

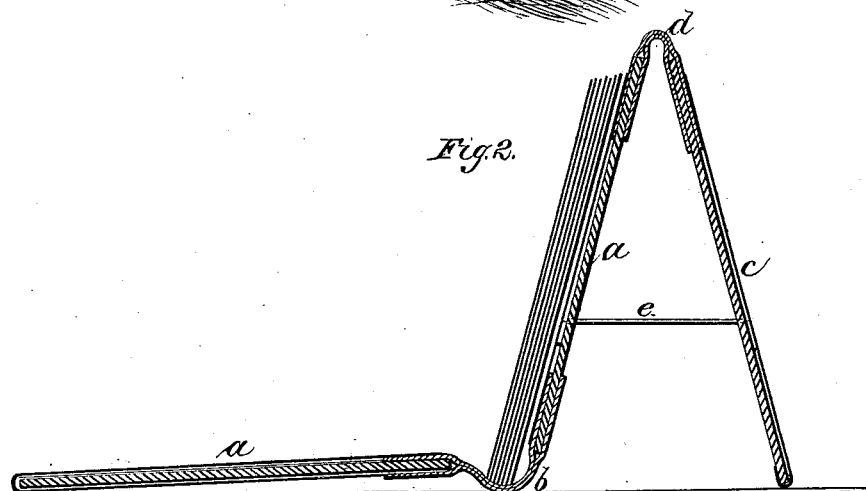
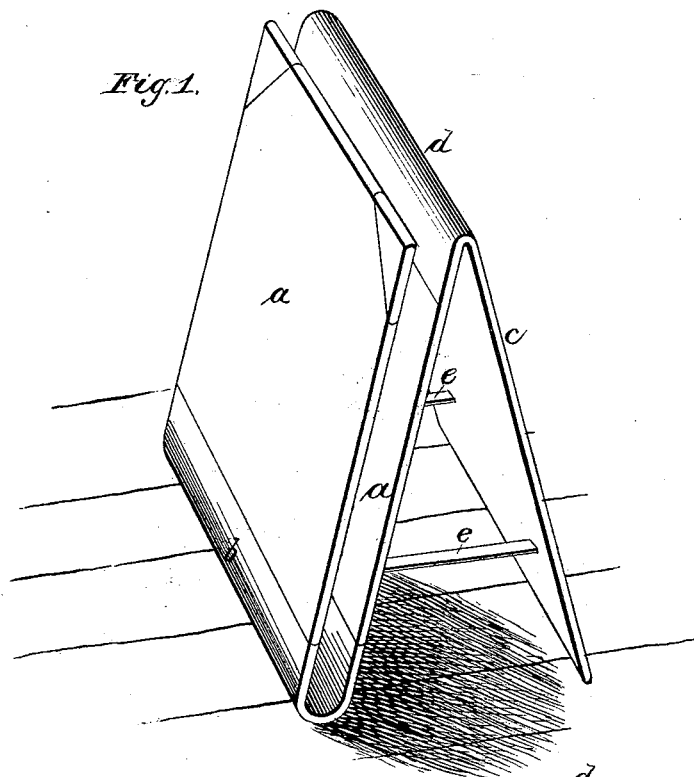
(No Model.)

H. T. THOMAS.

COMBINED PICTURE EXHIBITOR AND PORTFOLIO.

No. 262,507.

Patented Aug. 8, 1882.



Witnesses,

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

HENRY T. THOMAS, OF NEW ROCHELLE, NEW YORK.

COMBINED PICTURE-EXHIBITOR AND PORTFOLIO.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 262,507, dated August 8, 1882.

Application filed December 22, 1881. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, HENRY T. THOMAS, of New Rochelle, in the county of Westchester and State of New York, have invented a new and useful Combined Picture-Exhibitor and Portfolio, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description.

The object of my invention is to furnish a portfolio for holding pictures, plates, maps, or charts, which will dispense with the use of an easel, and also for conveniently carrying and displaying pictures, plates, maps, charts, &c.

To these ends my invention consists in the easel-portfolio hereinafter described and claimed.

Reference is to be had to the accompanying drawings, forming part of this specification, in which similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts in both the figures.

Figure 1 is a perspective of my improved article, and Fig. 2 is a cross-section of the same in an open position.

The portfolio proper consists of the stiff boards *a a*, forming the two sides and united by a flexible hinge portion, *b*. The boards may be of any suitable size and material. *c* is a board of similar size and material, attached by a flexible hinge-piece, *d*, to the outer edge of one side, *a*, so as to form a folding or hinged leaf at the back of the portfolio.

e e are tapes connecting the board *c* to the back side *a* of the portfolio, so as to limit the extent to which the leaf can be opened. By this construction the hinged leaf *c* forms a support for retaining the back side *a* in a nearly upright position, as shown in Fig. 2. In this position the back board *a* and leaf *c* serve as

an easel, on which the pictures or plates are retained in a convenient position for inspection.

The front board *a* is to be turned down in front of the easel for receiving the pictures as they are turned over.

When closed together the article serves as a portfolio for use in the usual manner to protect the pictures, plates, &c., while being carried or otherwise.

This device is simple and convenient, and obviates the necessity and expense of an easel. It is also especially adapted for travelers, and can be readily set up on a table or desk to display the pictures or other contents to the best advantage without the necessity of being held by the hands or otherwise supported.

I am aware that a picture case or frame has been provided with a hinged back and flexible connecting-bands, the said back being provided with flaps adapted, when the back is closed upon the frame, to be folded over the latter, and I therefore lay no claim to such construction; but

What I claim is—

As an improved article of manufacture, a combined picture-exhibitor and portfolio consisting of the three stiff boards *a a c*, connected together by flexible hinges *b d* and flexible braces *e e*, the whole adapted to hold and exhibit a series of pictures, substantially as described and shown, and for the purpose set forth.

HENRY T. THOMAS.

Witnesses:

LUCIUS P. STARR,
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