W. B. MASON.

MARKING STAMP.

No. 60,532. Patented Dec. 18, 1866.

Fig. 1.

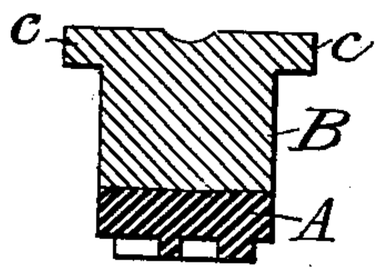
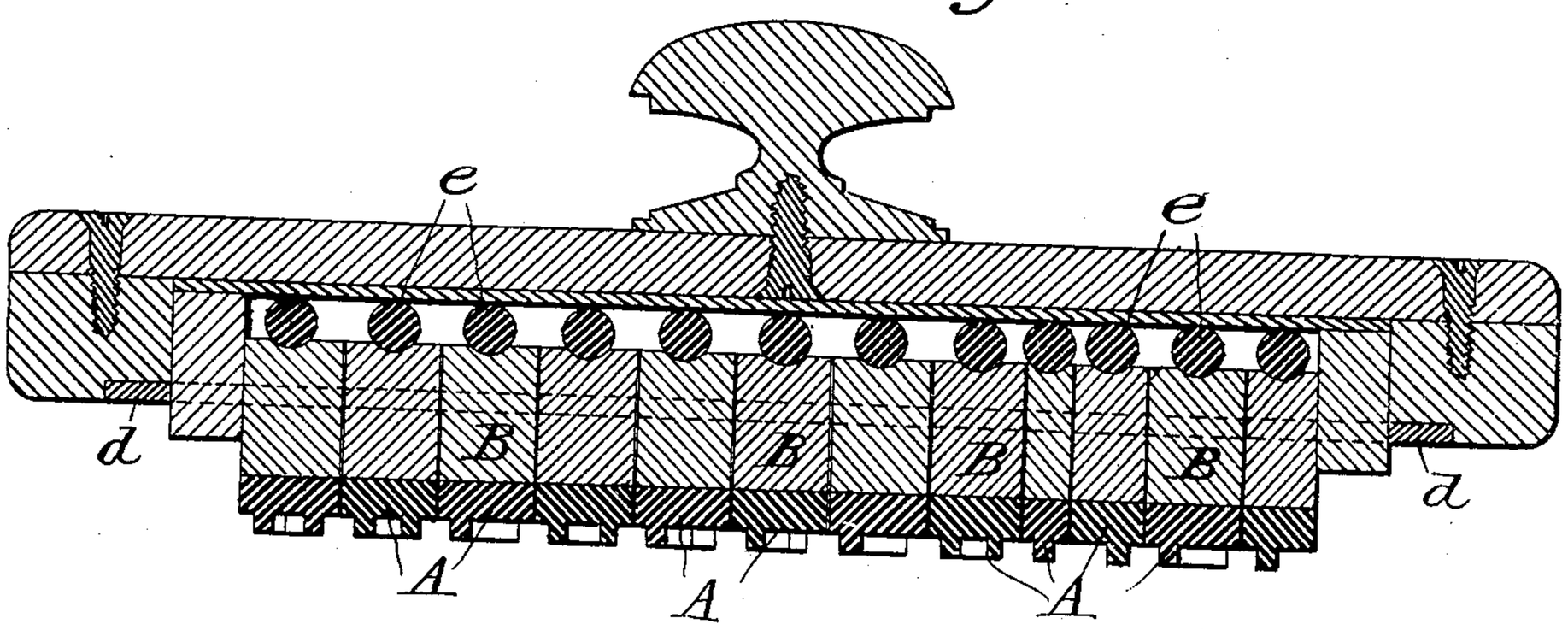


Fig. 2.



Witnesses

Thos. Wm. Clarke

Charles Bateman

Inventor

William B. Mason

United States Patent Office.

IMPROVEMENT IN MARKING-STAMPS.

WILLIAM B. MASON, OF BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS, ASSIGNOR TO HIMSELF AND CHARLES H. MOORE, OF SAME PLACE.

Letters Patent No. 60,532, *dated December* 18, 1866.

The Schedule referred to in these Letters Patent and making part of the same.

TO ALL WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM B. MASON, of Boston, in the county of Suffolk, and State of Massachusetts, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Marking-Tools; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description of the construction and operation of the same—reference being had to the accompanying drawing, forming a part of this specification—sufficient to enable others skilled in the art to make and use the same without other invention or experiment.

The present stencil-plate for marking packages, is a contrivance of a rude and imperfect character, only adapted for use by persons not facile at handling the marking-brush—securing accuracy at the expense of time, comparatively cumbrous when more than one person has to be addressed, and absolutely useless when it is desired to mark articles of irregular surface or conformation. My invention obviates these difficulties, by employing movable type, so that the address may be readily changed; by constructing these type with elastic faces, to insure an impression from their whole surface; by securing them so as to allow them a rocking motion; and by backing them against an elastic cushion, to obviate the ill effects of irregularity of surface or conformation which they are to stamp. In

Figure 1 is given a section of the type, perpendicular to the line of reading. In this, A is the elastic face, of rubber or other suitable material; B is the body of the type, and *c c* are the flanges, to confine it within the slotted face-plate.

Figure 2 is a longitudinal section through a marking-tool, in which A and B represent, as before, the elastic face and body of the type; *d* is the face-plate, slotted to allow the type to be inserted; *e* is an elastic backing, consisting, in this case, of a rubber ball to each type. It might, however, consist of a block of elastic material, of any shape, or of a spring. Preferably there should be an independent backing for each type, but measurably good results may be obtained by a plating or net-work of elastic material, particularly if it be provided with knobs or projections below the individual types. On inking this type and pressing it, backed as described, upon an irregular surface, the elastic face conforms to the superficial irregularities, while the elastic backing, allowing a rocking motion of the type and a variable pressure, thus causes it to coincide with the variations of general form. This is of great importance when bags or irregular-shaped packages are to be marked.

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

I claim making the face of the type elastic, to yield to the small inequalities of the surface printed in combination with a small elastic base, (less in area than the face of the type,) to yield to the large inequalities of the surface printed.

And in combination with the elastic face and small elastic base, I claim so arranging or holding the solid body of the type in the case, that it can rock when required to adapt the surface of the type to the irregularities of the surface printed.

WILLIAM B. MASON.

Witnesses:

THOS. WM. CLARKE,

CHARLES BATEMAN.