

No. 609,009.

Patented Aug. 16, 1898.

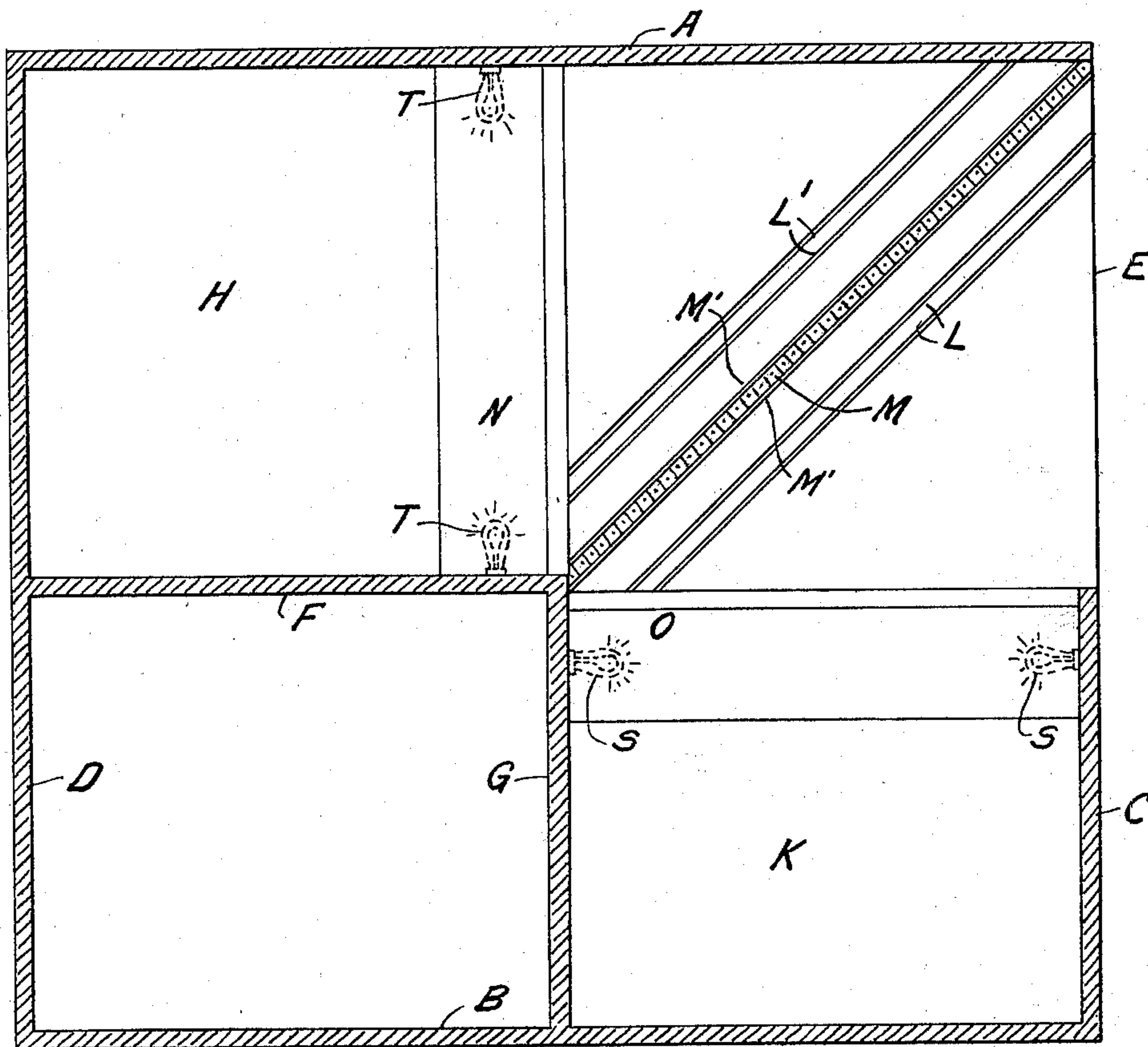
A. B. CARRINGTON, Dec'd.

E. CARRINGTON, Administratrix.

OPTICAL ILLUSION CABINET.

(Application filed Nov. 24, 1896.)

(No Model.)



WITNESSES:

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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ALBERT BAILEY CARRINGTON, OF NEW YORK, N. Y.; ELIZABETH CARRINGTON ADMINISTRATRIX OF SAID ALBERT BAILEY CARRINGTON, DECEASED.

## OPTICAL-ILLUSION CABINET.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 609,009, dated August 16, 1898.

Application filed November 24, 1896. Serial No. 613,336. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, ALBERT BAILEY CARRINGTON, a citizen of the United States, residing at New York, (Brooklyn,) in the county of Kings and State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Optical-Illusion Cabinets, of which the following is a full and complete specification, such as will enable those skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same.

