(No Model.)

# J. BLOCHER.

## FEED GUIDE FOR PRINTING PRESSES.

No. 298,164. Patented May 6, 1884.

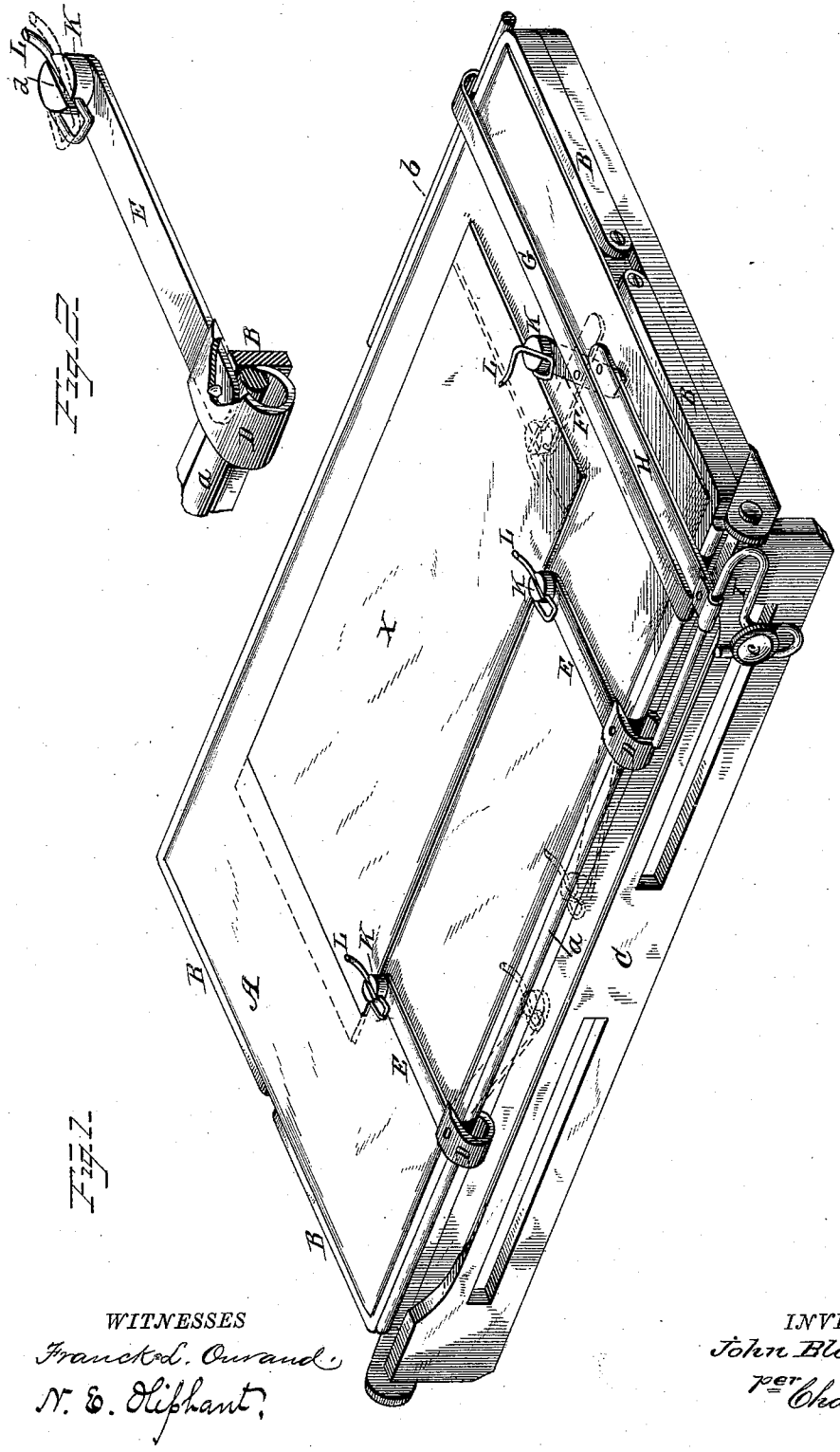

Fig. 2.

Fig. 1.

WITNESSES

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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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## FEED-GUIDE FOR PRINTING-PRESSES.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 298,164, dated May 6, 1884.

Application filed May 21, 1883. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, JOHN BLOCHER, a citizen of the United States, residing at Franklin Grove, in the county of Lee and State of Illinois, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Feed-Guides for Printing-Presses; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description of the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of a platen of a printing-press, showing my invention applied thereto; and Fig. 2, a perspective view, in detail, of one of the bottom guides with the spring-clamp to which it is attached partly broken away.

