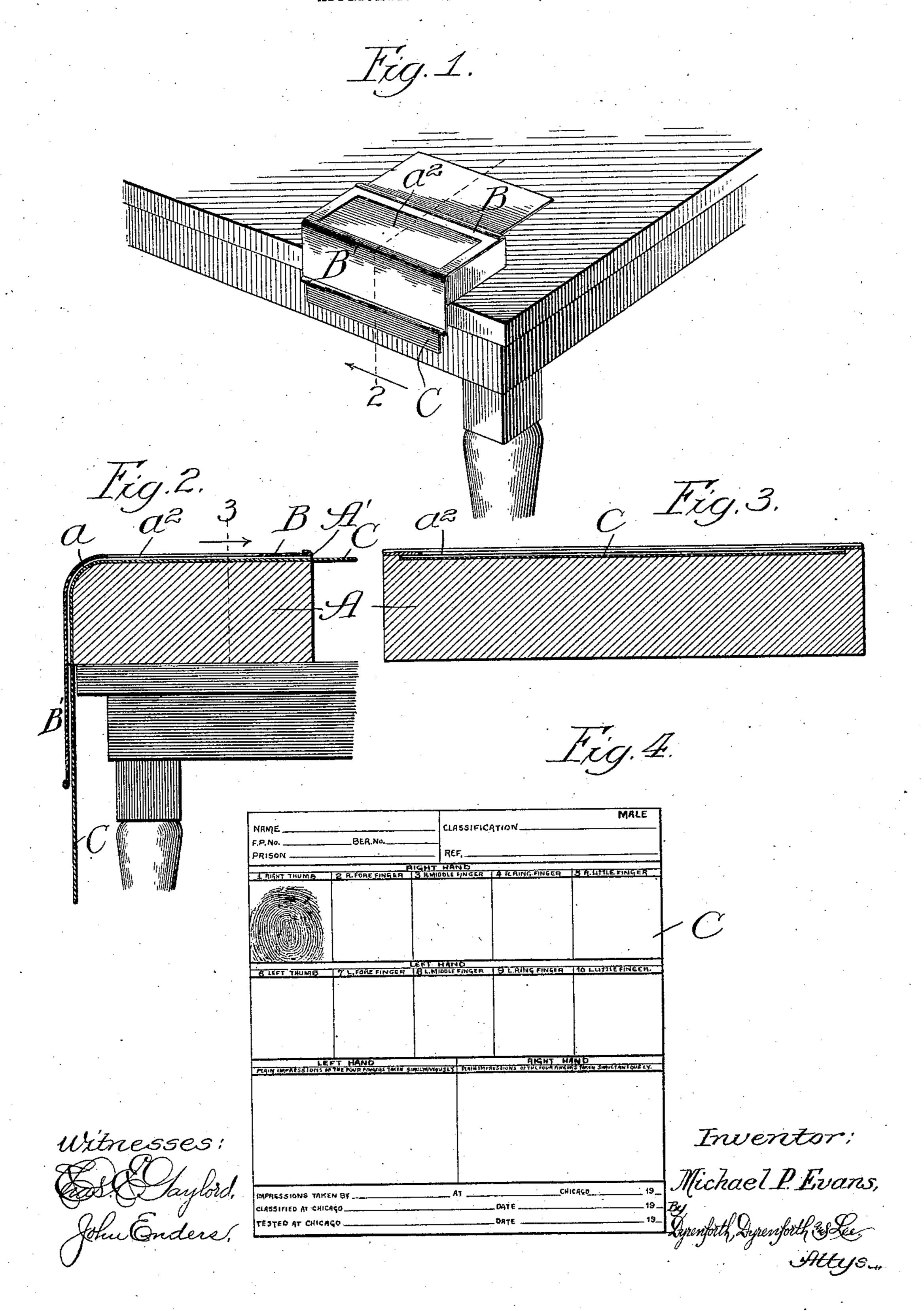
M. P. EVANS. FINGER PRINT REGISTERING DEVICE. APPLICATION FILED DEC. 16, 1906.



UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

MICHAEL P. EVANS, OF CHICAGO, ILLINOIS, ASSIGNOR TO SHARP & SMITH, OF CHICAGO, ILLINOIS, A CORPORATION OF ILLINOIS.

