

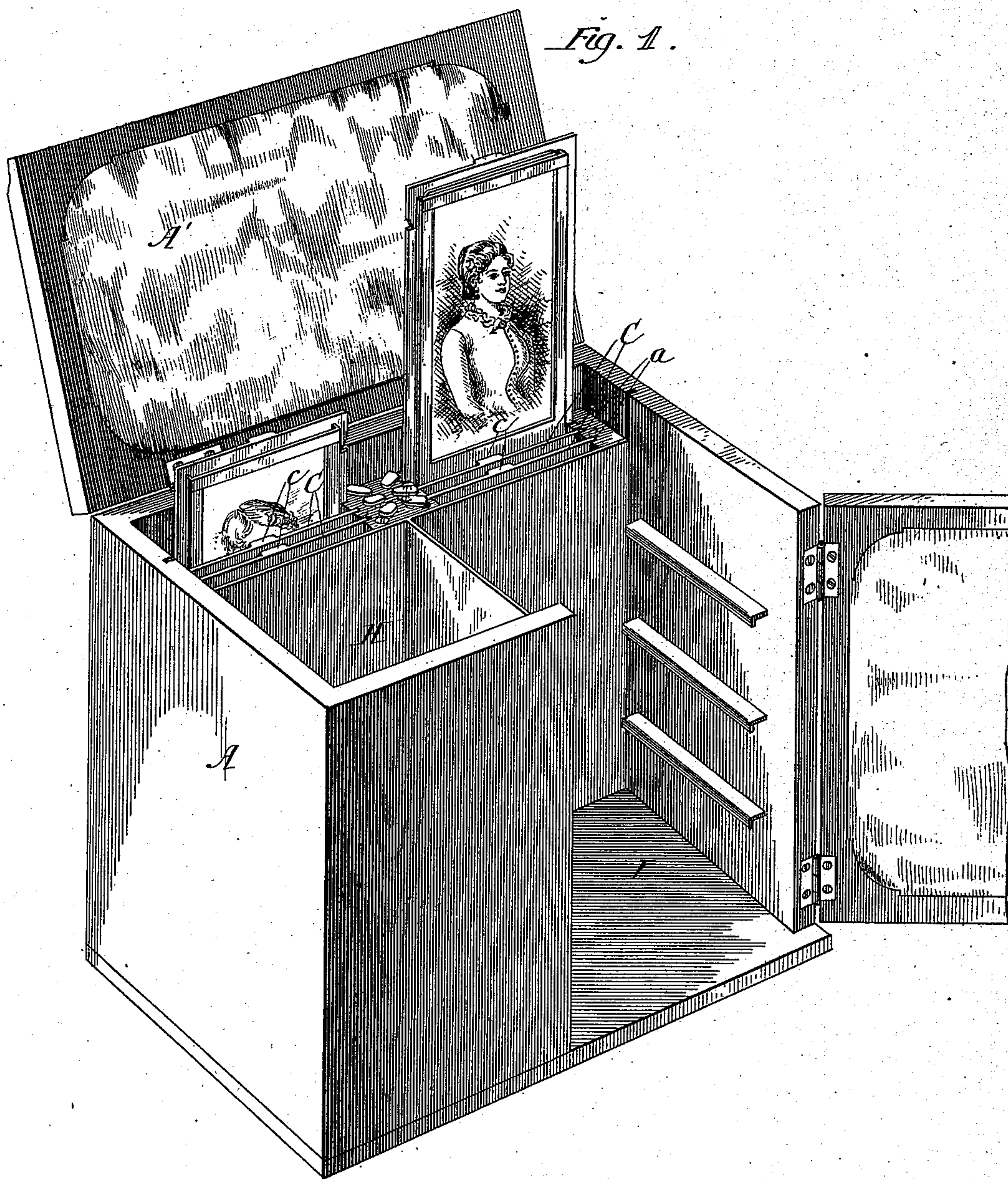
(No Model.)

2 Sheets—Sheet 1.

J. McAFFERTY.
PHOTOGRAPH HOLDER.

No. 381,154.

