D. G. GARRETSON.

Stencil-Plates.

No. 199,197. Patented Jan. 15, 1878.

Fig: 1.

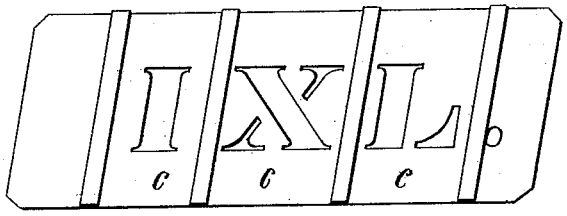


Fig: 2.

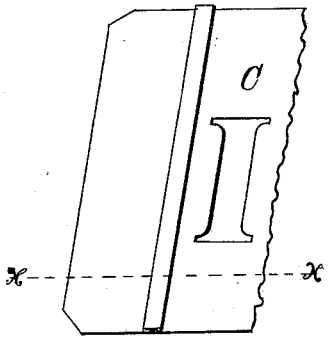


Fig: 3.

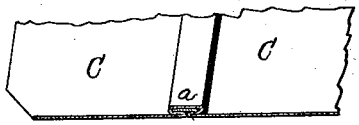
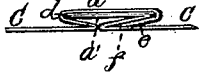


Fig. 4.



Attest.

Stewart Statler

Geo. W. Binford

Inventor.

David G. Garretson.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

DAVID G. GARRETSON, OF CHICAGO, ILLINOIS.

IMPROVEMENT IN STENCIL-PLATES.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **199,197**, dated January 15, 1878; application filed February 5, 1877.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, DAVID G. GARRETSON, of Chicago, in the county of Cook and State of Illinois, have invented new and useful Improvements in Stencil-Plates; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description thereof, which will enable others skilled in the art to which my invention appertains to make and use the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, forming part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 represents a perspective view of a stencil-plate embodying my said invention. Fig. 2 represents a like view of a part of the same detached. Fig. 3 represents a longitudinal section of the same on the line *x x*; and Fig. 4 represents an enlarged end view of the joint employed in connecting the plates.

Like letters of reference indicate like parts.

My invention relates to that class of stencil-plates formed from a series of sections, each of which contains a single letter, figure, or character, and so constructed as to admit of being interchangeably connected together, and so as to form any desired word or number; and my invention consists in the arrangement of the edges of the sections, so that one section is removably connected to another, as is hereinafter more fully described and claimed.

In the drawings, C represents the sections forming the stencil-plate proper, and which are made of thin sheet metal, and each of which has a single letter, figure, or character cut therein in the usual manner.

Each section is bent or turned over itself at its right-hand edge, and then backward, so as to form a wing, *a*, and extending in a plane parallel with the plane of the section and beyond the edge thereof, and so as to form a groove or channel, *d*, between the upper surface of the section and the lower surface of the wing. The outer edge of the wing is then bent or turned under itself, so as to form the part *e*, and a channel or groove corresponding with the groove or channel *d* between the upper surface of said part *e* and the lower surface of the wing, and so as to leave a space between the edge of said part *e* and the edge of the section. The left-hand edge of each section is then bent or turned over itself, and then backward in a plane parallel with the plane of the section, so as to form a wing, *a'*, of the proper width to loosely enter the groove *d* at the right-hand edge of the adjacent section, and so as to form a groove or channel, *f*, between the wing *a'* and the upper surface of the section, to receive the part *e* on the wing *a* of the adjacent section.

To connect the sections together so as to form the desired word or number, the end of one section is placed against the end of the adjacent section, so as to allow the wing *a'* to enter the groove or channel *d*, and the part *e* to enter the groove or channel *f*, when the sections are moved in the direction of their length, and thereby causing the wing *a'* and part *e* to slip into their respective grooves or channels in the adjacent section, and connecting one section to the other.

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

The sections C of a stencil-plate, bent at one edge to form the groove or channel *d* and the part *e*, and at the opposite edge to form the wing *a'* and groove or channel *f*, substantially as and for the purpose specified.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing I have hereunto set my hand this 30th day of January, 1877.

DAVID G. GARRETSON.

Witnesses:

STEWART STATLER,

GEO. W. BINFORD.