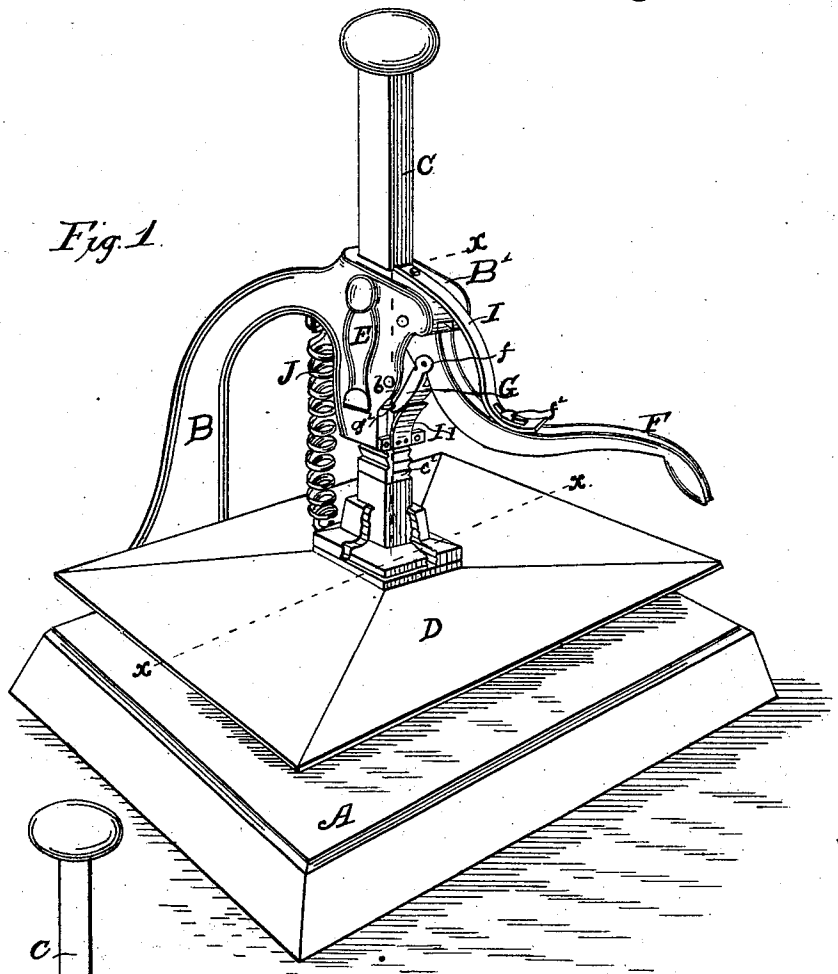
(No Model.)

A. VEILLEUX & W. BENINGTON.

LETTER PRESS.

No. 347,536. Patented Aug. 17, 1886.

Fig. 1.



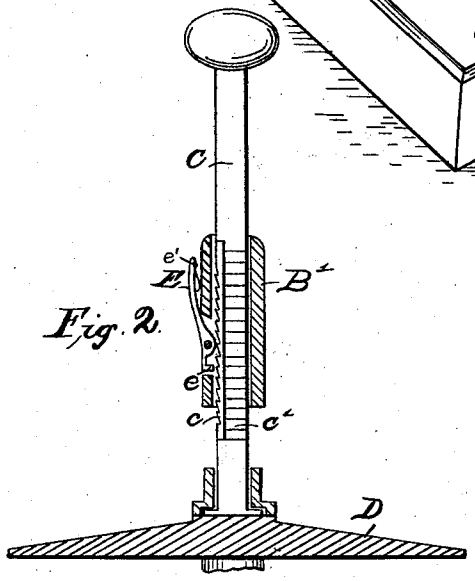


Fig. 2.

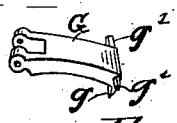


Fig. 3.

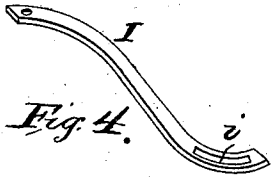


Fig. 4.

Witnesses

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ANSELM VEILLEUX AND WALTER BENINGTON, OF STILLWATER, MINN., ASSIGNORS OF ONE-THIRD TO CHARLES G. SHEPARD, OF SAME PLACE.

LETTER-PRESS.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 347,536, dated August 17, 1886.