My invention relates to amusement devices, and has for its object to provide a cabinet adapted for optical illusion, through the medium of which objects may be caused to appear and disappear before the gaze of the spectator.

In the drawing forming a portion of this specification I have shown a vertical section of my device.

Referring now to the drawing, in operating in accordance with my invention I form a casing comprising a top A and a bottom B, said casing having also a front and a back. The casing is divided midway of its height by a horizontal partition F, extending from the rear D half-way through the casing in the direction of the front E, so that the front edge of this partition or stage F lies in the center of the casing, the upper half of the front of the casing being open, so that normally any object on the stage F can be seen through the front E.

Extending from the front edge of the partition or stage F downwardly in a vertical plane is a second partition G, resulting in the formation of a compartment K, occupying the lower front quarter of the casing.

Extending from the upper front edge of the casing and rearwardly at an angle of forty-five degrees to the front edge of the partition F is a heavy glass M for a purpose as will be readily explained, said glass being held in place by a molding M', arranged at either side thereof, duplicate moldings L and L' being arranged in front and back of the glass M, as shown, the glass M, as will be readily seen, lying at an angle above the chamber K and at an equal angle in front of the chamber H, which lies above the partition F.

In order to illuminate the chamber K, I ar-

range lights S at the front and rear upper edges thereof, which lights are covered by a screen O, so arranged as to throw all rays downwardly into the said chamber. A second series of lights T is arranged at the front edge of the chamber H, a screen N being arranged with respect to the said lights so as to throw all of their rays rearwardly into the said chamber, the walls of both chambers being black.

It will be observed that the shields O in the chamber K and the shields N in the chamber H have the same relative position with reference to the glass M, and, as shown in the drawing, each is held at an angle of forty-five degrees to the said glass.

Any means may be provided for extinguishing the lights as desired.

Having thus described the construction of my device, the operation thereof is as follows: A series of objects being placed in the chamber H and said chamber being illuminated by the lights T, the spectator in the front of the casing is enabled to see into the upper half thereof through the glass M and to behold such objects in the chamber H. Under ordinary circumstances the presence of the moldings M' would suggest to the spectator that something was arranged in the casing, and to overcome this impression the duplicate moldings L and L' are arranged so as to appear that they are merely ornamentations. The lights T being now extinguished and the lights S being turned on, the glass M will act as a reflector, and the spectator will see only such objects as may be within the chamber K. Thus by gradually turning on one set of lights and extinguishing the other the objects in one chamber may be caused to appear to merge into the objects of the other, it appearing to the spectator that everything is in the upper half of the casing and directly in front.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim is—

1. In an optical-illusion cabinet, two chambers in different horizontal planes, one of which is concealed from view, and the other being in the rear thereof, whereby a space is left in said cabinet which is equal in size to either of said chambers, and which is in the



line of vision; a plate-glass mounted diagonally of said space, and held in position by moldings secured to the walls forming the sides of said cabinet; and a plurality of strips  
5 of moldings arranged on said walls parallel with said glass and on both sides thereof, and means to transform said glass into a reflector, substantially as and for the purpose described.

2. In an optical-illusion cabinet, two chambers in different horizontal planes, one of which is concealed from view, and the other being in the rear thereof, whereby a space is left in said cabinet which is equal in size to either of said chambers, and which is in the  
15 line of vision; a plate-glass mounted diagonally of said space, and held in position by moldings secured to the walls forming the sides of said cabinet; a plurality of strips of moldings arranged on said walls parallel with  
20 said glass, and on both sides thereof; shields mounted in each of said chambers at an angle of forty-five degrees to said glass, and a plurality of lights behind each of said shields, substantially as and for the purpose described.

3. The herein-described optical-illusion cabinet, comprising a top A, bottom B, front C, and back D, said front being open at E; a floor F, connected with the bottom B, by a partition G, whereby two similar compartments H, and K, and a space, are formed,  
30 said space being provided with a plate-glass M, which is held at an angle of forty-five degrees to a horizontal plane, said cabinet being provided with shields N, and O, which form similar angles with the said plate-glass,  
35 and moldings L and L', which are parallel with said glass, and a plurality of lights S, and T, which are placed in the rear of said shields, substantially as and for the purpose described. 40

In testimony that I claim the foregoing as my invention I have signed my name, in presence of the subscribing witnesses, this 13th day of November, 1896.

ALBERT BAILEY CARRINGTON.

Witnesses:

CHARLES S. ROGERS,  
N. J. SUNESON.