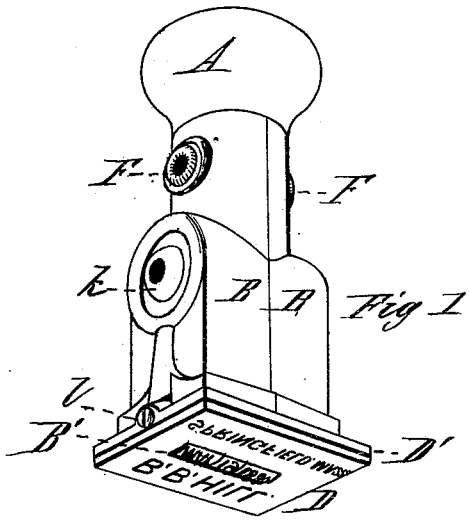
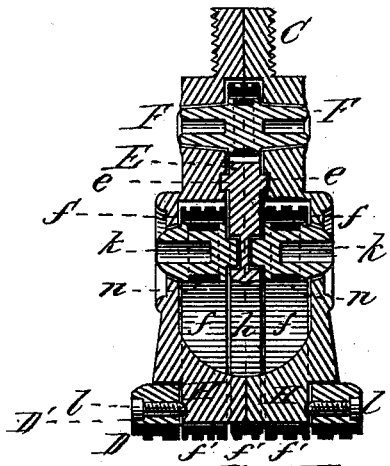
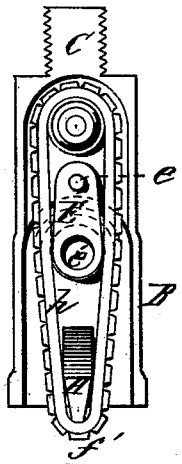
B. B. HILL.

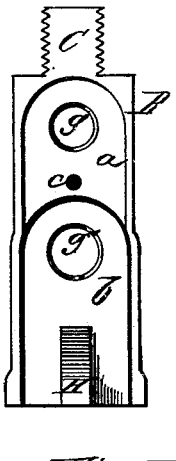
HAND-STAMP.

No. 185,862. Patented Jan. 2, 1877.









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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

BENJAMIN B. HILL, OF SPRINGFIELD, MASSACHUSETTS.

IMPROVEMENT IN HAND-STAMPS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **185,862**, dated January 2, 1877; application filed February 23, 1876.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, BENJAMIN B. HILL, of Springfield, in the State of Massachusetts, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Dating-Stamps; and that the following is a full, clear, and exact description thereof, reference being had to the accompanying drawing, making a part of this specification, and to the letters of reference marked thereon.

The object of my invention is to provide a cheap hand-stamp, with which any desired month, day of the month, and year, may be printed to represent any given date; and to this end my invention consists of a stamp, the body or case of which is made in two halves or parts, and with rolls arranged therein, with a bridge at the lower end, so that the endless rubber bands pass around these rolls, and also around or over the bridge, so that by turning any one of the rolls continuously in one direction the figures or characters upon the band passing around that roll will be successively brought into position for printing, and when the series of figures or characters on that band have all been used the same series will commence again to be brought into position for printing without turning its roll back or in the opposite direction. It also consists of an annular recess made around the roll, which is filled with any substance which will adhere readily to the band passing around it, and increase the traction or adhesion of the band to the roll, to prevent the slipping of the band upon the roll, and insure the proper movement of the former to bring the printing figures or characters into proper position for printing, all which will be more fully hereinafter explained.

Figure I is a perspective view of my invention. Fig. II is one-half or part of the same, showing the recesses for the rolls and bands. Fig. III is the same view, showing one of the rolls and its band in place, and Fig. IV is a vertical longitudinal section lengthwise the rolls.

In the drawing, B represents the body or case of the stamp, made in two halves, Fig. II representing one-half, and Fig. III the other, and both may be cast in the same mold. These parts may be cast of any desirable white metal, in molds, with all the recesses *a b c* and bearings *g* and *g'* for rolls cast therein, so that actually no work is required to finish them up, or to fit the rolls in place. A piece, E, having a small lug, *e*, on each side, and also the recesses *e'* therein, is also cast, and is put in place in one of the parts with the small lug *e* in place in the recess *c*, as shown clearly in Fig. III, so that, when put together as shown in Fig. IV, the inner ends of the rolls *k* have their bearings in the recesses *e'*. A bridge, H, is also cast at the lower end, so that, when the two parts are together, said bridge extends from one side of the stamp to the other. A semi-cylindrical projection, C, is also cast upon each half at the upper end, so that when put together a screw-thread may be cut thereon, and the threaded knob A turned on, and a die-plate, D', is fitted to the lower end, and secured, by a screw, *l*, upon one or, if necessary, two sides, said die-plate having any desirable device, inscription, or name, either in the metal itself or in rubber, arranged thereon, and having a slot, B', made in it, through which the type on the rubber bands protrude, so that the face of the type upon the bands and upon the die-plate D' are all upon the same plane for printing.

