a tray is not utilized, reduces the likelihood that handling will change the assembly dimensions. It should be noted that although a set length of tray is illustrated in this preferred embodiment, in those situations in which a manufacturer may wish to accommodate different tray lengths, different hole patterns can be provided along the tray length as required to enable customization of the length relative to the casing, simply by cutting the tray.

There are many other advantages to the use of a separate holder, as discussed at the beginning of the patent application. One of these is particularly important. The individual cells can be removed or replaced without interfering with the other cells. That is, it is unnecessary to unthread the rods and then again go through the whole adjustment procedure simply to remove one cell for repair or other purposes.

It should be noted that utilization of the holder of the invention also assures that the individual braille cells are maintained in a set position both upward and downward, and longitudinally of the cell in the directions represented respectively in FIGS. **4** and **5** by the arrows **46** and **47**.

It should also be noted that it is contemplated that in some instances it may be desired to use elongated rods as shown in FIG. **3** in combination with the instant invention. This possibility is one of the reasons why the frames **23** of the individual cells are provided with the holes **43**. It also may be desired to use the holes to maintain the adjacent cells at the ends of assemblies secured to one another via cell tapping screws or the like.

As mentioned at the beginning of the detailed description, applicant is not limited to the specific embodiment and variations described above. They are exemplary, rather than exhaustive. The claims, their equivalents and their equivalent language define the scope of protection. The invention includes not only the braille cell assembly as described but the method of forming the same which is also described to the extent it differs from a standard method.

What is claimed is:

1. In a braille cell assembly, the combination comprising:

(a) a plurality of individual braille cells;

(b) a holder engaging said braille cells, which holder is selected to be capable of itself rigidly maintaining each of said individual cells in a predetermined position adjacent other cells without relying for positioning on such other cells; and

(c) interlocking structure on said cells and said holder for maintaining said cells in said predetermined positions, said interlocking structure including a flange on said holder, and each of said cells includes a support frame defining a slot which is complementary to said flange and engageable therewith.

2. The braille cell assembly of claim **1** wherein said interlocking structure further includes a notch projection in each support frame slot, engageable within a complementary reception notch in said flange.

3. The braille cell assembly of claim **2** wherein said interlocking structure further includes a projecting nub in each support frame slot engageable within a complementary hole in said flange.

4. The braille cell assembly of claim **1** wherein said interlocking structure includes a pair of flanges that are spaced from one another by said holder, and each of said cells includes a pair of slots at spaced positions respectively complementary to said flanges.

5. In a braille cell assembly, the combination comprising:

(a) a plurality of individual braille cells;

(b) a tray engaging said braille cells and maintaining the same adjacent one another; and

(c) interlocking structure on said cells and said tray for maintaining each of said cells in a predetermined position relative to other of said cells, said interlocking structure including a flange on said tray and each of said cells including a support frame defining a slot which is complementary to said flange and engageable therewith, and wherein said interlocking structure further includes a notch projection in each support frame slot engageable within a complementary reception notch in said flange.

6. In a braille cell assembly, the combination comprising:

(a) a plurality of individual braille cells;

(b) a tray engaging said braille cells and maintaining the same adjacent one another; and

(c) interlocking structure on said cells and said tray for maintaining each of said cells in a predetermined position relative to other of said cells, said interlocking structure including a flange on said tray and each of said cells including a support frame defining a slot which is complementary to said flange and engageable therewith, and wherein said interlocking structure further includes a projecting nub in each support frame slot engageable within a complementary hole in said flange.

* * * * *