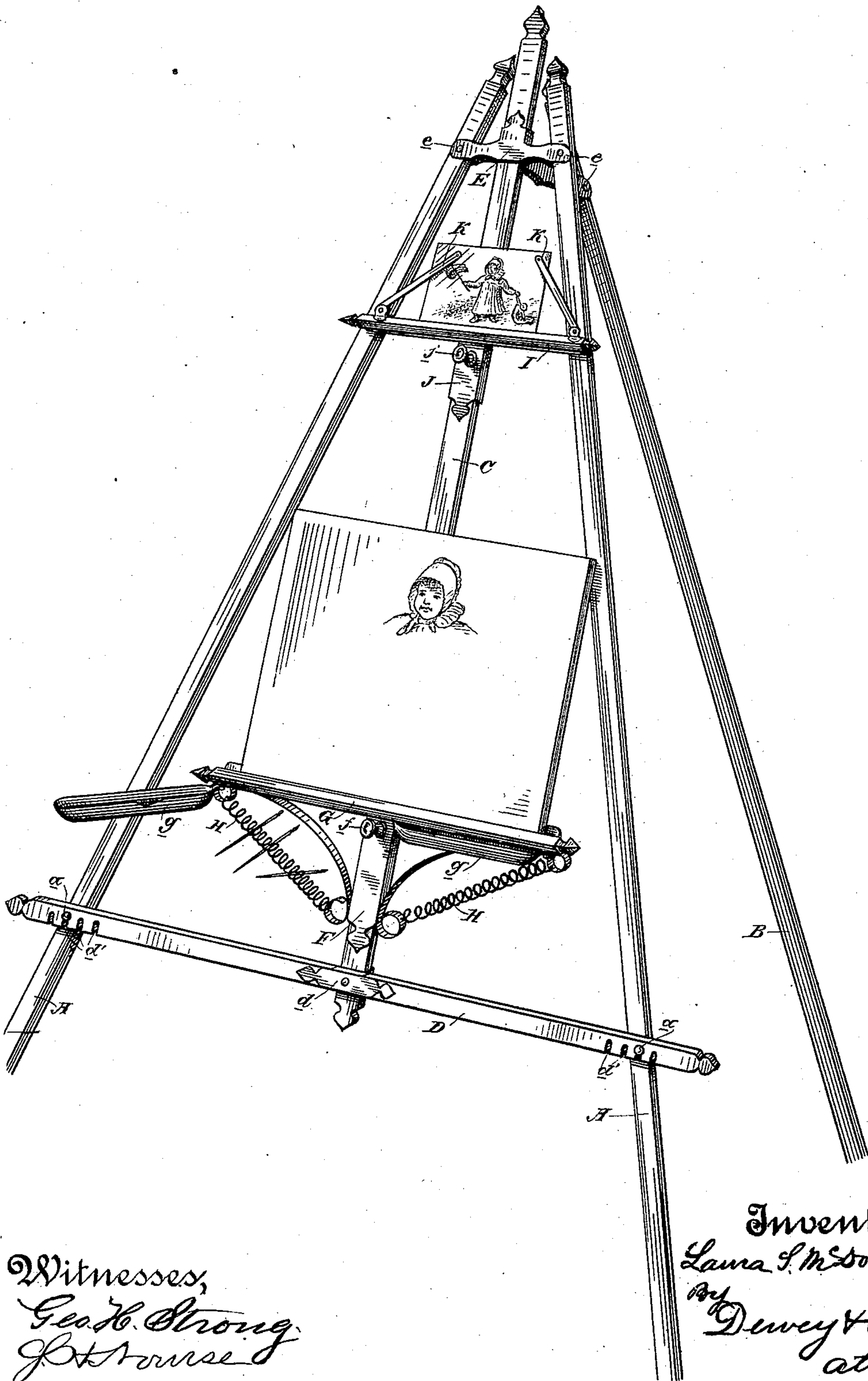


(No Model.)