In order to increase the traction between the rubber bands and the rolls which actuate them, I cut away the periphery of the rolls, or make an annular recess, *n*, in each, where the bands have their bearing, and stretch over them tightly, to fill the recess, a rubber band, somewhat smaller in diameter than the diameter of the roll at the recess, so that it will fill the recess, and adhere to the roll tightly.

Instead of these rubber bands, however, I may fill the recess with any desirable composition or substance which will accomplish the same results, so that when the printing-bands *f f h* are placed on the rolls, and the latter turned, the bands will be sure to move to bring the desired characters or figures into position to print.

To put the stamp together, one of the parts, B, being held in the hand, with the recess *b* uppermost, one of the rolls *k* is placed in the hole *g'*, and the band *f* placed over the roll, and also over the bridge H at the lower end,

or outside of said bridge. The hanging piece E is then placed in position, with one of the lugs *e* in the hole *c*, and the roll F is placed in the hole *g*, and the middle band *h* placed over the roll F, and over or outside of the bridge H at the lower end, as shown in Fig. III. The other roll *k* is then placed in the hole *g'* in the other half of the case B, and the other rubber printing-band *f* placed over that roll, and also the bridge H, and the two halves are then placed together with the inner ends of the rolls *k* in the recesses *e'* of the piece E, and the lugs *e* on said piece in the holes *c*, and the knob A is turned onto the threaded spindle C, and the die D' secured at the bottom, and the stamp is ready for use.

To turn any of the bands so that any desired figures or characters shall be brought into position beneath and outside the bridge H, to print, it is only necessary to grasp and turn with the fingers the exposed ends, (shown clearly in Fig. I) of the rolls F and *k*.

It is evident that the rolls F and *k* may be made of wood, metal, or other desirable material, without departing in the least from the principle of construction and operation, although I prefer to cast all the parts, as being much cheaper.

I am aware that various devices have heretofore been made, such as a stamp having a core inside, around which the band was moved; but, as the core was perfectly stationary, the bands required to be slipped around upon it to bring the desired numbers into position to print, in which case the hands would become soiled with ink from off the printing-characters.

I am also aware that a stamp having rolls to move printing-strips has heretofore been made, but with one end of a strip secured to one roll, and the other end of the same strip secured to another roll; but in the use of that device great care is necessary to turn both rolls exactly alike; otherwise the printing-strip would be stretched over the bridge, and the printing-characters distorted, and when the series of printing-characters had been once used it was necessary to turn both rolls back in the opposite direction to begin again.

My invention entirely obviates all these objections, and all the parts of the stamp being cast in molds no labor is required to fit the stamp for use, except to put the parts together, and cut the thread upon the part C for the knob, and the two holes at the bottom for the screws *l*, in securing the die in place.

It will be perceived that to use the series of printing-characters (on any one of the endless bands) over again it is only necessary to continue to revolve that roll in the same direction, bringing the first figure or character into position to print again.

I do not wish to be understood as limiting myself to rolls having the recess *n* filled with a substance to increase the traction, because, in practice, it may be found that the material of which the rolls are composed may possess the requisite characteristics in itself to answer the purpose.

It will be seen that the holes *g* and *g'*, which support the rolls F and *k*, are made tapered, and smallest at the outer end, so that none of said rolls, when the stamp is arranged for use, can get out of place, and when it is desired to move the middle band *h*, which passes over the roll F, it is only necessary to place the thumb against one end of said roll, which is exposed at both ends, and the finger against the other end, and the roll thus grasped is easily turned.

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

1. The combination of a series of endless rubber printing-bands, a corresponding series of revolving rolls, and a bearing, H, to support the type when being moved and used to print, all substantially as and for the purpose described.

2. In a stamp, the combination of the roller *k*, the hanging piece E, and the two parts B B, substantially as set forth.

3. A hand-stamp, made in two parts, B B, in combination with a series of rubber printing-bands, arranged inside, substantially as described.

BENJAMIN B. HILL.

Witnesses:
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