

No. 852,840.

PATENTED MAY 7, 1907.

E. & M. ILCH.

E. ILCH & T. BODENSTAB, EXECUTORS OF M. ILCH, DEC'D.
PROTECTING CHECKS AND OTHER PAPERS.

APPLICATION FILED FEB. 25, 1904.

NO. _____ NEW YORK. *June 8th* 1904

FIRST NATIONAL BANK

PAY TO THE ORDER OF *One Hundred and Fifty Dollars*

\$100.50

John Doe & Co.

\$ *100.50* / 100

WITNESSES:

Thos. J. Byrnes
A. S. Dunham

Inventors:
Edward Ilch
and Michael Ilch, dec'd
Edward Ilch and Theodolinde Bodenstein, Exrs.

BY
Kerr, Page & Cooper,
ATTORNEYS.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

EDWARD ILCH, OF NEW YORK, FOR HIMSELF, AND EDWARD ILCH AND THEODOLINDE BODENSTAB, OF NEW YORK, N. Y., EXECUTORS OF MICHAEL ILCH, DECEASED.

PROTECTING CHECKS AND OTHER PAPERS.

No. 852,840.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented May 7, 1907.

Application filed February 25, 1904. Serial No. 195,547.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that we, EDWARD ILCH, a citizen of the United States, residing at Elmhurst, city of New York, county of Queens, and State of New York, and MICHAEL ILCH, deceased, late a citizen of the United States, (by the executors of his estate, the said EDWARD ILCH and THEODOLINDE BODENSTAB, a citizen of the United States, residing at College Point, city of New York, county of Queens, and State of New York,) have invented a certain new and useful Method of Protecting Checks and other Papers, of which the following is a specification, reference being had to the drawing accompanying and forming part of the same.

Our invention relates to protecting bills of exchange, promissory notes, checks, insurance policies, stocks, bonds, bank-notes, and paper or parchment writings of all kinds, by forming thereon by mechanical means characters indicating the value of the paper or the amount of which it is drawn; and the object of the invention is to provide a method for this purpose, which can be practiced by apparatus of a simple and inexpensive character.

The gist of our invention resides in impressing the desired characters by means of types or dies on the thin, dry, hard paper or the like usually employed for commercial papers, with such great force as to render the paper translucent, the impression so produced resembling water-marks. Marks of this kind cannot be altered or erased; and any attempt to do so leaves unmistakable evidence of tampering. The impressions are also so made that the characters may be written over as freely as if the paper were entirely in its original blank condition. The characters may moreover be of heroic dimensions, so as to occupy the body of the check or similar paper, and hence to be more or less covered by the written and printed characters upon the check, thereby affording even greater security, since any attempt to obliterate the translucent characters would necessarily damage the inked characters thereon.

In the annexed drawing is shown a check, on which the translucent characters are indicated in solid black, the amount thus impressed being \$100.50.

The characters are impressed by passing the paper between types or dies and a coacting platen, having a smooth cylindrical surface, which is arranged to press the paper with great force upon the types or dies. The latter, as well as the platen, are of such solidity and rigidity, as to withstand indefinitely the great pressure which they exert on each other, and both are also perfectly smooth where they engage the paper, to avoid cutting or embossing the latter.

The types or dies preferably have the natural form of the letters or characters to be produced thereby. They may therefore be impressed upon the back of the check or paper, so that when the face of the check is viewed, the characters appear in natural or proper form or order.

The invention is of course not limited to any particular apparatus, or any particular style or kind of dies or types, for practicing the method.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim is:

1. The method of protecting checks and other papers, consisting in impressing types against the back of the paper with such force that the impressions are translucent, and then in writing upon the face of the paper over such impressions.

2. A check or commercial paper having translucent characters impressed upon the back thereof in such manner that they read naturally upon the face thereof, and bearing upon its face written characters upon said translucent characters.

EDWARD ILCH.
THEODOLINDE BODENSTAB.

Witnesses:

GEORGE A. PICKEL,
HERMAN HEINZLER.