

P. B. LITTLEHALE.  
 PICTURE FRAME.  
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999,378.

Patented Aug. 1, 1911.

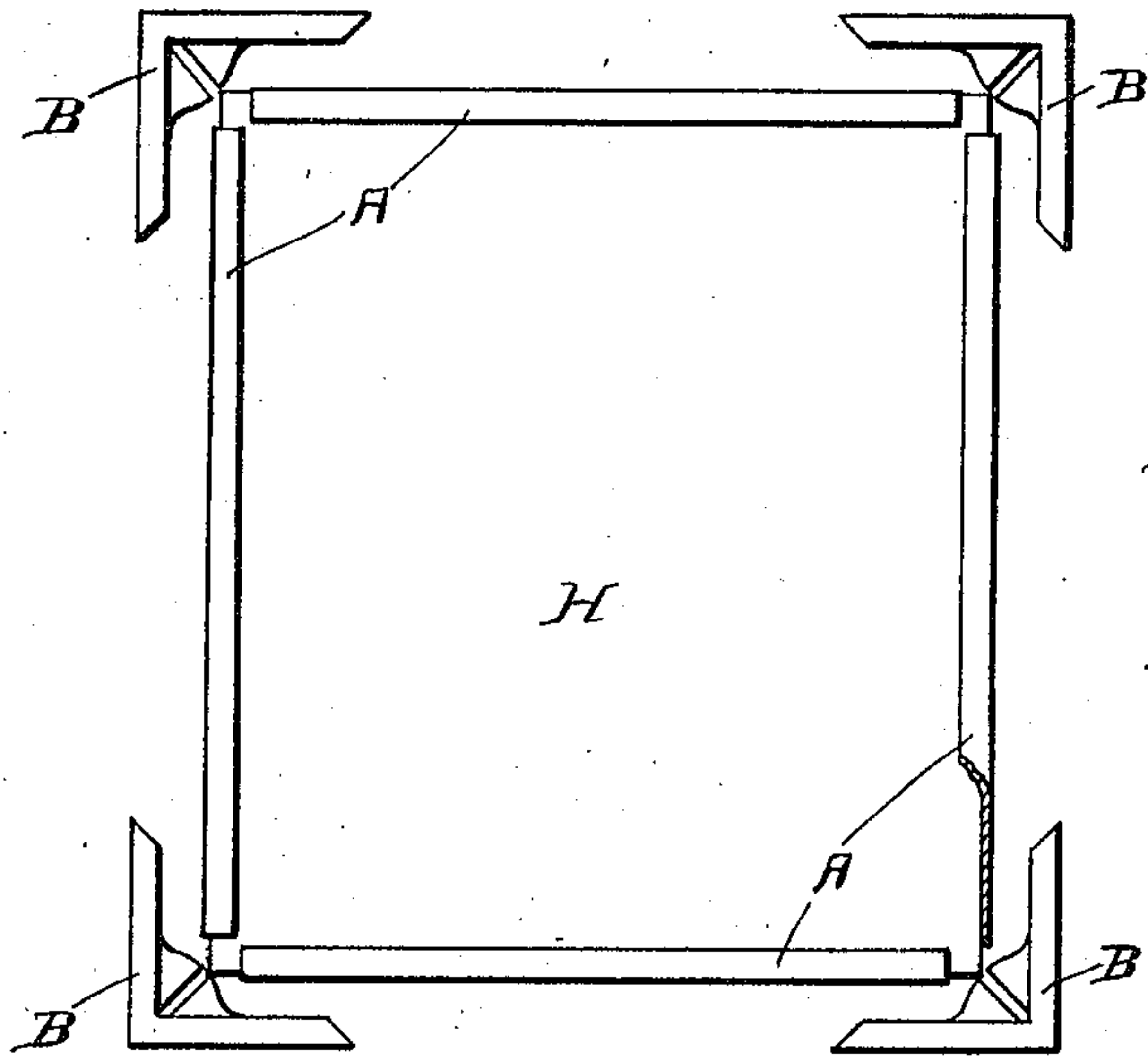


Fig. 1.

