

(No Model.)

N. R. SHEETS.
PICTURE EXHIBITOR.

No. 464,901.

Patented Dec. 8, 1891.

Fig. 1.

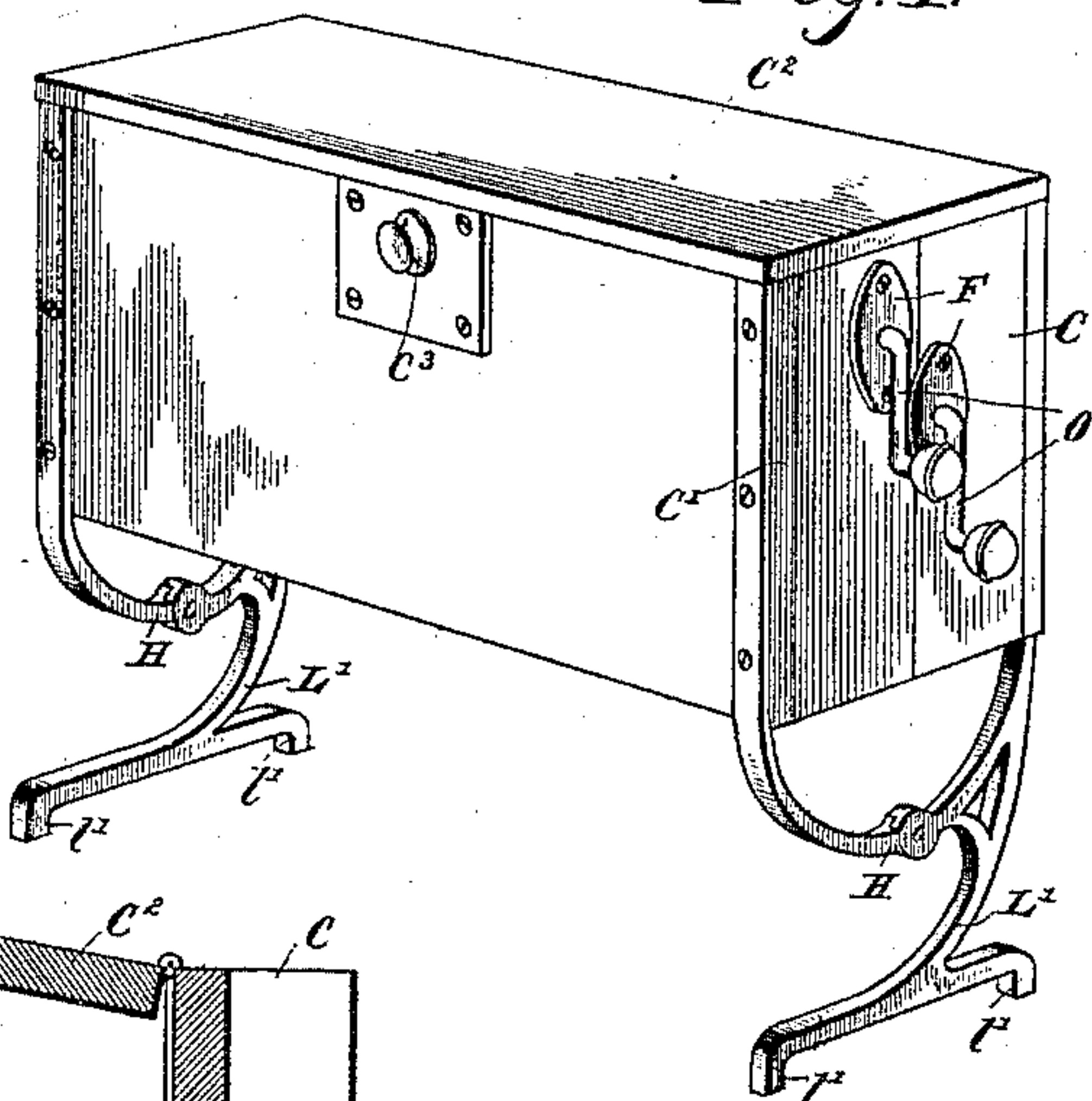


Fig. 3.

