

(No Model.)

J. M. BEERS.

PROCESS OF MANUFACTURING BOOKS.

No. 376,848.

Patented Jan. 24, 1888

Fig. 1

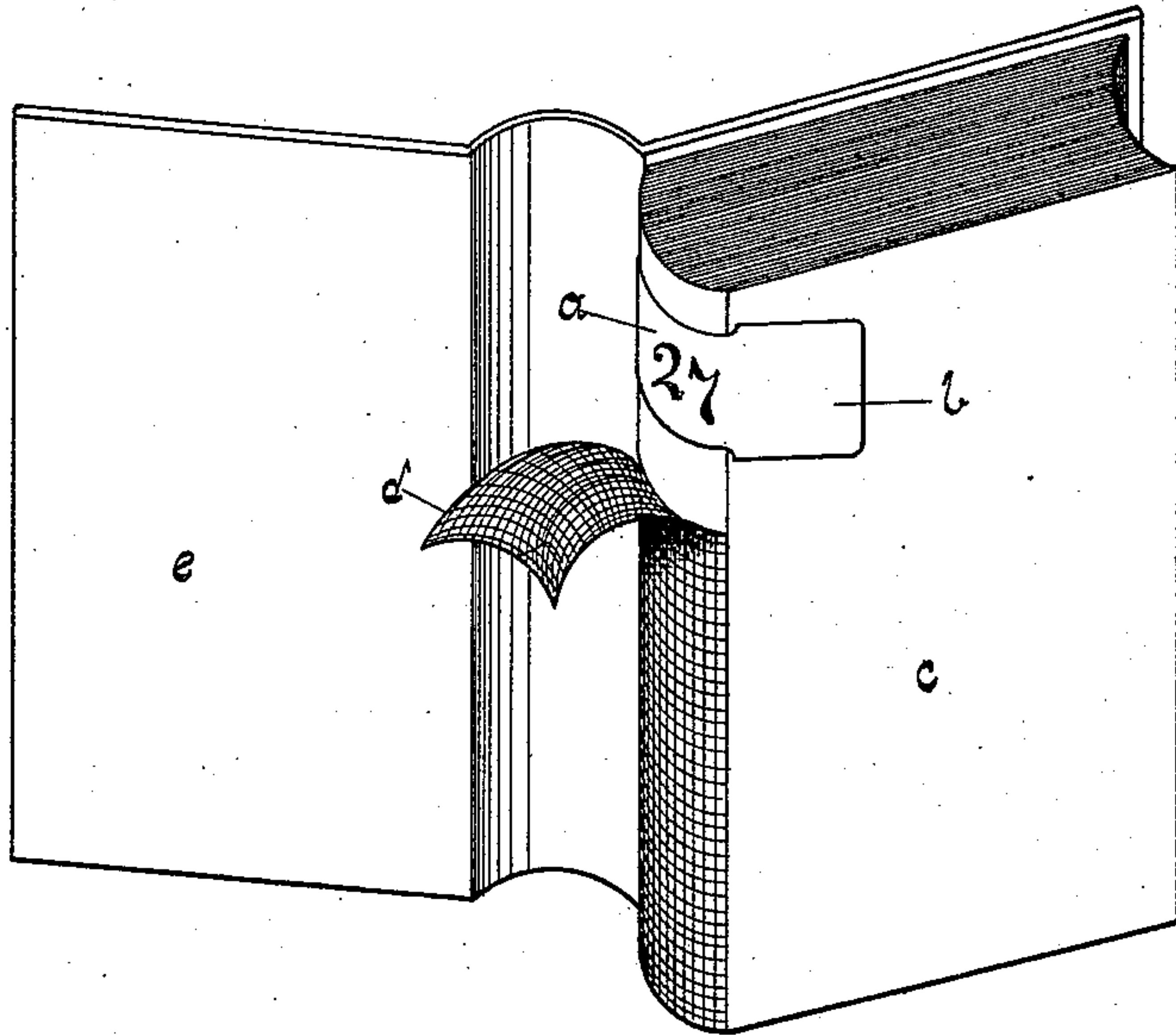
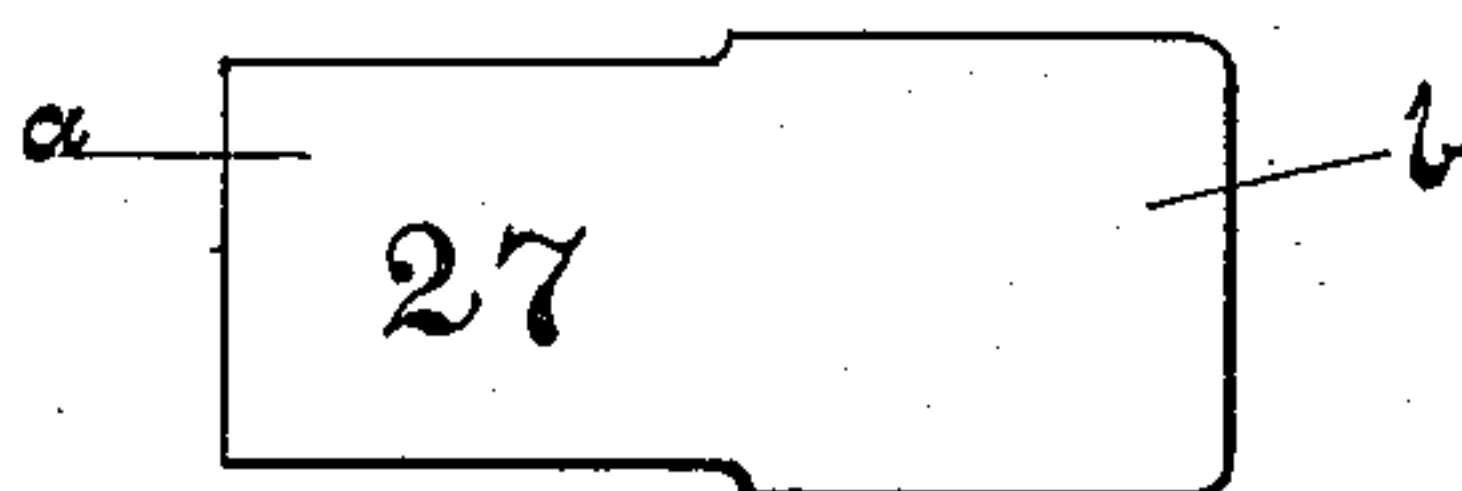