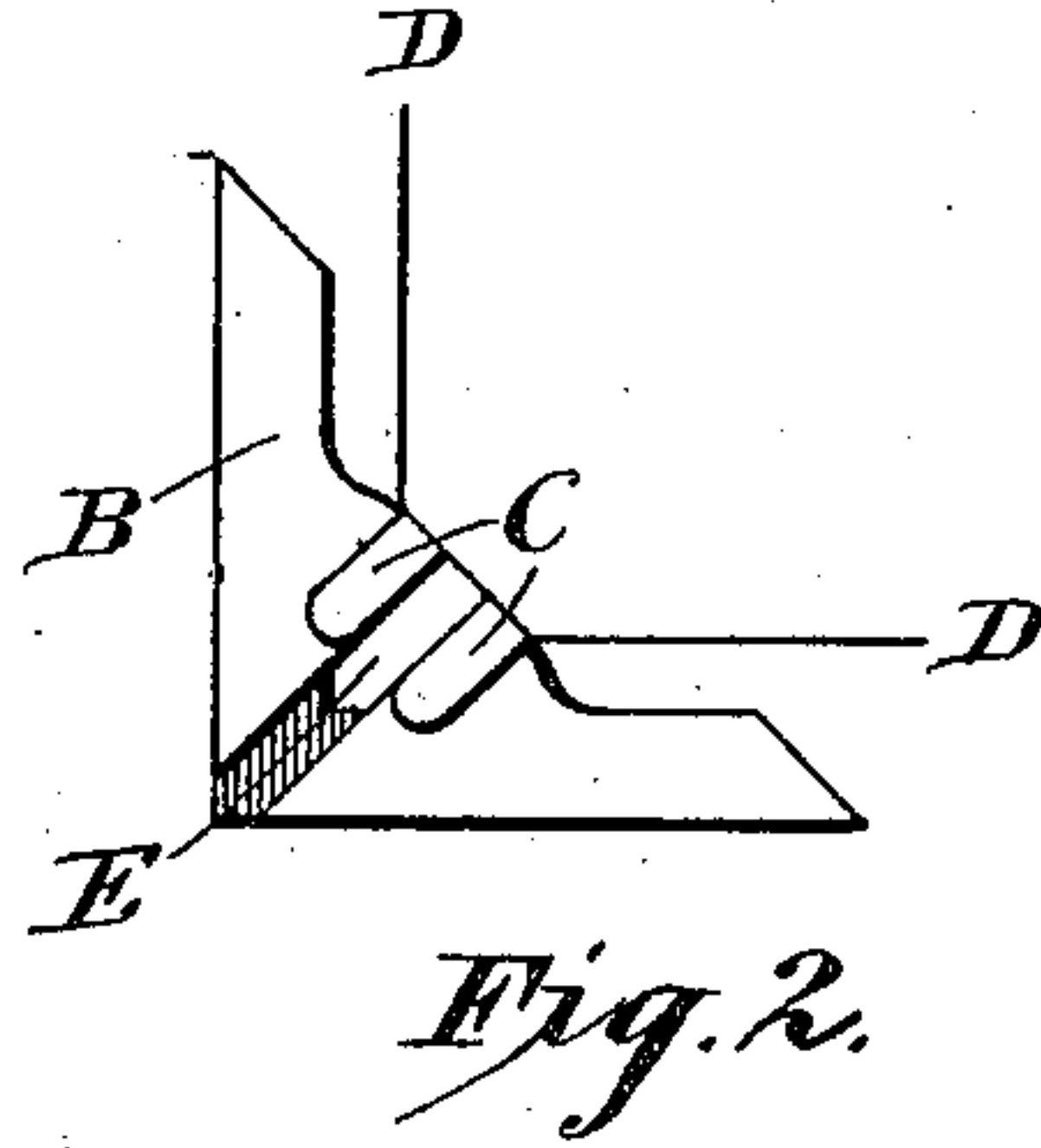


Fig. 2.