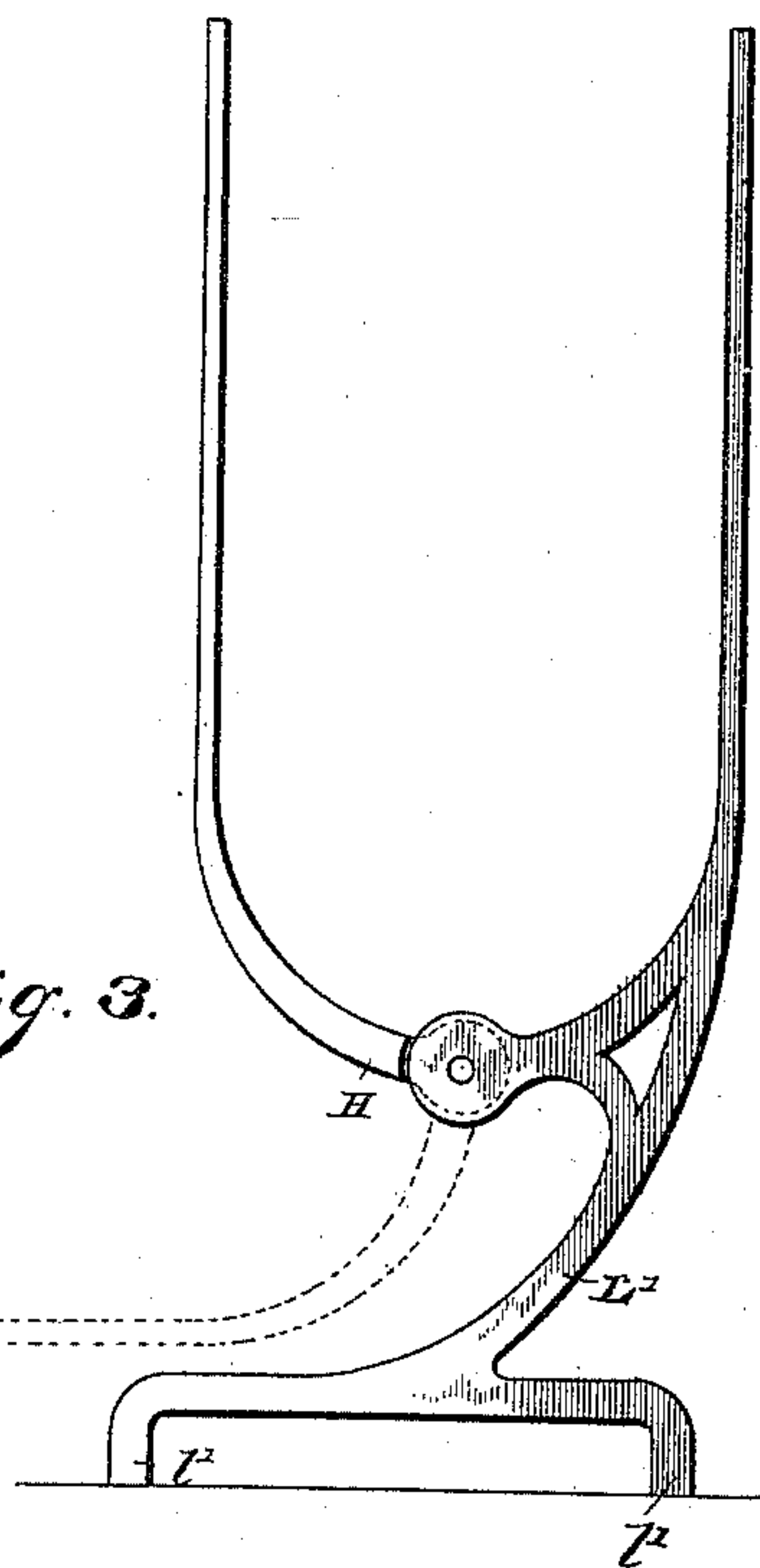


Fig. 2.

