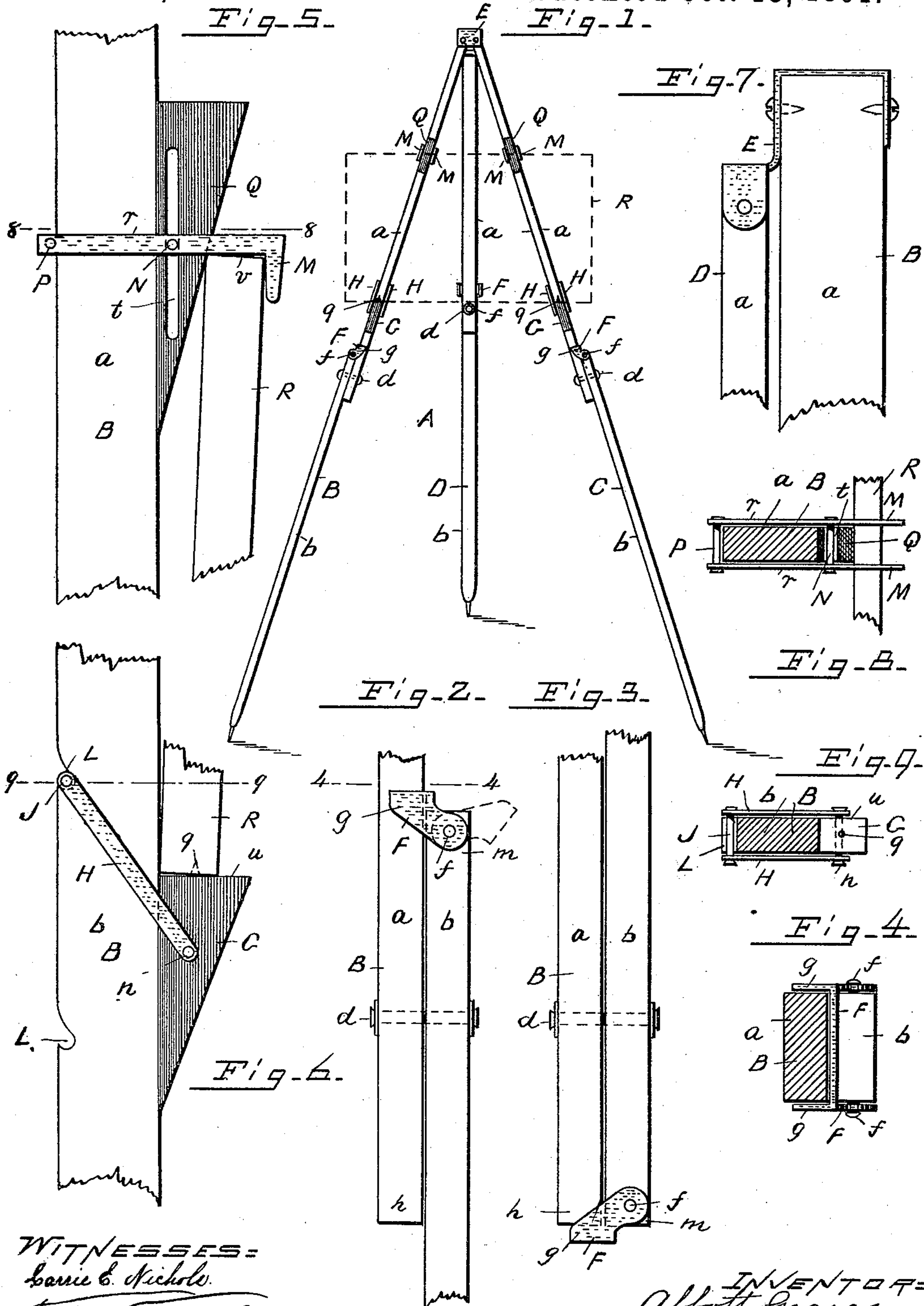


(No Model.)

A. GRAVES.
EASEL.

No. 461,331.

Patented Oct. 13, 1891.



WITNESSES:
Samuel C. Nichols.

W. W. Wentworth

INVENTOR:
Abbott Graves
Edwin W. Brown,
ATTY.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ABBOTT GRAVES, OF BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS, ASSIGNOR TO WADSWORTH,
HOWLAND & CO., OF SAME PLACE.

EASEL.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 461,331, dated October 13, 1891.

Application filed June 20, 1891. Serial No. 396,923. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ABBOTT GRAVES, of Boston, in the county of Suffolk and State of Massachusetts, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Easels, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description.

This invention consists of an easel constructed and arranged to be folded compactly and adapted to conveniently receive and securely hold in position thereon stretched canvases or academy-boards of varying thicknesses, all substantially as hereinafter fully described, reference being had to the accompanying sheet of drawings, in which—

Figure 1 represents in front view in open position an easel constructed and arranged for operation in accordance with this invention. Figs. 2 and 3 are detail side views showing means for holding portions of the frame in open and folded positions, respectively. Fig. 4 is a cross-section on line 4 4, Fig. 2. Figs. 5 and 6 are detail side views, showing the means of supporting and holding the canvas-frame in position. Fig. 7 is a detail side view of the top of the easel. Fig. 8 is a cross-section on line 8 8, Fig. 5; and Fig. 9 is a cross-section on line 9 9, Fig. 6.

