I. DE DRAGITS.

BANK NOTE TESTER.

APPLICATION FILED OCT. 8, 1912.

1,074,316.

Patented Sept. 30, 1913.

FIG. 1

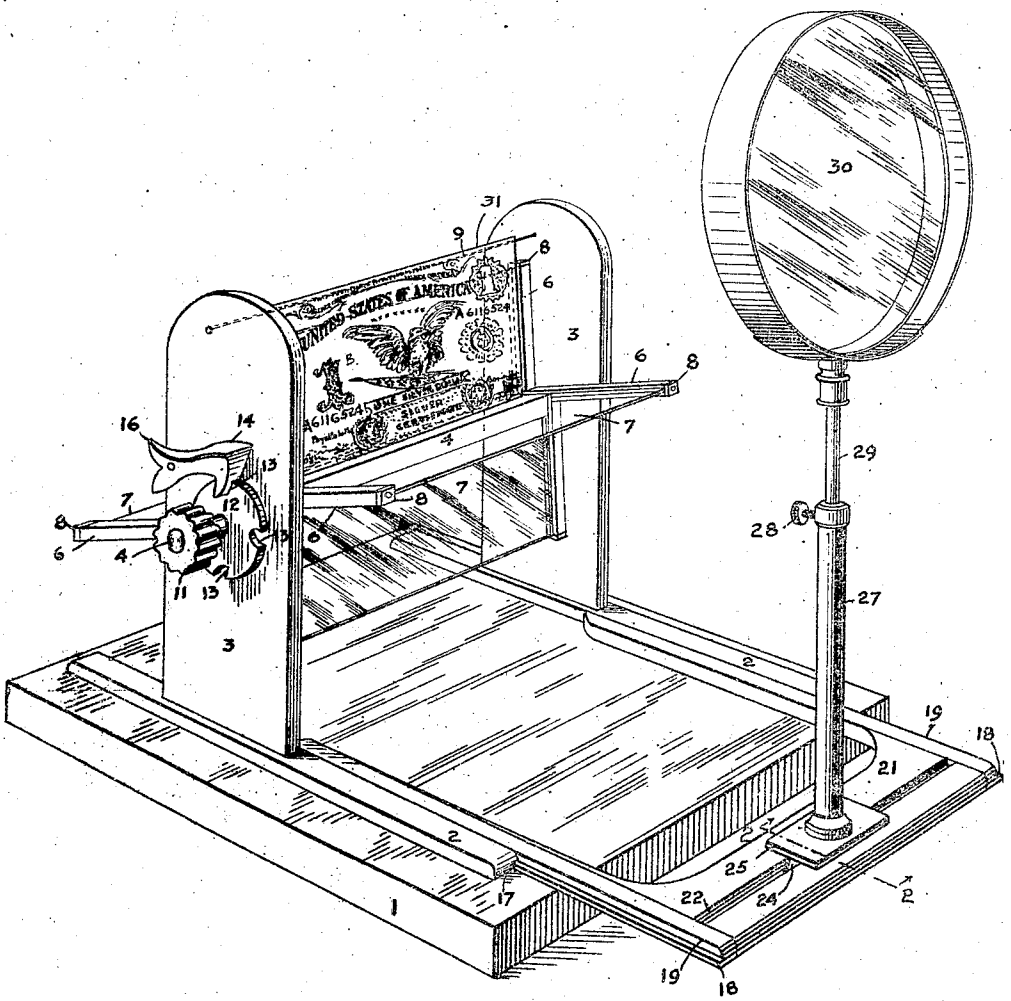
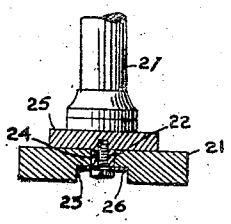


FIG. 2



WITNESSES

N. B. Keating.

Leon Bailleul

INVENTOR

Isabella de Dragits,

BY

Francis M. Wright,

her ATTORNEY

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ISABELLA DE DRAGITS, OF SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA.

BANK-NOTE TESTER.

1,074,316. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Sept. 30, 1913.

Application filed October 8, 1912. Serial No. 724,569.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ISABELLA DE DRAGITS, a subject of the Emperor of Austria-Hungary, residing at San Francisco, in the county of San Francisco and State of California, have invented new and useful Improvements in Bank-Note Testers, of which the following is a specification.

The present invention relates to an improved apparatus for testing the genuineness of bank notes and the like, said apparatus being intended to be used by banks and other institutions for quickly distinguishing a forged or spurious bank note from a genuine one, also to test signatures on all kinds of documents, and for all other cases in which it is desirable to minutely and rapidly examine identification marks.

