H. W. HILL.

Gage for Handling and Distributing Paper, Circulars, &c

No. 196,976. Patented Nov. 13, 1877.

Fig. 1.

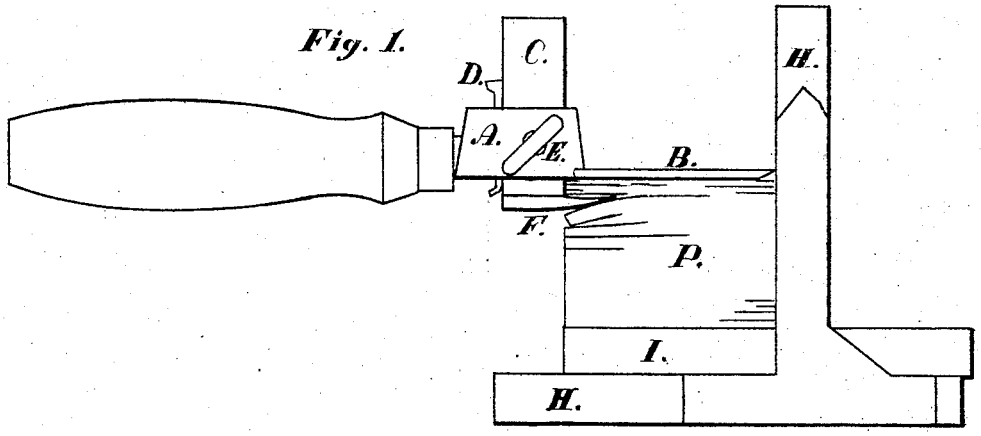
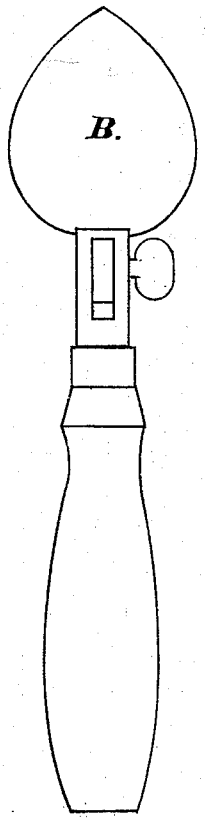


Fig. 2.



Witnesses

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HUGH W. HILL, OF DECATUR, ILLINOIS.

IMPROVEMENT IN GAGES FOR HANDLING AND DISTRIBUTING PAPER, CIRCULARS, &c.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **196,976**, dated November 13, 1877; application filed May 14, 1877.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, HUGH W. HILL, of Decatur, Macon county, Illinois, have invented a certain new and useful Gage or Scale for Paper, of which the following is a true specification:

The object of my invention is to rapidly and accurately distribute circulars, &c., for mailing and other purposes.

My invention will be of use to persons doing a large advertising business by means of circulars sent by mail, in distributing railroad-stationery, to printers, and all persons wishing to duplicate indefinitely a paper package or bunch of a certain weight, as an inexperienced person can with my instrument do the work of ten counters, and, where weight is the desideratum, is much more accurate.

My invention consists in a slotted shaft, provided with a handle on one end and a flattened plate on the other, and in a bar provided with a sharpened projection extending in the same direction, and nearly parallel with the flattened surface of the plate before mentioned, said shaft, plate, bar, and projection being constructed to operate together by means of a set-screw and key-wedge, in a manner set forth in detail hereinafter.

By reference to the drawing accompanying and forming a part of this specification, it will be seen that Figure 1 is a side view of my invention as operated.

A represents the slotted shaft; B, the flattened plate, beveled on its lower outer edge, as shown. C is the bar, passing through the slot in A. F is the sharpened projection on said bar, made slightly concave on its inner surface to prevent the paper wedging. E is a set-screw in A, used to hold bar C in position, and D is a key-wedge to take up the wear and to keep said bar perpendicular, thus insuring greater accuracy.

H H represent a frame, provided with a sliding bottom, I, on which the paper P is placed, and by means of which paper of any width may have a firm support under its entire surface, and yet leave room for the working of the gage down to the bottom of the heap.

I mention this as the best way of keeping paper of any size in place while distributing the same that I have yet discovered, it being desirable to have an even surface on the paper in front, and that it should lie evenly.

Fig. 2 is a top view of the gage, drawn to show the shape and proportion of plate B.

After more than a year's experience, with a saving of at least five hundred dollars, I can recommend the following as the best mode of operation: The paper being selected and cut of uniform size, it is placed against the upright of frame H H, and sliding bottom I adjusted to correspond with the width of paper, as shown in the drawing. A bunch of the desired weight is then taken and laid on the upturned surface of plate B, with its edge against bar C. Said bar is then pressed down until the projection F touches the paper with a moderate pressure, and then the set-screw and key are adjusted and the bar firmly secured. This I term "setting the gage." This operation completed, the left hand is placed on the edge of the paper to the left of the center, holding it firm. The gage, operated by the right hand, is placed with the plate on the front edge of the paper, about the center, and pressed down; and in taking up an amount corresponding in size and weight to the bunch used in setting the gage, this amount is raised slightly by the gage, then grasped by the left hand, which is always in a convenient position, and laid aside. By using a little care in regulating the pressure, the operation may be repeated indefinitely with great accuracy.

The bevel on plate B is to prevent said plate from being pressed into the paper.

When it is desired to change the adjustment of the gage, I first loosen the set-screw, and then the key, which leaves the bar at liberty to be adjusted again in the manner before mentioned.

As it is evident that the adjusting part of my device may be varied to a great extent without changing the principle on which I rely to protect myself in such variations,

I would claim as new and of my invention—

1. A flattened plate, B, in combination with a sharpened point, plate, or projection, F, said plate B and projection F being con-

structed and arranged on the principle herein set forth, and provided with and connected by an adjusting element, by means of which the distance between said plate B and projection F may be varied or made permanent, at pleasure, as shown and described in this drawing and specification.

2. Shaft A, plate B, bar C, projection F, set-screw E, and key D, in combination, constructed and arranged to operate in the manner and for the purpose set forth.

HUGH W. HILL.

Witnesses:
THEO. COLEMAN,
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