

# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

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## STAGE-FEETLIGHTS.

1,141,122.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ANTON T. KLIEGL, a citizen of the United States, residing at New York, in the county and State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Stage-Footlights, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description.

This invention relates to stage footlights, and its chief object is to provide an improved construction whereby the footlights, when not in use, can be concealed below the stage and the space covered by a suitable lid or closure flush with the surface of the stage.

To this and other ends the invention consists in the novel features of construction and combinations of elements hereinafter described.

One form of the invention is illustrated in the annexed drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of the front of a stage equipped with my invention, showing one section of the foot-lights raised and the other section in depressed position. Fig. 2 is a plan view, with the footlight sections in depressed or closed position, and showing an arrangement of the sections suitable for a stage with a curved front. Fig. 3 is a detail plan view of the frame of a single section. Fig. 4 is a section on the plane of line 4—4 of Fig. 3, but with the closure or lamp-carrier, the latter being in depressed position. In this figure the box which carries the lamps is indicated diagrammatically in dotted lines. Fig. 5 is a section on the plane of line 4—4 of Fig. 3, showing the footlights in raised position, and the trough or conduit below, for the wiring. Fig. 6 is a detail view showing a convenient method of pivoting the lamp-carrier to the supporting brackets. Fig. 7 is a sectional view showing a modified form of supporting bracket for the lamp carrier. Fig. 8 is a detail sectional view showing convenient means for locking the lamp carrier in closed or depressed position.

In accordance with my invention the lamps are supported by carriers 10, mounted in a narrow opening across the front of the stage and pivoted at their ends in such manner that they can be swung down flush with the stage (the lamps being concealed below the stage) or swung up above the surface of the stage, as clearly shown in Fig. 1, wherein the stage is designated by 11. The carriers

are pivoted to suitable supports underlying the opening, as hereafter described, but instead of attaching the supports (or brackets) directly to the stage floor, I prefer to mount them on the underside of narrow rectangular frames, as 12. The footlight outfit, consisting of as many such units as may be required for the given stage, can then be manufactured at a factory and sent to the theater. A suitable opening, or several openings end to end, is then cut in the stage floor and the frames mentioned are fitted therein, the frames lying flush with the surface of the stage and becoming in fact a part of the stage floor. If the front of the stage is straight, the opening or openings to receive the footlight units will usually extend in a straight line across the stage, but if the front is curved the units may be arranged in a curve also, as indicated in Fig. 2. In such case the ends of the frames will usually be mitered, as shown, to permit the units being brought close together, and accordingly I prefer to make the ends of the frames of pieces sufficiently wide to admit of various degrees of mitering. This makes it unnecessary to keep on hand a large stock of units of different sizes, as in most cases units of standard size can be trimmed to fit.

The lamp-sockets 13 are mounted in a shallow box 14 projecting from the lower portion of the carrier 10, which box forms the bottom of the lamp case 15. The rear wall 16 of the lamp case, secured to the carrier 10 and provided with a curved upper portion 16<sup>a</sup>, constitutes the reflector for the lamps, as clearly indicated in Figs. 1 and 5.

The supports or brackets 17 to which the carriers 10 are pivoted at their ends are best shown in Figs. 4 and 5. By preference they bridge, or extend across, the frames 10, and are fastened to the underside thereof. The body portion has its upper edge flush with the underside of the frame 11, to serve as a support for the ends of the carrier 10 when the same is folded down, while the arm 17<sup>a</sup> extends forwardly and upwardly from the lower part of the body portion, thereby producing a deep recess in which the lower portion of the carrier 10 swings when the carrier is raised to the position shown in Fig. 5. The inclined forward edge 17<sup>b</sup> of the body portion serves as a stop, against which the carrier rests when in raised position, the end-edges of the carrier being recessed as