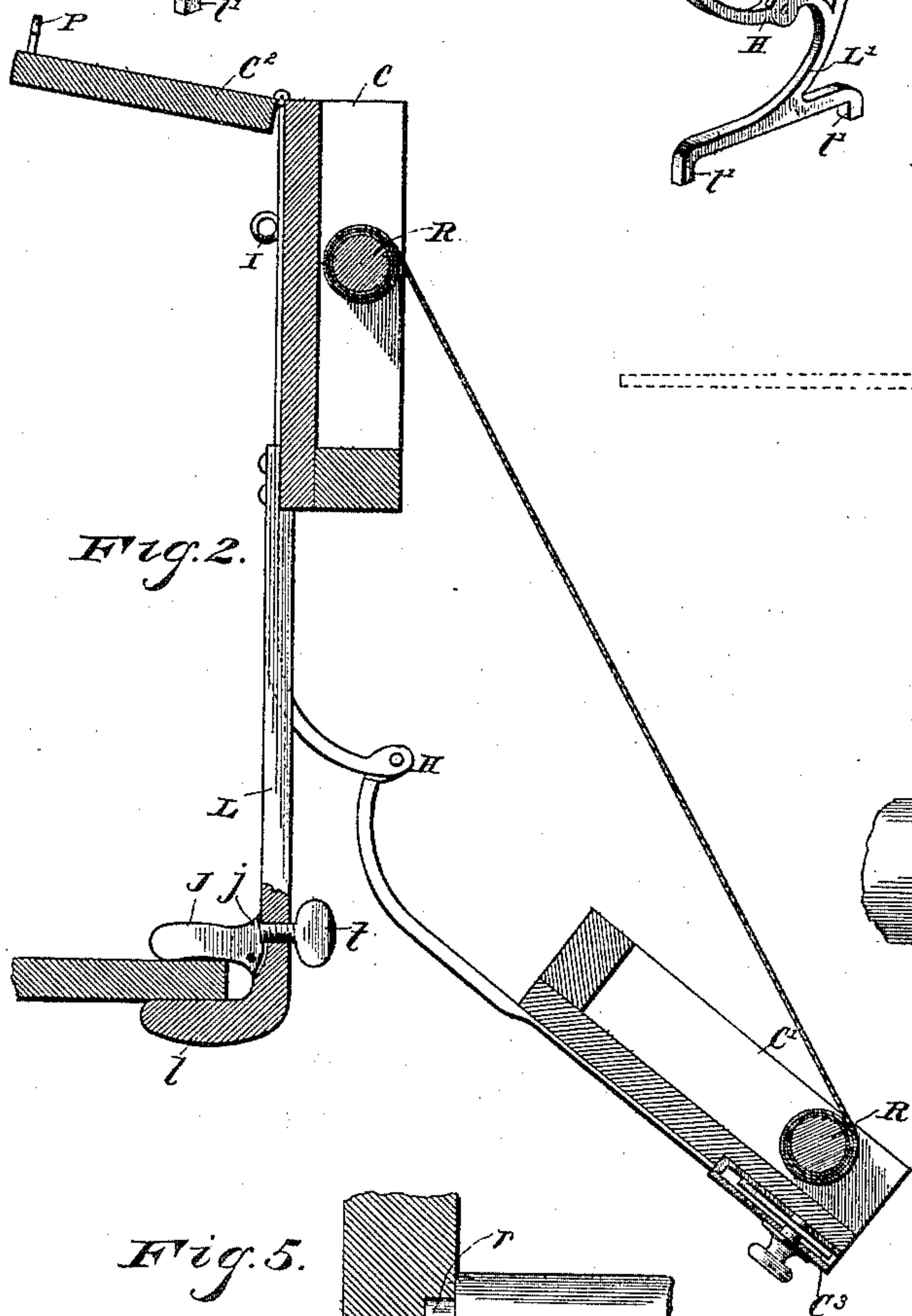


Fig. 4.

