

J. T. WRIGHT & O. G. BRYANT.

STENCIL PLATE.

No. 186,395.

Patented Jan. 16, 1877.

Fig. 1.

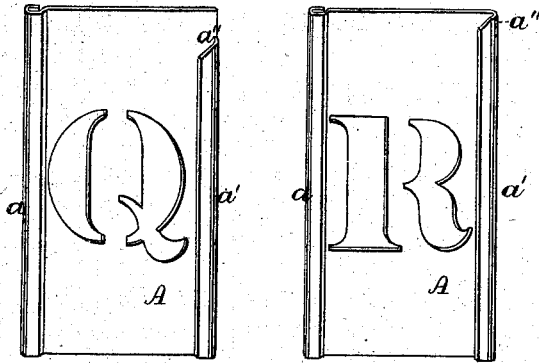


Fig. 2.

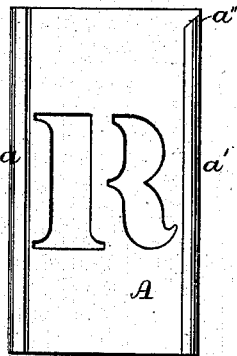


Fig. 3.

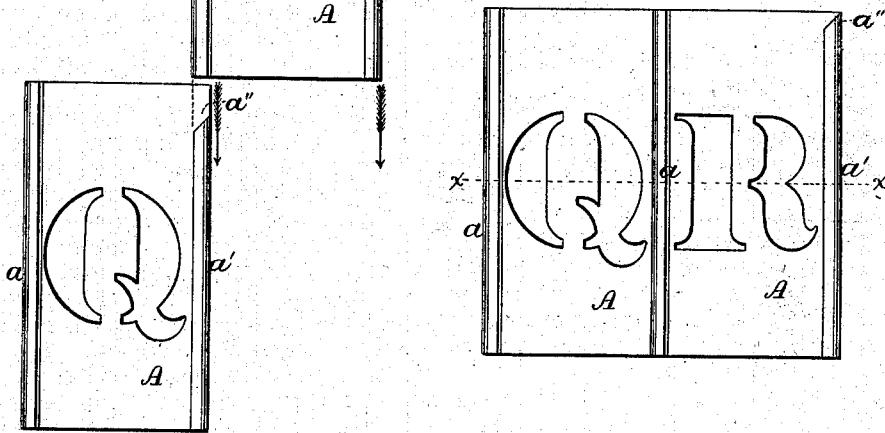
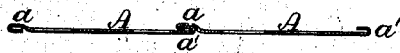


Fig. 4.

WITNESSES-

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOHN T. WRIGHT AND OLIVER G. BRYANT, OF CHICAGO, ILLINOIS; SAID
WRIGHT ASSIGNOR TO SAID BRYANT.

IMPROVEMENT IN STENCIL-PLATES.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **186,395**, dated January 16, 1877; application filed
March 22, 1876.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that we, JOHN T. WRIGHT and O. G. BRYANT, of Chicago, in the county of Cook, and in the State of Illinois, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Stencil-Plates; and do hereby declare the following is a full, clear, and exact description thereof, reference being had to the accompanying drawing, making a part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of our improved stencil-plates before being combined. Fig. 2 is a plan view of the same with their interlocking edges just entering into engagement with each other. Fig. 3 shows said plates as combined and in relative position for use, and Fig. 4 is a cross-section of the same.

Letters of like name and kind refer to like parts in each of the figures.

In the use of stencil-plates in which the letter-plates are combined by turning their edges backward, and causing said edges to engage with each other, it is necessary that said letter-plates should be united by placing the lower end of the engaging-edge of one plate within the upper end of the engaging-edge of the contiguous plate, and then moving said first plate downward until its upper and lower edges are in line with the corresponding portions of said second plate.

The operation described requires considerable skill and patience, for the reason that the engaging-edges are made to fit closely together, and it is difficult to cause the end of one edge to exactly coincide with and enter the end of another edge.

To obviate this objection, and to increase the ease and facility with which the letter-plates may be combined, is the design of our invention, which consists, as a new article of manufacture, in a stencil-plate having one or both of its side edges turned backward, so as to enable it to engage with the corresponding edge of another plate, and having one corner of such backward-turned portion cut away, substantially as and for the purpose hereinafter specified.

In the annexed drawings, A represents a stencil-plate of any suitable size, which contains a letter or character, and is designed for use by combining it with other similar plates, so as to form a word or words. One side edge, *a*, of the plate A is folded backward upon the lower side, and the other edge, *a'*, is folded backward upon the upper side of said plate, and the first-named edge is preferably raised, as shown in Fig. 4, so as to enable it to contain the edge *a'* of another plate, and bring the lower faces of said plates flush with each other.

As thus constructed, two plates, A and A, are combined by causing the lower end of one engaging-edge, *a*, to engage with the upper end of the edge *a'* of the opposite plate, and thus moving said plates longitudinally until they occupy the relative positions shown by Fig. 3.

In order that the operation of engaging the edges of the plates may be rendered easy, the upper portion of each rearward-turned edge *a'* is cut away obliquely, as shown in Figs. 1 and 2, by which means the upper face of its plate furnishes a guide in one direction for the edge *a* of the adjacent plate, while the oblique portion *a''* of said edge *a'* operates as a lateral guide for said edge *a*, and enables the latter to be easily and quickly placed in engagement with the former.

This improvement is more especially useful when the plates have become gummed up by use, and their engaging-edges more or less filled with ink.

Having thus fully set forth the nature and merits of our invention, what we claim is—
—A stencil-plate having the corner of its side edge cut away to facilitate connection with an adjoining plate, substantially as specified.

In testimony that we claim the foregoing we have hereunto set our hands this 6th day of March, 1876.

JOHN T. WRIGHT.
OLIVER G. BRYANT.

Witnesses:

C. A. PENDLETON,
E. J. SALISBURY.