

No. 821,076.

PATENTED MAY 22, 1906.

C. B. ASKEW.
PRINTING TYPE.

APPLICATION FILED SEPT. 22, 1905.

Fig. 1.

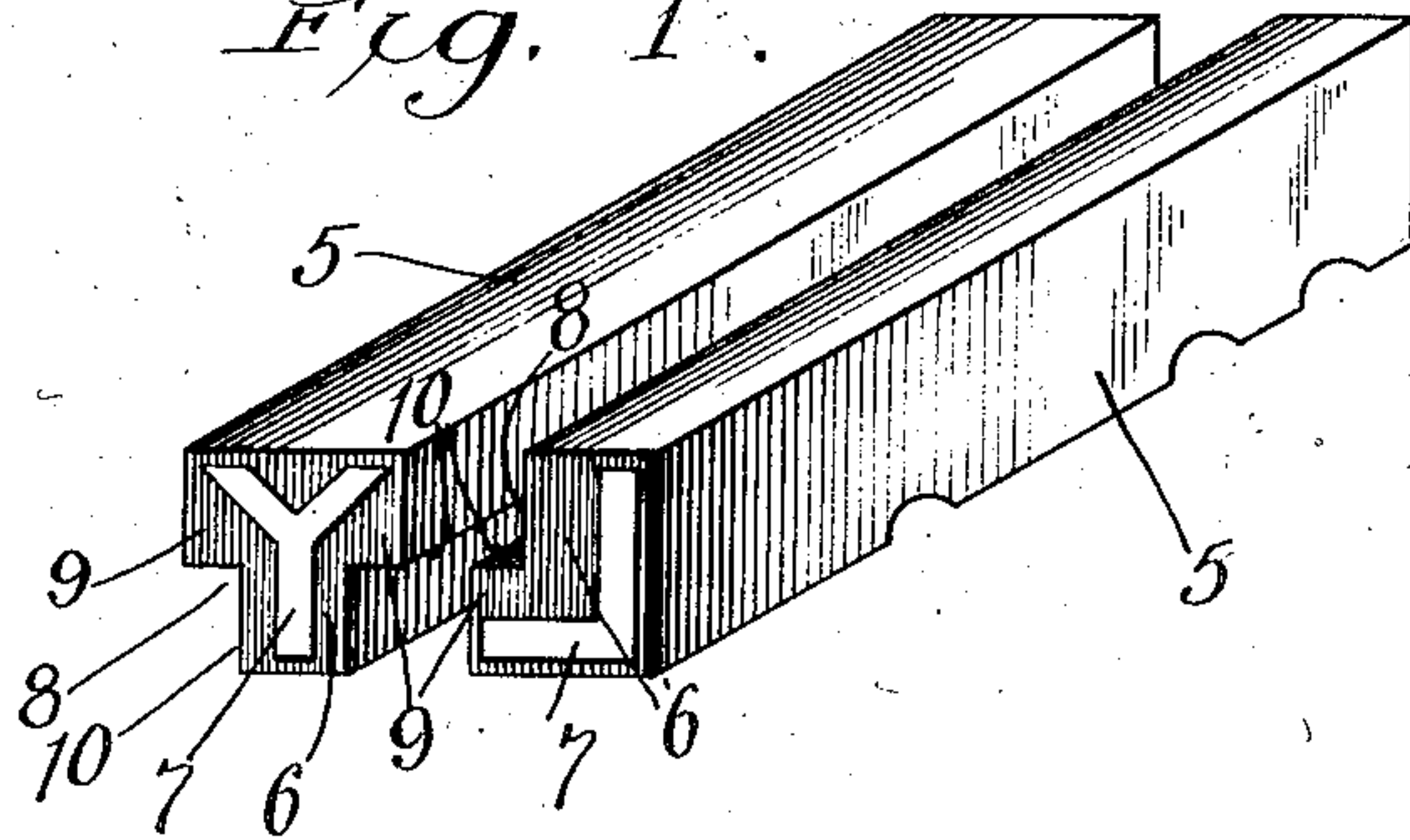


Fig. 2



Fig. 3



Witnesses:

Henry R. Lewhite.
Ray White.

Inventor

Charles B. Askew.

By Josée Dain & May
Attorneys

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

CHARLES B. ASKEW, OF CHICAGO, ILLINOIS.

PRINTING-TYPE.

No. 821,076.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented May 22, 1906.

Application filed September 22, 1905. Serial No. 280,057.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, CHARLES B. ASKEW, a citizen of the United States, residing at Chicago, in the county of Cook and State of Illinois, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Printing-Types, of which the following is a specification.

