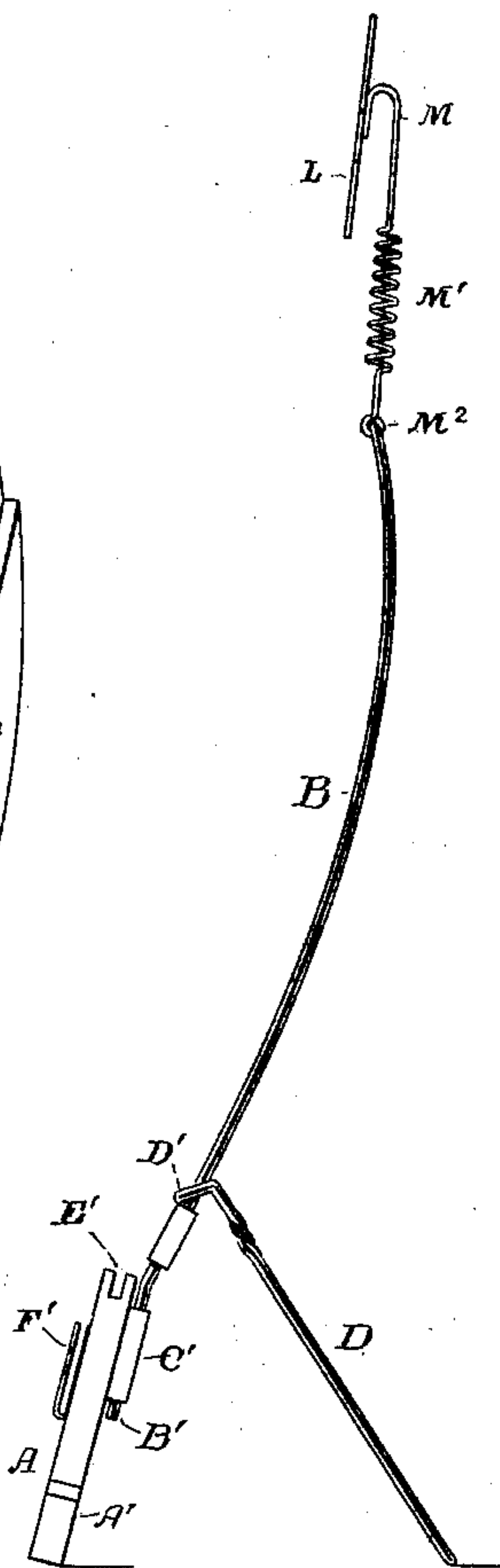


FIG. 4.



Witnesses;
L. M. Thurlow
A. Keithley

Inventor,
Stephen R. Pay;
by A. B. Upham,
His Attorney.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

STEPHEN R. PAY, OF PEORIA, ILLINOIS.

PLAQUE-EASEL.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 354,211, dated December 14, 1886.

Application filed April 19, 1886. Serial No. 199,351. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, STEPHEN R. PAY, of Peoria, in the county of Peoria, State of Illinois, have invented an Improved Plaque-Easel; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description thereof.

The object of this invention is the construction of an improved easel or holder for plaques and similar circular ornamented articles.

The essential elements of my plaque-easel consist of a base, a prop, a back, and a clamp, constructed and combined in the following manner.

In the drawings which form a part of this specification, Figure 1 represents a front elevation of my plaque-easel with a plaque held thereby. Fig. 2 is a perspective view of the easel with the crescent portion of the base removed; Fig. 3, a perspective view of said crescent; Fig. 4, a side elevation of the easel.

The base consists of the base portion proper, A, and the crescent E, attached thereto and provided with a circular receiving-edge for supporting the plaque. The base portion A, which I term the "standard," is given legs A'. The back B, I usually form from a single length of wire bent into the oval curve shown, and having its ends B' inserted into sockets C' in the standard A, or into sockets formed on the plate C, pivoted to said standard. The object of this pivoted plate C is, that the back B can be turned down behind the standard A for compactness in packing. If desired, the ends B' of the back B can be soldered or otherwise fixed to the sockets C' of the plate C. If the said ends are simply held friction-tight in said sockets, I usually join the said ends with the cross-plate B².

