

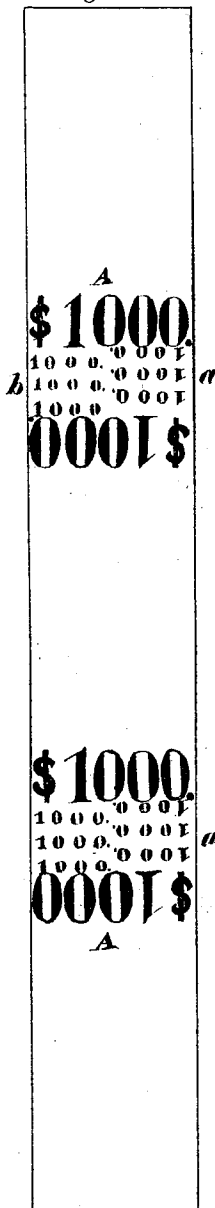
(No Model.)

R. SPURGIN.  
CURRENCY STRAP.

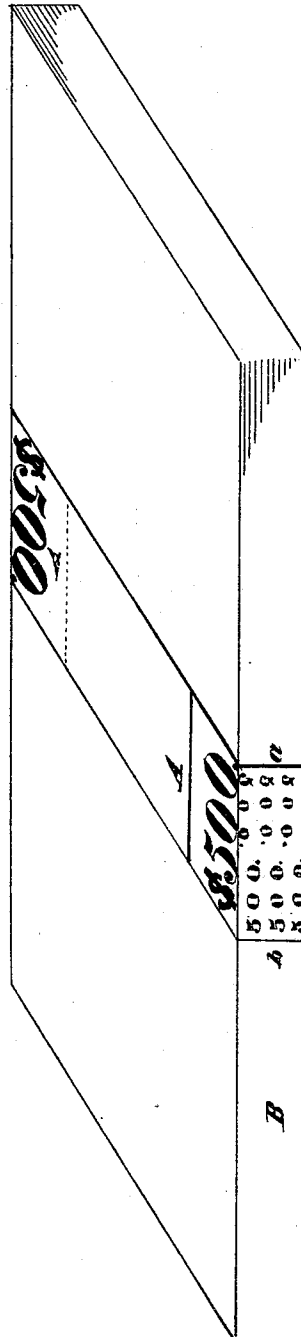
No. 513,211.

Patented Jan. 23, 1894.

*Fig. 1.*



*Fig. 2.*



*Witnesses:*

*Wm. P. Keeler.*

*Alex. C. Biedermay.*

*Inventor:*  
*Robert Spurgin.*

# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ROBERT SPURGIN, OF CHICAGO, ILLINOIS.

## CURRENCY-STRAP.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 513,211, dated January 23, 1894.

Application filed April 20, 1893. Serial No. 471,191. (No model.)

### *To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, ROBERT SPURGIN, a citizen of the United States, residing at Chicago, in the county of Cook and State of Illinois, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Currency-Straps, of which the following is a full and clear specification.

The object of my invention is to provide an additional safeguard against errors and consequent loss in the paying out of packaged currency by persons whose duty it is to handle such, as well as to facilitate their operations.

In many banks and counting-rooms it is customary to put bank bills together in packages of even sums, usually ranging from fifty dollars to one thousand dollars, the amount in each case being designated in print on a paper strap or band passing around the package at or near the middle, and secured at the overlapping end adhesively or otherwise. The packages are then either placed upon edge in a uniform row or arranged one upon another in an even stack; in either case the broad side or face of each package, where the single imprinted designating amount appears, being hidden from view, except, of course, as to the outside package. Packages of like amounts are kept together in separate lots or groups, but in the absence of any designating marks from the edges of the packages, it cannot be determined, without examining each package separately, whether any group contains one or more packages of greater or less amount, which have been placed therein by mistake. My improved currency strap is designed completely to eliminate the risk of overpayment involved in such a method as described and at the same time obviate anxiety or hesitation on the part of any person, while paying out packages of currency hurriedly selected from different groups or lots.

Figure 1 is an improved currency strap of the denomination of one thousand dollars. Fig. 2 represents a package bound with an improved currency strap of the denomination of five hundred dollars.

The chief element involved in the construction of my improved currency strap, lies in the placing of the imprints upon the strap in such a position and so arranged, as that when in practical use, whatever the horizontal ar-

range ment of a number of packages of currency may be; whether on edge, side by side in the form of a rectangle, or placed one above another in a stack, and whether some of the packages be reversed or some inverted, or both, the value of any of them, as indicated by the imprints on the strap, may be known instantly without the necessity of handling them. To accomplish this I imprint upon a strip of paper of suitable length and width, two groups of the designating number required, Fig. 1 A which may vary according to the sums of money customarily packed together in banks and elsewhere; but in any event all the imprints on a single strip are alike in amount. The positions of these groups are determined by the average width of the bills of the several denominations of currency; also the average thickness of the various kinds of packages. In each group of numbers one-half are inverted, and the direct numbers *b* and inverted numbers *a* occupy alternate lines, except as to the terminal numbers in each group, which need not necessarily be arranged in alternation with the intermediate numbers, so that whether a package of currency lie face up or reversed a direct imprint of the designating amount may be seen. I preferably use eight imprint numbers in each group, the terminal ones being much more prominent than the intermediate; as, when the strap is adjusted, the former lie upon the broad side of the package both front and reverse, and are the principal designating numbers. I use preferably six small, intermediate designating numbers, three of which are direct, as hereinbefore described, in order that one direct number, if no more, may fall upon the edge of the thin as well as the bulkier packages of currency, as ordinarily made up, Fig. 2, B. I preferably equally divide the number of intermediate designations into two vertical columns, the direct numbers appearing in one and the inverted in the other on alternate lines, in order to make the direct imprints more readily distinguishable, A *b*, A *a*. The strap, when being manufactured, may be prepared with an adhesive substance at one end, for securing after adjustment to a package, or may be left ungummed to be secured as preferred at the time of using. I

preferably show it in the latter condition. I preferably use the sign for dollars before the terminal numbers in each group, but the word "dollars" or an abbreviation may be used; or, 5 if preferred, no sign, word or abbreviation, but the designating number alone.

The bill band specified in my application for Letters Patent, filed September 21, 1892, Serial No. 446,487, while designed for the same 10 general purpose as the currency strap herein specified is intended to meet other requirements, and the elements of construction in the two are essentially different and the respective claims non-conflicting.

15 Having thus fully described my invention,

what I now claim, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

A currency strap bearing between its horizontal center and either end, a group of alternately direct and inverted like, imprinted 20 designating numbers, so assigned that when the strap is adjusted to a package, a direct designation will fall upon the horizontal edges, the front and the reverse thereof, substantially as described and shown.

ROBERT SPURGIN.

Witnesses:

WM. P. KEELER,  
ALEX. C. BIEDERMAN.