As commonly constructed, printing-type bodies present in end view straight-parallel side edges separated a distance slightly greater than the maximum width of the character constituting the type-face irrespective of whether the character is vertically balanced or vertically unbalanced. By a "vertically-balanced" character I mean one the top and base or vertical extremities of which are substantially equal in width, (e. g., the letter "B,") while by a "vertically-unbalanced" character I mean one the width of the top of which is greater than the width of its base, (e. g., the letter, "T,") or vice versa, (e. g., the letter "A,") It follows, therefore, that when what I will term a "wide-top" letter, such as said letter "T," appears in print in immediate proximity to a "wide-base" letter, such as the letter "A," the faces of the types and said letters when printed are separated both at the top and the base by a distance much greater than that separating the nearest or approximate points of the characters borne by any other combination of vertically balanced or unbalanced types. Such undue separation of the nearest points of adjacent letters which are respectively wide-topped and wide-based produces very inartistic results and is found very annoying in many forms of printing, as the bolder the display the more pronounced the split or separated effect becomes.

My invention has for its object to provide types which will overcome the difficulty above mentioned and insure that the grouping of vertically-unbalanced letters shall be artistically correct.

To this end my invention consists in reducing the width of the type-body in the vertical area corresponding with the reduced portion of the vertically-unbalanced character and in so shaping the vertically-unbalanced types that wide-top types and wide-base types are adapted to operatively interfit to bring their faces into sufficiently close proximity for artistic effect. It will be understood that vertically-balanced types are

not changed in construction under my invention.

My invention also consists in the features of construction and arrangement hereinafter more fully described and which are made the subject of claims.

In the drawings, Figure 1 is an isometric perspective of two types having vertically-unbalanced faces constructed in accordance with my invention. Fig. 2 is a face view of a type impression taken from type made in accordance with my invention, showing in dotted lines the outline of the type-body from which the impression is taken; and Fig. 3 is a similar view of a similar impression taken from types as ordinarily constructed and showing in dotted lines the outlines of such ordinary type-bodies.

Throughout the drawings like numerals of reference refer always to like parts.

In the drawings, 5 5 indicate the bodies of the type, 6 6 their face ends, and 7 7 their faces or the raised portions thereof representing the characters to be printed by the type.

The style of type which I have shown in Fig. 1 is adapted for vertical printing, and consequently in vertically-balanced type; (which are not changed in construction under the teachings of my invention,) the side edges of the type are at right angles to the top and bottom edges; but it will be apparent that the teachings of my invention are applicable as well to types bearing italics, script, or other slanting characters, the side edges of which type are at corresponding angles to the type-bases.

In accordance with my invention each of the vertically-unbalanced types has a portion of its body cut away longitudinally of the type, so that at the end of the type a recess 8 appears in the portion of the type left vacant by the narrower portion of the type-face, said recess being vertically limited by the part 9, which for convenience I will term a "projection," though it is only a part of the normal width of the type. The recesses 8 at the bases of those type which are wide-topped and the corresponding recesses at the tops of the types which are wide-based are so relatively proportioned that the projection 9 of each unbalanced type may interfit in the recesses 8 of the oppositely-unbalanced type. Preferably each recess 8 is so formed that the

shoulder 10, forming the vertical boundary of the recess, is parallel to the top and bottom edges of the type and is located midway between said edges, while the side surface of the recess is parallel to the side edge of the type end. The recesses in all of the types are preferably of equal width, and it follows, therefore, that when a series of type constructed in accordance with my invention are assembled, as best indicated in Fig. 2, where vertically-unbalanced type, such as the letters "L" and "Y" are arranged side by side, the projecting portion 9 of one unbalanced type interfits into the recess 8 of the adjacent oppositely-unbalanced type, so that the faces of the type are brought into proper proximity to secure an artistic effect in the printing. It is further to be noted that the cutting away of the types to form the recesses 8 in no way affects their general utility, as sufficient of the normal side surface of the type is always left to enable it to be used like any ordinary type in association with balanced types presenting their normal side faces—as, for example, where the letters "T" and "E" are arranged in proximity in Fig. 2—or with an unbalanced type having a projection facing that of the first-mentioned type—as, for example, where letters "L" and "A" are side by side in Fig. 2. It follows, therefore, that types constructed in accordance with my invention may be used wherever ordinary types may be used and in no way change ordinary composition, except that they secure the proper relative positioning of oppositely-unbalanced faces or characters.

It will be apparent that numerous slight

changes in the exact construction of the type might be made without departing from the spirit and scope of my invention.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim, and desire to secure by Letters Patent of the United States, is—

1. Printing-type adapted to be set side by side in line and bearing vertically-unbalanced faces, each of said vertically-unbalanced type having its body diminished in width at the portion corresponding to the narrow portion of the type-face, and of suitable vertical extent to receive the undiminished portion of an oppositely-unbalanced type, whereby the type-faces, oppositely unbalanced, may be brought into artistic proximity when said type are placed side by side.

2. Vertically-unbalanced printing-type, each having a recess made in the side face of its body, corresponding in vertical position with the narrower portion of the unbalanced type-face, and of vertical extent equal to or greater than the undiminished portion of an oppositely-unbalanced type.

3. Vertically-unbalanced type having recesses formed therein extending into the side of each type-body along the edge thereof corresponding with the minimum width of the type-face, the recesses in the "wide-top" types being adapted to interfit with the undiminished portions of the "wide-base" types.

In testimony whereof I hereunto set my hand in the presence of two witnesses.

CHARLES B. ASKEW.

In presence of—

GEO. T. MAY, Jr.,

MARY F. ALLEN.