L. S. McDONALD.  
EASEL.

No. 414,987.

Patented Nov. 12, 1889.





# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

LAURA S. McDONALD, OF ST. HELENA, CALIFORNIA.

## EASEL.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 414,987, dated November 12, 1889.

Application filed July 12, 1889. Serial No. 317,353. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, LAURA S. McDONALD, of St. Helena, Napa county, State of California, have invented an Improvement in Easels; and I hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the same.

My invention relates to that class of easels in which a canvas-supporting rack or shelf is vertically adjusted; and my invention consists in the novel general arrangement and construction of the frame of the easel, the support and guide for the moving rack or shelf, the novel construction of said rack or shelf, including its attached parts, the adjustable rack or shelf for the design, and other details, all of which I shall hereinafter fully describe, together with the objects of my invention.

Referring to the accompanying drawing for a more complete explanation of my invention, the figure is a perspective view of my easel.

The frame of the easel is composed of the two front legs A, the back leg B, the center bar C, and the cross-bar D. These parts are fitted together as follows: A bracket E is secured by its socketed hub upon the center bar C, and has three arms *e* radiating from it at right angles, said arms having socketed or forked outer ends in which the legs are pivoted, so that they may be extended to any desired degree to afford suitable support and be folded together, when necessary, for transportation. The cross-bar D is secured by a socketed plate *d* to the base of the center bar C, and has each of its ends provided with a series of notches *d'*, which are adapted to fit over the fixed pins *a* upon the front legs A, thus adapting said legs to be equally extended. Upon the center bar C is mounted and adapted to slide freely up and down a sleeve F, which carries a thumb-screw *f*, whereby said sleeve may be fixed in the position to which it may be adjusted. This sleeve has secured to its top the transverse rack or shelf G, which forms the support for the canvas. Pivoted under the ends of this rack or shelf are receptacles *g*, for the purpose of holding tubes of paint, crayons, and other materials, the receptacles being adapted to be turned outwardly to receive the materials and inwardly under the rack or shelf to carry them out of the way.

H are coiled springs having their lower ends secured to the base of the sliding sleeve F and their upper ends secured to the ends of the rack or shelf G. These springs are for the purpose of holding the brushes, after the manner of ordinary pen-holders.

I is a rack or shelf, which is secured to a sleeve J, fitted and adapted to slide upon the center bar C, and carrying a thumb-screw *j*, whereby it may be fixed in the position to which it may be adjusted. This rack or shelf has pivoted to its front near each end the swinging holding-arms K. The rack or shelf I is for the purpose of holding the design, its arms K holding the edges of the design and preventing them from curling.

The general operation of the easel may be briefly described as follows: The canvas is placed upon the rack or shelf G, which is thereupon raised or lowered to and fixed at the proper height to suit the convenience of the artist. The design to be copied is placed upon the rack or shelf I above, which is raised or lowered to and fixed at a convenient position, its arms K being turned upwardly to hold the edges of the design and prevent them from curling. Tubes of paint, crayons, or other materials may be placed temporarily in the pivoted or swinging receptacles *g* under the main rack or shelf G, and brushes may be conveniently and temporarily held in the coiled springs H. The legs of the easel may be readily adjusted, the back leg by simply being moved on its pivotal center in the bracket E above, and the front legs being adjusted by fitting their pins *a* in any of the notches *d'* of the cross-bar D. The object in having the notches in each end of the cross-bar is to equally adjust the front legs A to corresponding inclinations, and this is necessary by reason of having said cross-bar attached at its middle to the center bar C and serving as a brace and support therefor. The bar C serves as a simple and convenient support for the racks or shelves G and I, and also as a guide for adjusting them vertically.

The manner of adjusting the racks or shelves is a simple and convenient one, avoiding the complications usually present in easels of this class, for by merely loosening the thumb-screws they may be raised or lowered and then fixed in any position.



The bracket E, to which all the upright pieces are secured, is a simple and durable connection, providing for the necessary adjustments of the easel.

