

No. 624,179.

Patented May 2, 1899.

H. C. CLARK.  
ENGRAVER'S BLOCK OR WORK HOLDER.

(Application filed Oct. 10, 1898.)

(No Model.)

FIG. 1.

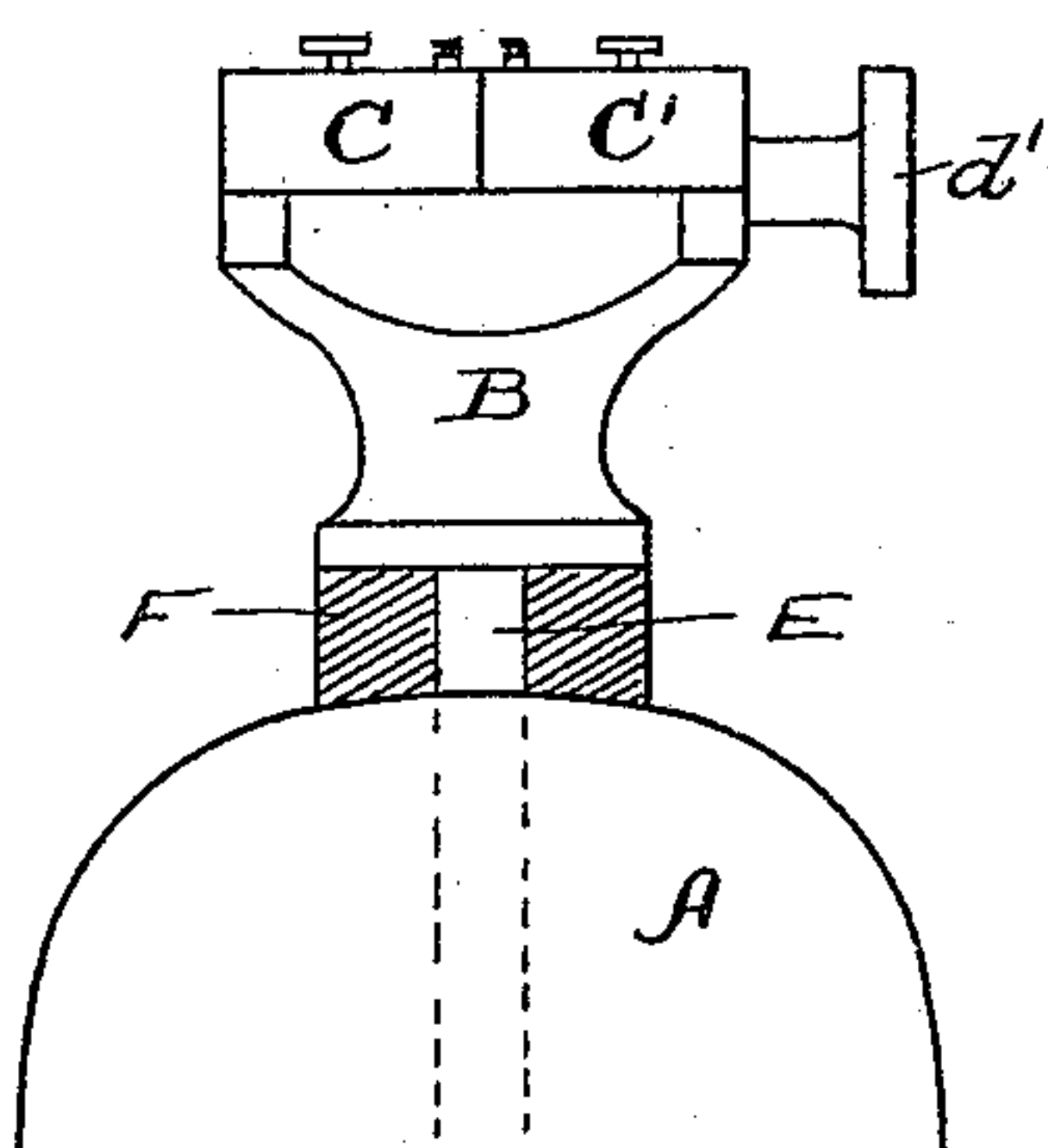


FIG. 3.

