

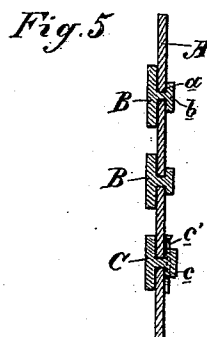
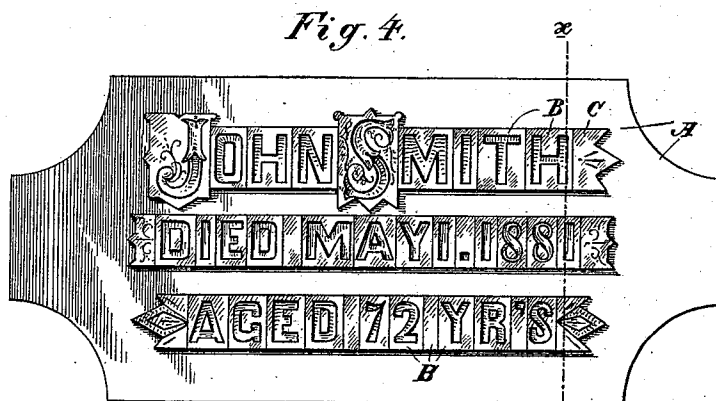
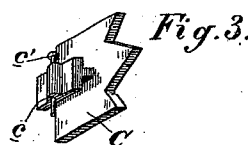
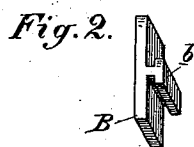
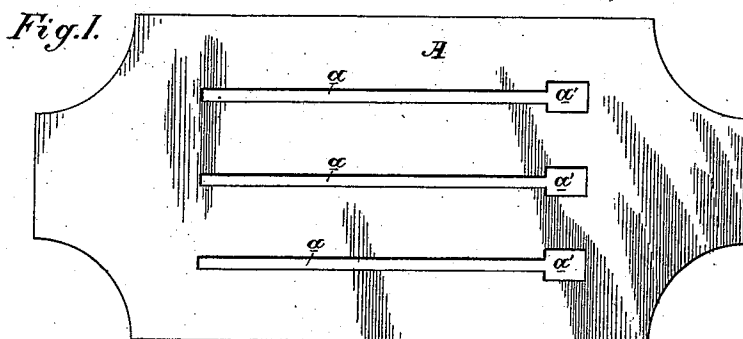
(No Model.)

D. A. BROWN & J. W. ROLLER.

ADJUSTABLE INSCRIPTION FOR NAME PLATES.

No. 355,132.

Patented Dec. 28, 1886.



Witnesses,
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

DAVID A. BROWN AND JOSIAH W. ROLLER, OF SAN FRANCISCO, CAL.

ADJUSTABLE INSCRIPTION FOR NAME-PLATES.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 355,132, dated December 28, 1886.

Application filed October 2, 1886. Serial No. 315,197. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that we, DAVID A. BROWN and JOSIAH W. ROLLER, of the city and county of San Francisco, and State of California, have invented an Improvement in Adjustable Inscriptions for Name-Plates, &c.; and we hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description thereof.

Our invention relates to the class of name or inscription plates; and our invention consists in the slotted plate and the independent separate and movable character and ornament blocks provided with novel shanks or stems, whereby they are fitted to the plate and adjusted and secured in its slot, all of which we shall hereinafter fully describe.

The object of our invention is to provide for the ready preparation of a plate or sign bearing any name or inscription, and it is designed to take the place of engraving on coffin and casket name-plates, door-plates, metal signs, &c.

Referring to the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is a plan of the plate, showing the slots. Fig. 2 is a perspective view of one of the adjustable blocks. Fig. 3 is a view of one of the ornament-blocks. Fig. 4 is a plan of the completed name-plate. Fig. 5 is a cross-section on the line *x x*, Fig. 4.