Patented Apr. 17, 1888.



Witnesses:

Frank Blanchard
Chas. J. Hill

Inventor:

Julia Mc Afferty
By Hill & Dixon
Her Attorneys.

(No Model.)

2 Sheets—Sheet 2.

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Fig. 2.

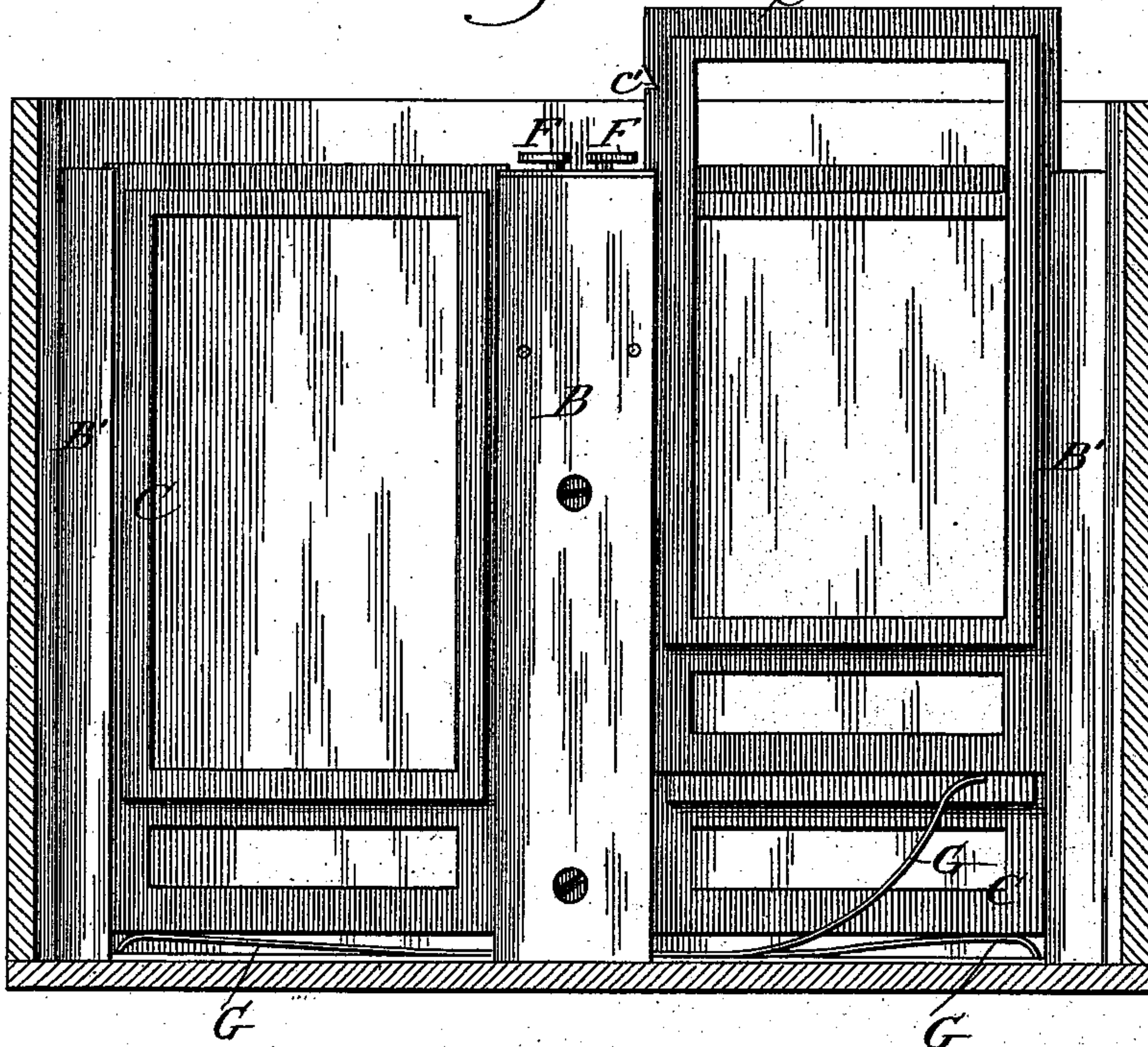


Fig. 3.