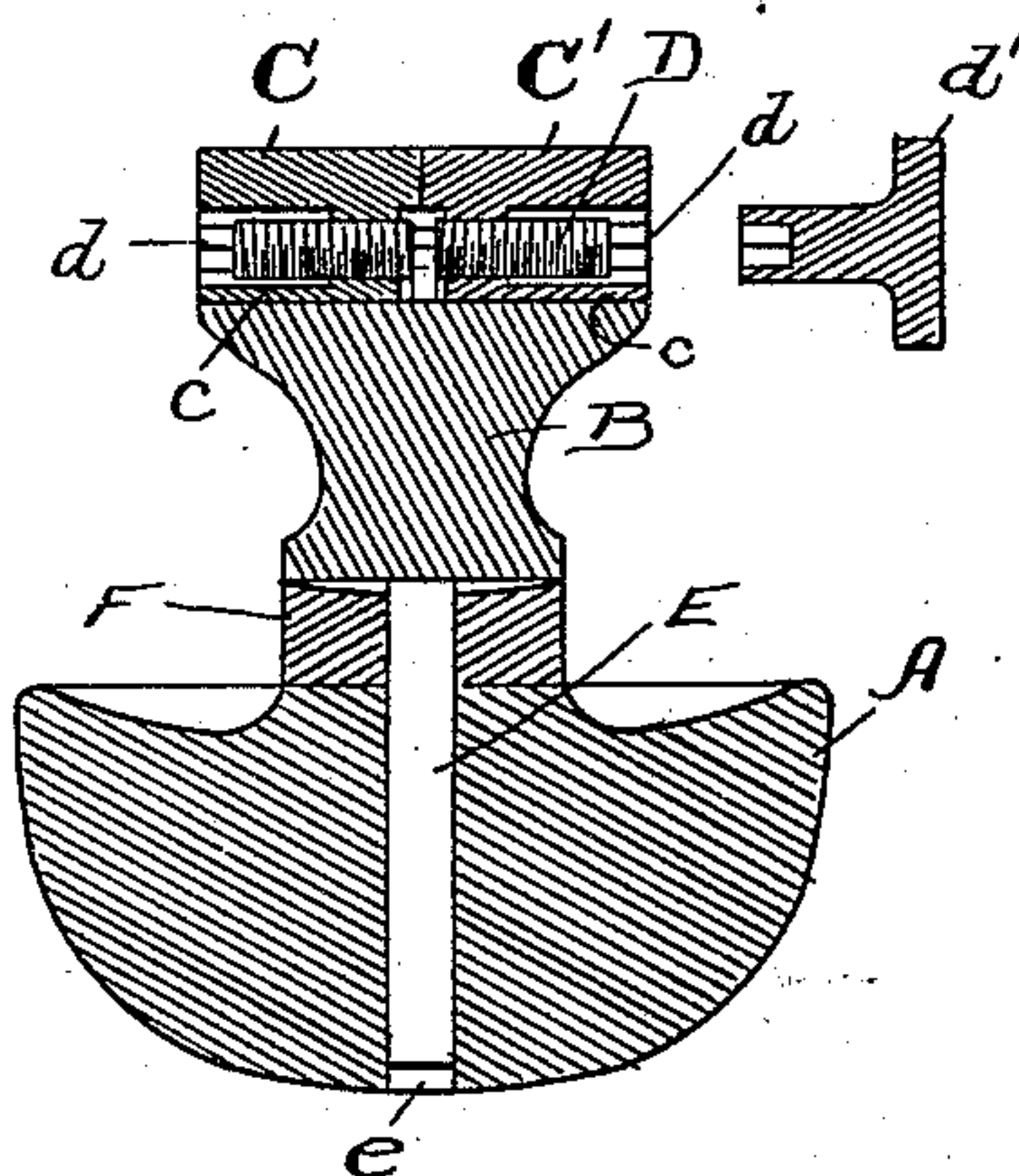


FIG. 2.

