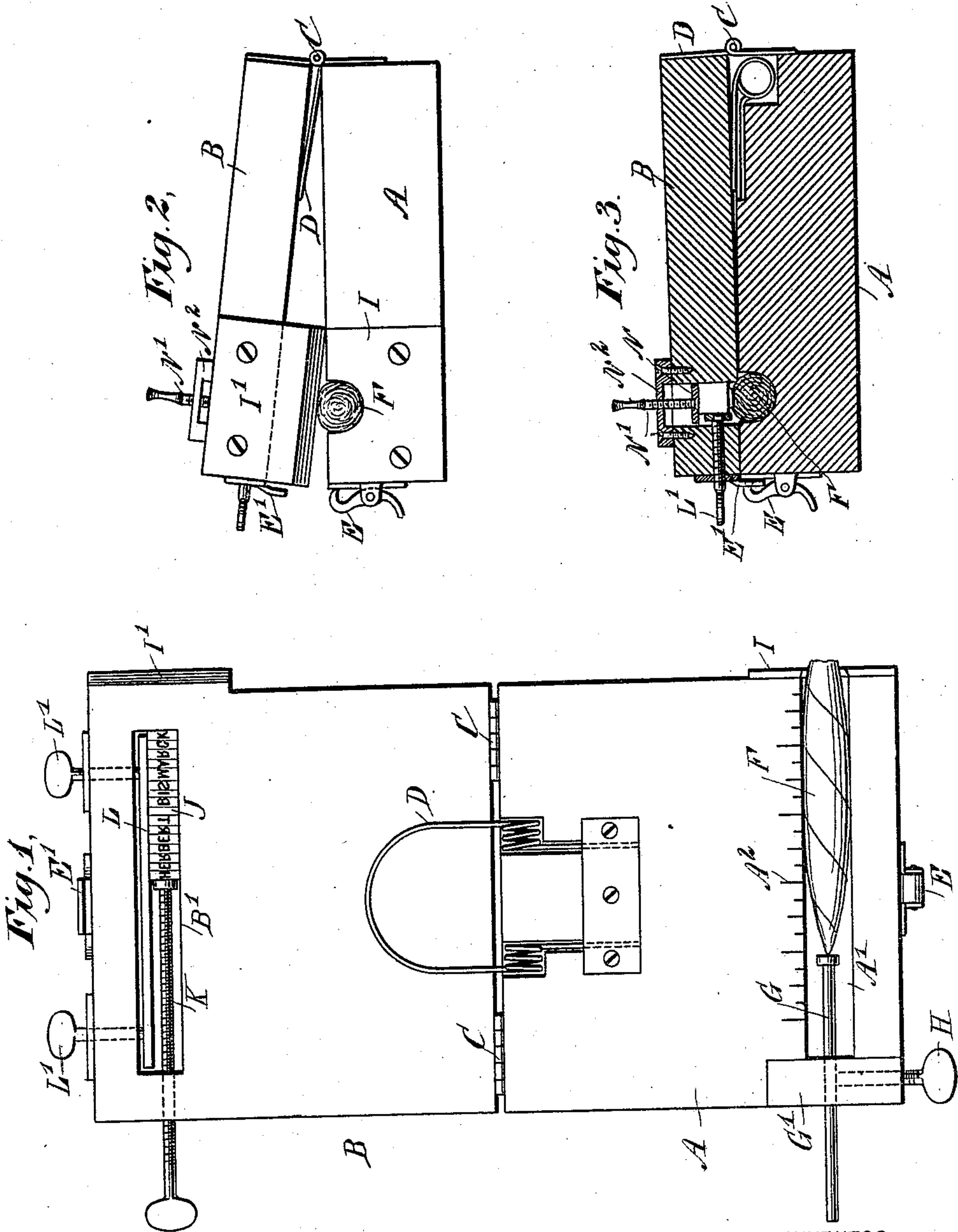


(No Model.)

P. GEBHARD.
DEVICE FOR BRANDING CIGARS.

No. 557,066.

Patented Mar. 24, 1896.



WITNESSES:

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

PAUL GEBHARD, OF NEW HAVEN, CONNECTICUT, ASSIGNOR OF ONE-HALF
TO EDWARD LEFLING, OF SAME PLACE.

DEVICE FOR BRANDING CIGARS.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 557,066, dated March 24, 1896.

