

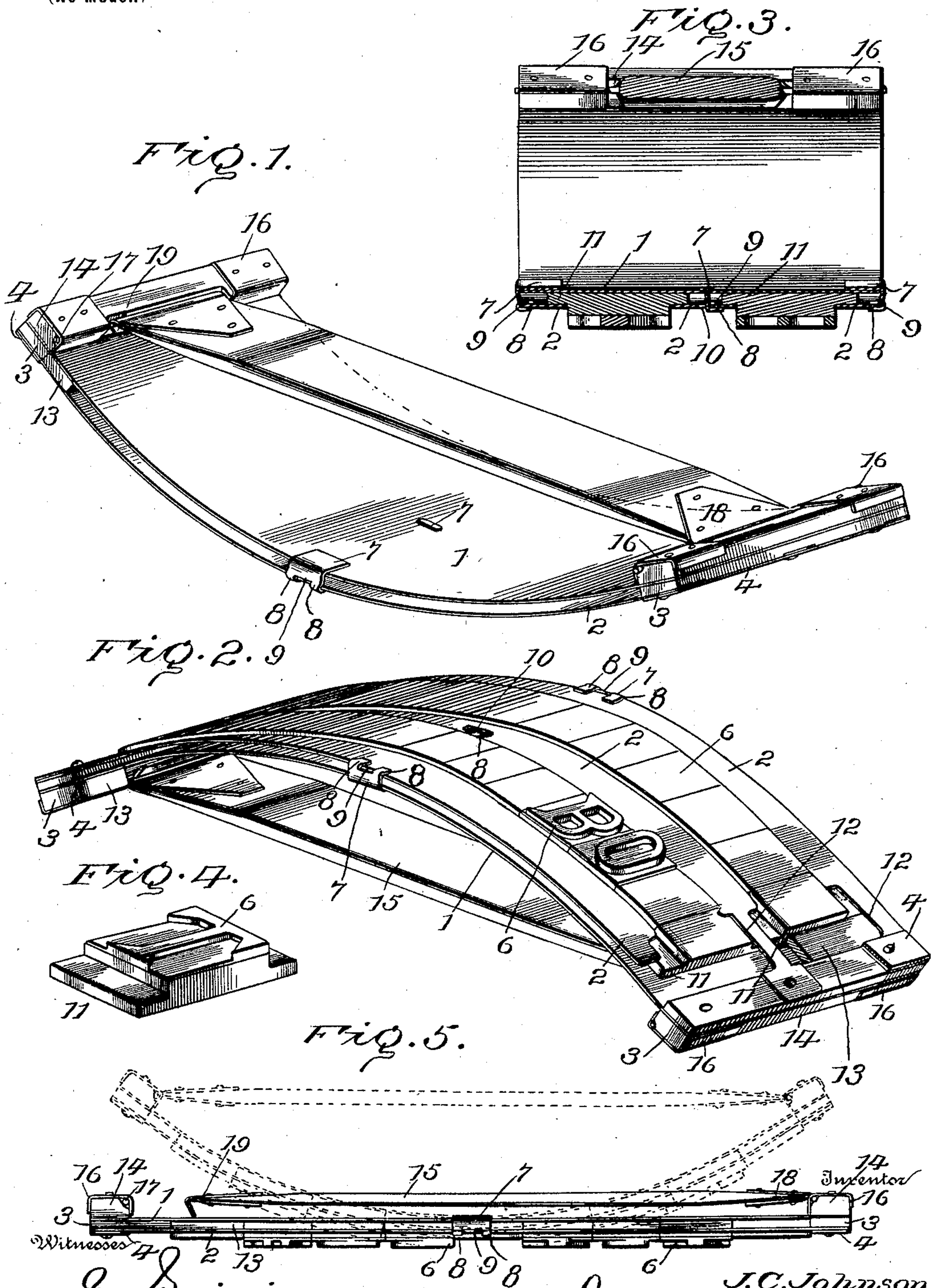
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Patented Apr. 9, 1901.

J. C. JOHNSON.
HAND STAMP.

(Application filed July 6, 1900.)

(No Model.)



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JOHN CALVIN JOHNSON, OF DALLAS, TEXAS.

HAND-STAMP.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 671,648, dated April 9, 1901.

