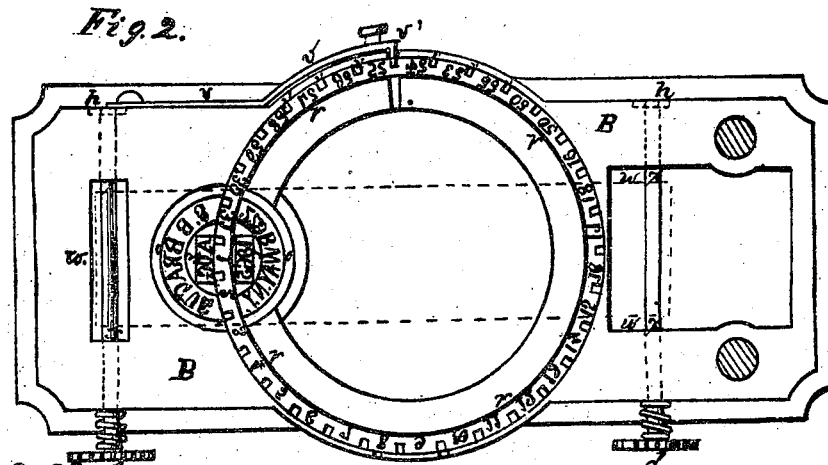
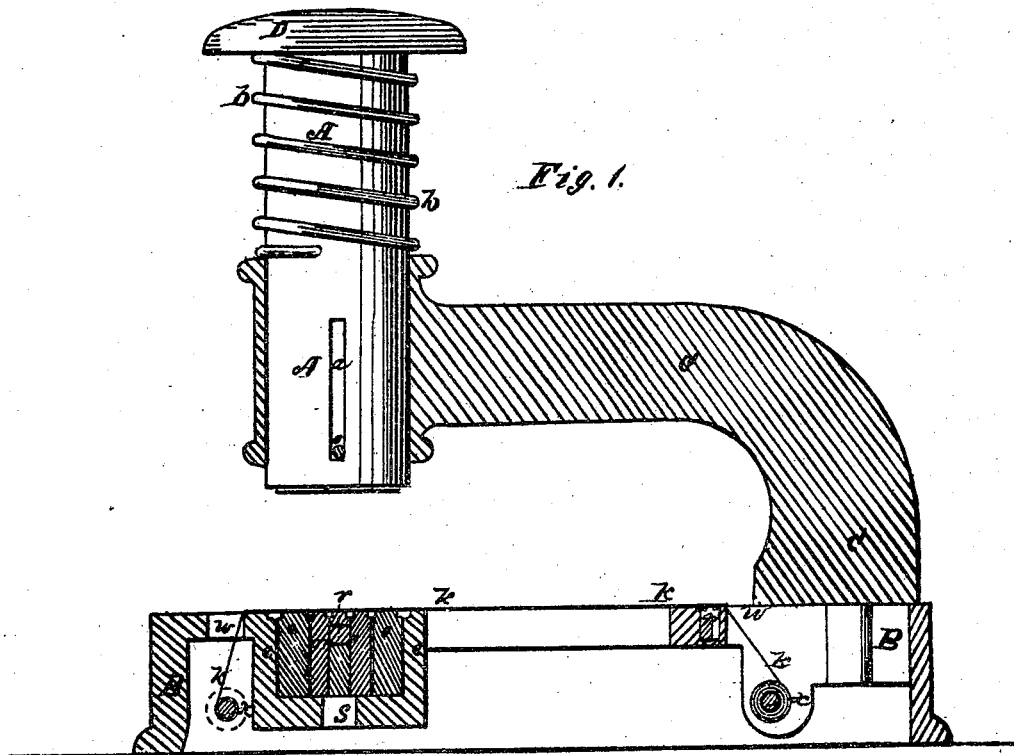


S. B. Brague & W. S. Starr
Hand Stamp.

Nº 52608.

Patented Feb. 20. 1866



Witnesses, a

J. M. Combs
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

STEPHEN B. BRAGUE AND WILLIAM S. STARR, OF NEW YORK, N. Y.

