W. DOWLING.

ADJUSTABLE HAND STAMP.

APPLICATION FILED MAR. 13, 1914.

1,117,007. **Patented Nov. 10, 1914.**

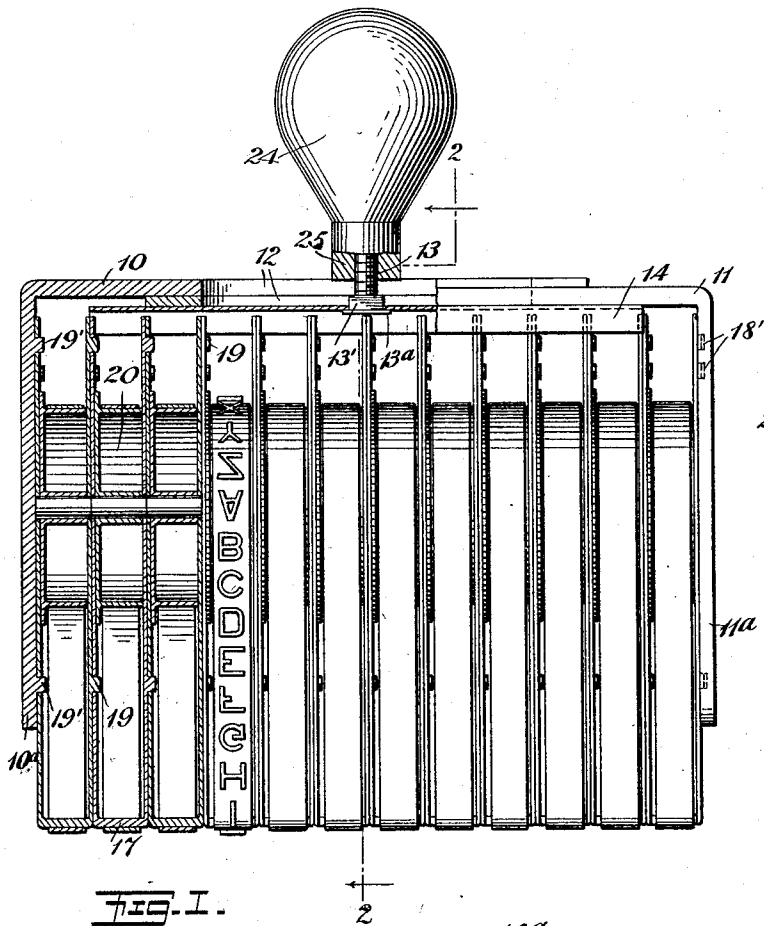


FIG. 1.

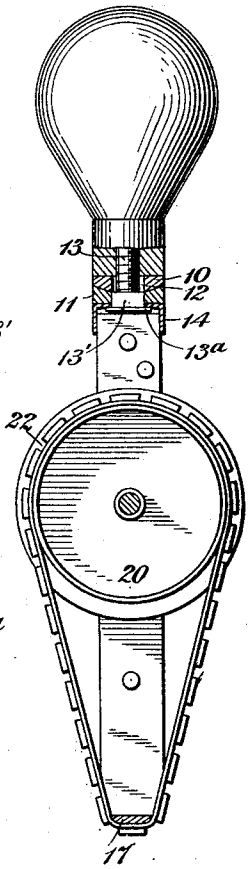


FIG. 2.

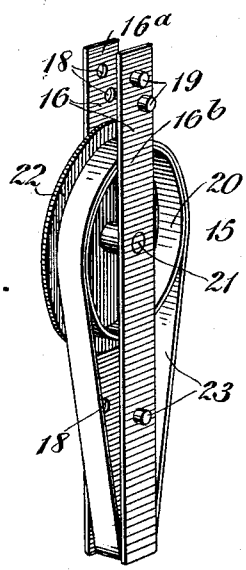


FIG. 3.

WITNESSES

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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ADJUSTABLE HAND-STAMP.

1,117,007. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Nov. 10, 1914.

Application filed March 13, 1914. Serial No. 824,417.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM DOWLING, a citizen of the United States, and a resident of New Haven, in the county of New Haven and State of Connecticut, have invented a new and Improved Adjustable Hand-Stamp, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description.

This invention relates to printing devices and has particular reference to hand operated devices such as hand stamps or the like.

Among the objects of the invention is to provide a hand stamp with an adjustable frame for supporting a plurality of removable or interchangeable stamp elements whereby the device may be lengthened or shortened according to the length of the word, name or legend to be stamped or printed.

A further object of the invention is to simplify and improve the structural characteristics of the individual stamping elements above referred to, whereby they are adapted for the purpose just mentioned.

The foregoing and other objects of the invention will hereinafter be more fully set forth and claimed and illustrated in the drawings forming a part of this specification in which like characters of reference indicate corresponding parts in all the views, and in which—

Figure 1 is a side elevation of a device embodying the novel features of this invention, the view being somewhat diagrammatic and being in vertical section at one end; Fig. 2 is a vertical transverse section on the line 2—2 of Fig. 1; and Fig. 3 is a perspective view of one of the stamping elements detached.

The several parts of the device may be made of any suitable materials, and the relative sizes and proportions, as well as the general design of the mechanism, may be varied to a considerable extent without departing from the spirit of the invention hereinafter more fully set forth and specifically claimed.