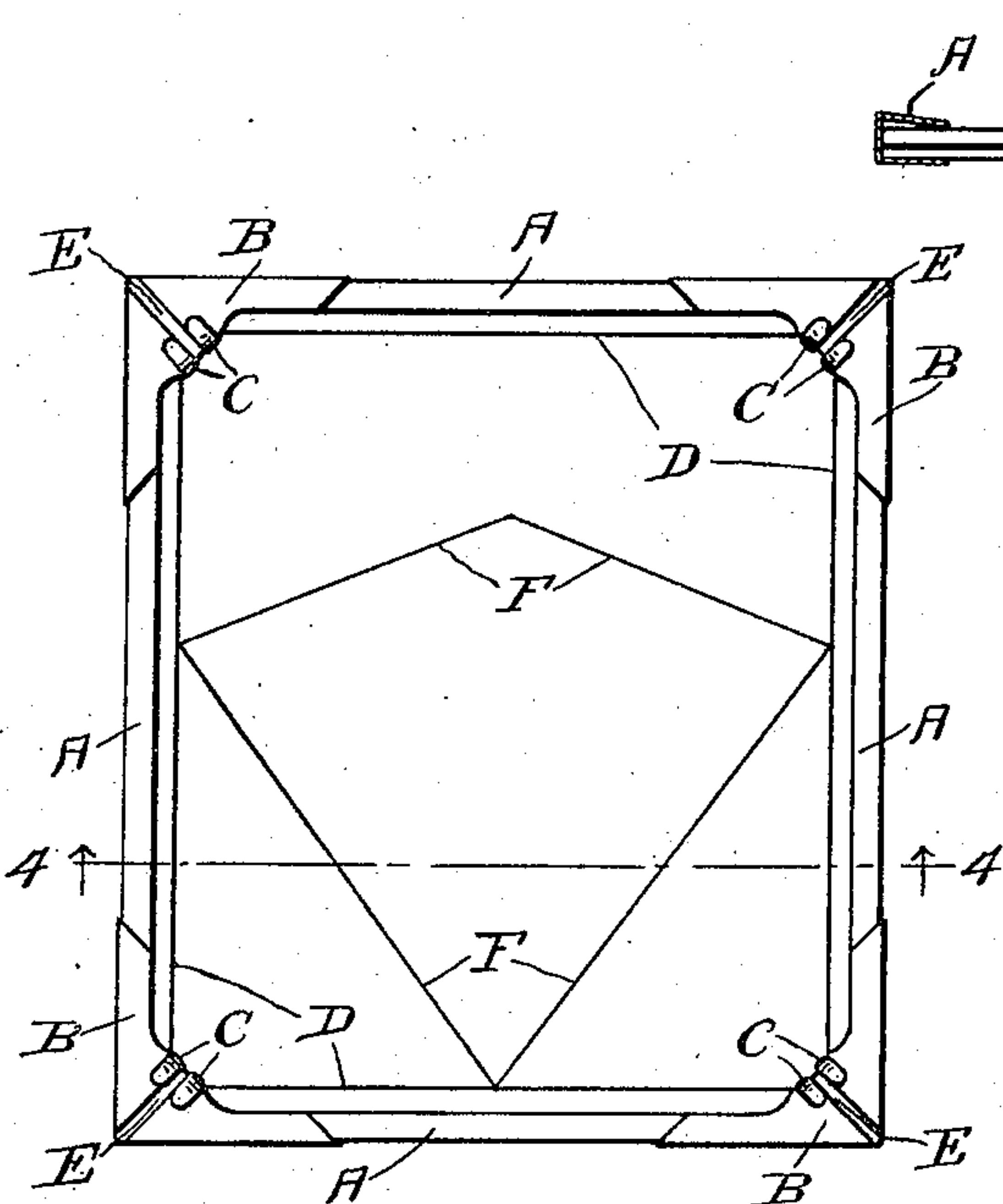


Fig. 3.

