

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

CHARLES G. CARLSON AND WALTER A. MAYR, OF CHICAGO, ILLINOIS.

EASEL-LEG FOR CURTAIN-STRETCHERS.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 692,826, dated February 11, 1902.

Application filed April 11, 1900. Serial No. 12,468. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that we, CHARLES G. CARLSON and WALTER A. MAYR, citizens of the United States, residing at Chicago, in the county of Cook and State of Illinois, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Easel-Legs for Curtain-Stretchers; and we do declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, which will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same.

Our invention relates to improvements in supports for curtain-stretching frames; and the invention consists in the construction, combination, and arrangement of parts, substantially as shown and described, and particularly pointed out in the claims.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is a rear elevation and perspective of a frame with our improved supporting attachment in operating position thereon. Fig. 2 is an end elevation of the parts displayed as in Fig. 1 enlarged and partly broken away at the bottom, and Fig. 3 is a like view except that the parts are shown as folded. Fig. 4 is a rear elevation with the parts folded as in Fig. 3 and the leg broken off to disclose the brace attached to frame, and Fig. 5 is a perspective view of the bracket.

We are aware that folding braces or legs for curtain-stretching frames are not in themselves new, and hence do not now claim to be original as to this idea, broadly; but we are not aware that any one has ever before conceived or used the special construction of brace or support shown and described herein or that has the advantageous operative features of our invention. These advantages comprise not only an oscillating leg adapted to swing to operating position and to be conveniently locked therein, but one which will also with equal facility swing back not only to folding position, but into such position or relation to the frame as to lie flat against or upon the same, thus making a compact parcel for shipping and storing. This latter feature is desirable also for the further reason that we are thus enabled to use relatively light pieces for the legs and depend on the strength of the frame to which they are attached for protecting them from breaking in shipping. All these advantages will appear

on a more specific description of the invention.

Having reference now again to the drawings, A represents the side pieces of the stretcher-frame, and B the end pieces, and all separable.

C represents "easel-legs," so called, adapted to swing out to a given angle or relation to the frame pieces B and positively stop at that angle. To this end each leg has a beveled extremity *c* above its pivot to bear flat against end piece B, and a right-angled bracket D is screwed to the piece B and provided with a slot *d'* in its outwardly-extending portion *d*, adapted to receive the screw or pin 2, which extends through the leg C and is engaged through this slot in said leg. To enter the bracket in the leg C or the leg on the bracket, a convenient way is to saw a slot 3 down centrally in the end of the leg a sufficient depth, relatively about as here shown, and enter the thin projection *d* into this slot. Then by inserting an ordinary wood-screw of suitable length and size as a pivot the leg is not only supported, but the screw serves to tie the bifurcated extremity of the leg together and prevent splitting. The slot *d'* has the obvious and important advantage of allowing close packing of the leg against the piece B and also of its being swung out to bracing position within definite and predetermined limits, as in Fig. 2.

A further feature of the invention is the simple brace E, which is pivoted by staples 4 on the end piece B, engaging lugs or projections 5 at its base and consisting of an otherwise thin flat piece of metal or metal plate having such length as to serve as a brace for leg C when placed near its top, or about as shown in Fig. 2. Of course the fastening of the brace can be changed to higher or lower, as it may any time need, and its free end is designed to bear against the leg C, as shown in Fig. 2. It does not require any pressure of consequence to keep the leg spread or to hold brace E up in what is substantially a wedging position, so that a comparatively slight engagement of the flat rather sharp point of the brace on the wood surface of the leg serves every purpose, and as these frames are infrequently used the first adjustment of the brace will serve for an indefinite period

and without perceptible wear on the leg. Then in folding it drops down flat and is wholly out of the way.

Both the bracket and the brace might be cast; but for all reasons plate metal is preferred.

Of course the brace E might be supported on leg C instead of the frame and serve the same purpose; but it is placed on the frame because the leg is usually too light to carry it.

The bracket becomes an article of manufacture and may be used not only with curtain-frames, but with other articles as well, and it has a set of screw-holes d^2 , as here shown.

The advantage of the brace C is important, by reason of the stretcher resisting pressure which is necessarily brought to bear upon it when attaching curtains, as well as in case of an accidental pressure, and the brace serves under these circumstances to prevent the frame from collapsing.

What we claim is—

1. The combination with a curtain-stretching frame and easel-leg therefor of a hinged connection, the same comprising a bracket secured to one of said members and projecting from the face thereof, said projecting portion having a longitudinal aperture therein which extends perpendicular to the member to which the bracket is secured, the other member having a slot adapted to receive the projecting portion of said bracket, and a pivot-pin passing transversely through said last-named member, and through the longitudinal aperture in said bracket, as and for the purpose set forth.

2. The combination with a curtain-stretching frame and easel-leg therefor of a hinged connection, the same comprising a bracket

consisting of a plate angled centrally whereby one end stands substantially perpendicular to the face of the opposite end, one of said ends being provided with screw-holes by means of which it is secured to said frame and the other end being provided with a longitudinal aperture which extends perpendicular to the member to which the bracket is secured, said leg being provided with a slotted, or bifurcated end adapted to receive the apertured end of the bracket, and a screw passing transversely through the said leg and through the said aperture in the bracket, as and for the purpose set forth.

3. The combination with a frame and hinged easel-leg of a brace, the same comprising a metal plate, staples passed into said frame over a portion of the base of said plate whereby a hinged connection is formed, the free end of said brace bearing against the said leg when in use and lying contiguously between said frame and leg when folded, for the purpose set forth.

4. The combination with a frame and hinged easel-leg, of a brace, the same consisting of a metal plate having pintles at right angles to the sides at one end thereof, staples passed into said frame and inclosing said pintles, the free end of said plate bearing against the under side of said leg when in use and lying contiguously between said frame and leg when folded, as and for the purpose set forth.

Witness our hands to the foregoing specification this 4th day of April, 1900.

CHARLES G. CARLSON.
WALTER A. MAYR.

Witnesses:

ROBERT BURNS,
HENRY A. NOTT.