Application filed July 17, 1895. Serial No. 556,288. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, PAUL GEBHARD, of New Haven, in the county of New Haven and State of Connecticut, have invented a new and Improved Device for Branding Cigars, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description.

The object of the invention is to provide a new and improved device for branding cigars of any shape and size, with a desired name, inscription, emblem or other mark in a very simple manner, and at the same time cutting the cigar to the desired length.

The invention consists of certain parts and details and combinations of the same, as will be fully described hereinafter and then pointed out in the claim.

Reference is to be had to the accompanying drawings, forming a part of this specification, in which similar characters of reference indicate corresponding parts in all the figures.

Figure 1 is a plan view of the improvement with the sections open. Fig. 2 is a side elevation of the same with the cover-section closing, and Fig. 3 is a sectional side elevation of the same with the sections closed.

The improved device for branding cigars and for cutting off the butt-ends thereof to insure a uniform length of cigar is provided with two sections A and B connected with each other by hinges C, so that the top or cover section B can be conveniently closed upon the bottom or base section, as will be readily understood by reference to Figs. 2 and 3. A spring D serves to hold the cover-section B normally in an open position, as shown in Fig. 2; but when the two sections are closed one upon the other by pressing the cover-section B downward, then the two sections are locked by a spring-catch E, held on the front of the base-section A and engaging a staple E' on the front of the cover-section B.

In the top of the base-section A is formed a longitudinal recess A', made sufficiently deep and wide to receive an ordinary-sized cigar F, adapted to abut with the point against the inner end of a rod G, fitted to slide in a bearing G', secured in one side of the base-section A, as plainly shown in Fig. 1. The rod G is adapted to be secured in the said bearing G' by a set-screw H, and the said rod

gages the length of the cigar F, the gage being read on a graduation A², formed on the top of the base-section A at one edge of the recess A'. The outer or butt end of the cigar F is adapted to be cut off by knives I and I', of which the knife I is secured to the side of the bottom section A and the other knife, I', is secured to the corresponding side of the cover-section B, and consequently when the latter is closed the knife I' shears off the projecting end of the cigar on the knife I.

In the cover-section B is an opening B' in alignment with the recess A' when the sections are closed, and in this opening B' is set type J, forming a name, sentence, inscription, emblem or other mark adapted to be impressed or embossed in the cigar F held in the recess A', the impression being made during the time the cover-section B is closed on the base-section A. The type J is ordinary printers' type, made of composition metal, brass or other material, and set up in the usual manner to form the desired word, sentence or the like. The type thus set up is placed in the opening B' and secured longitudinally therein by a screw-rod K, screwing in one side of the cover-section B to press against the type, as will be readily understood by reference to Fig. 1. The type is held in alignment laterally by a bar L, hung on two screws L' screwing in the end of the cover-section B, to permit of adjusting the said bar L to bring the type in proper alignment. The back of the type is set on a bar N hung on screws N', screwing in bearings N² secured to the upper side of the cover-section B, so that the type is adjusted in height, according to the thickness of the cigar F in the recess A', to make an impression of a corresponding depth.

When the device is in the position shown in Fig. 1, a freshly-made cigar is placed in the recess A' and the cover-section B is closed, so that the knives I' and I cut the cigar to the proper length, and at the same time the type-characters on the type J make an impression on the wrapper of the cigar. The section B is held closed on the base-section A for a desired time, so as to insure a permanent impression on the moist wrapper of the cigar. When this has been done the two sections A

and B are unlocked by the operator pressing the catch E open, so that the spring D lifts the section B sufficiently to move the type out of engagement with the cigar F. A final
5 opening of the section B is then made by the operator swinging the cover-section B backward into the position shown in Fig. 1. The cigar is then removed and replaced by another, and the above-described operation is
10 repeated.

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

15 A device for branding cigars, comprising two sections hingedly connected to each other, a cigar-receiving groove formed on the inner

side of one section, a type-groove formed in the remaining section and juxtaposed to the cigar-receiving groove, the type-groove being extended through the section in which it
20 is formed, a plate closing the outer portion of the type-groove, two movable plates within the type-groove, and a set-screw for each plate, said set-screws being disposed at right
25 angles to each other and capable of moving the plates correspondingly, substantially as described.

PAUL GEBHARD.

Witnesses:

SIEGWART SPEER,
EDWARD LEFLING.