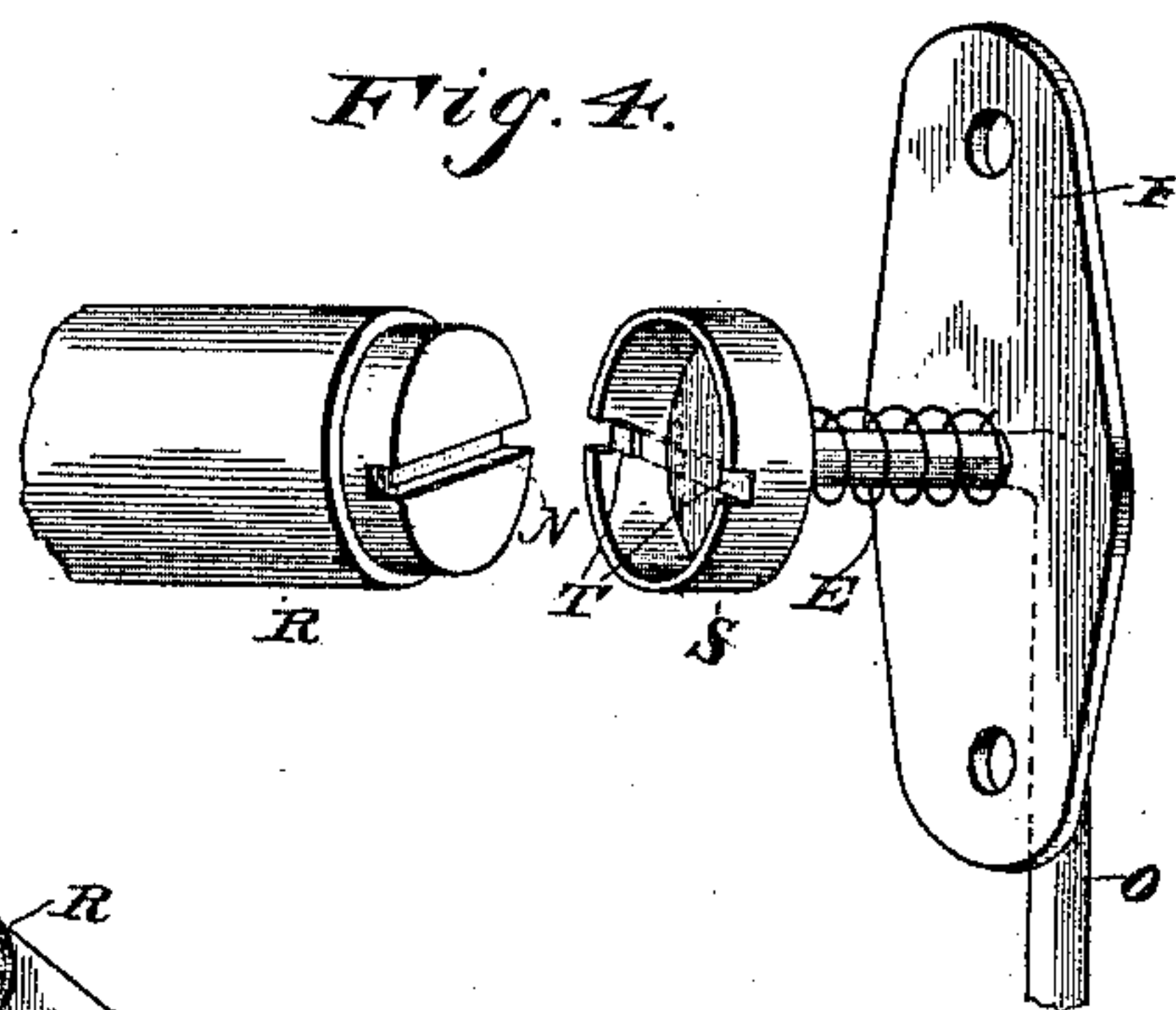
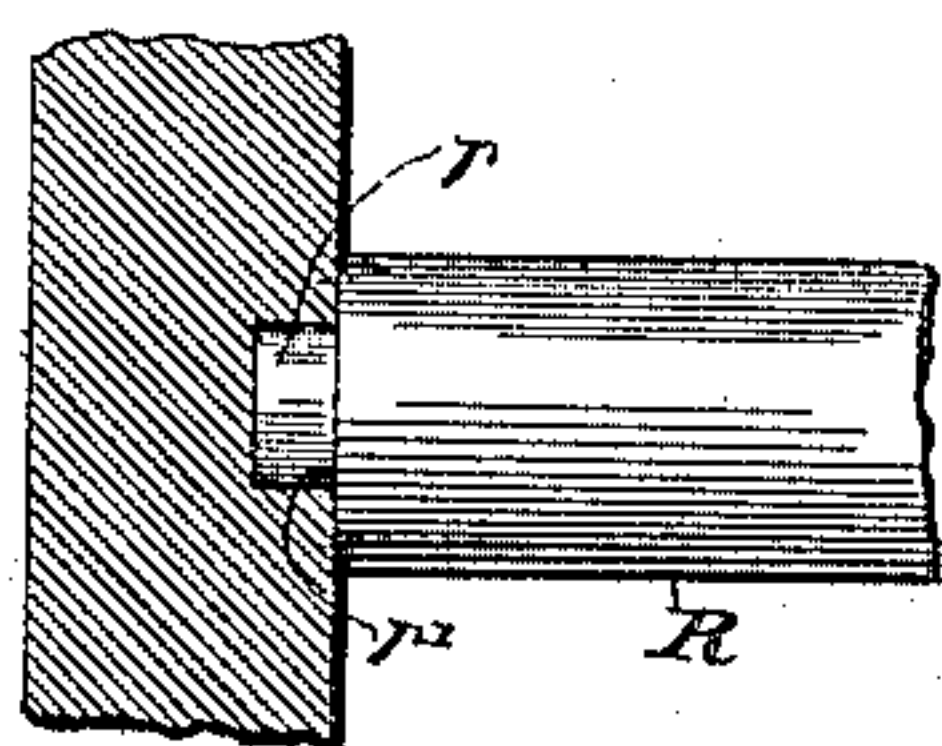