The present invention has relation to that class of platens for printing-presses provided with adjustable guides for holding the sheet of paper in position to take the impression. It is well known that when printing in colors, in order to secure accurate register of the paper, extreme care is required in feeding it to the platen.

The object of the invention is to provide means whereby this care and nicety in feeding the paper to the platen is rendered unnecessary, which object I attain by the construction substantially as shown in the drawings and hereinafter described and claimed.

In the accompanying drawings, A represents a platen of a printing-press provided with suitable pivoted bands, B, for holding thereon the usual platen-paper, said platen being pivoted in the ordinary manner to the ends of the gripping-finger bar C. These several parts are all of the ordinary construction, and form no part of my invention, other than showing its application to a platen, and also its operation in connection with the gripping-finger bar. The lower or bottom pivoted band B may be cast with or otherwise have connected to it a rod, *a*, and the upper one of the bands a short rod, *b*, the former extending the entire length of the platen, while the latter extends only a portion of its length. The rod *a* is for retaining on the platen suitable metal spring-clamps, D, to the inner sides of which are pivoted the outer ends of arms E of the foot or bottom guides. A shorter but similar arm, F, of the side guide is pivoted near its center to a metal strap, G, extending across the platen A, and having its ends bent to hook under and over the rods *a b*, to retain it in place on the platen, and at the same time admit of its longitudinal adjustment. The outer extremity of the arm F is pivoted to the free or upper end of a bar, H, said bar at its opposite end having an eye to slide on the horizontal portion of a bent rod, I, said rod being adjustably and removably connected to the gripping-finger bar C by a suitable bolt, *c*, or other like means. The arms E are adjustable on the arc of a circle by being pivoted to the spring-clamps D, and are also adjustable lengthwise of the platen by sliding along the rod *a* the clamps, which carry with them the arms, the clamps and arms being also readily removable from the platen when found necessary. The arms E and F, the strap G, and the bar H are all made of spring metal, and especially is this important with the arms of the guides, in order that they shall bear down sufficiently on the platen-paper to retain them in position by frictional contact therewith. The arms E and F are each provided with pivoted gage-heads K, preferably convex on their under side, and connected to the arm just tight enough to keep them in any position the pressman may wish to turn them, in order that the pivoted tongues L at their points may be retained toward the feeder when printing jobs with wide margins, and turned entirely out of the way of the type when printing forms with narrow margins. The gage-heads K have upon their upper side diametrical grooves *d*, as shown more clearly in Fig. 2, these grooves forming seats for the tongues L to retain them in position with relation to the heads, and prevent them from being twisted laterally out of shape. The tongues L are so balanced that when the platen A is in the proper position for feeding, their points will be in an elevated position about a quarter of an inch from the tympan or platen sheets, so that envelopes or other like material may be easily fed under them, and when the impression is being taken they will drop close to the platen, out of the way of the furniture. The employment of the tongues L, and connecting them to the gage-heads K, so as to render them automatic in their action, I consider important as an attach-

ment to the guides, as are also the adjustable heads K, hereinbefore described. The important feature, however, of my invention, or the one I most rely on for the successful operation of the device, is the automatic action of the feed-guide upon the end or side of the platen. This automatic action of the side guide I preferably obtain through the medium of the bar H, connected to the stationary gripping-finger bar C, by a rod or any other suitable fastening.

The paper to take the impression is represented at X, and after being placed upon the platen as the latter is being raised to the form through the action of the bar H, the side guide will automatically assume a position as indicated in dotted lines, Fig. 1, causing the paper X to be accurately placed in registering position to take the impression, as shown in dotted lines. By this automatic adjustment of the paper, as the platen moves up to the form every sheet will register perfectly, whether fed against the guides or not.

The bottom or lower guides need never be removed from the rod *a*, as they do not in the least interfere with the lifting of the pivoted band B when new tympan or platen sheets are required. In order to feed sheets so that their lower edge will extend over the bottom or lower band, B, the bottom guides are swung down, as shown in dotted lines.

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

1. The combination, with a platen of a printing-press, of a side guide adapted to move on the face of the platen toward the center and side thereof, and connected to the gripping-finger bar of the press by mechanism substantially as described, whereby said movement of the guide is rendered automatic, substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

2. The combination, with the platen of a printing-press, of a pivoted side guide and a bar pivoted to the arm of said guide, and also connected to the gripping-finger bar of the press, by means substantially as described, and for the purpose specified.

3. The combination, with a pivoted side guide and a bar pivoted to the arm thereof, and connected to the gripping-finger bar of the press, of bottom guides the arms of which are pivoted to spring-clamps adjustable upon a rod on the lower band of the platen, substantially as and for the purpose described.

4. The side and bottom guides for a printing-press, provided with adjustable gage-heads carrying suitable tongues pivoted thereto, substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

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