To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, STEPHAN BANIĆ, a subject of the Emperor of Austria-Hungary, residing at Greenville, in the county of Mercer and State of Pennsylvania, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Puzzles, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to improvements in block puzzles, and has for its object to provide a simple, interesting, instructive and amusing toy of this type, comprising a series of interlocked blocks which require considerable skill and patience to separate, and when separated require a like amount of skill and patience to again place them in interlocked position. The above and other objects which will appear as the invention is better understood.

I accomplish by a construction as illustrated in the accompanying drawings wherein like numerals of reference indicate like parts throughout the different views, in which:

Figure 1 is a perspective view of my improved block puzzle, showing the parts in their interlocked position. Fig. 2 is a transverse vertical sectional view. Figs. 3 and 4 are similar views illustrating the manner of manipulating the blocks in disconnecting the same. Fig. 5 is an elevation of two of the blocks, one of which is the key-block, and Fig. 6 is a dis-assembled view of two of the blocks, this view showing that there are in number, five blocks which are identical, and a sixth block slightly different from the five blocks. The improved puzzle comprises as a whole, six blocks all similar in outline and appearance, five of which are identical; the remaining block while similar in appearance is in reality slightly different, and constitutes the key-block. All of the blocks are substantially rectilinear and have centrally-disposed mortises in one of their faces, as will be more fully described.

Blocks designated 10, 11, 12, 14, and 15 are identical in construction and size, and are each provided with a longitudinal recess or mortise 17 in one face, and at the ends of the recessed face the blocks are beveled so that when two blocks are faced together, there is a V-space as 18 between each two faced blocks. The block 16 which is the key-block has the same outline as blocks 10—11—12—14—55 and 15, but has its recess or mortise 19 somewhat deeper than the recesses or mortises 17 in each of the other blocks, so that the neck 20 which connects the end portions of this block 16 is of less thickness than the neck 21 that connects the end portions of each of the remaining blocks.

As the blocks when interlocked together all have the same appearance, and are apparently, all of identical construction and size, it is obvious that close scrutiny of the assembled blocks is required to find the master or key-block 16. When however, this block is located, it will be observed by reference to Fig. 2 that the space formed by the matched mortises in blocks 14—15 and in which the neck 20 of block 16 is received, is of substantially the width of neck 20 so that this block 16 can be turned edgewise as seen in Fig. 3 and be housed within the recess or mortise 19 of block 15. This allows block 14 to drop until it engages neck 21 of block 10 so that block 15 may be canted as shown in Fig. 2, giving plenty of clearance to remove neck 20 of block 16 from between blocks 14 and 15, and with the key-block removed, all the others may be easily disconnected as will be obvious. In reassembling, the five blocks are capable of ready assemblage, whereupon block 14 is positioned as shown in Fig. 4, the neck of block 16 inserted and positioned as in Fig. 3 and block 14 then pushed up, and neck 20 turned so that the blocks are again all interlocked.

Having thus fully described my invention, what I claim as new is:

A block puzzle comprising five counterpart rectilinear blocks having centrally-disposed recesses in one of their faces, and a single rectilinear block of an outline similar to the five blocks and having a mortise of greater depth than those in the five blocks, the mortises in all the blocks being of equal length, and all the blocks having their mortised faces beveled at the ends of said faces, substantially as described.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature in presence of two witnesses.

STEPHAN BANIĆ.

Witnesses:
DOMINIK KURVINEC,
MARK TANIS.

Copies of this patent may be obtained for five cents each, by addressing the "Commissioner of Patents, Washington, D. C."