

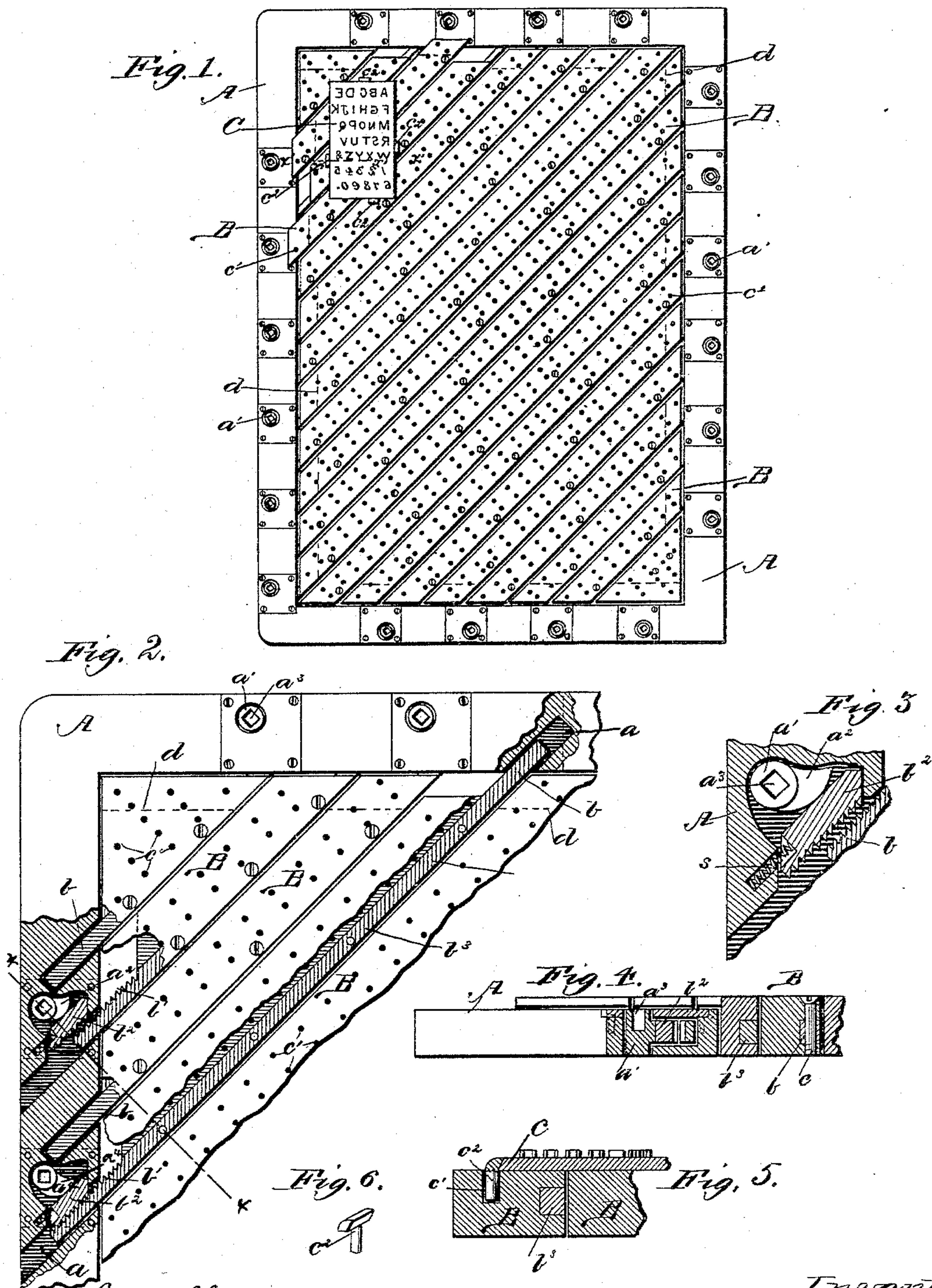
(No Model.)

H. FIETSCH, Jr.

BLOCK FOR LOCKING STEREOTYPE PLATES FOR PRINTING.

No. 388,032.

Patented Aug. 21, 1888.



Witnesses:
Fred. H. Miller,
Jno. H. Whipple.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

HERMAN FIETSCH, JR., OF CHICAGO, ILLINOIS, ASSIGNOR OF ONE-HALF TO
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BLOCK FOR LOCKING STEREOTYPE-PLATES FOR PRINTING.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 388,032, dated August 21, 1888.