The prop for supporting the easel consists of the wire D, bent into substantially the form shown and having its ends provided with the eyes D', encircling the wire sides of the back B. As shown in Fig. 4, the plane of said eyes is at approximately right angles to the plane of the prop, so that the latter cannot swing farther away from the standard than is sufficient to support the easel, and can still be folded against the base for transportation and storage.

To the front of the standard A is secured the flat hook F', and to the back of the crescent E are fastened one or more flat sockets, F, adapted to fit said hook F'. By means of said sockets and hook the crescent can be secured to the standard A in different positions, either symmetrically or to one side, as in Fig. 1. The concave edge of the crescent E, I usually form with a groove into which to set the edge of the plaque, and said groove E' may be walled upon both sides, as in Fig. 4; or it can have simply a frontal wall, as in Fig. 3, two or more projections, E², serving for the rear wall thereof.

To so secure the plaques in place upon their easels that there shall be no danger of their falling or being blown therefrom, I have constructed the clamp which consists, essentially, of a hook connected by an elastic link to the back B. In the drawings, the hook M is provided with the coiled tension-spring M', loosely held to the wire of the back B by an eye, M², encircling the said wire. A star or other ornamental plate being affixed to the hook M, the latter is concealed and an added appearance of elegance given to the plaque.

On the face of the crescent E can be painted or otherwise formed ornamental designs and other decorative effects; and in addition there can be affixed to said face a match-safe, S, or other useful and embellishing attachments put thereon.

Among other advantages than that of its gracefulness for constructing the portion E in the shape of a crescent are the facts that the interior or concave curve thereof fits closely to the edge of the plaque held thereby, and the outer curve of the crescent, whatever its lateral displacement, is symmetrical relative to the standard A. Another advantage comes from the saving in material which results in the manufacture of the crescents. Their inner and outer curves being of equal radii, a series of crescents can be cut from a single strip of material, with the concave edge of one entirely contiguous to the convex edge of the next. In place of the coiled spring M', a rubber elastic can be substituted.

The upper edge of the standard A, I often curve and provide with a groove, E', so that,

if desired, the crescent E can be dispensed with and the plaque held by being rested in the groove of said standard.

In use the back B is inserted into its sockets C', the prop D is swung out, the crescent E attached to the standard by means of either socket F, and so put in the desired position, the plaque P placed in the groove E' of the crescent, the clamp-hook M moved about on the wire B until opposite to the crescent, and stretched sufficiently to pass the star L in over the rim of the plaque. Said star and the hook connected therewith being let down over the edge of the plaque, the latter is securely held from all danger of accidental removal.

What I claim as my invention, and for which I desire Letters Patent, is as follows, to wit:

1. In a plaque-easel, a standard having its upper edge curved concentric with a plaque to be held thereby, in combination with a back rising from said standard and a prop, substantially as set forth.

2. In an easel, the combination, with a standard, of the wire back projecting from the standard and the prop formed of a single length of wire having the eyes D' encircling the wire of the back, and bent, as set forth, whereby said prop can be swung toward and from the standard.

3. In an easel, the combination, with the standard having sockets C', of the wire back having its ends adapted to enter said sockets, and a prop for supporting the same.

4. In an easel, the combination, with the standard, of the plate C, pivoted to the standard and having sockets C', the wire back having its ends adapted to enter said sockets, and the supporting prop.

5. In an easel, the combination, with the standard, its back, and a supporting prop, of the hook, an ornamental figure affixed to said hook, and an elastically-extensible link connecting said hook to the back, substantially as and for the purpose specified.

6. In a plaque-easel, the combination, with a standard, a back, and a prop, of the crescent and means for securing it to the standard, the upper edge of said standard being adapted to support a plaque.

7. In a plaque-holder, the crescent suitably supported and having its upper and concave edge provided with the plaque-receiving groove, substantially as set forth.

8. In a plaque-holder, the combination, with suitable supports, of the crescent or similar holder having its upper edge curved concentric with a plaque, and means for supporting the lower edge of a plaque just below said curved edge, substantially as set forth, for the purpose specified.

9. In a plaque-easel, the combination, with the standard A, of the wire back B, projecting from said standard, the prop D, loosely connected to the back, the grooved crescent E, secured to said standard, and the elastically-extensible hook M, loosely attached to said wire back, as and for the purpose specified.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing invention I have hereunto set my hand and seal this 14th day of April, 1886.

STEPHEN R. PAY. [L. S.]

Witnesses:

A. B. UPHAM,
A. KEITHLEY.