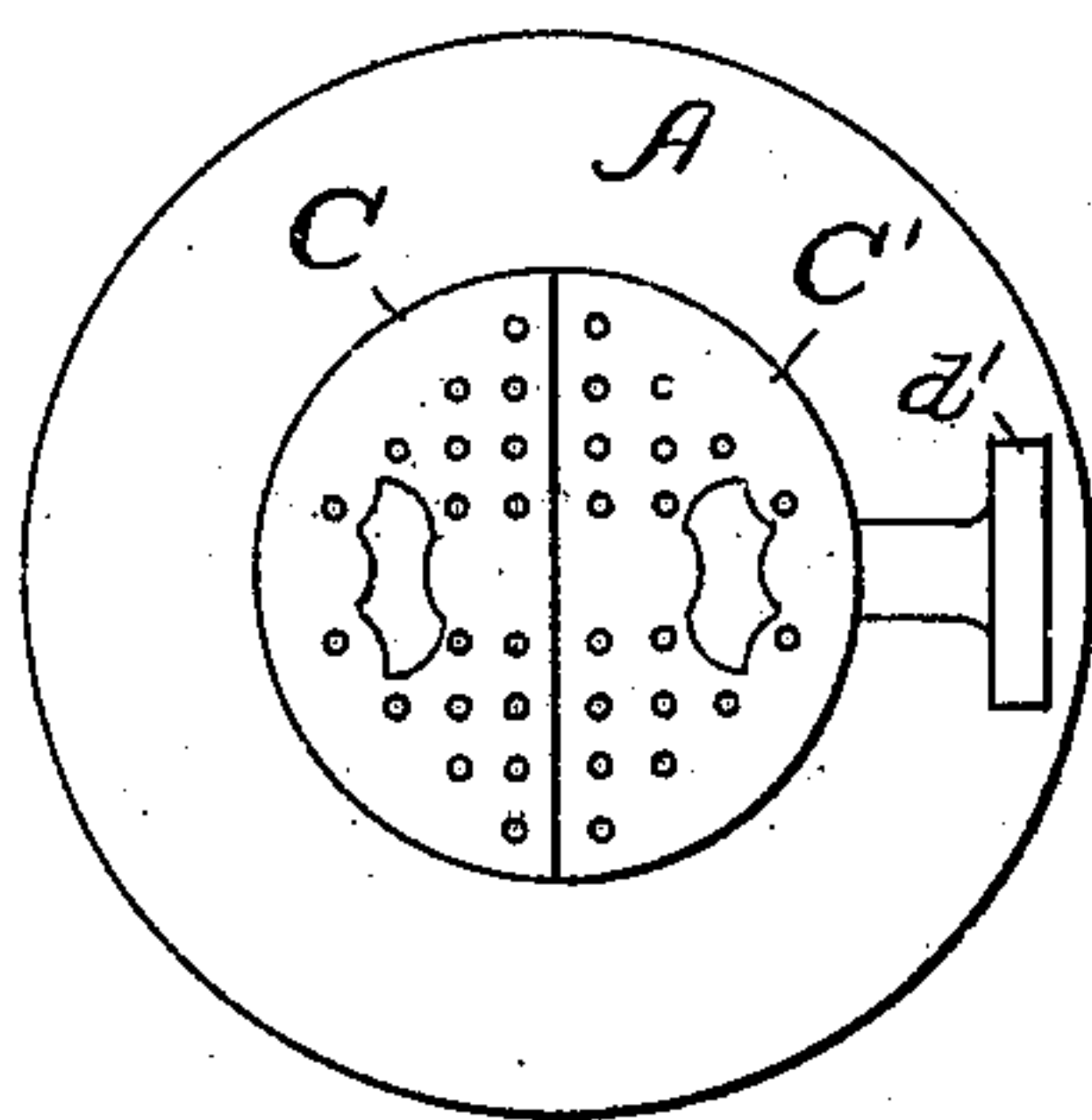
