E. L. TARBOX.

HAND-STAMP.

No. 191,265. Patented May 29, 1877.

Fig. I.

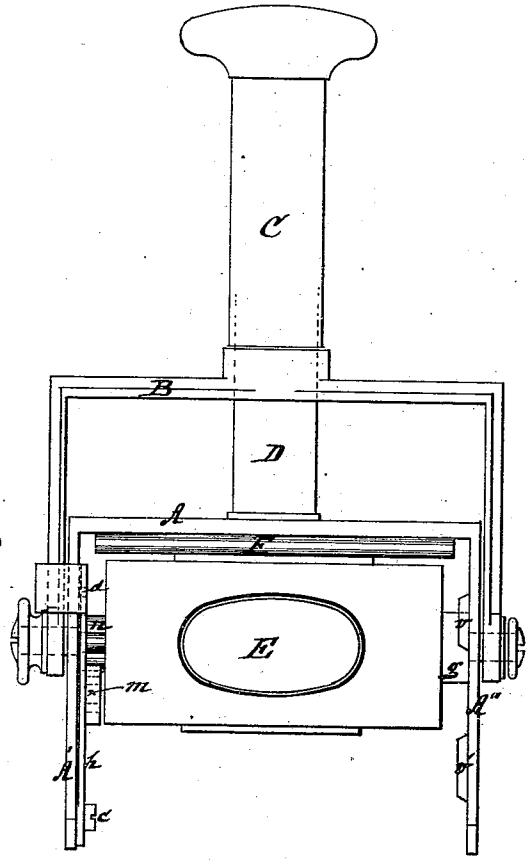


Fig. II.

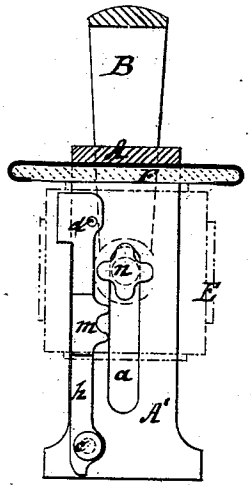
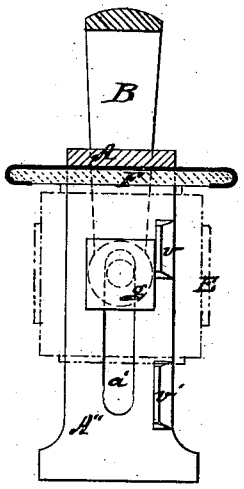


Fig. III.



Witnesses.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

EUGENE L. TARBOX, OF NEW YORK, N. Y.

IMPROVEMENT IN HAND-STAMPS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **191,265**, dated May 29, 1877; application filed June 5, 1876.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, EUGENE L. TARBOX, of New York, in the State of New York, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Hand-Stamps, of which the following is a specification:

This invention relates to that class of stamps where the die is attached to a block, which, while the die is inked by being brought in contact with a coloring-pad situated in the upper part of the frame, is, during the operation of moving the block downward, revolved so that the die is moved to the under side, and thus give the impression upon the paper or other material.

The nature of my invention consists in the arrangement of a movable rack, which rotates the die-block in such a manner that said rack can easily be moved clear of the pinion on the block, when said block can be turned around so that a different surface of the block can be made to operate, by which arrangement four or more different dies can be attached to one and the same machine, to be used as may be required; and, further, in the arrangement of a square block at one end of the die-block, in combination with suitable guides on the side of the frame, which, while allowing the free rotation of the die-block, will guide the same at its top and bottom position, so that the die will present a square surface while being inked at the pad, and while the same makes the impression on the paper or other material.

In the accompanying drawing, Figure I represents a front view of a hand-stamp embodying my invention. Fig. II is a cross-section showing the inner part of the left-hand leg of the frame, and Fig. III is a cross-section showing the inner part of the right-hand leg of the frame.

A is a frame, having two legs, A′ A″, provided with slots *a a′*, through which the axle of the die-block passes, and which guide the same in its up-and-down motion. The outer ends of this axle are attached to a bow-frame, B, provided with a hollow handle, C, passing over the rod D, attached to the top of the frame A, for the purpose of guiding the same. A suitable spring is arranged in this hollow handle C, to hold the frame B and die-block E in its top position.

On the under side of the frame A the inking-pad F is arranged, from which the die receives its coloring matter. All these parts are constructed in the usual manner.

On one side of the die-block E a pinion, *n*, having four teeth, is secured to the axle, which, when the block is moved, comes in gear with suitable teeth on a rack, *m*, and so arranged that the die-block E shall make one-half of a revolution, thereby bringing that side of the block which was facing upward, and was in contact with the inking-pad F at the under side, facing the paper or other material.

When the die-block E is made with six or eight sides or surfaces, the number of teeth in the pinion must be increased to correspond with the number of surfaces of the block.

The rack *m* is attached to a lever, *h*, turning on a center, *c*, fast to the lower part of the leg A′, and a pin, *d*, is fixed near the top of said leg, to which the upper end of the lever *h* is attached, thus holding said lever *h*, and consequently the rack *m*, in its proper position.

On the other end of the die-block a square block, *g*, (or a block having as many sides as there are surfaces on the die-block,) is attached to the axle or block, and guiding-surfaces *v v′* are arranged on the inside of the leg A″, with which the block *g* comes in contact near the top and bottom position of the die-block, and is thereby guided so as to present a square surface to the inking-pad F to color the die, or to the paper or material at the bottom, to give the desired impression. These guides *v v′* are made in two pieces, so as to have an opening toward their middle to allow the free turning of the block *g*, while the die-block E is made to rotate.

Instead of attaching the rack *m* to a hinged lever, *h*, as above described, the same may be attached to a bar made to slide inward and outward at the inner side of the leg A′, so as to be able to move the rack outward whenever it is desired to change the operating surface of the die-block, and then move the same back again into its proper position, suitable provision being made to secure the bar in its po-

sition. By this arrangement of attaching the rack *m* to a movable lever or bar, I am enabled to place a different die upon each surface of the die-block E, and to use the same, as may be desired.

To change the stamp so as to bring a different surface or die into use, the lever *h* is moved clear of the pin *d*, and turned around on its center *c*, so as to bring the rack *m* away from the pinion *n*. The die-block E is then moved partly downward, when the same can be easily turned so as to bring any desired surface or die into future operation. The die-block is then brought again in its top position, and the rack *m* secured into its proper place, when the stamp will be ready to operate with the new die.

What I claim as my invention, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. In a hand-stamp, the rack *m*, attached to a hinged lever, *h*, or its equivalent, arranged to operate substantially in the manner and for the purpose described.

2. The square guiding-block *g* on one side of the die-block E, in combination with the separated guides *v* and *v'* on the inner side of the leg A″ of a hand-stamp, in the manner and for the purpose substantially as set forth.

E. L. TARBOX.

Witnesses:
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