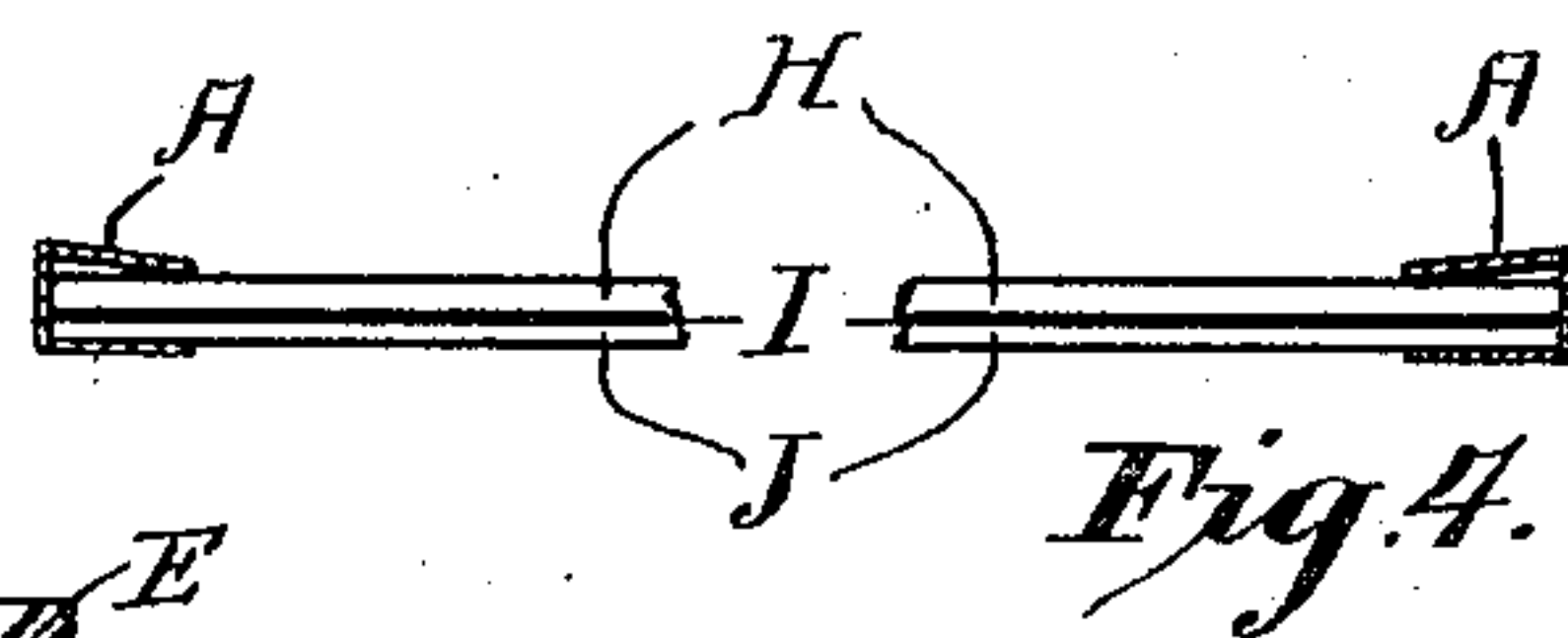


Fig. 4.