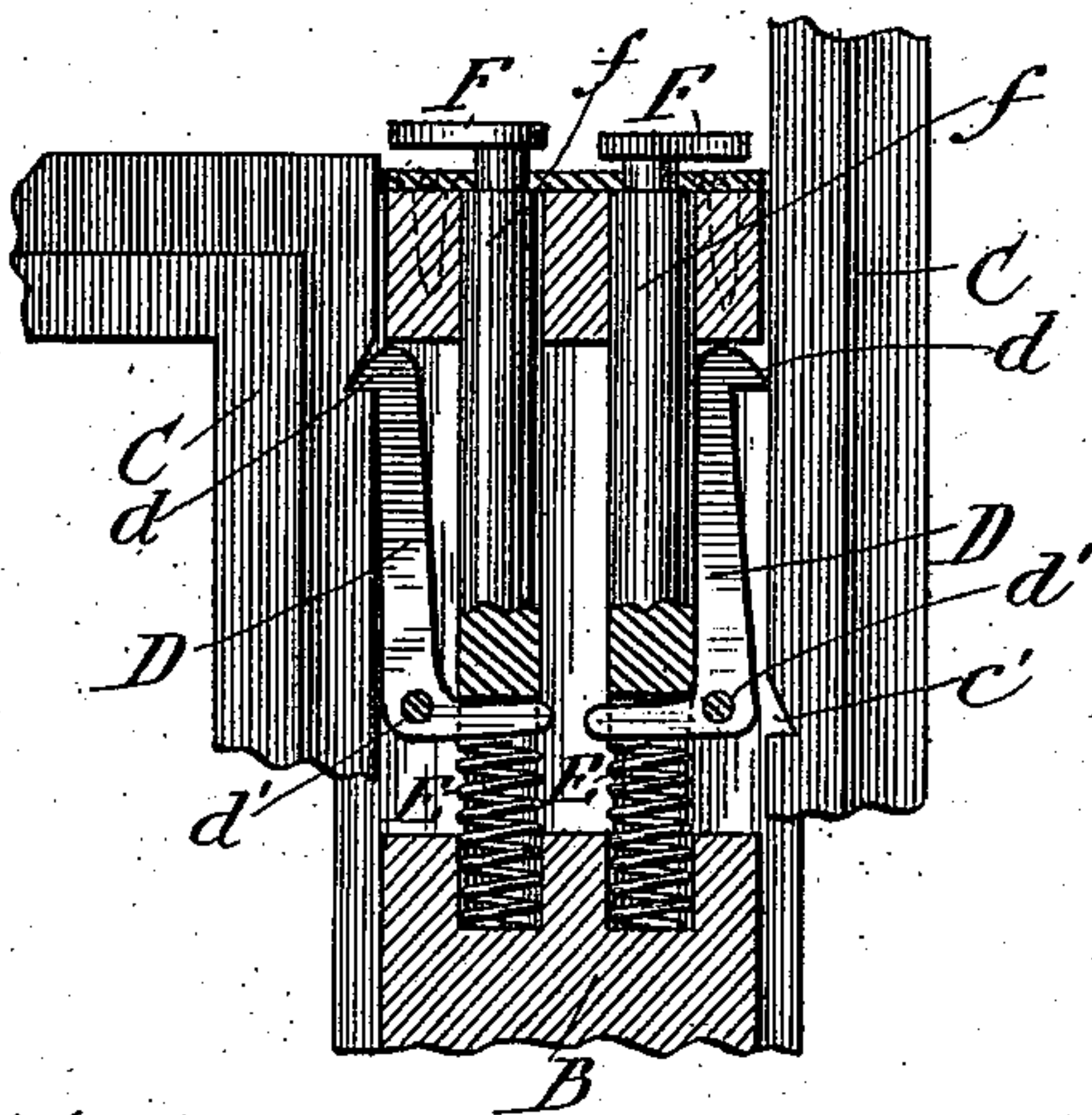
