(No Model.) 2 Sheets—Sheet 1.

J. A. BURKE.

PRINTER'S BLOCK.

No. 356,866. Patented Feb. 1, 1887.

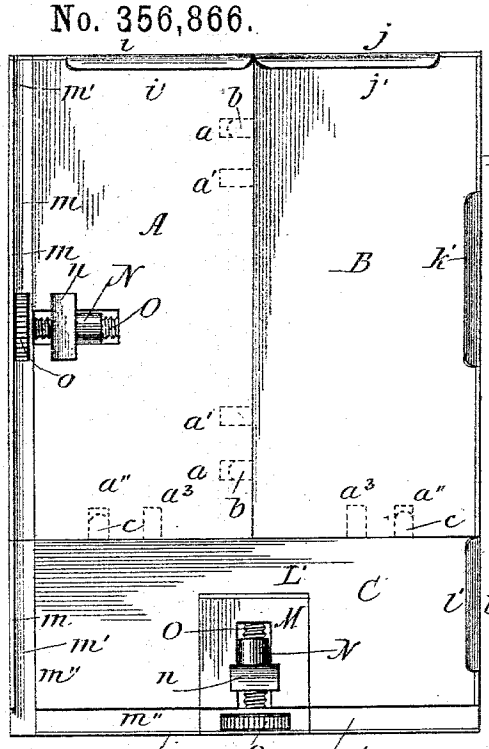


Fig. 1.

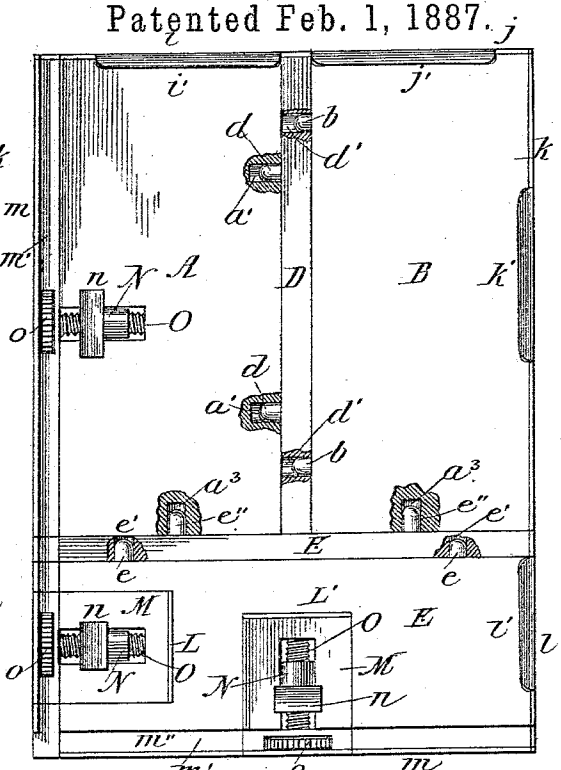


Fig. 2.

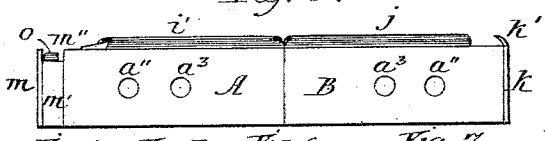


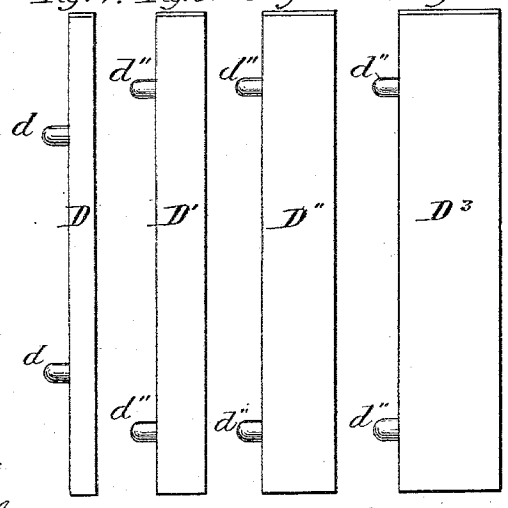
Fig. 3.

Fig. 4.

Fig. 5.

Fig. 6.

Fig. 7.



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(No Model.) 2 Sheets—Sheet 2.

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Fig. 8

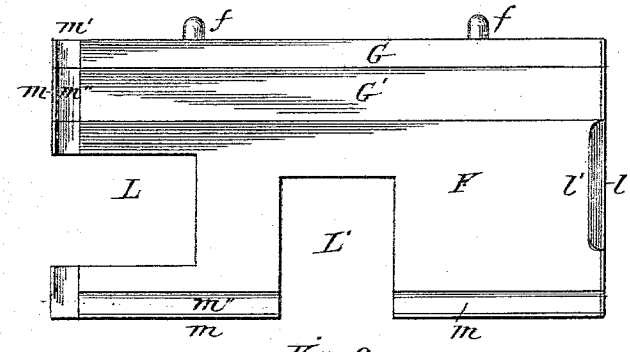


Fig. 9.