In the drawings, A is the easel, each of its legs or uprights B, C, and D being made in two parts *a b*, pivoted together at *d*, and by their upper ends pivoted to a holder E, so that the two front legs or uprights B C can swing to and from each other and the rear one D to and from the other two, and all by their pivots *d*, adapted to be folded upon themselves, all substantially as usual in easels, and needing no more particular description herein.

Pivoted at *f* to the upper end of each lower half *b* of each upright is a clasp F, which when the two parts of the upright are opened for use, as shown in Figs. 1 and 2, the two arms *g* of the clasp swing over and clasp the sides of the lower end of the upper half *a*, keeping the two parts from swinging on their pivots and holding them firmly in such position, and when the two parts are folded together the adjacent ends *h m* of the two parts of each upright will be in such position that the arms *g* of each clasp can be swung over the end *m*

of the part *b*, as shown in Fig. 3, and hold the two parts together in their folded position.

G is a block, to which is pivoted at *n*—one on each side—arms H, the other ends of the arms being connected together by a cross rod or wire J. This block is arranged to lie against the front side of the upright—one to each front upright—the arms straddling such part, and the cross rod or wire J being on the outer side in position to lie in a transverse groove L in the rear edge of the upright, as shown in Figs. 6 and 9, and when in such position the block G is held firmly at such height on the upright. There are a more or less number of grooves L in each front upright, so that each block G can be placed and held at any desired height thereon. The stretched canvas or panel when on the easel rests on these blocks, and to prevent its lateral detachment therefrom a pointed pin *q*, inserted in each block, projects upward therefrom, the canvas frame or panel being pressed down upon them.

M M are two hooks, their arms *r* being connected together by two cross wires or rods N P, which are placed over the upright, the upright being between the rods and arms, but loosely enough to freely slide up and down thereon, the hooks extending forward beyond the upright, as shown.

Q is a wedge-shaped block arranged to rest against the front of the upright, one to each front upright, having a longitudinal slot *t*, through which freely passes the rod N.

The blocks G being placed on the two front uprights and their cross-rods J in the transverse grooves L for the desired height of the canvas or panel on the easel, the canvas or panel R is placed on the upper ends *u* of the blocks and pressed down on the pins *q*. The hook M of each upright is then placed over the top edge *v* of the canvas or panel R and the wedge-shaped block Q pressed firmly down between the upright and the canvas or panel, as shown in Fig. 5, which presses such canvas or panel outwardly against the hooks and firmly secures and holds the canvas or panel to the easel.

The wedge-shaped blocks allow for varying thicknesses of canvases or panels to be placed in position, and the slots allow sufficient up

and down movements and also secure them to their respective hooks.

In lieu of two hooks to each block one only need be used; but it is preferable to use two.

5 The uprights or legs can be made of wood or any suitable material; but it is preferable to make the hooks and other parts of metal.

The rod N need not extend through the block Q, as each arm can have a short pin to
10 engage with a longitudinal slot in the side of the block adjacent thereto, the hooks in such case being secured together at their outer ends. It is preferable, however, to have the cross-rod and extend through the block, as
15 shown.

When the canvas or panel is secured as described on the easel, it serves for the usual cross-bar or shelf of the easel, and by its confinement between the rest-blocks G and hooks
20 M, secured to the uprights, the uprights or legs are held firmly in position, thereby dispensing with such cross-bar.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim is—

25 1. An easel having its uprights made in two or more parts pivoted together, one of which is provided with a clasp pivoted thereto, having arms adapted to project over and clasp the sides of the other part when swung
30 into proper position, for the purpose specified.

2. In an easel, the combination, with its upright, of a hook secured to said upright and adapted to slide up and down thereon, and a

wedge-shaped block arranged to engage with said hook, for the purpose specified. 35

3. In an easel, the combination, with its upright, of a hook secured to said upright and adapted to slide up and down thereon and provided with a cross rod or arm N, and a wedge-shaped block having a longitudinal
40 slot through which said cross rod or arm extends, for the purpose specified.

4. In an easel, the combination, with its upright, of a hook secured to said upright and adapted to slide up and down thereon, a
45 wedge-shaped block provided with a longitudinal slot arranged to engage with said hook, and a rest-block having a clasp pivoted thereto and adapted to engage with a transverse slot or groove in said upright, for the purpose
50 specified.

5. In an easel, the combination, with its upright, of two hooks connected together by two cross rods or arms and adapted to slide up and down on said upright, and a wedge-shaped
55 block arranged to lie in between said hooks and cross-rods and provided with a longitudinal slot through which one of said rods or wires extends, for the purpose specified.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set
60 my hand in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

ABBOTT GRAVES.

Witnesses:

EDWIN W. BROWN,
CARRIE E. NICHOLS.