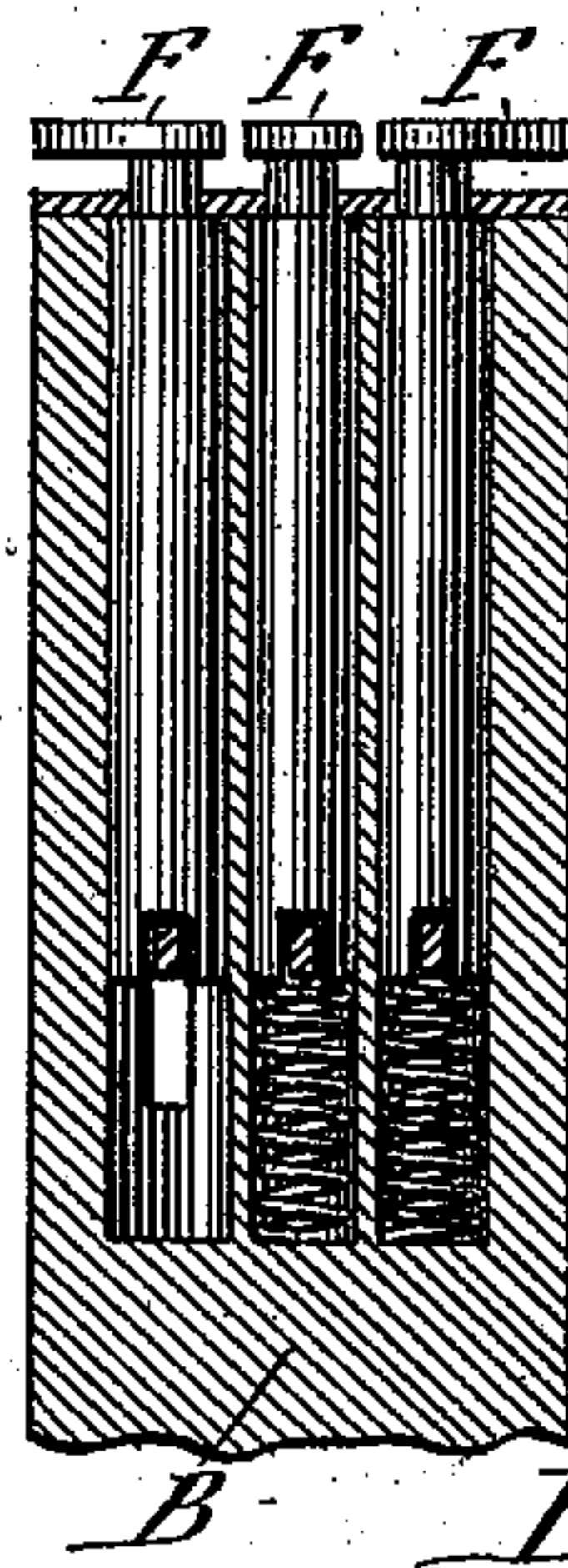


