In 1812, in the small village of Coupvray, France, 3-year-old Louis Braille played in his father's harness shop next to the family's house. He continued to improve the dot alphabet. The king also didn't offer any money to create books in the dot alphabet. Mr. Braille also made reins, saddles and collars for the villagers' horses. With a pointed tool, the captain punched dots and dashes into heavy paper.