Fig. 5.



Witnesses;

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

NIAL R. SHEETS, OF DIGHTON, KANSAS.

PICTURE-EXHIBITOR.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 464,901, dated December 8, 1891.

Application filed July 17, 1891. Serial No. 399,859. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, NIAL R. SHEETS, a citizen of the United States, residing at Dighton, in the county of Lane and State of Kansas, have invented a new and useful Picture-Exhibitor, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to advertising, and more especially to that class thereof known as "picture-exhibitors," and the object of the same is to produce an improved folding device of this character.

To this end the invention consists in the specific details of construction hereinafter more fully described and claimed, and as illustrated on the accompanying sheet of drawings, wherein—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of this device folded. Fig. 2 is a central transverse section through the same when opened and when secured to the edge of a table-top. Fig. 3 is an elevation of a supporting leg and hinge. Fig. 4 is a perspective detail of the clamp at one end of each roller. Fig. 5 is a sectional detail showing the socket which the other end of each roller engages.

Referring to the said drawings, the letters C C' designate boxes forming halves of a casing, and C² is a lid hinged to the upper end of one half C and having a projection P, adapted to engage a catch C³ on the other half C' when the two halves are brought together. These halves are connected by hinges H, having long leaves, and of the shape best seen in Fig. 2, whereby when the halves of the casing are separated the hinges will carry said halves some distance apart.

Within each half of the casing is mounted a roller R, having one end *r* reduced so as to engage a recess *r'* in the end wall of the half-casing and having its other end provided with a transverse notch N. This end may be covered with a ferrule, if desired, for the purpose of preventing wear, in which case the ferrule would have the notch N.