Fig. 4.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JULIA McAFFERTY, OF CHICAGO, ILLINOIS.

PHOTOGRAPH-HOLDER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 381,154, dated April 17, 1888.

Application filed June 27, 1887. Serial No. 242,574. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JULIA McAFFERTY, of Chicago, in the county of Cook and State of Illinois, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Photograph-Holders; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description thereof, sufficient to enable any one skilled in the art to make and use the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, forming a part thereof, in which—

Figure 1 is a perspective view; Fig. 2, a vertical longitudinal section; Figs. 3 and 4, detached sectional views, showing the construction and mode of operation of the spring-levers and actuating-rods.

Similar letters of reference indicate like parts.

The object of this invention is to provide an ornamental and convenient substitute for the ordinary photograph-album.

The principle of the invention consists in holding the photographs or other cards separately in vertical guides, in which they can be raised into or depressed out of sight, in connection with locking mechanism by which they can separately be locked down or up, as desired, and springs to assist in raising them when unlocked from their lower position.

The drawings and following description set forth the best means which I have contemplated employing for the embodiment of this principle.

The drawings represent a box, A, of any preferred form, having a cover, A', which forms the top or a portion of the top when the box is in position for displaying the pictures. A hinged, sliding, or any other suitable form of cover may be used for the purpose. In the inner walls of the box, or in blocks attached thereto, a series of parallel vertical grooves, *a a*, are arranged, adapted to receive the opposite lateral edges of the cards or card-carrying frames, and to permit said cards or frames to slide vertically therein. The drawings represent the grooves as formed in blocks, one of which, B, is at the middle of the rear wall, and the others, B' B', at the ends of said wall, thus accommodating two series of pictures, as shown in Figs. 1 and 2. I employ in connection with these guide-grooves a series of sashes or frames, C C C, each adapted to hold a card or

picture, and to slide up and down like window-sashes, lips *c* enabling the operator to readily grasp any of the slides for the purpose of raising it in its guides. In one edge of each frame, near its upper and lower ends, are notches C' C', into which locks a bolt or catch, *d*, for the purpose of holding the sash down or up, as the case may be.

The preferable construction of the locking apparatus is shown in Figs. 3 and 4, where it consists of a right-angular lever, D, pivoted at *d'*, and provided with a projection, *d*, which locks into the frame, as above described. Springs E tend to project the catches *d* into locking contact with the frames, and vertical sliding rods *f*, provided with finger-buttons F, enable the operator to press down the horizontal arm of the lever and unlock the catch from the frame whenever he desires. Springs G, of any suitable form, are arranged to exert their force upward against the slides to raise them more or less when unlocked. In Fig. 1 four of the six slides are shown locked down. One, in the left-hand series, is shown unlocked and partially raised by its spring G, and one, in the right-hand series, is shown raised and locked in that position, so as to exhibit the picture which it contains. In this last position a slight pressure on the appropriate finger-button unlocks the frame, which then falls by gravity to the position indicated by the rear left-hand slide, above referred to, after which a slight downward pressure on the frame pushes it down, so that the lock automatically engages and holds it down.

It is evident that by making appropriate notches in the edges of the cards themselves, if they are sufficiently stiff, the slide frames or sashes may be omitted; but I prefer to employ the frames.

The box may contain one or more series of card holding and locking devices adapted for one or more sizes of card, as may be preferred.

The entire box may be filled with the above-described apparatus, or a part of it may be devoted to that purpose, and the remainder divided into suitable compartments or receptacles, H I, for the storage of cards, pictures, or other articles, which may be arranged in drawers or on shelves or cleats, or otherwise, as desired. The whole is intended to be upholstered and ornamented as taste or fancy

may dictate, so as to form a handsome article of furniture for the parlor, and when closed and locked a secure receptacle for pictures or other articles which it is designed to contain.

5 While the construction of the sash locking and operating devices may be varied without departing from the general principle of the invention, yet I consider the combination of parts substantially as shown to be most convenient and best for the purpose and to involve inventions subordinate to that of the general plan, and therefore specifically claimed as improvements thereon. This specific arrangement brings the push-buttons in a group
10 at or near the upper ends of the sashes, where they can be operated with great convenience, and the mechanism by which they lock and unlock the pictures is simple, cheap, and not liable to get out of order.

20 I claim as my invention—

1. A photograph-holder consisting of a box or case containing vertical guide-grooves for

the cards or frames, combined with springs or their equivalents for raising the frames or cards, automatic locks for locking into the
25 edges of the cards or frames near their upper and lower ends to hold them up or down, and push-buttons or their equivalents for disengaging the locks and allowing the cards or frames to be raised or lowered, substantially as
30 set forth.

2. In a photograph-holder, the combination of the right-angled locking-levers D with the springs E, blocks B, notched sashes C, and vertically-arranged push-rods f, whereby a
35 vertical push upon the rods releases the locks from the frames and allows the corresponding slides to be thrown up or down, substantially as described.

JULIA McAFFERTY.

Witnesses:

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