HAND-STAMP.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 52,668, dated February 20, 1866.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that we, STEPHEN B. BRAGUE and WILLIAM S. STARR, both of the city, county, and State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Hand-Stamps; and we do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, making a part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 represents a central vertical section of a hand-stamp constructed according to our invention. Fig. 2 is a plan or top view of the bed-plate and the various parts situated therein.

Similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts in both figures.

This invention relates to certain improvements in the construction and operation of hand-stamps, such as are used for canceling, postmarking, and similar purposes, by which the necessity of using separate removable types for marking the day of the month is dispensed with, and the types indicating the month and the year are easily detached and changed. These improvements consist in the employment of a rotating ring provided at its periphery with a series of types representing numbers from 1 to 31, inclusive, and operating in connection with stationary dies or types placed underneath the plunger and indicating the month and year, the arrangement being such that by turning the ring any desired number can be brought in conjunction with the said stationary types to designate the day of the month.

To enable those skilled in the art to make and use our invention, we will proceed to describe it with reference to the drawings.

B C represent a frame like that of the hand-stamps in common use, and consisting of a bed or base plate, B, in which the dies are situated, and an arm, C, in the end of which is the usual reciprocating plunger A. The stem of the plunger passes through a vertical circular hole in the said end, and has a narrow groove, *a*, formed longitudinally in one side of it. The end of a stationary pin, *o*, enters this groove *a* and prevents the stem from turning around, and also keeps it from being pushed upward out of place. At the top of the plunger A is the usual knob D, and between the knob

and the arm C is a spiral spring, *b*, which encircles the upper part of the plunger and forces it upward out of contact with the paper or other material to be stamped. The lower end of the plunger is faced with leather or similar soft material, and is recessed or hollowed out at the sides, so as to strike only upon the proper types or dies.

Formed in the bed-plate B, immediately beneath the plunger A, there is a cylindrical socket or cavity, *c*, in which is placed the annular die *o*, upon and around the upper edge of which are a series of types representing any desired name, word, or number. Within this annular die *o* are two upright types, *m n*. One of these, *m*, represents the month, and the other, *n*, the year. The annular die *o* has a deep notch at each side to permit one side of the rotating ring *r* to pass through the same between the dies *m* and *n*, as shown more clearly in Fig. 2, the upper ends of the type in the rotating ring *r* being level with the surface of the stationary dies. The ring *r* is situated in a suitable annular channel or bearing in the bed-plate B. At its outer edge between each number is a notch, *i*. The spring *v* is attached to the side of the bed-plate, and has its end *v'* curved inward, so that it catches into these notches *i* to hold the ring *r* stationary during the operation of stamping.

In the bottom of the socket *c* is a hole, *s*, and by inserting a nail or similar object through this hole the types *m* and *n* may be pushed out of the annular die *o*, so that their places may be filled by others representing a different date.

At each end of the bed-plate B is a transverse slot or recess, *w*, in which is a small roller, Z, and extending from one of these rollers to the other is a ribbon, *k*, prepared with coloring-matter in the usual manner. This ribbon passes over and in contact with the dies or types under the plunger A. By turning the rollers Z different portions of the ribbon may be brought upon the said types. The rollers are provided with heads *d*, by which they may be conveniently turned, and are prevented from slipping by the spiral springs *f*, which press the rivet-heads *h* into close contact with the side of the bed-plate, so that the friction prevents the tension of the ribbon from turning the rollers backward.

Such being the construction of the apparatus, it will be seen that by pulling the end of the spring *v* out of the notch *i* by means of the small knob *v'* the ring *c* may be turned around until any desired number thereon is brought between the types *m* and *n* to indicate the day of the month.

The paper or other substance which it is desired to stamp is placed upon the ribbon between the dies and the plunger, and a smart blow is given with the hand upon the knob *D*, which drives the plunger down upon the paper. The prepared inked ribbon, being thus forcibly compressed between the types and the paper, parts with a portion of its ink and thus prints the letters and figures upon the

paper. When the knob *D* is released from the pressure the spring *b* causes the plunger *A* to rise to its original position, and the paper is removed.

Having thus described our said invention, we will proceed to state what we claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent:

The rotating ring *r*, provided with types and passing through the stationary die beneath the plunger, substantially as set forth, for the purpose specified.

STEPHEN B. BRAGUE.
WM. S. STARR.

Witnesses:

J. W. COOMBS,
A. LE CLERC.