Application filed April 29, 1886. Serial No. 200,301. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that we, ANSELM VEILLEUX and WALTER BENINGTON, citizens of the United States, residing at Stillwater, in the county of Washington and State of Minnesota, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Letter-Presses; and we do declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and to the letters and figures of reference marked thereon, which form a part of this specification.

Our invention relates to letter-presses. It pertains particularly to the means for feeding the movable plate, whereby the same may be readily and quickly moved and be positively held when adjusted to an operative position.

It consists in the novel features more particularly hereinafter set forth and claimed, and shown in the annexed drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a perspective view, with parts broken away, of a press of our construction provided with our improvements. Fig. 2 is a section on the line *x x* of Fig. 1. Fig 3 is a perspective detail view, on an enlarged scale, of a pawl for operating the stem of the movable plate. Fig. 4 is a perspective detail view of the spring for returning the operating-lever to a normal position.

The base or bed A of the press is provided with an overhanging arm, B, having a vertically-apertured head, B′, through which a rod or stem, C, carrying the movable plate D, works. The lower portion of this stem or rod is provided with ratchet-teeth *c c′*, preferably on two sides. A retaining-pawl, E, pivoted to one side of the head B′, has one end provided with a tooth or teeth, *e*, which project through the side of the head and engage the teeth on one side of the bar, so as to hold the plate against vertical displacement till the pawl shall have been disengaged from the bar. A lever, F, pivoted at its inner end to a side of the head having a seat, *f*, on its under side, near its fulcrum, has one end of a pawl, G, seated therein and secured in place by a rule-joint. The other end of the pawl is bent to one side to engage the remaining ratcheted side *c′*. Spring H presses the free or bent end *g* of the pawl close to the bar. Lugs *g′*, projecting laterally from the bent end of the pawl, engage and ride cams or inclines *b*, extending from the lower portion of the tubular head, and disengage the bent end of the pawl from the teeth on the bar when the lever is at its highest point. Spring I, fastened to the head at one end and provided with slot *i* at its other end, is connected with the lever F by a turn-button, *f′*, working in the slot. The head of the turn-button projecting on each side of the slot engages the spring, which, exerting an upward force, elevates the lever when released after being depressed. By pressing on the outer end of the pawl E it is disengaged from the stem of the movable plate, which latter is free to be moved into any desired position or elevation by raising or lowering the bar, which is free to be moved within the head. The plate being adjusted, is held in such position by the pawl E, which, being released, is caused to engage the bar by a spring, *e′*, forcing outward on its upper end. A further downward adjustment may be had by pressing down on the outer end of the lever F, carrying with it the pawl G, which, riding down the incline, contacts with one of the teeth, *c′*, on the bar. During this adjustment the pawl E rides the teeth and engages the next higher. By this positive connection the plate is prevented from accidental vertical displacement, so common in ordinary screw-presses. By pressing in on the outer end of the pawl E the plate may be elevated, either mechanically or by hand. In the former instance it may be done by a spring, J, suitably interposed between the plate and arm. The arm B may be continued across and attached to the opposite side of the bed in the usual manner, in which case the pawl E would be on one side and the lever F on the opposite side. Such construction would involve no departure from the spirit of our invention.

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

1. A letter-press consisting of the following elements in combination: a bed, an overhanging arm having a vertical aperture, a bar provided with teeth and movable through said aperture, a retaining-pawl, an operating-lever,

a pawl intermediate the lever and bar, and a plate carried by the bar, substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

2. The combination, with the bed and overhanging arm vertically apertured, of a bar provided with teeth working through said aperture, an operating-lever, a retaining-pawl, a second pawl intermediate the lever and bar and contacting with the latter at each downward stroke of the lever only, a lifting-spring connected with the lever, and a plate connected with the lower end of the bar.

3. The combination of the bed, the overhanging arm vertically apertured, a ratchet-bar working through said aperture, a retaining-pawl, a lever, a pawl pivotally connected with the lever and having lateral extensions, and inclined planes secured to the arm to contact with the lateral extensions of the pawls, whereby the latter is freed of the ratchet-bar at each upward stroke of the lever, substantially as set forth.

In testimony whereof we affix our signatures in presence of two witnesses.

ANSELM VEILLEUX.
WALTER BENINGTON.

Witnesses:
A. E. MACARTNEY,
W. B. SIMONDS.