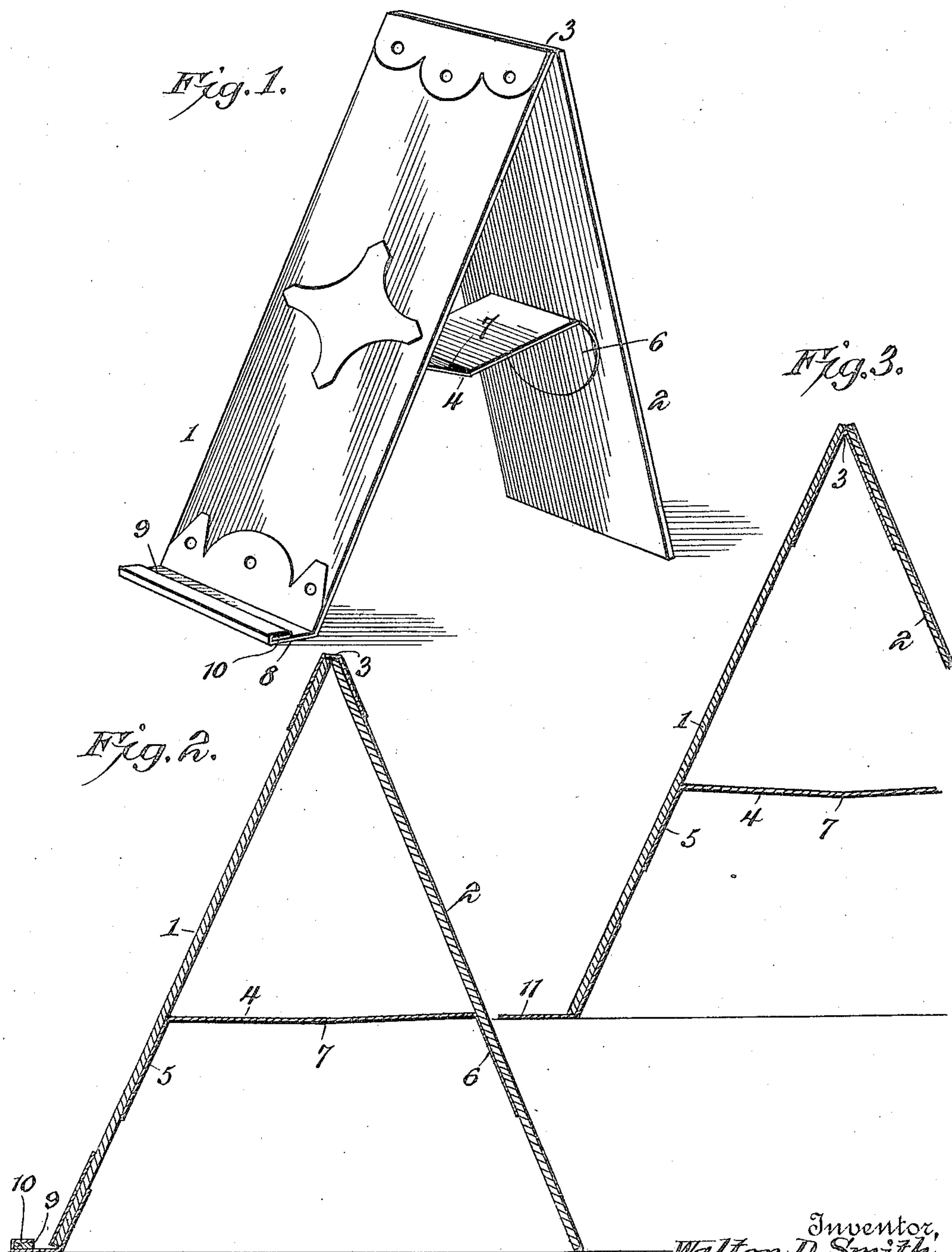


No. 875,220.

PATENTED DEC. 31, 1907.

W. D. SMITH.  
EASEL.

APPLICATION FILED OCT. 4, 1906.



Witnesses  
Howard D. Carr  
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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WALTON DUANE SMITH, OF PROPHETSTOWN, ILLINOIS, ASSIGNOR OF ONE-HALF TO JULIUS H. TASCHER, OF PROPHETSTOWN, ILLINOIS.