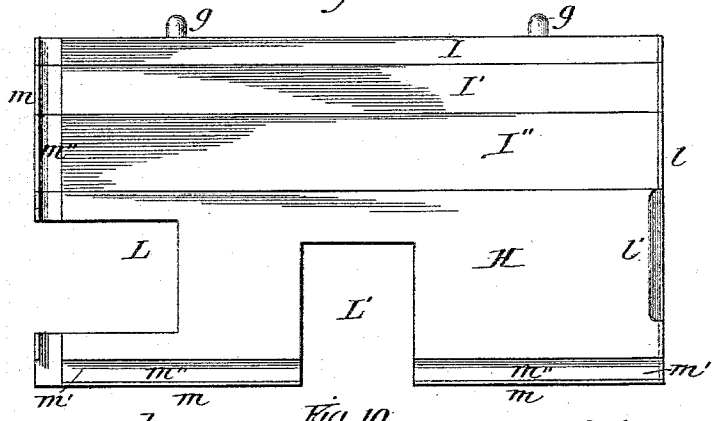
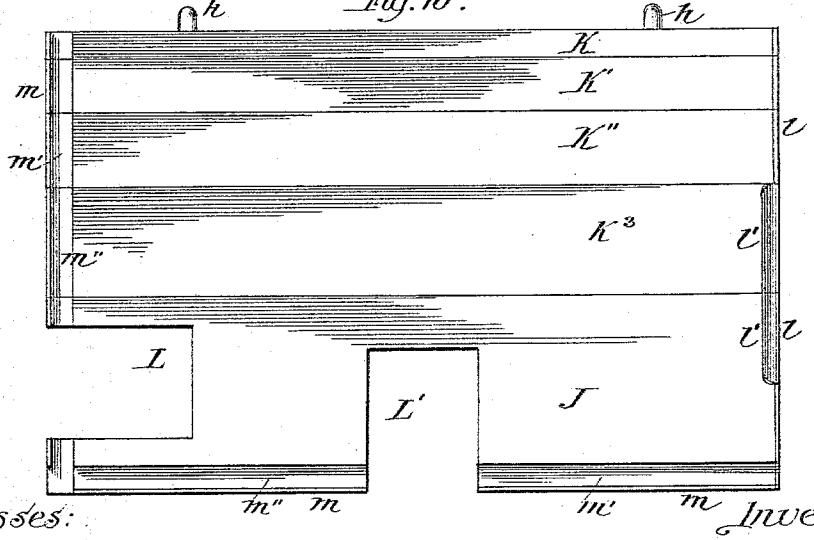


Fig. 10.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JAMES A. BURKE, OF CHICAGO, ILLINOIS, ASSIGNOR TO THE CHICAGO METAL QUOIN AND PATENT BLOCK COMPANY, OF SAME PLACE.

PRINTER'S BLOCK.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 356,866, dated February 1, 1887.

Application filed January 5, 1886. Serial No. 187,731. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JAMES A. BURKE, residing at Chicago, in the county of Cook and State of Illinois, and a citizen of the United States, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Printers' Blocks, of which the following is a full description, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a plan view showing one size of block ready for use; Fig. 2, a plan view showing a block increased in dimensions and ready for use, with the parts broken out to show the holding-pins; Fig. 3, an end elevation, with the end section of the block removed; Figs. 4, 5, 6, and 7, plan views showing the interposed pieces by which the width of the block is increased; Figs. 8, 9, and 10, plan views showing different-sized end sections for increased size of blocks.

This invention has for its objects to furnish a block for the reception of stereotype or other printing or embossing plates made up in sets, so that the smaller plate will have a block adapted to receive it, which block can be increased in size transversely and longitudinally, to adapt it for the reception of plates of different sizes, up to the largest; and its nature consists in the several parts and combinations of parts hereinafter described, and pointed out in the claims as new.

In the drawings, A represents one section of the smaller-sized block, having at one end a metal facing, *i*, with a catch or hook, *i'*, beneath which the edge of the plate can be slipped and held, and having on one of its sides a metal facing, *m*, with an interposed strip, *m'*, between the facing and the block, of a less thickness than the block, so as to leave a groove, *m''*.