A is the plate, of any suitable size, shape, and material. Through it are made slots *a* in any suitable number, according to the requirements of the inscription. At the end of each slot is made an enlargement, *a'*.

B are the independent separate character-blocks, each block having delineated upon it in any suitable manner a letter, figure, design, ornament, or other character, and these may be plain, ornamental, embossed, &c., and of any suitable material, silver or gold, plated, oxidized, nickel, &c. Each block, as shown in Fig. 2, has on its back a T-shaped stem or shank, *b*. The head of this stem is small enough to pass through the enlargement *a'* at the end of the slot *a* of the plate, but too large for the slot itself.

In fitting the blocks to the plate each is taken in such order as the inscription requires, and the head of its stem is passed through the enlargement *a'*. It is then slipped along the neck of the stem, traveling in the slot *a* up to its proper place. Each row of blocks is finished,

or both commenced and finished by an ornament-block such as is represented in Fig. 3 by C. These blocks are of the same general construction as the others, having similar T-shaped shanks or stems, and they serve several purposes. They provide for a good appearance, giving a finished look to the name or inscription. They serve, also, to adjust or center the whole row, and they cover the ends of the slot; but one of their chief uses lies in their function as clamps. These blocks, as shown in Fig. 3, have made through the heads of their shanks or stems a hole, *c*, through which is passed a pin, *c'*, (shown in Fig. 5,) which binds them to their places. Thus, after centering or properly adjusting all the blocks, the whole row is held in place by the binding-pins *c'* in the ornament-blocks C.

It will readily be seen that by having a number of character or ornament blocks on hand any suitable name or inscription plate may be quickly and easily prepared, adapting the invention particularly for use where there are no engravers, and providing especially for the exigencies of country and village undertakers and sign-makers.

It is obvious that we need not confine ourselves exclusively to the formation of an enlargement, *a'*, in the end of the slot *a* of the plate, for we may make these slots with no enlargements whatever, providing for the insertion of the blocks by arranging the heads of their stems in such manner that they will, when the blocks are turned to a given position, pass through the slot, and then engage it at right angles when the blocks are turned back to proper position.

Having thus described our invention, what we claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. The slotted plate A, in combination with the independent separate movable character-blocks B, having T-shaped stems or shanks *b*, passing through and engaging the slots of the plate, whereby the blocks are secured to said plate, substantially as described.

2. The plate A, having the slot or slots *a*, provided with enlargement *a'*, in combination with the independent separate movable character-blocks B, having T-shaped stems or shanks *b*, adapted to pass through the enlargement *a'*, whereby the blocks may be moved to position,

the neck of their stems or shanks sliding in the slot, while the heads of said stems or shanks engage the plate and hold the blocks thereto, substantially as described.

5 3. The slotted plate A, in combination with the independent separate movable character-blocks B, having T-shaped stems or shanks *b*, engaging the slotted plate and holding the blocks thereto, and the ornament-blocks C at
10 the end or ends, having similar stems or shanks similarly engaging the plate, substantially as described.

15 4. The slotted plate A, in combination with the independent separate movable character-blocks B, having T-shaped stems or shanks *b*, engaging the slotted plate and holding the blocks thereto, and the ornament-blocks C at the end or ends, having T-shaped perforated shanks or stems engaging the slotted plate, and

pins *c*, passing through said stems and binding 20 the blocks, substantially as described.

5. A name or inscription plate, sign, &c., comprising the plate A, having slots *a*, with enlargements *a'*, the independent separate and movable character-blocks B, having T-shaped 25 shanks or stems *b*, by which the blocks are secured to the slotted plate, and the ornament-blocks C at the end or ends, having T-shaped perforated stems and pins passing through said stems, whereby the blocks are bound to the 30 plate, substantially as described.

In witness whereof we have hereunto set our hands.

DAVID A. BROWN.
JOSIAH W. ROLLER.

Witnesses:

S. H. NOURSE,
H. C. LEE.