Application filed July 6, 1900. Serial No. 22,706. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOHN CALVIN JOHNSON, a citizen of the United States, residing at Dallas, in the county of Dallas and State of Texas, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Hand-Stamps; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as it appertains to make and use the same.

This invention relates to printing devices manipulated by hand and supplied with removable type to admit of any desired word or matter being printed on boxes, barrels, packages, and any object required to be labeled.

The stamp comprises a flexible bed of peculiar formation, removable type, means for securing the type in place against accidental displacement, and a bar connecting the ends of the bed when bowed and serving as a handle.

The invention also consists of the novel features, details of construction, and combination of the parts, which hereinafter will be more fully disclosed and finally claimed; and for this purpose and also to acquire a knowledge of the merits of the invention and the structural details of the means whereby the results are attained reference is to be had to the appended description and the drawings hereto attached.

While the essential and characteristic features of the invention are necessarily susceptible of modification, still the preferred embodiment of the invention is illustrated in the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of a hand-stamp constructed in accordance with this invention. Fig. 2 is a perspective view thereof, parts being broken away. Fig. 3 is a cross-section. Fig. 4 is a detail view of a type. Fig. 5 is a side elevation, the full lines showing the bed straightened out and the dotted lines the normal or bowed position of said bed.

Corresponding and like parts are referred to in the following description and indicated in all the views of the drawings by the same reference characters.

The stamp is of the class designed for labeling packages and imprinting any desired

matter upon a surface to be marked and comprises a bed and type detachably fitted to said bed, the latter constituting a support or holder for the type when selected and properly arranged. In the present instance the bed is flexible, so as to be flattened or straightened out to facilitate the removal and proper positioning of the type and also to enable the stamp to occupy a minimum amount of space when not required for immediate use. The bed may be constructed of any stout sheet material which will admit of its straightening and bowing as desired. The length and width of the bed and the number of type-spaces will depend upon the required capacity and size of the stamp and will vary to meet various requirements. In its general construction the bed comprises a rear plate 1, a series of strips 2, spaced from the rear plate and from one another and longitudinally arranged in parallel relation, and end bars 3, located between the plate 1 and strips 2 to hold them apart the required distance. Transverse strips 4 overlap the terminals of the longitudinal strips 2, and screws or fastenings 5 connect the several parts 1, 2, 3, and 4. The spaces formed between the longitudinal edges of adjacent strips 2 receive the type 6, representing the matter to be printed, and these spaces will vary according to the size of the type. Spacers connect the plate 1 and strips 2 intermediate of their ends, so as to preserve a uniform space between them, and these spacers consist of metal cleats 7, secured at one end to the plate 1 by solder or in any desired manner and having the opposite end portion slit for a short distance to provide tongues 8 and 9, which are bent at a right angle to the body of the cleats and underlap and overlap the longitudinal strips 2, so as to hold them against either inward or outward displacement. The tongues 8 bear against the outer side of the strips 2, whereas the tongues 9 engage with and bear against the inner side. The outermost spacers engage with the marginal or edge portions of the strips 2, whereas the intermediate spacer has its outer tongue passing through an opening 10 in the intermediate strip 2. The number of spacers will depend upon the length of the stamp, and in the event of said stamp being comparatively short the spacers may

be omitted; but for comparatively long stamps the spacers are essential in order to prevent the separation of the strips and rear plate and the displacement of the type held in place thereby.

The type 6 are flat and are provided at opposite ends with outwardly-extending flanges 11, which are adapted to enter the space formed between the plate 1 and strips 2, the latter overlapping the flanges 11 and holding the type against outward displacement. The type are placed in position and removed by a sliding movement in the type-spaces, the strips 2 being cut away at one end, as shown at 12, a distance equal to the width of a flange 11, so as to admit of the ready insertion and removal of a type when positioned opposite the enlarged space provided by the cut-away portions 12 of the longitudinal strips. The letters or characters are separated by spaces which are constructed in a similar manner to the body of the type and are placed in position in a like way. After the matter to be printed has been placed in position and the type-spaces are nearly filled the key 13 is thrust endwise into the space formed between the plate 1 and strips 2 and fills the space formed between an end bar 3 and the adjacent type, thereby preventing movement of the type toward the enlarged portion of the type-spaces, through which the type are removed and placed in position. For convenience when assembling or removing the type the bed is straightened, the flexibility of the bed admitting of this result.

