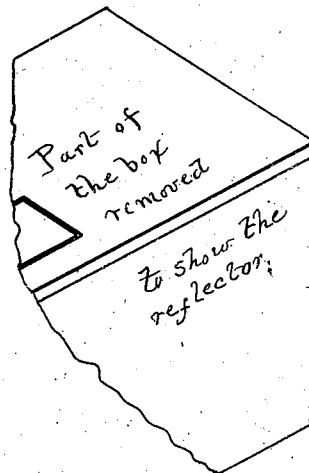
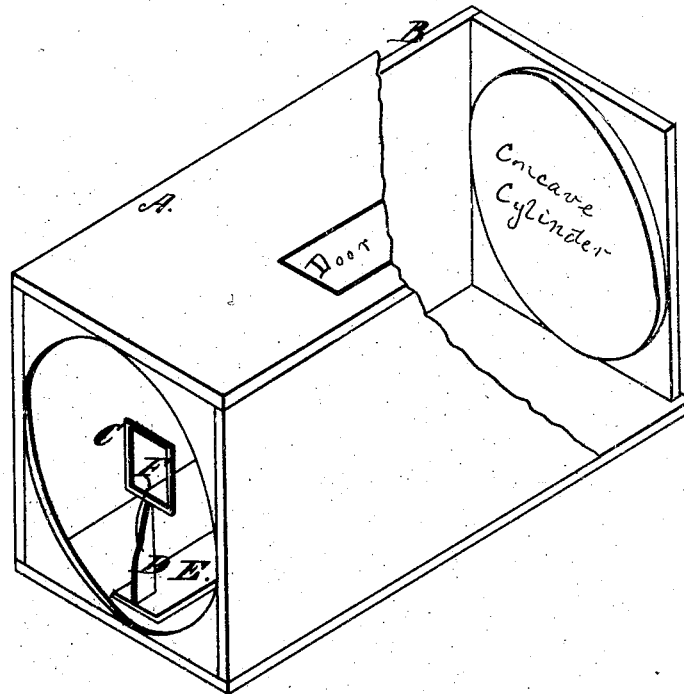


A. S. WOLCOTT.

METHOD OF TAKING LIKENESSES BY MEANS OF A CONCAVE REFLECTOR
AND PLATES SO PREPARED AS THAT LUMINOUS OR OTHER RAYS
WILL ACT THEREON.



Witnesses.

A. Mather

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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METHOD OF TAKING LIKENESSES BY MEANS OF A CONCAVE REFLECTOR AND PLATES SO PREPARED AS THAT LUMINOUS OR OTHER RAYS WILL ACT THEREON.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 1,582, dated May 8, 1840.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ALEXANDER S. WOLCOTT, of the city, county, and State of New York, have invented a new and Improved Method of Taking Likenesses from Life, of which the following is a full and exact description.

A is a box, inside of which, at the end B, a concave reflector (which may either be a piece of solid metal or glass silvered) is placed, with the reflecting-surface facing the other end, which has an opening corresponding to the size of the reflector.

C is a light metal frame fixed by a thin support D to a piece of wood or other material E, with which it slides on the bottom of the box, in a direction perpendicular to the face of the reflector and lengthwise of the box. This frame is intended to carry the metallic plate, paper, or other material on which the impression is to be made. The plate, paper, or other material may be retained in the proper position against the frame by a small spring F, pressing the plate, paper, or other material on the back, and between which spring and the frame C the plate, paper, or other material is slid.

A small door should be made on the top of the box for the purpose of observing the focal image.

The box A should be placed on a table or other support at such height that the center of the reflector may be as high as that part of the person which is intended to be in the middle of the picture. When a very small picture of the person is intended to be taken, the focus may be adjusted by a microscope, which may be introduced through a hole in the top or side of the box or held by the hand at the doorway on the top.

When the camera—that is, the box A with the reflector, &c.—is to be used, the person whose likeness is to be taken should be placed in a chair, to which some suitable support for the head is attached to enable him to remain perfectly still. The camera should then be placed with the open end immediately opposite to the person. A trial-plate is then to be placed or put against the frame C and the focus adjusted by sliding the piece E. The trial-plate is then to be removed and the plate, paper, or other material (prepared in any of the well-known methods for being acted on by luminous or other rays) put into its place and allowed to remain as long as required to form the image. A convenient size for such camera would be as follows: box A, inside fifteen inches long, eight and a half inches high, and eight inches wide; reflector, seven inches clear diameter and twelve inches focus. The plate, paper, or other material on which the picture is to be formed is two and a half inches long by two inches wide.

For taking likenesses for breast-pins the reflector may be about two and a quarter inches diameter and four inches focus and all the other parts of the camera of proportionate size.

That which I claim as my invention, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

The taking of likenesses from life by the aid of a concave reflector placed so as to receive the rays from the person whose likeness is to be taken, and converge them to a focus on a prepared plate, paper, or other material placed between the person and the reflector.

A. S. WOLCOTT.

Witnesses:

W. H. WILSON,
J. R. FLANAGAN.