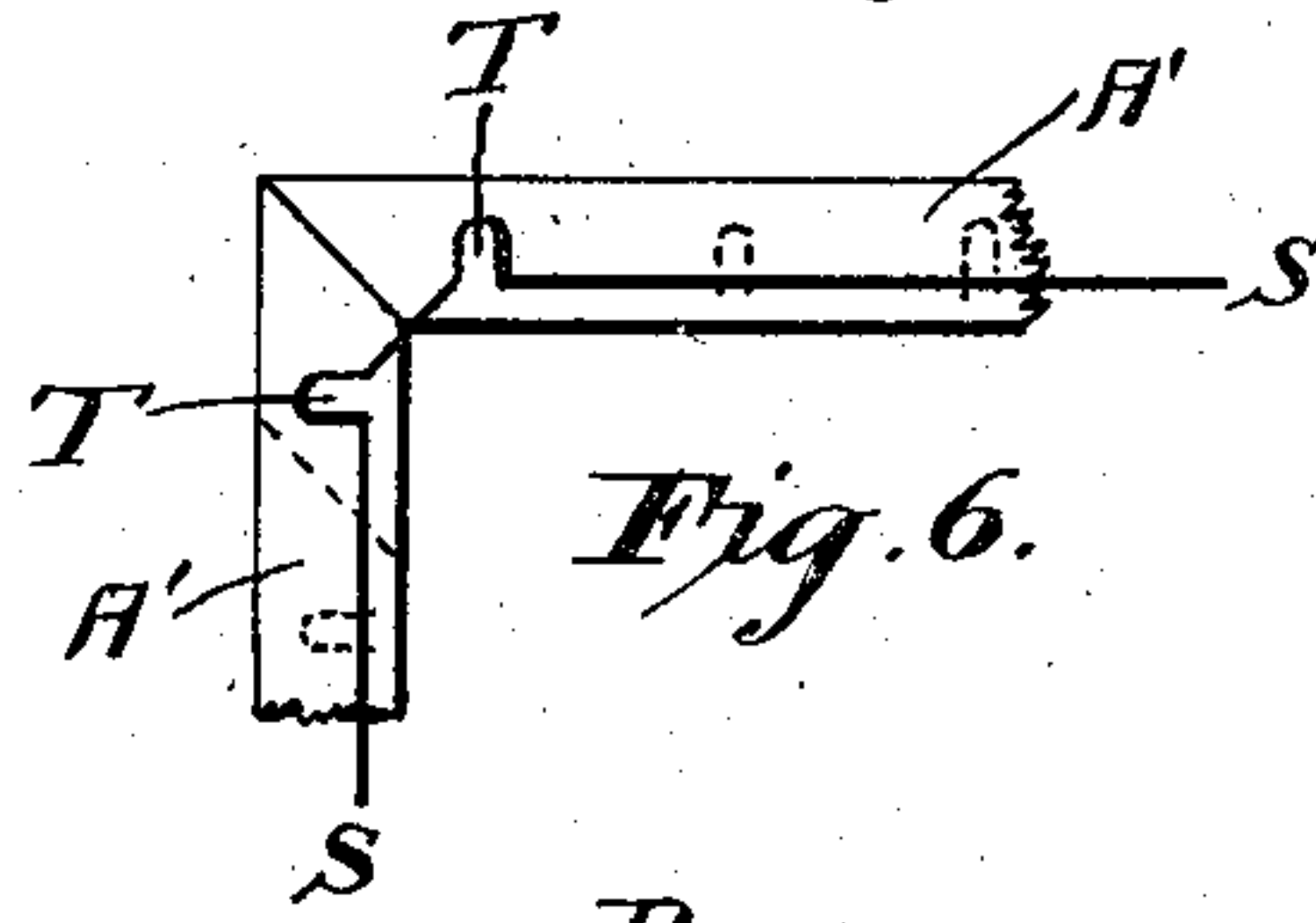


Fig. 6.

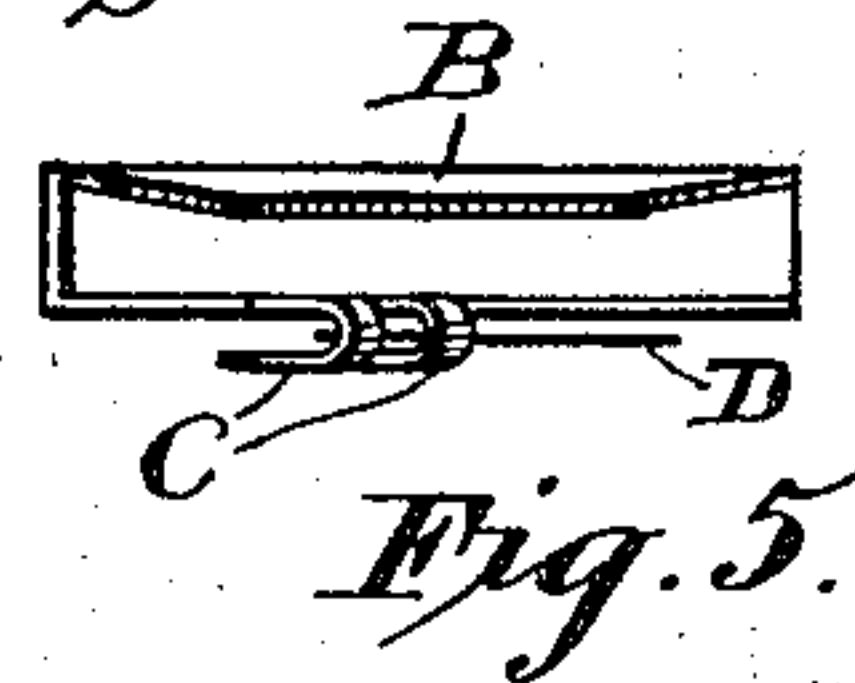


Fig. 5.

WITNESSES:

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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

PAUL BRADNER LITTLEHALE, OF CRANFORD, NEW JERSEY.

## PICTURE-FRAME.

999,378.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Aug. 1, 1911.