B is another section of the block corresponding to the section A, and having at one end a metal facing, *j*, with a hook, *j'*, for the edge of the plate to pass under, and having on one side a metal facing, *k*, with a hook, *k'*, to receive the edge of the plate, the sections A B, as shown, being of a corresponding width and length. As shown, the inner edge of the block B is provided with pins *b*, and the inner edge of the block A is provided with holes *a*, to receive the pins *b* and lock the two blocks A B together at their adjoining edges, and the edge of A is also provided with holes *a'*, in line with the holes *a*. (Shown in Fig. 1.) The end face of each block A B, which receives the end section of the complete block, is provided with holes *a''* and a^3, as shown in Fig. 3.

C is the end section for completing a block of the smaller size, as shown in Fig. 1. One side of this block is provided with a metal facing, *l*, and a hook, *l'*, corresponding to the facing and hook of the section B, and the other side is provided with a metal facing, *m*, and an interposed strip, *m'*, corresponding to the facing and strip of the section A and arranged to leave a groove to coincide with the groove *m''* of the section A. The side of the section C which forms the end of the complete block is provided with a facing, *m*, and an interposed strip, *m'*, to leave a groove, *m''*, so that the complete block will have one side and one end similar in construction, and the side of the section C which, when the block is together, lies adjacent to the end of A B is provided with pins *c*, to enter the holes *a''* in the sections A B and attach the end section to the sections A B, to form a block for a small-sized plate, as shown in Fig. 1.

D D' D'' D^3 represent interposing strips to be inserted between the sections A B, to form the width required for blocks of larger size, D forming the width for the first size next to the smaller, and so on, the strips increasing in width up to any desired width of block. The strip D is provided with pins *d*, to enter the holes *a'* of the section A, and with holes *d'*, to receive the pins *b* of the section B and connect the sections and the strip together, and the strips D' D'' D^3 are each provided with pins *d''*, as shown, which pins enter holes to connect each strip with its preceding one, the pins *d''* of the strip D' entering the holes *d'* of the strip D, and the pins *d''* of the strip D'' entering the holes in which the pins *d''* of the strip D' are inserted, and the pins *d''* of the strip D^3 entering the holes of the pins *d''* of the strip D'', and so on.

E is the end section for the block shown of the next size to the smaller. This piece E in length is equal to the width of the sections A B and interposed strip D, and, as shown in

Fig. 2, between it and the sections A B is an interposed strip, E′, the section E having pins *e* on its edge, to enter holes *e′* in the strip E′, and the strip E′ having pins *e″*, to enter the holes a^3, so that the three sections A B E will be locked together to form the complete block, and the block can be increased in length by adding other strips between the section E and the sections A B, such strips having pins and holes corresponding to the pins *e* and holes *e′*.

F represents an end section for a block larger than that having the end section E, and, as shown, this block has interposing strips G G′, to make the length of the block proportionate to the width, and a longer block can be produced of the same width by adding other strips similar to G G′; or the block can be foreshortened in length by removing one or more of the interposed strips. The strip G, as shown, is provided with pins *f*, to enter the holes a^3 of the sections A B, and such strips are provided with pins and holes to attach one to the other, the strip G′ having holes to receive pins on the section F.

H represents an end section for a block larger in size than that formed by the end section F.

I I′ I″ represent interposing strips for making the length of the block formed by the end section H and sections A B proportionate to the width and length of the plate to be secured. The strip I is provided with pins *g*, to enter the holes in the end of the section A B, and the strips I′ and I″ and section H are each provided with pins and holes to interlock the parts together in the manner already described for the other blocks.

J is the end section for a block of a larger size than that formed by the end section H.

K K′ K″ K^3 represent interposing strips between the end section J and sections A B, for making the length of block to receive the plate.

L L′ represent openings in the end sections E, F, H, and J to receive the clamping-blocks. The end section C is provided with the opening L′ only, as only one clamping block and clamp is required for a block of the size shown in Fig. 1, in addition to the clamp carried by the section A.

M represents the blocks carrying the clamp, one being used for the smaller-sized plate and two for the other sizes shown, the blocks being located in the holes L L′, provided therefor in the end sections of the respective blocks.

N is a sleeve having a screw-threaded hole, and provided with a jaw or flange, *n*.

O is a screw passing through the sleeve or slide N, and having its bearings at one end in the end of the block M, and located with the sleeve or slide N in a slot or opening in the block M, so that by turning the screw the sleeve or slide can be advanced or receded to cause the flange or jaw *n* to bite or clamp the plate onto the block. A slide and screw are also provided for the section A of the block, and to complete the blocks of larger size two screws are provided, which screws are interchangeable with the blocks by inserting the blocks M which carry them in the holes L L′ in the respective blocks E, F, H, and J.

The blocks E F H J are each provided with a facing, *l*, and a lip or catch, *l′*, under which the edge of the plate can be inserted, and the ends of these blocks are provided with a groove, *m″*, formed by a facing-strip, *m*, and an interposed piece, *m′*, above the plane of which piece *m′* the toothed wheel *o* projects, so that by means of a rack-faced piece the wheel can be turned to advance or recede the clamp N.