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

1. In an easel, the combination of the swing-  
ing supporting-legs, the center bar secured at  
10 its top to said legs, the cross-bar secured at  
its middle to the base of the center bar, and  
having a corresponding series of notches in  
each end adapted to fit over fixed pins in the  
front legs, whereby the inclination of said  
15 legs may be effected, and a vertically-mov-  
able rack or shelf mounted and adapted to  
slide upon the center bar, substantially as de-  
scribed.

2. In an easel, the combination of its swing-  
20 ing supporting-legs, a socketed bracket with  
radial arms in which the legs are pivoted, a  
center bar fitted at its top in said bracket and  
located between the front legs, a cross-bar se-  
cured at its middle to the base of the center  
25 bar and having notches adjustably connect-  
ing it with the front legs, and a vertically-  
movable rack or shelf fitted to the center bar,  
substantially as described.

3. In an easel, the combination of the sleeve  
30 F, the transverse rack or shelf secured to its  
top, and the brush-holding springs secured to  
the base of the sleeve and to the ends of the  
rack or shelf, substantially as described.

4. In an easel, the combination of the sleeve  
35 F, the rack or shelf secured transversely to  
its top, and the receptacles *g*, pivoted to the  
ends of the rack or shelf, substantially as de-  
scribed.

5. In an easel, the combination of the sleeve  
40 F, the rack or shelf secured transversely to  
its top, the brush-holding springs secured to  
the base of the sleeve and to the ends of the  
rack or shelf, and the receptacles *g*, pivoted  
under the ends of said rack or shelf, substan-  
45 tially as described.

6. In an easel, the center bar C of the frame,  
in combination with the sleeve F, fitted to  
and adapted to slide upon said bar, the thumb-  
screw in said sleeve for fixing it in position,  
50 the rack or shelf secured transversely to the  
top of the sleeve, the brush-holding springs se-  
cured to the base of the sleeve and to the

ends of the rack or shelf, and the receptacles  
pivoted under the ends of said rack or shelf,  
substantially as described.

7. In an easel, and in combination with its  
frame, the vertically-movable rack or shelf  
for supporting the canvas, and the vertically-  
movable rack or shelf above for supporting  
the design and having arms for holding the  
60 edges of said design, substantially as de-  
scribed.

8. In an easel, the supporting-legs and the  
center bar, in combination with the canvas-  
supporting rack or shelf having a sleeve 65  
mounted and sliding on the center bar and a  
thumb-screw for setting it in position, and  
the design-supporting rack or shelf having a  
sleeve mounted and sliding on the center bar  
and a thumb-screw for setting it in position,  
70 substantially as described.

9. In an easel, the rack or shelf for holding  
the design, in combination with the pivoted  
arms K, carried by said rack or shelf, for  
holding the edges of the design, substantially 75  
as described.

10. An improved easel consisting of the  
following parts in combination, namely: the  
supporting-legs, the center bar, and the ad-  
justing cross-bar connected with the front 80  
legs and with the bottom of the said center  
bar, the bracket fitted to the top of the cen-  
ter bar and having radiating arms in which  
the supporting-legs are pivoted, the sleeve F,  
fitted on the center bar and adapted to be 85  
vertically moved thereon, the thumb-screw  
for holding the sleeve in the position to which  
it is adjusted, the transverse rack or shelf  
carried by the top of the sleeve, the diagonal  
coiled springs secured to the base of the 90  
sleeve and to the ends of the rack or shelf,  
the pivoted receptacles secured to the ends  
of the rack or shelf, the sleeve J, fitted to the  
center bar and having a thumb-screw for  
holding it, the transverse rack or shelf car- 95  
ried by the sleeve, and the pivoted holding-  
arms K, carried by the ends of the rack or  
shelf, all substantially as herein described.

In witness whereof I have hereunto set my  
hand.

LAURA S. McDONALD.

Witnesses:

S. H. NOURSE,  
J. H. BLOOD.