Application filed September 7, 1910. Serial No. 530,892.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, PAUL B. LITTLEHALE, of the town of Cranford, county of Union, and State of New Jersey, have invented a certain new and useful Improvement in Picture-Frames, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to picture frames and particularly to adjustable or knock-down frames adapted to be fitted to pictures of any size and the special object of my invention is to provide an inexpensive device of this character which may be used with neat and tasteful results for framing amateur photographs, postals, sketches, etc., which do not warrant the cost of expensive framing. Although obviously the device may be used for framing any desired object.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is a front elevation of the frame partially broken away with the detachable corner pieces in position for adjustment; Fig. 2 is a rear elevation of one of the corner pieces drawn to a larger scale; Fig. 3 is a rear elevation of the frame with the parts assembled and united; Fig. 4 is a cross section on the line 4—4, Fig. 3; Fig. 5 is a side view of one of the corner pieces drawn to the scale of Fig. 2; and Fig. 6 is a broken side elevation of a modified construction.

My improved frame as illustrated in Fig. 1 comprises independent side pieces A and corner pieces B, both of sheet metal from which they are adapted to be stamped and then bent to shape. The side members A are channeled as shown in cross section Fig. 4 and the front face is preferably beveled. The corners comprise a front face of substantially the same width as the side members and having the same bevel as the latter; while the back face may be of any desired shape, preferably slotted at E as shown. Engaging means of any desired character *e. g.*, lugs C, are carried by this back face and may be readily struck up from the body of the metal or projecting tongues angled over as best shown in Figs. 2 and 5. These tongues are preferably formed one on either side of the slot E, so that when the binding cord is applied the sides are pulled together and clamped more firmly against the sides by the friction than would be the case were but a single lug employed. Furthermore the spring of the metal permits it to be slightly deformed, and the resulting spring

action serves to maintain the binding cord taut under varying weather conditions.

The method of assembly is readily understood. The picture I (Fig. 4) being placed between the glass H and the back J, the four side pieces A are adjusted over the edges thereof. The corners B are then fitted in position, each corner embracing the adjacent ends of two side pieces. A wire or cord D passed around the lugs C on the corners and drawn tight serves to hold the parts firmly together. A second cord F may be attached to the cord D at the points indicated, to serve primarily as a hanging cord, but it has the secondary function of insuring the continued tautness of the binding string or wire D, since any slack therein is at once taken up by the suspension cord F.

It will be observed that by beveling the front face of the side pieces A, not only do I secure an improved appearance since this bevel may correspond approximately to the bevel of molding ordinarily used (or be otherwise shaped to conform thereto), but being sprung out slightly to admit the picture with its glass and backing to the channel of the side member, it serves to clamp them together and thus holds the picture flat beneath the glass.

The slotting of the corner pieces permits the latter to be drawn up snug with the side members A, thus to make a neat and finished appearance.

Obviously the frame members may be made from any material and ornamented in any desired fashion as by gilding, staining, etc., and I do not limit myself to the use of sheet metal or the preferred forms illustrated. Again it is obvious that in some cases the side frame members may be entirely omitted, and only the corner members B employed.

Various modifications of my invention will also readily suggest themselves. Thus in Fig. 6 I have shown a frame in which the corner pieces B are entirely omitted and the side pieces, A<sup>1</sup> which meet with mitered ends, carry the engaging lugs T by which they are held together. Here obviously it is absolutely necessary that the lugs lie on each side of the mitered meeting edges to receive the binding cord by which they are held closely together. This form is particularly adapted for stock sizes. But they may be made in any desired lengths and cut to size



if the lugs T be formed at close intervals along the length thereof as indicated in dotted lines.

Other modifications will readily suggest themselves.

I claim as my invention:—

1. A picture frame of the character described having frame members embracing the edges and both front and rear faces of the picture, in combination with tongues at each corner projecting out from the rear face of said members and lying on each side of a line bisecting the angle subtended between said sides, and adapted to receive a binder whereby said members may be drawn into close engagement with the edges of the picture, substantially as described.

2. A picture frame of the character de-

scribed, comprising independent frame members adapted to receive the edges of a picture, engaging means carried by said members and a cord uniting said engaging means and serving to hold said frame members firmly upon said picture, together with a suspension cord attached to said binding cord and serving to take up any slack in the latter.

In testimony whereof I have signed my name to this specification, in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

PAUL BRADNER LITTLEHALE.

Witnesses:

WILLIAM ABBE,  
L. H. GROTE.

Copies of this patent may be obtained for five cents each, by addressing the "Commissioner of Patents, Washington, D. C."