Application filed November 11, 1887. Serial No. 254,883. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, HERMAN FIETSCH, Jr., of Chicago, in the State of Illinois, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Blocks for Locking Stereotype-Plates for Printing, of which the following is a specification.

The object of the improvement is to furnish a base or block for stereotype-plates, on which one or more of such plates may readily be secured for printing therefrom, the means for securing the plate to the block being adapted to fasten a plate of any ordinary size, less than the area of the block, in any desired place thereon, or to fasten several plates of the same size in different places thereon and adjust the spaces between them as required to produce the desired page-margins in book-printing.

The invention consists, broadly, in a base or block having narrow sections of its upper surface made relatively movable and provided with pin-holes arranged in check or cross rows, so that by placing pins in such of the holes as come nearest to the edges of a plate or plates placed on the block such pins by a slight sliding of some of the sections may be made to impinge the edges of the plate or plates to hold them in proper place on the block.

The accompanying drawings illustrate the invention.

Figure 1 is a plan or top view of such block. Fig. 2 is a fragment of an enlarged plan. Fig. 3 is a horizontal section of a portion of the frame employed to support the sections. Fig. 4 is a vertical section on line xx of Fig. 2. Fig. 5 is an enlarged section on line $x'x'$ of Fig. 1. Fig. 6 shows a detail.

A designates a chase or frame for supporting the movable sections B. In the present instance the movable sections are provided with tenons b , which work in mortises a in the frame A, so as to allow a short endwise movement of the sections in either direction. At one end the tenons are provided with a ratchet, b' , adapted to engage with a ratchet-bar, b'' , set in the frame in a slot to one side of the mortise and actuated by a spring, s . The frame is also provided with a small disk a' , which has a cam, a'' , coming against the bar

b'' , so that by a partial rotation of the disk by means of a key inserted in a square or angular opening, a''' , the cam may be brought to bear hard against the ratchet-bar, as seen at a'' , and cause it to move into contact with the ratchet on the tenon and thereby lock the section rigidly in place. In this manner each of the sections may be shifted longitudinally and secured in its various positions. When the cam is released, the spring throws the ratchet-bar back out of engagement with the tenon.

It will be seen that the tenons, as illustrated, are formed by letting a bar, b^3 , into a groove in the side of the sections and securing it therein by screws c . This, however, is merely an incidental construction, and is not to be regarded as substantially different from an integral tenon or the untenoned end of the section inserted in a slot or mortise of sufficient size to receive it.

The dotted line d indicates the space inside the frame allowed for the endwise movement of the sections. The upper face of the sections is provided with a series of holes, c' , so arranged as to form check or cross rows preferably about one-sixth of an inch apart. The surface is otherwise smooth or level, so as to form the base on which the electrotypes or stereotype plate C, with a flat undersurface, may rest. The plates are secured to such base by pins c'' , received in such of the holes c' as come nearest to the edges of the plate, and projecting above the surface of the base, so as to impinge said edges and be tightened in place by the longitudinal adjustment and locking of the sections in place when the pins are pressed against the edges of the plates sufficiently to bind the parts together.

The mode of operation is illustrated in Fig. 1, which shows the second and fourth sections from the left-hand upper corner slightly moved endwise toward the left, bringing the pins c'' thereof against the upper and right-hand edges of the plate, while the pins of the third and fifth sections impinge the lower and left-hand edges. It is obvious that said plate C, or one of a different size, could be secured in the same manner to any other part of the face of the block, or that a series of such plates of equal size could be thus secured to the base,

so that the edges of their ends and sides would be in line and the spaces between them would be equal, so as to make uniform margins in book-pages printed therefrom.

5 Having thus described my invention and its mode of operation, what I claim is—

1. A base or block for stereotype or electro-
type plates, having its upper surface composed
of a series of separate sections made relatively
10 movable and provided with pin-holes arranged
in check or cross rows, substantially as and
for the purpose specified.

2. A base or block for stereotype or electro-
type plates, composed of a series of separate
relatively-movable sections provided with pin- 15
holes, a frame for supporting such sections,
and means, substantially as described, for lock-
ing the sections respectively in their various
positions, substantially as and for the purpose
specified.

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Witnesses:

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