The pins *f* for the strip G of the end section F are at the proper distance apart to enter the holes a^3 of the sections A B, the same as pins *e″* of the end section E, and the same is true of the pins *g* and *h* of the end sections H J, and the interposed strips for these end sections F, H, and J have the pins at one side of the pins *f g h*, and so arranged that the pins of the respective strips will enter the holes in which the pins are inserted of the adjacent strip in the form of construction shown, and this uniformity in locating the pins is for the purpose of facilitating the putting of the strips together, as any strip can be placed in any order desired without particular selection.

In use the small-sized block is formed by placing the sections A B together, the pins *b* entering the holes *a*, and then adding the end section C, the pins *c* entering the holes *a″*, the clamps M of the section A and the screw O being withdrawn to allow the plate to be inserted when these clamps are advanced to hold the plate beneath the lips *n* of the clamps and the lips *i′ j′ k′ l′* of the sections A B C. The block for another size plate is produced by inserting the strip D between the sections A B and then adding the end section E, with the interposed strip E′, or more strips, if a longer block is required, and for this sized block two clamps, N, are provided for the section E, each carried by a block, M, the blocks being inserted in the holes L L′ therefor, and the plate is dropped into position and held beneath the lips *n* of the clamps N and the lips *i′ j′ k′ l′* of the sections A B E. The next block in size is produced by adding the strip D′ to the strip D, between the sections A B, and then adding the end section F, with the strips G G′, a longer block being formed by adding more strips; and the block is completed by taking the blocks M for the section E and placing them in the holes L L′ of the section F, so that a plate can be dropped in position and be held by the lips *n* of the clamps N and the lips *i′ j′ k′ l′* of the sections A B F. The block for the next size is produced by adding the strip D″ to the strips D D′, between the sections A B, and then adding the section H, with the strips I I′ I″, the block being made longer by increasing the number of strips between the sections A B and section H, and being completed by tak-

ing the blocks M and inserting them in the holes L L′ of the section H, so that the plate can be dropped in position and clamped by the lips *n* of the clamps N and the lips *i′ j′ k′ l′* of the sections A B H. The block for the next sized plate is produced by adding the strip D^3 to the strips D D′ D″ between the sections A B and then adding the section J, with the interposed strips K′ K″ K^3, and then inserting the blocks M in the openings L L′ to clamp the plate in position beneath the lips *n* of the clamps N and the lips *i′ j′ k′ l′* of the sections A B J. The blocks for plates of still larger size can be produced by adding more strips between the sections A B and forming an end section correspondingly for the required width produced by the added strips, the end section having holes and interposed strips and receiving the clamp-blocks M, as before described.

It is to be understood that the length of block of the various sizes can be increased or decreased, except as to the smaller block, by adding or removing the interposed strips between the sections A B and the end section; and it will thus be seen that by the use of the sections A B, and the interposing strips therefor, with end sections corresponding to the width of the sections A B and the strips, blocks to receive plates of different sizes can be readily and quickly produced, as all that is necessary to be done is to add between the sections A B the number of interposing strips required for the width of plate, and then add the end section with interposing strips for the length of plate; and it will also be seen that two blocks, M, carrying clamps N, are all that are necessary to go with each set, although any number of blocks M may be provided, if so desired.

The interposing strips to widen the sections A B are each provided with a facing to correspond with the facing *i j* of the sections A B, and the interposing strips between the sections A B and the end sections for blocks of larger size are provided each on one end with a facing-strip to correspond with the facing-strips *k l*, and on the other end with facing-strips to correspond with the facing-strips *m m′*, to leave a groove, *m″*.

What I claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. The combination, with two parallel sections, one the counterpart of the other, except that one is provided with a sliding catch, of an end section having a sliding catch, and interposing strips, for producing receiving-blocks for different sizes of plates, substantially as described.

2. The combination, with the two parallel sections A B and strips placed between said sections, of an end section, strips placed between said parallel and end sections, and blocks M, carrying clamps for enabling blocks for plates of different sizes to be formed and the plates held on said blocks, substantially as described.

3. The combination, with the section A, having edge openings *a a′ a″* a^3, and the section B, having pins *b b′*, of strips placed between said sections and having corresponding pins and openings, an end section having pins on one edge, and a strip placed between said end section and the sections A B and provided with corresponding pins and openings, substantially as described.

4. The combination of the parallel sections A B, one of which is provided with a sliding catch, an end section arranged transversely at one end of said parallel section and provided with a sliding catch, and strips placed between said parallel sections and between the parallel and end sections, said strips and sections being connected by pins and openings for receiving the same, and the several sections being provided with clamping-lips, substantially as described.

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