O is an operating crank-handle passing through a flat plate F, mounted on the outer face of the end bar of the half-casing opposite the end bar having the recess, and the inner end of this operating handle carries a cup-shaped socket S, having intumed tongues which, if continued across, would form a trans-

verse rib T, the socket surrounding the adjacent end of the roller R, and the rib engaging the notch N, and an expansive spring E is located between the socket and the plate. To put a roller in place one end is inserted in the socket and pushed thereinto, thus compressing the spring E until the reduced end *r* of the roller can be passed into the recess *r'* at the other end of the half-casing.

This device may be supported in a number of ways, two of which I have illustrated.

In Fig. 2 is shown a single leg L rigidly secured to the half C and depending therefrom, its lower end *l* being turned to the rear. Above this lower end a jaw J is pivoted to the leg and has a projection *j* rising above its pivot, and *t* is a thumb-screw passing through the body of the leg and bearing against the projection *j*. By this means the device may be supported at the edge of the table-top by clamping the jaw J over the same, as shown.

In Fig. 3 is shown one of the hinges H, to that arm of which that is connected with the half C is attached or cast integral therewith a leg L', of about the shape shown. When hinges of this character are used, the device may be supported by resting the feet *l'* of the two legs L' on any suitable base; or the device may be suspended against the wall by a hanging cord engaging eyes I in the rear leaves of the hinges. The rollers are connected by a long flexible strip composed of fabric with articles pasted or otherwise secured thereon, or composed of sheets themselves, the upper and lower edges of each two adjacent sheets being connected. This strip of articles to be displayed may be in the nature of advertising matter, giving the advertisers' names with attractive pictures of their wares; or it may contain unmounted photographs, chromos, lithographs, cuts, sketches, reading matter, or even music, provided in all cases that the portrayal is on but one side of the sheet, and that where one sheet leads to the next, as in reading matter or music, the sheets be applied to the flexible strip end to end, so that the lines will stand across the strip. A minister or other speaker may thus read from manuscript or notes; or an instrumental or vocal performer may thus have his music in small compass before him.

When the single leg is used, the device can

only be supported from the edge of a table or other similar article; but with the two legs the support is not confined to an edge. When in operative position, the cranks stand at the right end of the device and the strip of articles is exhibited in an inclined position directly beneath the eyes, and the upper crank may be manipulated from time to time, as may be necessary, instead of turning over pages, as heretofore.

After using the device is closed and the lid shut down and locked or latched, and the whole can then be conveniently carried from point to point.

I do not confine myself to any particular materials or dimensions, and considerable change in the details of construction may be made without departing from the spirit of my invention.

What is claimed as new is—

1. In a picture-exhibitor, the combination, with the box-shaped casing formed in two halves, hinges connecting them at their lower sides, and a lid closing the upper side of the casing, of a supporting-leg depending from the rear half of the casing, a roller journaled in each half, and a strip connecting the rollers, as set forth.

2. In a picture-exhibitor, the combination, with the box-shaped casing formed in two halves, and hinges connecting said halves, the leaves of each hinge being secured to the halves and its pintle standing at some distance below the casing, of a support for the rear half, a roller journaled in each half, means

for operating the rollers, and a strip connecting them, substantially as described.

3. In a picture-exhibitor, the combination, with the half-casings suitably connected, a roller in each half, and a strip connecting the rollers, of a single leg depending from the rear half with its lower end turned to the rear, a jaw pivoted to said leg just above its rearwardly-projecting end, said jaw having a projection rising therefrom adjacent its pivot, and a set-screw through the leg and engaging said projection, as and for the purpose set forth.

4. In a picture-exhibitor, the combination, with the casing in two parts separably connected, of a roller in each half having one end reduced and engaging a recess in the end of the casing and having a notch in the other end, a plate on the outer face of this end of the casing, a crank-handle journaled through said plate and having a socket at its inner end with downwardly-projecting tongues adapted to detachably engage the notched end of the roller, an expansive spring between said plate and socket, and a strip connecting the rollers, as and for the purpose hereinbefore set forth.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing as my own I have hereto affixed my signature in presence of two witnesses.

NIAL R. SHEETS.

Witnesses:

J. B. MCCOSKRIE,
M. F. GOFORTH.