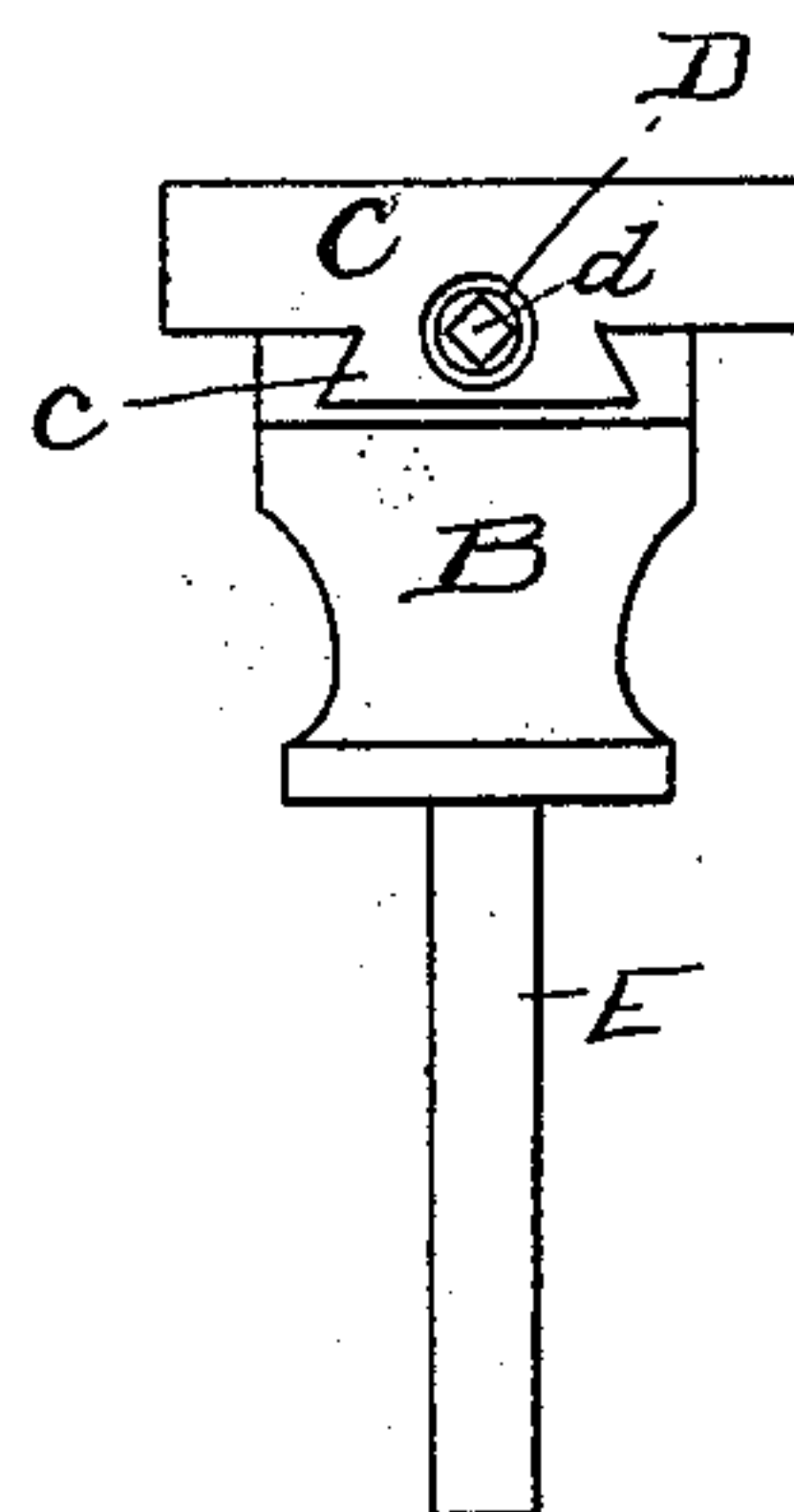