FINGER-PRINT-REGISTERING DEVICE.

No. 845,624.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Feb. 26, 1907.

Application filed December 16, 1905. Serial No. 292,096.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, MICHAEL P. EVANS, a citizen of the United States, residing at Chicago, in the county of Cook and State of 5 Illinois, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Finger-Print-Registering Devices, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to a device for receiv-10 ing and registering the impression of fingertips intended for preservation in connection with the so-called "Bertillon" system of identification. Heretofore in taking such imprints it has been the practice to lay the 15 sheet upon a table and to hold it while the imprint is being made. This practice has resulted oftentimes in producing an identification-sheet the usefulness of which as a record was more or less impaired by reason of 20 its becoming soiled and rumpled and because there was no regularity in location of the impression.

My object is to overcome these objections, and I accomplish it by providing a device for 25 releasably holding an impression-receiving sheet of paper or other suitable material in position with a portion only of its surface exposed while the imprint is being made upon it; and it consists more particularly in the 30 construction and arrangement hereinafter more specifically described.

Figure 1 is a perspective view of my fingerprint-registering device with a sheet of recording material positioned therein, showing the 35 device on a table-top in position for use; Fig. 2, a section taken through the device at the line 2 on Fig. 1 and viewed in the direction of the arrow; Fig. 3, a section taken at the line 3 on Fig. 2 and viewed in the direction of the 40 arrow; and Fig. 4, a plan view of a card adapted to be used with my device and of the form generally used for receiving finger imprints, the card being lined to provide spaces for receiving the imprints and containing descrip-45 tive printing matter relating to the record.

A is a block of wood or other suitable material forming a base, having a rounded upper front edge a, the top and outer side of the block being recessed, as shown, to present a 50 continuous channel A' between the front and top surfaces of the block and a strip or sheet. B of metal or other suitable material constituting a frame secured to the top of the block and forming the upper wall or covering

of the channel. The strip B is preferably 55 shaped to correspond to the contour of the top and front side of the block A and extend below it to furnish a shield B' along the front side of the block for protecting, as from soiling, a sheet C of paper or other suitable ma- 60 terial forming an impression-receiving sheet inserted in the channel A' and adapted to receive the impressions. The strip A is provided with an opening a^2 opposite the recess in the upper side of the block A, through 65 which the sheet of paper C is exposed to permit of imprints being made upon it. The length of the aperture a^2 approximates the width of the sheet C, while the measurement of the aperture in the other direction is such, 70 by preference, as to permit only so much of the sheet to be exposed as is required for the

imprint. The sheet upon which the impressions are

to be made is inserted into the channel A' at 75 the back of the shield B' and is drawn to a position in the channel in which the space in the paper for the first imprints is exposed through the opening a^2 , as shown in Fig. 1, in which position the sheet is held with sufficient 80 firmness while the finger-tip imprint is being made, the shield serving to afford a rest for the hand and a protection to the sheet from soiling. When the first line of spaces is filled, the sheet is drawn through the channel until 85 the next line of spaces is exposed through the opening a^2 , when the imprinting operation may be repeated. This operation is repeated as frequently as a new line of imprints is to be made, after which the sheet 90 with accurate imprints thereon may be withdrawn from the channel at the back of the block A in a clean and unrumpled condition to constitute a permanent register of the finger imprints made as described.

It will be understood that the arrangement of spacing on the register-sheet is subject to modification to suit specific requirements, and it will also be understood that the sheet may be arranged as a registry of finger- 100 prints of various persons in series, instead of each sheet serving as a single register. In this case the sheet may constitute a part of a roll without in any material manner affecting the usefulness of the sheet-holder in 105 the particulars above described.

While the device is especially adapted for finger-tip imprints, its use is not limited to this purpose, as it may be used, for instance, where the impress of the palm of the hand or other like imprints are desired, the device being made of a size suiting it to its intended use.

What I claim as new, and desire to secure

by Letters Patent, is—

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In a device as described, a block having extended over its top and one side a shield, said shield having in its top an opening sufficiently large to receive fingers of which

prints are to be taken, said shield extending down over the front side of said block to protect a sheet of paper held between said shield and said block when an impression is to be taken.

MICHAEL P. EVANS.

In presence of— W. B. Davies, J. H. Landis.

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