## EASEL.

No. 875,220.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Dec. 31, 1907.

Application filed October 4, 1906. Serial No. 337,442.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, WALTON DUANE SMITH, a citizen of the United States, residing at Prophetstown, in the county of Whiteside and State of Illinois, have invented a new and useful Easel, of which the following is a specification.

The invention relates to improvements in easels.

10 The object of the present invention is to improve the construction of easels, and to provide a simple, inexpensive and efficient device designed for displaying various kinds of merchandise in show windows, on coun-  
15 ters, in show cases, and other places, and adapted to support an article in an inclined position and permit the same to rest upon the counter, or other supporting surface, whereby the easel will be relieved of the  
20 weight of the article displayed to permit a relatively light easel to support a relatively heavy article.

A further object of the invention is to provide an easel of this character, constructed  
25 independently of the article displayed and adapted to be held in place by the weight of the same, and capable of being compactly folded for shipment.

With these and other objects in view, the  
30 invention consists in the construction and novel combination of parts hereinafter fully described, illustrated in the accompanying drawings, and pointed out in the claim hereto appended; it being understood that  
35 various changes in the form, proportion, size and minor details of construction, within the scope of the claim, may be resorted to without departing from the spirit or sacrificing any of the advantages of the invention.

40 In the drawings:—Figure 1 is a perspective view of an easel, constructed in accordance with this invention, and provided with a flexible foldable foot. Fig. 2 is a vertical  
45 sectional view of the same, the flexible foldable foot being shown extended in full lines and folded in dotted lines.

Like numerals of reference designate corresponding parts in all the figures of the drawings.

50 1 designates the front supporting member of an easel, designed to be constructed of paper, paste board, or any other suitable material and provided with a foldable rear member 2. The easel, which is designed for  
55 displaying various articles of merchandise in

show windows, show cases, on counters and various other places, is constructed independently of the article to be displayed, and the front and rear oppositely inclined members 1 and 2 are hinged at the top at 3, and  
60 are connected at an intermediate point by a foldable brace or connecting piece 4, which is secured at its ends 5 and 6 to the inner faces of the front and rear members. The  
65 hinge connection 3 may consist of a piece of paper, cloth, leather, or any other suitable material, and any other form of hinge joint may be employed to suit the character of  
70 easel to be constructed. The intermediate connecting piece is provided with a central crease or bend 7, which enables the said connecting piece to fold downwardly between  
the front and rear members, when the easel is folded.

The easel is provided at the lower end of  
75 the front inclined member 1 with a forwardly projecting foot 8, adapted to receive the article to be displayed and permit the same to rest upon the counter, or other supporting surface, whereby the easel is relieved of the  
80 direct weight of the article. By this arrangement the easel is not only held in position by the weight of the article displayed, but, by being relieved of the direct weight of the  
85 article, it may be constructed of light, inexpensive material, and a relatively light easel is adapted to support a relatively heavy  
article at an inclination. This will enable  
easels to be cheaply constructed, but the  
easel may be ornamented in any desired  
90 manner and may be constructed of any desired size and strength.

The foot 8 is provided at its outer portion with a shoulder 9, and forms a catch for retaining the article in engagement with the  
95 foot. The shoulder may be formed by a strip 10, secured to the upper face of the foot by folding the outer edge of the foot inward over the strip and securing the parts together by adhesive material. The flexible  
100 foot is foldable against the front or outer face of the inclined member 1 of the easel, to enable the parts to be compactly arranged for shipping or storing. This form of foot may  
be constructed of any suitable material such  
105 as cloth, paper, leather and the like, and the inner or rear portion of the material may be secured to the lower end of the front member in any preferred manner and by any suitable  
means.

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

5 An easel provided with a foldable foot  
constructed of flexible material and pro-  
vided at its outer portion with a strip form-  
ing a shoulder and secured to the foot within  
a fold of the flexible material.

In testimony, that I claim the foregoing  
as my own, I have hereto affixed my signa- 10  
ture in the presence of two witnesses.

WALTON DUANE SMITH.

Witnesses:

F. L. ADAMS,  
D. H. ELLISON.