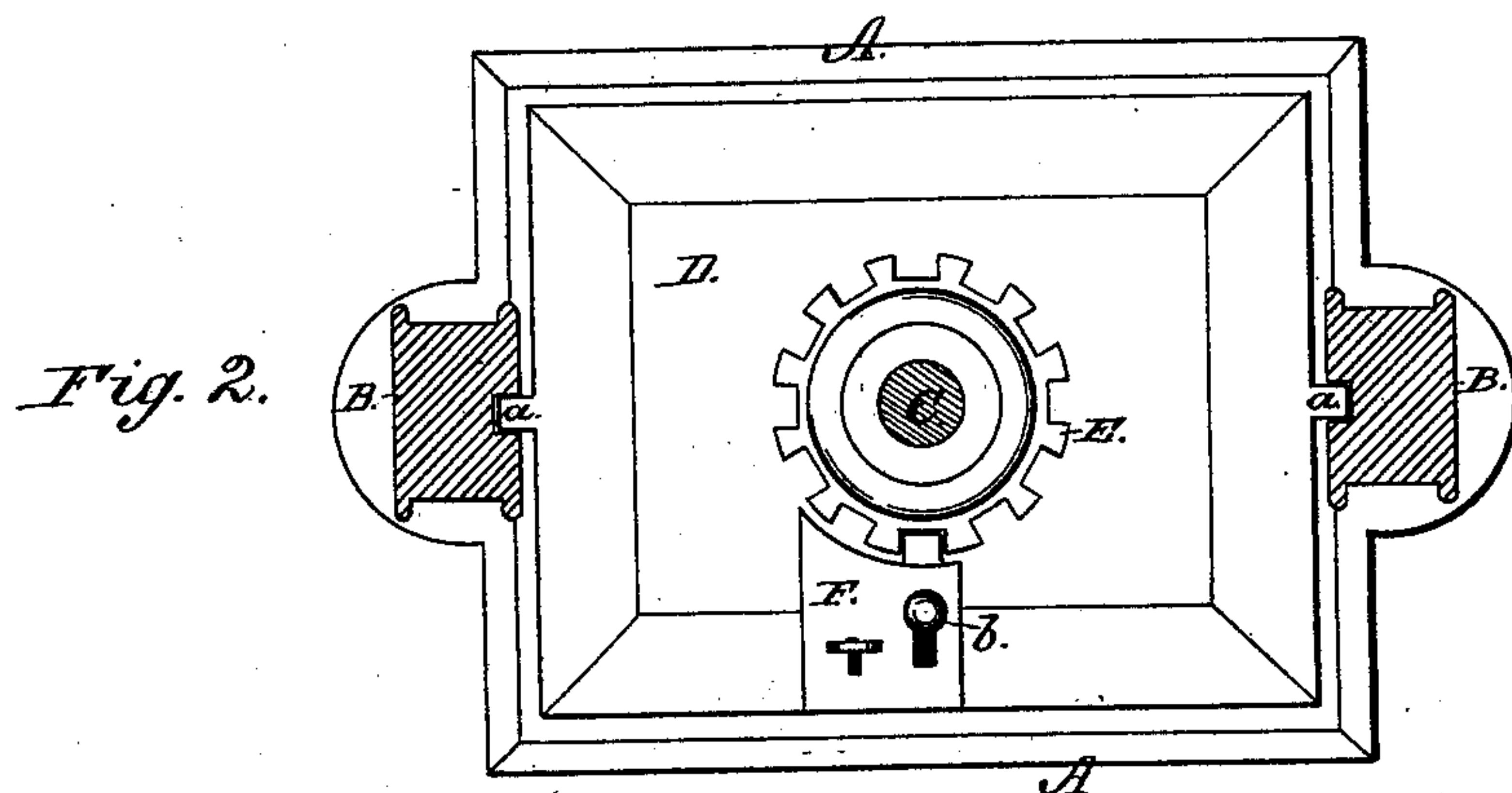
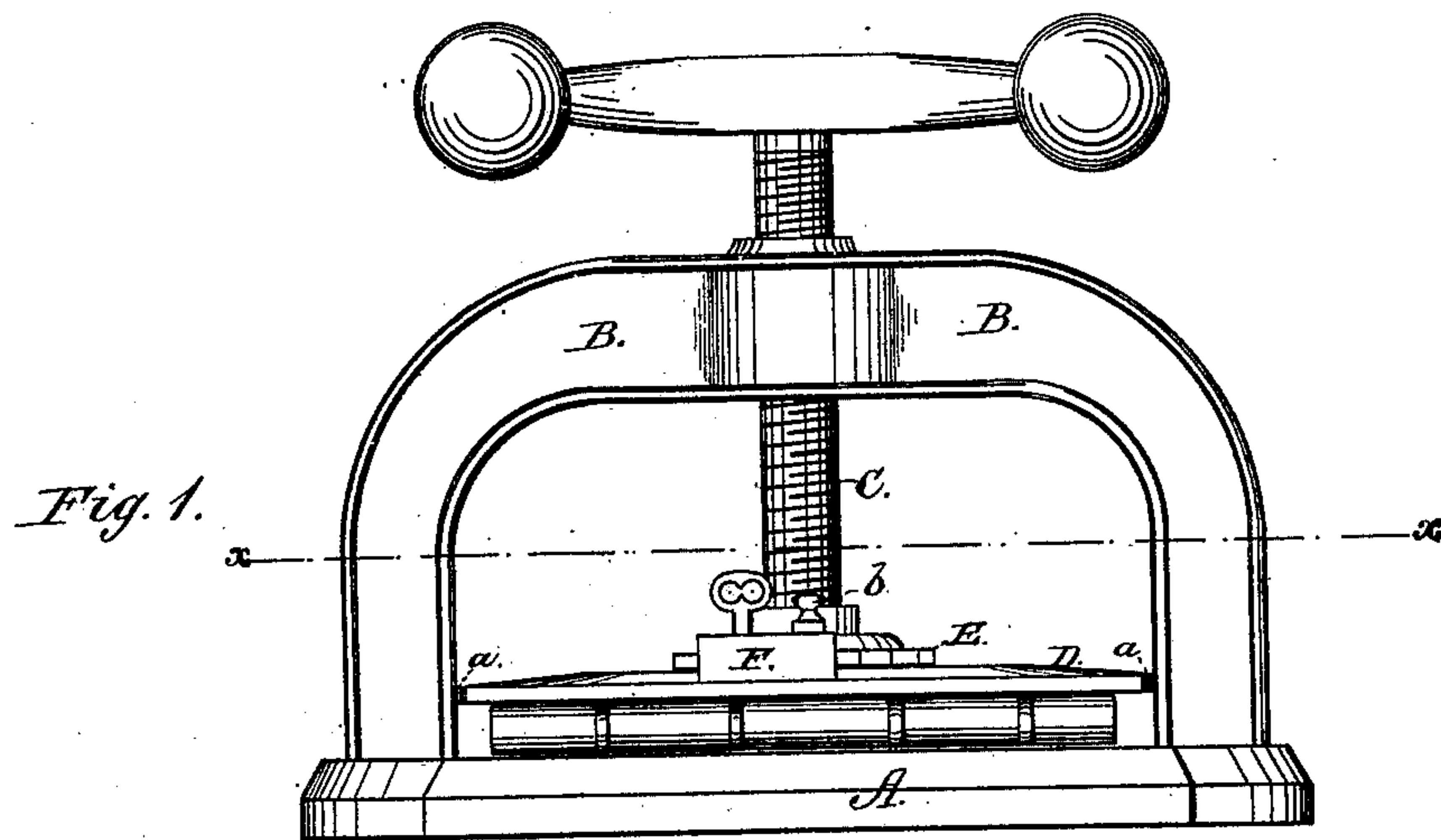


