No. 800,721. PATENTED OCT. 3, 1905.

A. P. COOLIDGE.

BUILDING BLOCKS.

APPLICATION FILED JUNE 3, 1905.

Fig 1

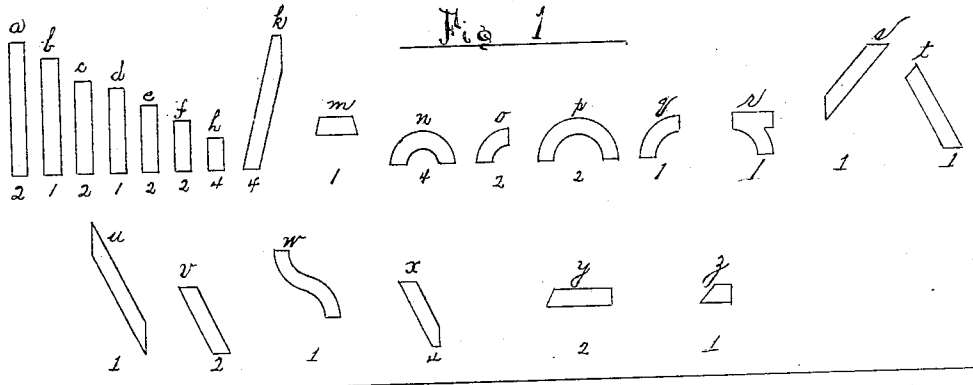


Fig 2



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BUILDING-BLOCKS.

No. 800,721. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Oct. 3, 1905.

Application filed June 3, 1905. Serial No. 263,597.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ANDREW P. COOLIDGE, a citizen of the United States, residing at Helena, in the county of Phillips and State of Arkansas, have invented new and useful Improvements in Building-Blocks, of which the following is a specification.

My invention consists of twenty-two geometrically-shaped blocks for the purpose of building words, figures, and sentences. These blocks may be termed "educational blocks," and they serve the double purpose of aiding the child to construct and learn its letters and figures and as it advances to construct words and sentences. These twenty-two blocks are all the blocks that are necessary to be used in the construction of any letter or figure in the English language. I do not mean to say that the twenty-two blocks of themselves will be sufficient to construct the entire alphabet at one time; but I mean to say that it is only necessary to have the twenty-two shapes shown in the drawings.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 shows the shapes of the twenty-two blocks. Fig. 2 shows the alphabet and the characters "&, $, ¢," and figures from "1" to "9," inclusive.

The said twenty-two blocks are lettered, as shown in Fig. 1, the first block being lettered *a*, the next *b*, then follows *c*, *d*, *e*, *f*, *h*, *k*, *m*, *n*, *o*, *p*, *q*, *r*, *s*, *t*, *u*, *v*, *w*, *x*, *y*, *z*, respectively.

In making up the block letters, characters, and figures, as shown in Fig. 2, "A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z & $ ¢ 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9," building only three or four letters at a time, it is only necessary to have blocks made as follows: Two of *a*, one of *b*, two of *c*, one of *d*, two of *e*, two of *f*, four of *h*, four of *k*, one of *m*, four of *n*, two of *o*, two of *p*, one of *q*, one of *r*, one of *s*, one of *t*, one of *u*, two of *v*, one of *w*, four of *x*, two of *y*, one of *z*, making a total of forty-two in all, and in making the set for the market I usually make that number of blocks, because with these blocks and that number thereof the entire alphabet, characters, and figures shown in Fig. 2 may be made; but if it is desirable to have the whole alphabet, characters, and figures produced at once the number of blocks must be increased accordingly. For instance, the block *a* will be used in "B D E F H I K L N P R S ¢ 4," the block *b* will be used in "L T 1," block *c* will be used in "J U," block *d* in "L T," block *e* in "D E F Y R Y O," block *f* in "C J H O Q 2 5," block *h* in "B D E F P R 2 5," block *k* in "A M V W," block *m* in "A," block *n* in "B P R S & $ 2 3 5 6 8 9," block *o* in "D 3 6 9," block *p* in "C G J O Q U $ ¢," block *q* in "G Q," block *r* in "G Q," block *s* in "K 4," block *t* in "K," block *u* in "N," block *v* in "R Z & 7," block *w* in "S 2 5," block *x* in "X Y," block *y* in "Z 7," block *z* in "& 1." This, however, does not include the entire scope in my invention. I can make several small letters by the use of the above blocks, also several unique and odd figures or representations. For instance, I can make the small letter "b" by the use of blocks *c*, *p*, *q*, *z*. To form the small letter "d," the same blocks are used, but simply turned over. To form the small letter "r," use blocks *r* and *h*.

The blocks used in my invention, as shown in Fig. 1, are geometrically described as follows: Blocks *a*, *b*, *c*, *d*, *e*, *f*, *h*, are rectangular oblong blocks, *k* and *x* are rhomboid-shaped blocks with one corner cut away, *m*, *s*, and *t* are frustums of pyramids, *s* and *t*, however, are not resting on their bases, *n* and *p* are semicircles, *r* is an irregular block representing the tail of a "Q," *u* and *v* are rhomboids, *w* is an S-shaped block, and *y* and *z* are trapezoids.

Having described my invention, what I claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. A set of geometrically-shaped blocks, seven of which, *a*, *b*, *c*, *d*, *e*, *f*, *h*, are rectangular oblong blocks; two of which *k* and *x*, are rhomboid-shaped blocks with one corner cut away; three of which, *m*, *s*, *t*, are frustums of pyramids; two of which, *n* and *p*, are semicircles; two of which, *o* and *q*, quarter-circles; one of which, *r*, is an irregular block representing the tail of a "Q"; two *u* and *v*, are rhomboids; one of which, *w*, is an S-shaped block, and two of which, *y* and *z*, are trapezoids, said blocks adapted to be arranged so as to form any of the block-letters

of the English alphabet, together with the characters, "&, $, ¢," and figures "1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9," substantially as shown and described and for the purposes set forth.

2. A group of twenty-two differently-shaped blocks, adapted to be arranged to form any of the letters, figures, and the characters, "&, $, ¢," used in the English language, substantially as shown and described and for the purposes set forth.

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

ANDREW P. COOLIDGE.

Witnesses:

ROBERT GORDON, Jr.,

LEONARD FREEMAN.