FIG. 4.



WITNESSES:

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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

HENRY C. CLARK, OF CHICAGO, ILLINOIS.

## ENGRAVER'S BLOCK OR WORK-HOLDER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 624,179, dated May 2, 1899.

Application filed October 10, 1898. Serial No. 693,114. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, HENRY C. CLARK, a citizen of the United States, residing in Chicago, in the county of Cook and State of Illinois, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Engravers' Blocks or Work-Holders, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to an improvement in engravers' blocks or work-holders.

Engravers and chasers upon metal are accustomed to employ a block or holder for clamping and holding the work—such, for example, as spoons to mark and various small metal articles of irregular shape. Such blocks are usually made heavy enough to hold the work steady under the thrust of the engraving-tool and have means for clamping the work securely upon the block.

The present improvement consists in the novel devices and novel combinations of parts and devices herein shown and described, and more particularly pointed out in the claims, all tending to render the apparatus more convenient and easy to use and adapting it to a greater range of work.

In the accompanying drawings, forming a part of this specification, and in which similar letters of reference indicate like parts throughout the several views, Figure 1 is a side elevation, partly in section, of my improved block. Fig. 2 is a plan view of the same. Fig. 3 is a vertical section of the holder, showing the bottom in a reversed position; and Fig. 4 is an end view of the pivoted jaw-piece which is shown in side view at Fig. 1.

In the drawings, A represents the base-piece, consisting, preferably, of a heavy metal block to give stability to the apparatus. This base-piece A is made hemispherical in form, and the jaw-piece or clamping-head is made removable from it in such manner that said base-piece may be used either with its flat side resting on the work-bench or its spherical side underneath. In some classes of work the engraver prefers to have the apparatus stand in such manner that the piece to be engraved shall be held always in the same plane, while in other classes of work it is desirable that there shall be a capability of changing the plane of the piece to be en-

graved. Some workmen too prefer for all kinds of work a flat-bottomed block, while others prefer a round-bottomed block, the latter to be used in conjunction with what is known as a "ring-cushion"—an annular cushion of leather filled with sand—in which the round-bottomed block is set and which enables it to be tipped to and held at any angle. By constructing the base A in the manner indicated and according to this invention the apparatus may be readily reversed and used either as a flat-bottomed or a round-bottomed block. Thus in Fig. 1 the apparatus is shown resting upon the flat portion of the base, while in Fig. 3 it is shown as resting upon the round portion as it would be used in conjunction with the ring-cushion indicated at a.

B is the stock of the clamping-head, and C C' are the two clamping-jaws secured to the upper end of the stock by dovetail slides c. A double-threaded screw D, with a right-hand thread at one end and a left-hand thread at the other end, works in the two clamping-jaws C C', so that when said screw is turned in one direction the clamping-jaws are separated or drawn apart equally from the center line of the clamping-head, and when said screw is turned in the other direction said jaws are closed together until they meet at said center line. For turning the screw a squared end d, to receive a removable key d', is formed on one or both ends of said screw, preferably at both ends. The object in using a removable key is in order that it may not interfere with the hands of the engraver in working. The object of having the clamping-jaws open and close from and to the center line of the stock is in order that the work may be kept central in the turning and manipulation of the stock, which is found to be a great aid and convenience to the workman. A pin E projects from the center of the bottom of the stock and enters a hole e in the center of the base A. The hole e may pass entirely through said base from top to bottom. The construction is such, as will be understood, that the clamping-head as a whole is free to turn horizontally on the base.

F is a washer-block, one surface of which is made flat to fit the flat side of the base and the other side concave to fit the round side of



the base. This washer-block serves the purpose of elevating the clamping-head, making the head easier to turn on its pivot, and taking the wear of the parts. It may, however, be omitted, if desired.

I claim—

1. The engraver's block or work-holder, comprising in combination a clamping-head and a reversible base, substantially as specified.

2. The engraver's block or work-holder, comprising in combination a pivotally-mounted clamping-head and a reversible base having a flat side and a hemispherical side, substantially as specified.

3. The engraver's block or work-holder, comprising in combination a clamping-head and a reversible base having a flat side and

a hemispherical side, substantially as specified.

4. The engraver's block or work-holder, comprising in combination a pivotally-mounted clamping-head provided with clamping-jaws, a reversible base, and means for opening and closing said jaws from and to the center of the head, consisting of a right and left handed screw, substantially as specified.

5. The engraver's block or work-holder, comprising in combination a pivotally-mounted clamping-head, the reversible base, and the interposed washer-block F, substantially as specified.

HENRY C. CLARK.

Witnesses:

H. M. MUNDAY,  
S. E. CURTIS.