J. HILL.  
Copying-Press.

No. 205.862.

Patented July 9, 1878.



WITNESSES:

*W. W. Hollingsworth*  
*E. de W. B. Jr.*

INVENTOR:  
*John Hill*  
BY *Rever & Co.*  
ATTORNEYS.

# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOHN HILL, OF COLUMBUS, GEORGIA.

## IMPROVEMENT IN COPYING-PRESSES.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **205,862**, dated July 9, 1878; application filed February 28, 1878.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, JOHN HILL, of Columbus, in the county of Muscogee and State of Georgia, have invented a new and Improved Letter-Copying Press; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description of the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawing, forming part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 is a side view; Fig. 2, a horizontal section through line *x x* of Fig. 1, looking down upon the platen.

The object of my invention is to furnish a convenient means for securing privacy for letter-copying books against meddlers, as well as security for the same against loss by abstraction.

The invention consists in the combination, with the platen of a screw-press and the stem swiveling therein, of locking devices adapted to prevent freedom of motion between said stem and platen, and thus hold the platen clamped upon the letter-book to secure the latter.

Many modified forms of my invention may be employed; but that which I prefer is a simple lock located upon the platen, and having its bolt adapted to be projected into or out from engagement with a notched disk made rigid and fast on the lower swiveling end of the compressing-screw, the said notches forming seats or recesses to receive the bolt of the lock, and whereby the screw may be locked rigidly to the platen and the latter made incapable of receding from its tight adjustment.

In the drawing, A represents the base-plate or bed of the press, to which, upon opposite sides, is attached the arched bar B by means of bolts. Said arched bar is provided in its enlarged middle portion with a vertical female screw, through which passes the compressing-screw C. Said compressing-screw is provided at its top with horizontal lever-arms, a hand-wheel, or other means for turning the same, and at its lower end is connected by means of a swivel to the platen D. Said platen is thus geared to move up or down from the revolution of the compressing-screw, to compress a book or other object placed between the same and the bed of the press, the said platen being kept from turning by means of lugs or exten-

sions *a* upon its opposite ends, which enter and move up and down in guide-grooves in the standards of the arched bar.

As so far described the press does not differ from those in common use.

In applying my invention I attach rigidly to the compressing-screw, at a point just above its swiveling connection with the platen, a disk, E, having a notched periphery, and upon the platen I locate fixedly a lock, F, whose bolt is adapted to enter any of the notches of the disk which may be in line therewith to firmly lock the screw and platen together, so that, as the platen cannot turn by reason of its guide-lugs, the screw is likewise prevented from turning, and the platen thus locked is rendered incapable of receding from its tightened hold upon the book.

In selecting a form of lock for this purpose I prefer that shown, in which the bolt may be operated, through a knob, *b*, by hand, to lock the disk, but can only be withdrawn to unlock the parts by means of a key.

It is obvious that in practicing my invention various modifications of the same may be employed, as, instead of having the lock attached to the platen and bolted into a device upon the screw, as shown, it may be affixed to the screw and bolted into the platen.

The means for attaining the useful ends of my invention, it will be seen, are simple and inexpensive, and, requiring no adaptation on the part of the press, may be applied to those already in use without injury or expensive alteration.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim as new is—

1. The combination, in a letter-press, with a non-rotating platen and the screw-stem swiveling therein, of locking devices, substantially as described, adapted to prevent freedom of motion between the same, for the purpose set forth.

2. In a screw letter-press, the combination of a notched disk fixed upon the screw and a movable locking-bolt secured to the platen, substantially as described.

JOHN HILL.

Witnesses:

T. P. BURNETT,  
HENRY BRUCE,