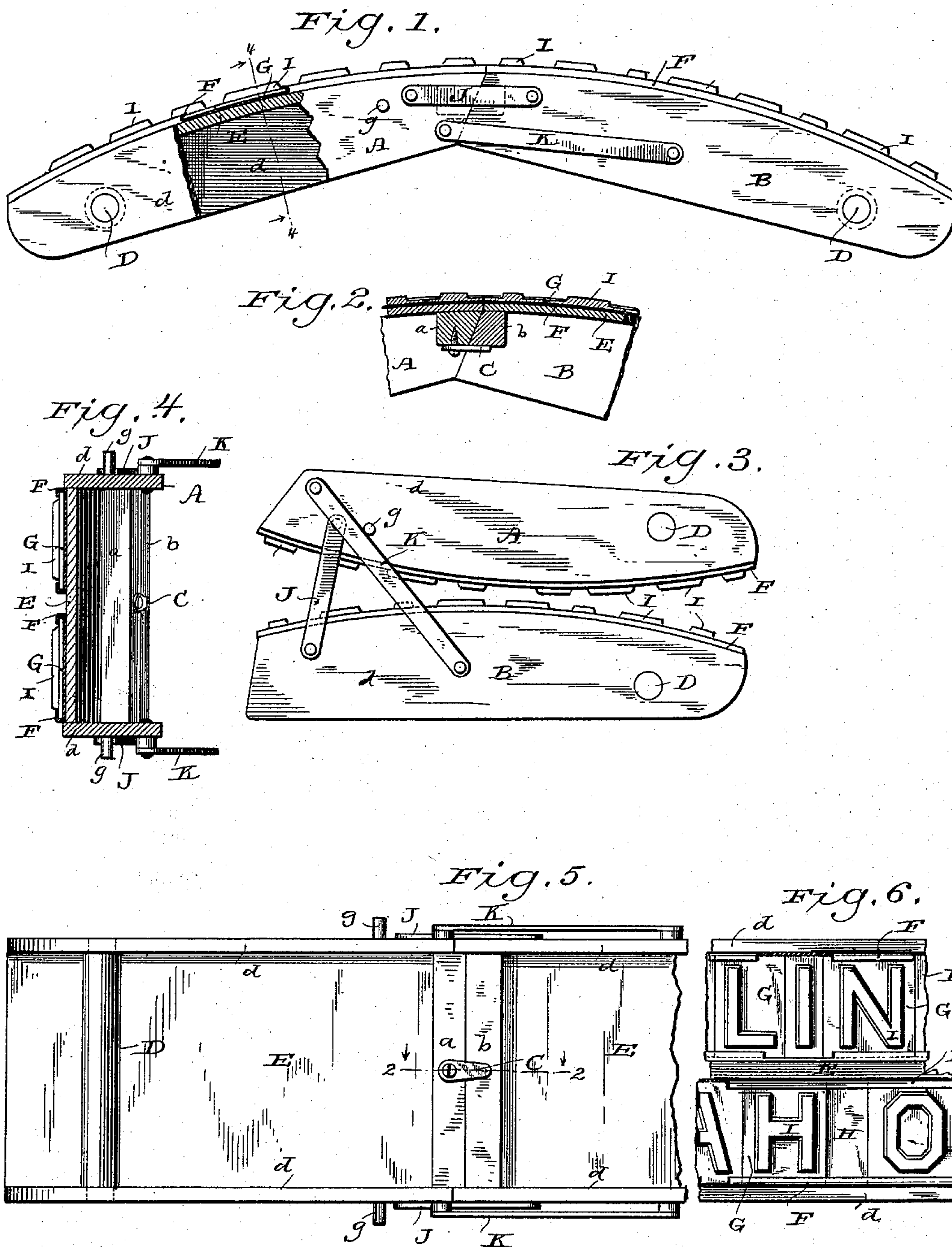


(No Model.)

E. A. BISHOP.
DEVICE FOR PRINTING SIGNS.

No. 406,812.

Patented July 9, 1889.



Witnesses
Geo. W. Young,
H. E. Oliphant

Inventor
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

EDWARD A. BISHOP, OF RACINE, WISCONSIN, ASSIGNOR OF ONE-HALF TO
H. PROEHL AND W. G. GITTINGS, OF SAME PLACE.

DEVICE FOR PRINTING SIGNS.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 406,812, dated July 9, 1889.

