J. T. HART.

GUIDE-BOARD.

No. 193,405. Patented July 24, 1877.

Fig. 1.

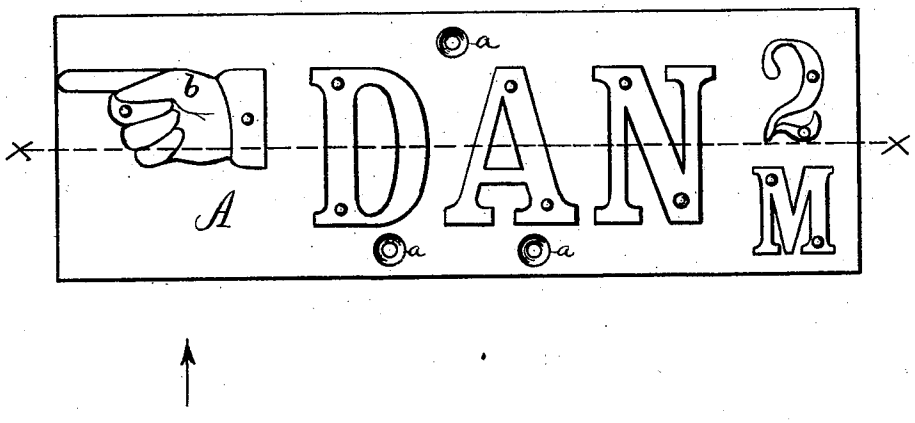
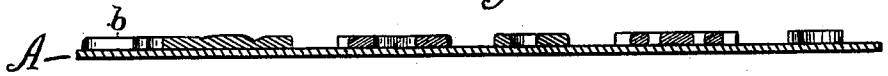


Fig. 2.



Witnesses
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JONATHAN T. HART, OF KENSINGTON, CONNECTICUT, ASSIGNOR TO MOORE MANUFACTURING COMPANY, OF SAME PLACE.

IMPROVEMENT IN GUIDE-BOARDS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **193,405**, dated July 24, 1877; application filed February 17, 1877.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JONATHAN T. HART, of Kensington, in the county of Hartford and State of Connecticut, have invented a new and Improved Guide-Board, of which the following is a specification:

My invention consists of the improved guide-board composed of an iron-plate backing, having an even front face, in combination with cast-iron letters and characters having flat backs, and secured with such backs supported on the iron-plate backing, as hereinafter described.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is a front elevation of a guide-board which embodies my invention, and Fig. 2 is a horizontal section of the same on line *x x* of Fig. 1.

A designates the board proper, which I form of heavy sheet-iron, and well galvanized, so as to be proof against rust or other damaging effect of the weather. Near the middle of its length are screw-holes *a a a*, through which holes screws may be passed for securing the board to a proper upright, of any ordinary construction.

The metal plate A has a flat or even front face, and should be thick enough so that the ends which project beyond the upright will not become either bent or broken by stones or other missiles thrown against it, and it is evident it would not be split; also, when stones and the like strike against the board and glance off, the board will not become marred by indentations, as in a wooden board; neither will its surface become marred by scratches, as in a painted iron board.

The hand or index *b* and the figure and letters I form separately, preferably of cast-iron, making them broad and flat on the back, and rounded on the front. I then coat them with japan, black varnish, or coating of some kind not easily affected by time and weather, and contrasting in color with the board proper.

The hand or index *b*, I form in both rights and lefts, and a number of them, together with the mile figures and letters, may be made and kept in stock.

When a board is to be constructed the proper mile figure or figures, index, and letters are selected, and firmly secured in proper position, with their flat sides on the iron-plate backing, which constitutes the board proper, by means of rivets or small screws, the former being preferred.

If the town lies at the left of where the board is to be set up, then a right-hand index is selected, as shown in the drawing; but if the town lies at the right, then a left-hand index is placed on the board.

By the above construction a very cheap and durable board can be produced.

The cast-iron letters, figures, and index are, when unsupported, quite brittle and fragile; but by being secured with their flat backs resting on and supported throughout by an unyielding backing of wrought-iron, they will not give or move when hit by stones or other missiles thrown against them, and therefore would not be broken thereby, as cast-iron letters supported only by a yielding backing would be when a like blow is received by them.

In my improved guide-board neither the characters nor the boards are liable to be injured by any of the ordinary rough uses to which guide-boards are subjected.

I claim as my invention—

In a guide-board, the iron-plate backing A, having an even front face, in combination with the cast-iron letters and characters having flat backs, the parts secured together with such backs resting on and supported by the solid iron-plate backing, all substantially as described, and for the purpose specified.

JONATHAN T. HART.

Witnesses:

JAMES SHEPARD,

CHARLES E. MITCHELL.