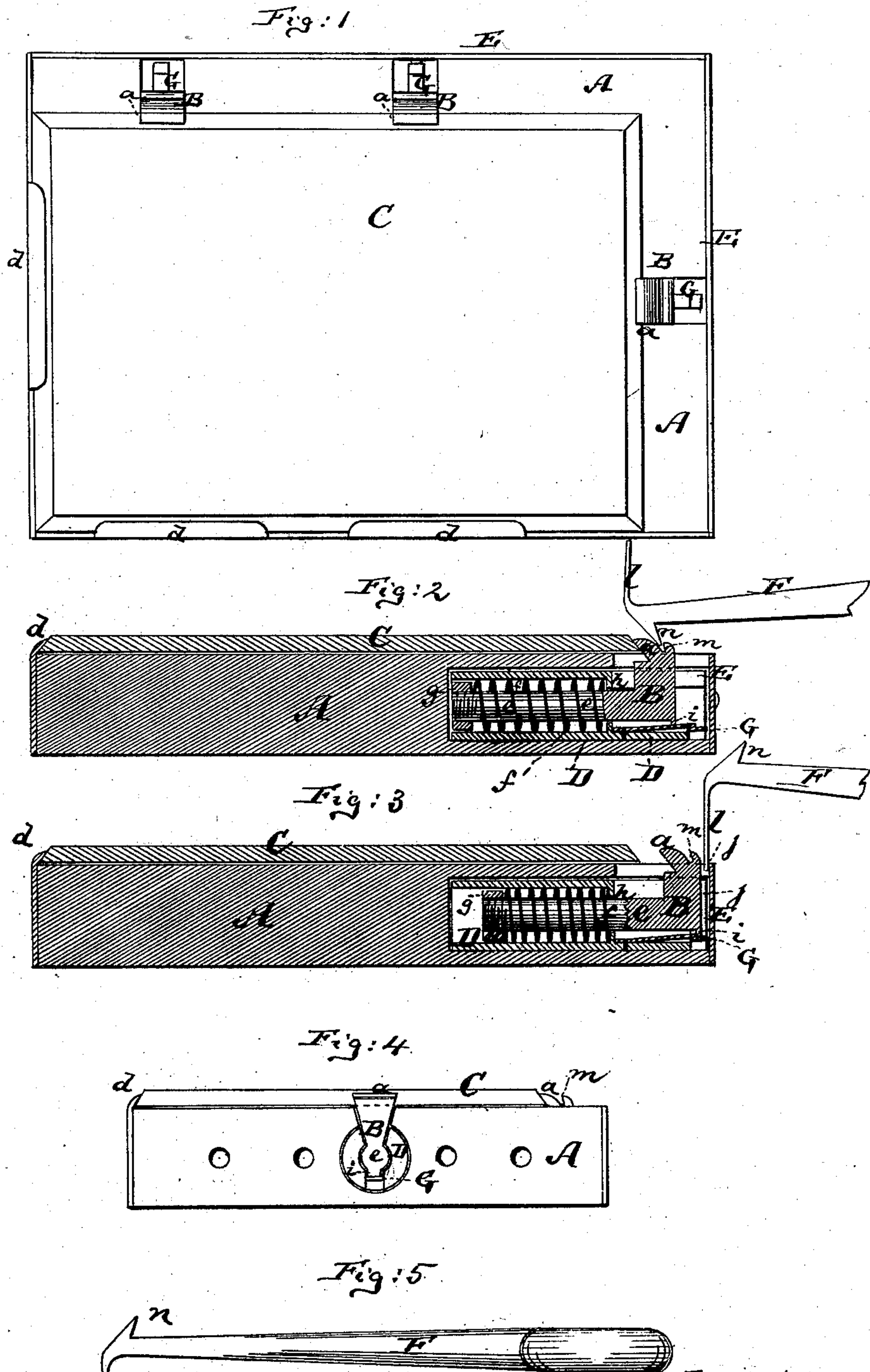


(No Model.)

F. WESEL.
Stereotype Plate Holder.

No. 229,291.

Patented June 29, 1880.



Witnesses:
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

FERDINAND WESEL, OF NEW YORK, N. Y.

STEREOTYPE-PLATE HOLDER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 229,291, dated June 29, 1880.