The invention in its preferred form comprises a pair of frame members 10 and 11 fitted one against or into the other for relative slidable movement in adjusting the device, but these members are adapted to be clamped rigidly together when the machine or device is to be used after the desired number of elements are put in place. As shown in Figs. 1 and 2, the members 10 and 11 are provided with registering slots 12 through which a clamping screw 13 operates, said screw having a head 13′ fitted into a guide bar 14 and having a flange 13^a which prevents the screw from pulling through the bar and frame member 11. The head 13′ of the screw is preferably square to prevent rotation of the screw with respect to the other parts of the device. One of the frame members is preferably concave for coöperation with the convex adjacent surface of the other member, whereby they are maintained in proper alinement during all of the various longitudinal adjustments. The bar 14 may be of any suitable length but preferably corresponds to the length of the device when set for the shortest legend. The bracket members 10 and 11 are provided with arms 10^a and 11^a arranged parallel to each other and each formed at a right angle to the main part of the bar. The two bracket members 10 and 11, together with their arms, constitute a longitudinally extensible or collapsible yoke within which the elements 15 are arranged in interchangeable relation to one another.

As shown in Fig. 3 particularly, each of the stamp elements comprises a stirrup 16 comprising two parallel leaves or plates 16^a and 16^b preferably spaced at one end and connected by a bridge 17 at the other end. The plate 16^a is provided with a plurality of holes 18 into which as many studs 19 of the plate 16^b of the next adjacent stirrup project. These studs provide interlocking means between one stamping element and the next to prevent displacement thereof. The arm 10^a of the main yoke or frame is provided also with studs 19′ coöperating with the plate 16^a of the first member 16. Likewise the opposite arm 11^a is provided with sockets 18′ into which the studs 19 of the last element of the series extend. A finger operated wheel 20 is journaled between the plates 16^a and 16^b upon a shaft 21. Said wheel 20 includes a disklike flange 22 which may be milled for facilitating the rotation thereof by hand. An endless band 23 extends around the wheel 20 and the bridge 17. Said band is provided with type characters of any suitable design, depending upon the nature of the device, shown herein by way of illustration as the letters of the alphabet which are intended to be made operative in connection with the bridge, the bridge being substantially flat

on its face for this purpose. The upper ends of the stirrups are located between the side flanges of the channel bar 14, that is to say, all of the said stirrups are so located when the device is set at its shortest length, and when elongated one or only a few of the stamping elements are arranged independently of said bar 14. The device, therefore, is substantially stiff in practice and is very easily adapted for names or legends of different lengths by simply loosening the handle 24 to which the nut 25 of the screw is secured and allowing the arms 10^a and 11^b to be adjusted in relation to each other for the purpose of interchanging the stamping elements 15. Each of the elements being open at its upper end makes it a comparatively easy matter for a new band 23 to be placed thereon in case it is desired to change the characters without making a change in the device otherwise.

Having thus described my invention, I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent:

1. The herein described adjustable stamp comprising, in combination, a pair of frame elements having parallel arms, means to secure the frame elements with the arms spaced from each other at any desired distance, and a series of interchangeable stamping elements arranged between said arms and interlocked with the same and with one another.

2. The herein described adjustable hand stamp including a series of interchangeable elements, all of the same character, each element comprising a stirrup having two parallel side plates connected by a bridge, a finger operated wheel journaled between said plates, and a type character band operating over said wheel and bridge, and means to secure the elements of said series together with the side plates of one element abutting against the plates of the adjacent elements.

3. The herein described adjustable hand stamp comprising a frame and a plurality of duplicate interchangeable elements within the frame, each element comprising two side plates, one of the side plates having projections and the other having sockets to receive the projections of the next element, and an adjustable type character element movably associated with said side plates, substantially as set forth.

4. The herein described hand stamp comprising a frame and a series of duplicate interchangeable stamping elements arranged within the frame, each of said elements comprising a stirrup having two side plates spaced at one end and connected at their other end with a bridge, an endless type character band arranged within the open end of the stirrup and having another portion thereof extending over said bridge, and means to adjust said band independently of every other element, and means to secure the elements of said series together with the side plates of one element abutting against the plates of the adjacent elements.

5. In a hand stamp of the character set forth, the combination of a pair of relatively adjustable frame members having parallel arms, said frame members having registering slots, a clamping screw extending through said slots, a handle on the outside of the frame and coöperating with said clamping screw to lock the frame in adjusted position, one of said arms having a series of sockets and the other having a like number of projections, and a series of interchangeable similarly formed stamping elements between the arms, each of said elements including a pair of side plates, one side plate of each pair having a series of sockets and the other having a corresponding series of projections, the sockets and projections of the element plates being arranged in alinement with the projections and sockets of the frame arms, and adjustable type character members associated with the several stamping elements, substantially as set forth.

6. The herein described hand stamp comprising a pair of relatively adjustable frame members having parallel arms, the main portions of the frame members being fitted to each other, one part being concave and the other convex to prevent lateral distortion, clamping means to secure these parts in any desired position, a channel bar associated with the frame members, and a series of interchangeable similarly constructed stamping elements within the frame and between said arms, the upper ends of the stamping elements extending between the side flanges of the channel bar, and each of said elements including an adjustable type character member.

In testimony whereof I have signed my name to this specification in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

WILLIAM DOWLING.

Witnesses:

WALTER P. HAYES,

ARTHUR E. RUGGLES.

Copies of this patent may be obtained for five cents each, by addressing the "Commissioner of Patents, Washington, D. C."