Application filed April 30, 1888. Serial No. 272,290. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, EDWARD A. BISHOP, of Racine, in the county of Racine, and in the State of Wisconsin, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Devices for Printing Signs; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description thereof.

My invention relates to devices for printing signs on fence-boards, &c.; and it consists in certain peculiarities of construction and combination of parts, to be hereinafter described with reference to the accompanying drawings and subsequently claimed.

In the drawings, Figure 1 represents a side elevation of my invention, partly broken away; Fig. 2, a detail sectional view on line 2 2, Fig. 1; Fig. 3, a side elevation of my invention folded up; Fig. 4, a section on line 4 4, Fig. 1; Fig. 5, an under side plan view of a portion of my invention, and Fig. 6 a top plan view of the same.

Referring by letter to the drawings, A B represent two segmental sections that are hinged together to form the frame of my device; but it is obvious that a greater number of similar sections may be likewise connected if found more convenient or desirable, said sections being of any suitable length and width. The meeting ends of the frame-sections A B are respectively provided with cross-braces *a b*, and to the cross-brace *a* is pivoted a button C, that may be brought over upon the opposing cross-brace *b*, to secure said sections in the position shown by Fig. 1.

A handle D is secured between the side pieces *d* of each frame-section near the outer end of the latter, and to a bed-piece E, that is also secured to said side pieces, I attach a guide or guides F for detachable type-blocks G and spacers H, these guides being preferably sheet-metal strips, having the free edges thereof bent over to form grooves that engage said type-blocks and spacers. The type-blocks G and spacers H are preferably of wood, and the letters I of composition somewhat similar to that employed in the manufacture of printers' rolls; but it will be understood that I do not limit myself to the construction just described, for the reason that

other material for said type-blocks, spacers, and letters may be as readily employed.

In the operation of my invention, the frame-sections being in the position shown in Fig. 1, and the type arranged to form the reading matter of any particular sign it may be desirable to print, the operator grasps the device by the handles D, rocks it (type-faces down) on a board or other surface having fresh paint thereon, and then rocks said device on a fence-board or other surface on which it may be desirable to print the sign. The opposing ends of the frame-sections A B are cut on an angle acute to a vertical and united by a short and long link J K, the respective ends of these links being pivoted to said sections to form a hinge.

To fold the frame-sections one upon the other, the button C is turned so as to bring it away from the cross-brace *b* of the section B, and the section A is then pushed up far enough to gain clearance of section B and turned over to the position shown by Fig. 3, the links J K operating together to keep said frame-sections in their mutual relation when being folded or extended.

To limit the movement of the links K, and thus keep the frame-sections far enough apart when folded up to prevent the letters I of one section from coming in contact with those on the other section, I provide the section A with stops *g*, that come against said links when said sections are in the position shown by Fig. 2. The type being detachable from the frame-sections, any desired inscription may be set up, and I may provide the frame-sections with any desirable number of guides for said type and the spacers.

My device is very simple in its construction, and can be done up in compact shape for storage or transportation, while by its employment I save a vast deal of time and labor that are usually employed in painting signs upon fence-boards and other surfaces, inasmuch that no skilled labor is necessary to do the work after the letters have been set up in the frame-sections.

Having thus fully described my invention, what I claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. A device for printing signs on fence-boards, &c., that comprises two or more segmental frame-sections hinged one to the other, and suitable letters or characters arranged on
5 the sections, substantially as set forth.

2. A device for printing signs on fence-boards, &c., that comprises two or more segmental frame-sections hinged one to the other and provided with opposing cross-braces, a
10 button pivoted to the cross-brace of one section to be brought over upon the opposing cross-brace of the adjacent section, and suitable letters or characters arranged on said
sections, substantially as set forth.

15 3. A device for printing signs on fence-boards, &c., that comprises two or more segmental frame-sections, the pivotal links J K, uniting each two of the sections, and suitable

letters or characters arranged on said sections, substantially as set forth. 20

4. A device for printing signs on fence-boards, &c., that comprises two or more segmental frame-sections, the pivotal links J K, uniting each two of the sections, the stops *g*
for the links K, and suitable letters or characters arranged on said sections, substantially as set forth. 25

In testimony that I claim the foregoing I have hereunto set my hand, at Racine, in the county of Racine and State of Wisconsin, in
the presence of two witnesses. 30

EDWARD A. BISHOP.

Witnesses:

A. CARY JUDD,

CHAS. SCHAMPAINE.