Application filed April 10, 1880. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, FERDINAND WESEL, of New York, in the county and State of New York, have invented a new and Improved
5 Stereotype-Plate Holder, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to a new apparatus for clamping and holding stereotype-plates and other plates on the blocks for use in printing; and the invention consists in a new arrange-
10 ment of spring-slide for holding the plate properly in place, and for also permitting its ready detachment from the block, and likewise for fitting one block to the reception of plates of
15 different sizes.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is a plan or top view of a block having my invention and holding a stereotype-plate. Fig. 2 is a vertical section of the same, showing the
20 plate properly clamped and held. Fig. 3 is a vertical section of the same, showing the plate unlocked. Fig. 4 is an end view of the block with one of the sheet-metal end plates detached; and Fig. 5 is a side view of the in-
25 strument used for manipulating the clamping apparatus.

In the drawings, the letter A represents a block such as is usually used for holding stereotype and other plates. This block is at one
30 or more sides provided with one or more slide-clamps, B B, which are partly sunk into recesses formed in the block, as shown, and which, where they project above the block, form small hooks *a*, which are intended to bear
35 against the stereotype or other plate, C, and crowd it against fixed hooks or abutments *d*. The shank of each slide-clamp B is in the form of a horizontal rod, *e*, as clearly shown in Figs. 2 and 3, which rod is fitted into a tube, D, that
40 is inserted in the recess or cavity in the block, and confined in the block by a sheet metal or other end plate, E, which is screwed onto the end of the block to cover the entire clamping apparatus.

45 A spiral spring, *f*, embraces the shank *e* and bears against a head or enlargement, *g*, formed at the inner end of said shank, so that by the action of the spring *f* the shank *e* will normally be crowded as far into its recess as
50 possible, as shown in Fig. 2. The hook part *a* of the clamp projects upward through a slot in the tube D and in the block A. The spring *f*

seeks to carry the hook to the inner end of said slot, as clearly shown. The front or outer end of the spring *f* bears against a suitable
55 fixed stop, *h*, at the inner end of the unslotted portion of the tube D.

The outer end of the slide B has at its lower side a projecting tongue, *i*, which, when the slide is drawn out, as indicated in Fig. 3, en-
60 gages over the end or shoulder of a spring, G, that is fixed into the lower part of the tube D, as shown. In this position there is still a space between the outer end of the slide B and the covering-plate E, which space is marked *j* in
65 Fig. 3, and which suffices to permit the insertion of a suitable tool or blade, *l*, wherewith to press down the spring G, release the slide B, and enable the spring *f* to throw the slide
70 inward against the stereotype-plate C, locking the same between the hooks *a* and *d* in manner clearly shown in Fig. 2.

When it is desired to disengage the plate C from the block A the slide or slides B must be drawn away from the stereotype-plate. To
75 facilitate this I have cut a notch, *m*, into or otherwise form a shoulder on the upper end of each slide to admit a prong, *n*, or suitable instrument for drawing the slide outward and contracting the spring *f*. With this instrument
80 the slide B is drawn out until it becomes spontaneously locked by the little spring, G.

I thus produce a stereotype-plate holder which is not liable to get out of order, and which is adjustable to different-sized plates,
85 adapted to securely hold them in position, and to readily prepare the block for their reception.

For greater convenience I propose to attach the actuating-blade *l* and the prong *n* to one
90 handle, producing thus an instrument, F, which is clearly shown in Fig. 5, by means of which instrument the plate can either be locked to or unlocked from the block.

I am aware that printing-plates have already
95 been attached to blocks by means of spring-catches; but in such cases the plates had to be specially recessed to receive the catch and additional dovetails.

By my invention a plate of ordinary form
100 can be readily secured to the block.

The old devices were fitted for plates of particular size, whereas mine is self-adjusting to plates of varying sizes.

I claim—

1. The combination of the slotted block A, having hook *d*, with the tube D, spring *f*, and with the slide B, which slide is movable in direction parallel to the surface of the block, said slide having hook *a*, all arranged so that the plate C is clamped between the hooks *d* and *n*, substantially as herein shown and described.
2. The combination of the slide B, having hook *a* and tongue *i*, with the actuating-spring *f* and holding-spring G, for operation substantially as described.
3. The spring-slide B, having hook *a*, tongue *i*, and notch *m*, substantially as herein shown and described.

4. The combination of the covering-plate E with the tube D, spring-slide B, and holding-spring G, all arranged so that a space, *j*, is left between the slide and the plate E when the slide is held fast by the spring G, substantially as herein shown and described.

5. The combination of the block A with the tube D, spring *f*, and with the slide B, said slide having hook *a*, substantially as herein shown and described.

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Witnesses:

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