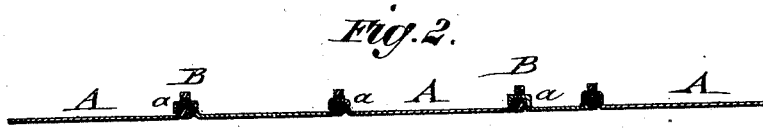
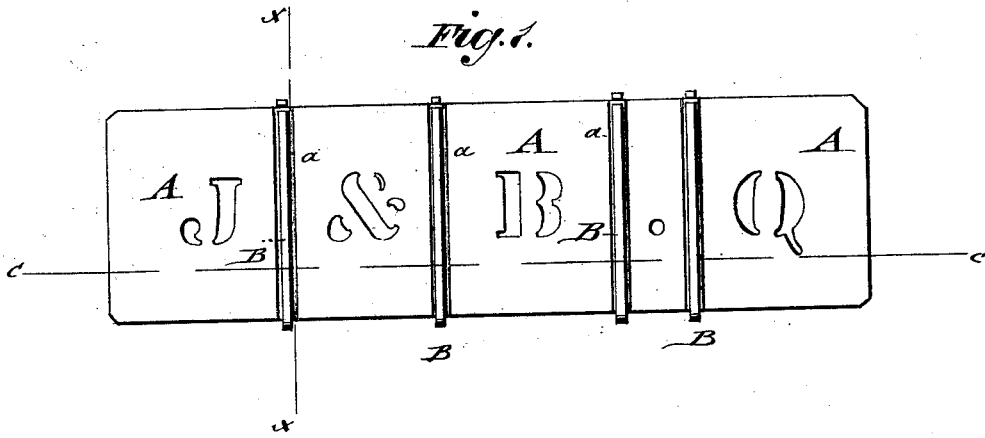


W. M. KELLIE.
Stencil-Plate.

No. 168,400.

Patented Oct. 5, 1875.



WITNESSES:
Francis M. Cudde.
A. F. Terry

INVENTOR:
W. M. Kellie
BY *Munnell*
ATTORNEYS.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLIAM M. KELLIE, OF NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE.

IMPROVEMENT IN STENCIL-PLATES.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **168,400**, dated October 5, 1875; application filed July 31, 1875.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM M. KELLIE, of Nashville, in the county of Davidson and State of Tennessee, have invented a new and Improved Adjustable Stencil-Plate, of which the following is a specification:

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 represents a top view, Fig. 2 a vertical longitudinal section on the line *c c*, Fig. 1, and Fig. 3 a vertical transverse section on the line *x x*, Fig. 2, of my adjustable stencil-plates.

Similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts.

This invention has for its object to so connect the meeting edges of the letters of stencil-alphabets that any number of them may be quickly joined together to form the required stencil-plates, and be readily taken apart again.

The invention consists of raised grooves formed at the right and left hand edges of each stencil, to overlap and guide each other, and be locked together by spring-clasps at a level with the plane of the plates.

In the drawing, A represents the separate stencil letters or plates, which are provided at the right and left hand edges with grooves *a*, produced by bending or raising the edges above the plane of the stencil letter or plate. The raise of the edge grooves is of such a height that the under sides of the spring-clasps B, which lock the plates together, are on a level with the plane of the stencil-letters. The groove on the left-hand side of each plate fits over the raised right-hand groove of the ad-

joining stencil, so that they may be readily slid together and locked by the spring-clasps. The spring-clasps B are made of spring-steel wire with flattened sides, bent together in V shape, with one leg fitting into the groove of the stencil-plates, the other binding on the same. The end of the lower part is turned up to prevent the plates from sliding outward, while the end of the upper part is somewhat shorter and beveled at the under side to facilitate the entering and detaching of the plates. When the plates are locked together they will lie flat on the package or object to be marked. Any required stencil-plates can thus be quickly put together, and as readily taken apart, so that by their use no special stencils are required.

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

1. An adjustable stencil-plate, made of stencil letters or characters, jointed by raised overlapping edge-grooves, and held together by locking spring-clasps, fitting therein, substantially as described and shown, for the purpose set forth.

2. The locking spring-clasp, bent V shape, with turned-up end of lower part and beveled end of upper part, as and for the purpose described.

WILLIAM M. KELLIE.

Witnesses:

THOS. ABBOTT,
PATRICK KILLIEN.