The object of the invention is to provide such a device in which the notes or other documents can be placed in position for inspection through a lens, and removed therefrom, without the necessity of using the sense of vision for this purpose, and therefore without the necessity of moving the eye from its exact position in front of the lens and at the proper focal distance therefrom.

The invention consists in the novel construction, combination and arrangement of parts for the above ends, hereinafter fully specified and particularly pointed out in the claim.

In the accompanying drawing, Figure 1 is a perspective view of the apparatus; Fig. 2 is a detail vertical section on the line 2—2 of Fig. 1.

Referring to the drawing, 1 indicates a base of convenient size and shape, upon which are secured two parallel guide strips 2. On these guide strips are erected standards 3, which are apertured to form bearings for a shaft 4, which, between the standards, is square in cross-section. To the sides of said shaft are secured, close to the inner walls of the standards, frame pieces 6, extending at right angles to said shaft and to one another, their inner or opposing sides being formed with grooves to receive the ends of rectangular glass plates 7, which are secured against outward movement in said grooves by caps 8 attached by screws to the ends of said frame pieces 6. The frame pieces, shaft, and glass plates thus form a frame on which bank notes or other documents can be placed in an upright or nearly upright position for the purpose of examining the same. A wire 9 secured at its ends to said standards, and extending therebetween above the plates and frame pieces, serves to prevent the standards from spreading at the top. Secured to one end of said shaft 4, preferably the left hand end, and at a convenient distance from the adjacent standard to conveniently turn the shaft and plates, is a milled wheel 11, and, secured on said shaft outside said standard and closely adjacent thereto, is a ratchet wheel 12 having therein four notches 13, corresponding to the four plates carried by the shaft. Pivoted on the outer side of said standard is a dog 14, having a tooth which is adapted to engage any one of said notches 13 and prevent the wheel from being turned, and also having, on the other side of its pivot from the tooth, a tail 16, so that the pressure of the finger applied to said tail will lift the tooth out of the notch 13 and permit the shaft to be turned. The inner or opposing edges of said guide strips 2 are undercut or mortised, as shown at 17, and therein can slide tenons 18 formed on the extended sides 19 of a carrier 21, which can move on the base 1 to or from the shaft 4. Said carrier is slotted, as shown at 22, the sides of said slot being undercut, as shown at 23 in Fig. 2, and in said slot there can slide a rib 24 extending downwardly from a base 25, there being attached to said rib a plate 26, extending into the undercut portions of said sides of the slot. On the base 25 stands a tubular post 27, in which, by a set screw 28, can be adjusted at any height a stem 29, which at its upper end carries a magnifying lens 30.

The mode of use of the device will readily be understood from the foregoing description. For testing the genuineness of a bank note or other document, or of a signature, the paper 31 to be examined is placed in a nearly vertical position, and rests against one of the glass plates. The carrier 21 is moved in or out to adjust the lens to the proper focus, and the stem 29 is moved up or down to adjust it to its proper height. The post 27 is moved to the right or left, if necessary, to bring the lens opposite to the exact part of the document which

it is desired to examine. By reason of the support for the bank note or other document being transparent, any irregularity in the paper or printing, or in the signature, can be clearly seen and immediately detected.

The device is especially well adapted for examining a large number of bank notes or other documents quickly in succession. For this purpose, the lens is first adjusted to the proper distance and position, and the operator turns intermittently the shaft with the left hand, removing the dog by his finger at the proper time from the ratchet wheel and, as each glass plate in turn is brought to a nearly vertical position, he places with the right hand one of said bank notes in front of said plate. When the shaft is moved through a quarter turn, the bank note which has just been examined is automatically discharged on to a pile of previously examined bank notes. By thus turning the shaft with the left hand, and feeding the bank notes one after the other with the right hand, a large number of notes can be examined in a very short time.

I claim:—

In an apparatus for examining bank notes and the like, the combination of a base, standards thereon, a horizontal shaft having its bearings in said standards, a carrier movable to and from said standards, a vertically adjustable lens supported by said carrier, four glass plates extending from said shaft at equal angular intervals, means for rotating said shaft, and means for automatically arresting said shaft at angular intervals of a right angle, the points of arrest being related to the directions of the respective plates that said shaft is arrested in a position in which one of said plates extends upwardly and inclined from the lens at a slight angle with the vertical.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

ISABELLA DE DRAGITS.

Witnesses:
F. M. WRIGHT,
D. B. RICHARDS.