Cleats 14 are secured transversely to the terminal portions of the bed, preferably by the same fastenings 5, and serve to stiffen and strengthen the stamp and to form convenient means of attachment thereto of the handle-bar 15. Irons 16, of approximately U form, are fitted to the end portions of the cleats 14 and confine rods which are insertible by an endwise movement into spaces formed between said irons and the cleats 14, and which spaces are formed by cutting away the inner upper corners of the said cleats. Strap-irons are secured to the ends of the handle-bar 15, the iron 18 being doubled upon itself and embracing opposite sides of the handle-bar and receiving one of the rods 14 in its fold, thereby constituting a hinge member whereby the handle-bar is hingedly connected to an end portion of the bed. The opposite iron is secured to the handle-bar in a similar manner to the iron 18, and its folded end portion is bent to provide a hook 19 to engage with the rod 17 remote from that receiving the hinge-iron 18. The hook iron or member 19 is adapted to make detachable connection with the rod 17 with which it coöperates, so as to admit of the bed being flattened or straightened out when desired.

When it is required to remove the type previously fitted to the bed, the key 13 is drawn out from one side or the other of the bed, so as to clear the enlarged portion of the

type-spaces, thereby admitting of the type being moved so as to register with the enlarged part of the type-spaces, from which they are removed by lifting, as will be readily understood. The word or matter to be printed is set up by placing one type in position at a time, and after the matter is in place the key 13 is slipped into place to hold the type from casual displacement. The stamp is inked by rocking it upon a suitably-inked pad or surface, and the printing is effected by rocking the stamp on the surface required to receive the label or matter to be imprinted thereon.

Having thus described the invention, what is claimed as new is—

1. In a hand-stamp comprising a flexible bed adapted to be straightened out and formed into a bow, means for holding the bed when bowed, and type removably fitted to the bed, substantially as described.

2. A hand-stamp comprising a flexible bed capable of being straightened out and formed into a bow, type removably fitted to the said bed, and a bar adapted to connect the end portions of the bed when bowed and constituting a handle by means of which the stamp is manipulated, substantially as specified.

3. A hand-stamp comprising a flexible bed provided with type, and a bar hingedly connected at one end to the said bed and provided at its opposite end with a hook to make detachable connection with the corresponding rod of the said bed, substantially as set forth.

4. In a hand-stamp, a flexible bed, transverse cleats secured to the terminal portions of the said bed, rods attached to the said cleats, and a bar hingedly mounted upon one of the said rods and adapted to make detachable connection with the other rod, substantially as set forth.

5. In a hand-stamp, a plate, a series of strips spaced from the plate and from one another to form type-spaces, said strips having corresponding edge portions cut away to enlarge the type-spaces, means for connecting the plate and strips, type removably fitted in the type-spaces through the enlarged part thereof, and a key for holding the type in place when in position, substantially as set forth.

6. In a hand-stamp, a plate, strips spaced from the plate and from one another to form type-spaces, means for connecting the plate and strips, and spacers interposed between the plate and strips comprising cleats having tongues at one end arranged to underlap and overlap one of the parts to which they are fitted, substantially as set forth.

7. In a hand-stamp, a plate, and strips spaced apart, bars placed between the plate and strips, other strips overlapping the longitudinal strips, and means connecting the several strips, bars and plate, substantially as set forth.

8. The herein-described hand-stamp comprising a flexible bed composed of a plate and

a series of longitudinal strips, the latter spaced from one another and from the plate to form type-spaces which are enlarged at one end, end bars placed between the plate and longitudinal strips, terminal cleats, means connecting the cleats, end bars, plate and longitudinal strips, spacers interposed between the said longitudinal strips and plate to preserve a uniform space between them, type removably fitted into the type-spaces and having end flanges to underlap the said longitudinal strips, a key for holding the type in place,

and a handle-bar having hinge connection at one end with a terminal cleat and constructed to make detachable connection at its opposite end with the other terminal cleat, substantially as set forth. 15

In testimony whereof I affix my signature in presence of two witnesses.

JOHN CALVIN JOHNSON.

Witnesses:

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