Fig. 2



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PROCESS OF MANUFACTURING BOOKS.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 376,848, dated January 24, 1888.

Application filed July 27, 1887. Serial No. 245,406. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JAMES MOORE BEERS, a citizen of the United States, residing in the city of Brooklyn, in the county of Kings and State of New York, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Processes of Manufacturing Books, of which improvement I declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and to the letters and figures of reference marked thereon, which form a part of this specification.

The invention has for its object to secure to publishers the control of the sale of books published by them, to prevent book-scalpers from underselling the publisher or his agent on his own publications, and to secure to general agents and canvassers the selling territory they have contracted for; and to that end the invention consists of the herein described and claimed method of manufacturing books, whereby each book contains within itself an identifying-mark so placed and combined with the essential parts of the book in the manufacturing of the same that the mark cannot be removed or destroyed or tampered with in any way without destroying the book, and forms an integral and ineffaceable part of said book so long as the book retains its structure and character as a merchantable and salable book.

In practicing the invention the book-binder is to fold, gather, stitch, and round the book, as is now the custom of the trade. Then, after applying glue to the back edges or folds of each signature and the stitching at the back of each book, and before the back-lining is made fast, he shall affix a seal or label bearing a separate distinguishing or identifying mark for each book upon the folds of the signatures, varying the situation of the same at pleasure along the back edges of the signatures. Over this seal or label or other identifying-mark so applied the back-lining is to be securely fastened, so as to cover and hold in place the seal or mark or label, and so that the same cannot be removed or tampered with or destroyed without first removing the back-lining or otherwise destroying the book as a book. The book-binder is then to back the book, glue on the cases, and press the book.

Other ways of affixing the distinguishing or identification mark are by cutting, printing,

stamping, stenciling, perforating, or otherwise marking the paper effectually covered and protected by the back-lining of the book, as described, and instead of applying the mark to the back of the signatures it may be applied in or upon any other part of the cases, linings, or back of the book where a mark may be applied, and where it will be covered and protected by the outer part or parts of the book; but I prefer the former way of applying the mark as best suited to infallible identification, and I prefer to combine it with the back of the signatures, as described.

In practicing the invention I prefer to put a different mark in each separate book made—as, say, a series of numbers or of letters, or other arbitrary marks—and as all the books will appear alike externally, and will be alike except for the different protected marks employed in their manufacture, the publisher, to take full advantage of the improvement, must make record of the exact marks worked into the books that he puts out, and for his convenience in keeping such record there may be placed upon the title or any other page of the book a duplicate of the protected identification-mark.

The kind of label I prefer using may be of cloth, paper, or other suitable substance, and has a flap to protect it from exudation of the glue or from defacement by the back-lining when, for the purpose of finally identifying the book, the back-lining is torn or separated from said label.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 shows a perspective view of a book embodying my invention, the book being ready to be secured in proper position and revealing the identifying label or mark, and the back-lining of the book ready to be pasted down securely over it. Fig. 2 is a detail view of the form of label I prefer to use. It is made of cloth, and has the main body part *a*, bearing the identifying-mark of the book, and the flap part *b*, which covers the mark and protects it from destruction when the back-lining is torn or separated from it.

Similar letters of reference in the two figures indicate like parts.

c is the body of signatures of the book, sewed or secured together in the usual way.

d is the back-lining.

e is the cover.

As stated, *a* is the main part of the form of label that I prefer to use, and which bears the identifying-mark, and *b* is the flap of the label which protects the mark from the back-lining *d*.

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

1. In the manufacture of books, the method of affixing a suitable identifying-mark, which consists in printing, stamping, cutting, or otherwise suitably affixing said identifying-mark upon or to the inner part of the case, lining, or back of the book, and covering and protecting the same by securely and permanently applying thereto the outer part of the book, whereby the said identifying-mark is concealed from view and can be removed or changed only by destroying the book, substantially as described.

2. The improved method of manufacturing books, which consists in printing, stamping, cutting, or otherwise suitably affixing upon or to the edges or folds of the signatures of the book a suitable identifying-mark, and securely and permanently applying thereto the lining of the back of the book and covering and protecting the mark by said back-lining, whereby the said identifying-mark can be removed or changed only by destroying the book, and whereby the book can be identified, substantially as shown and described.

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Witnesses:

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