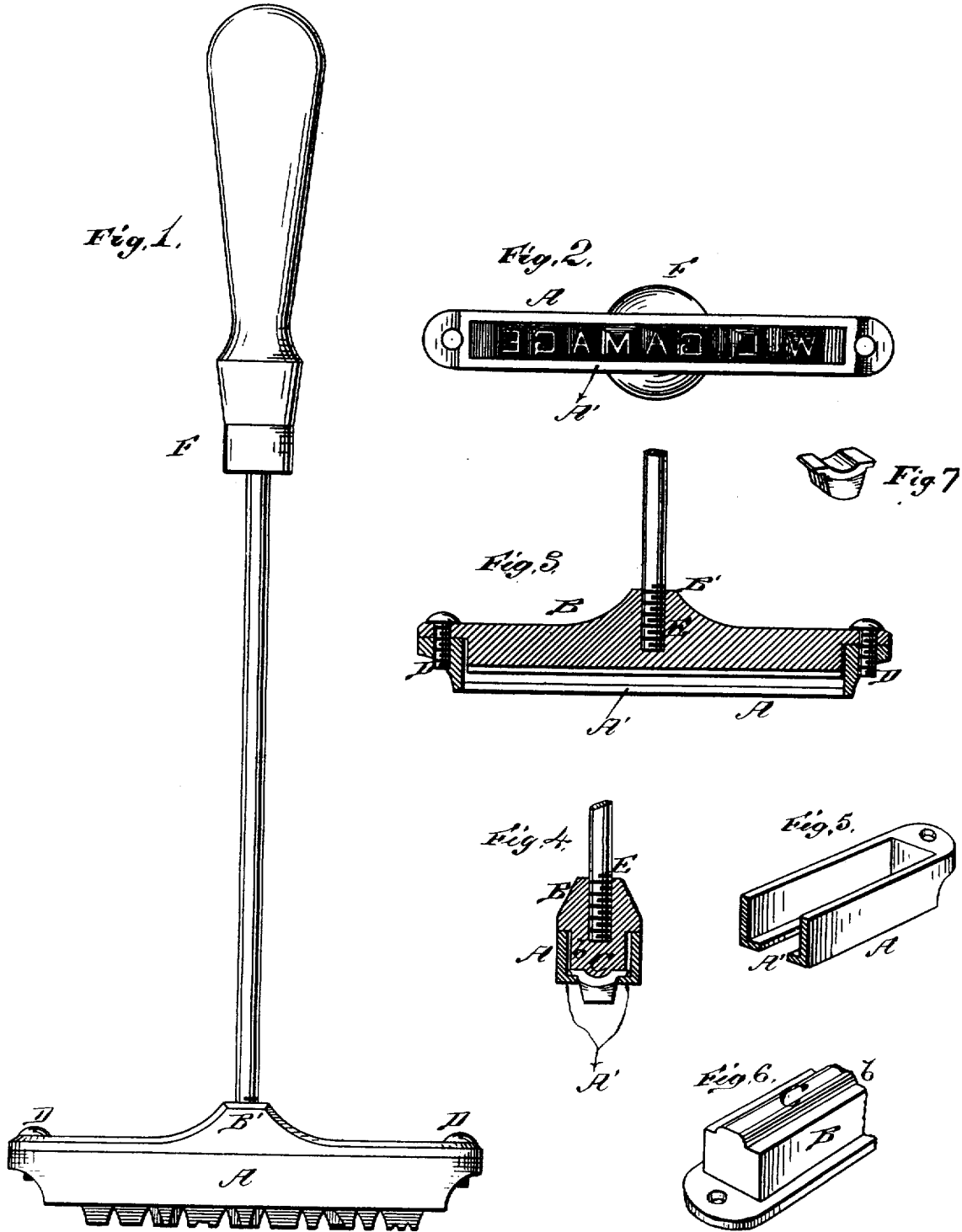


# W. L. GAMAGE. Branding-Stamp.

No. 206,870.

Patented Aug. 13, 1878.



WITNESSES  
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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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## IMPROVEMENT IN BRANDING-STAMPS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **206,870**, dated August 13, 1878; application filed June 14, 1878.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, WALTER L. GAMAGE, of Mount Pleasant, in the county of Henry and State of Iowa, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Marking-Brands; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description thereof, which will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and to letters of reference marked thereon, which form a part of this specification.

My invention relates to a marking-brand of metal, supplied with removable letters adapted to burn a name or the like upon wooden or other packages.

Heretofore brands for this purpose have been made with a shell having flanges to hold the letters and a follower to lock the letters fast. In heating the brand of such a construction the shell would first receive the action of the heat and the letters would become loose from the expansion of the shell. To prevent this the handle was attached through the shell or top with a screw-thread, and this handle would be forced against the follower to compensate for the expansion of the shell, and hold the device tight and solid; but in cooling, the shell would contract first from loss of heat, and the screw-thread of the handle holding the follower firmly against the letters, which impinged with great force upon the flanges of the shell, the said flanges would in practice break, and render a new shell necessary for further use.

My invention is adapted to obviate these objections. I provide a suitable shell or case, with inwardly-projecting flanges upon the face thereof, adapted to receive and hold in place the letters when in operation. The follower and top to this case are made in one, and it is attached to the shell by screws at each end. The follower I construct with a sufficient plane to hold the letters in setting up the name or sign, and in the center of this plane I provide a longitudinal projection, which fits into corresponding depressions in the letters. The handle is attached by screw-thread or other suitable connecting means.

In operating my device the type are set up on the plane face of the follower, the longitudinal projection serving to hold the letters in place. The shell is then placed over the same and the set-screws applied. It will thus be seen that no manipulation of the handle will serve to alter the position or condition of the letters, and that the screws which serve to hold the letters just tight enough are placed where they will be approximately expanded and contracted with the other parts in heating and cooling.

Referring to the drawing, Figure 1 represents a side view of my improved marking-brand. Fig. 2 designates a bottom view of the same, showing the type in place in the holder. Figs. 3 and 4 are sectional views, and Figs. 5 and 6 are detail views of the same. Fig. 7 is a perspective view of a type.

Referring to the drawing, A is the shell, and A' the flange against which the letters stand when in operation. The face of this shell is open, and through this aperture the letters project. B is the follower, the enlarged portion B' of which serves as the back of the shell. C represents a longitudinal projection on the face *b* of the follower B, upon which the type are placed in setting up the name or sign. D are screw appliances for binding the follower to the shell against the letters, and E the means for attaching the handle F.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim is—

1. The follower B, provided with face *b*, upon which to set up the type, and also provided with projection C, to hold the letters in place, as specified.

2. The follower B, with face *b*, and longitudinal projection C, to hold the type in place, in combination with the shell A A', attaching means D, and handle F, constructed and operating as and for the purposes set forth.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing as my own I affix my signature in presence of two witnesses.

WALTER L. GAMAGE.

Witnesses:

PHILIP GHOST,  
JOSEPH B. VERNON.