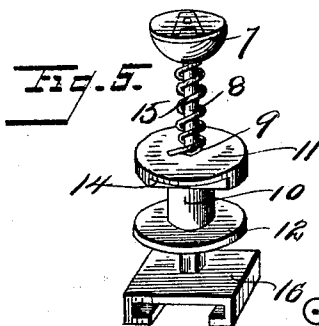
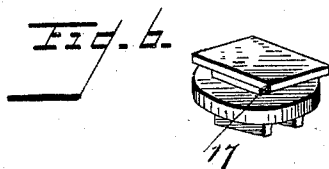
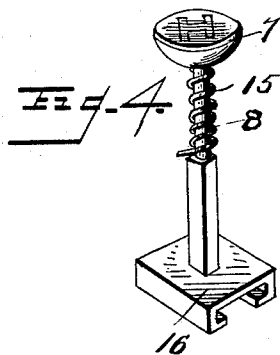
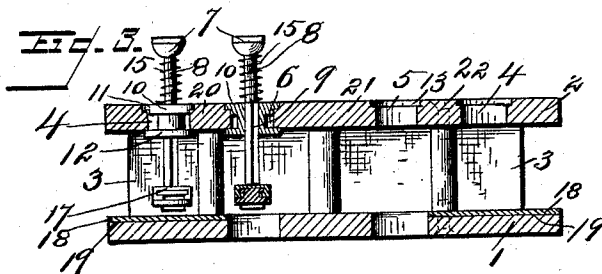
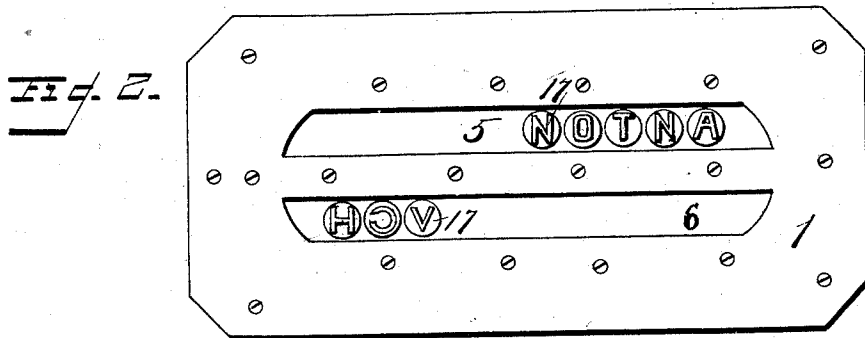
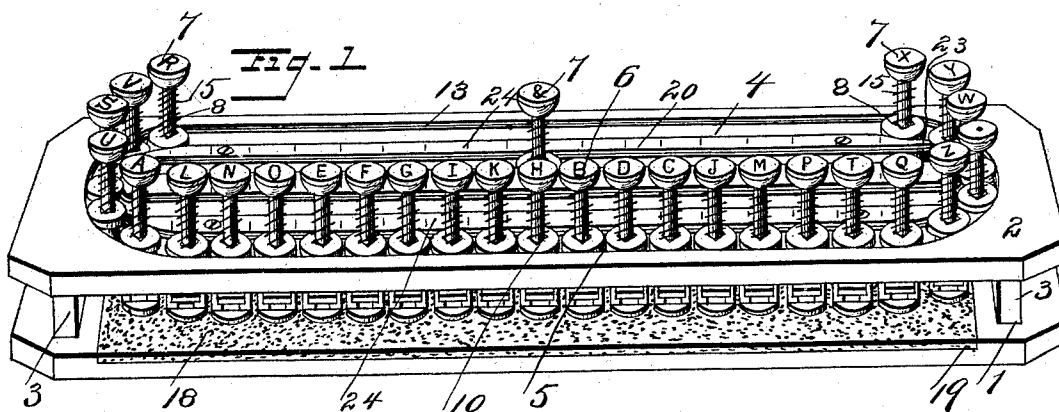


(No Model.)

C. L. ANTON.
MARKING STAMP.

No. 509,858.

Patented Dec. 5, 1893.



Witnesses

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

CHRISTOPHER L. ANTON, OF MONONGAHELA CITY, PENNSYLVANIA.

MARKING-STAMP.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 509,858, dated December 5, 1893.

Application filed June 8, 1893. Serial No. 477,029. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, CHRISTOPHER L. ANTON, a citizen of the United States, residing at Monongahela City, in the county of Washington and State of Pennsylvania, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Marking-Stamps; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same.

My invention relates to a new and improved device for printing the name and address or other matter on boxes, barrels, packages, &c., preparatory to their shipment or transportation; and has for its object to dispense with the marking pot and brush heretofore used for this purpose, by the provision of a hand marking or printing stamp arranged in compact and portable form within a small compass, whereby the name and address of the person for whom the article is intended may be printed in a proper and ornamental manner by unskilled persons with ease and rapidity.

My invention further contemplates printing the characters, or symbols in one or more lines as the occasion demands; and moreover, to produce an appliance of this class which will be inexpensive in manufacture, durable and convenient in use, and specially adapted for various purposes.

For the attainment of these objects, and for other purposes hereinafter enumerated, my invention comprises a suitable frame carrying a series of type-bearing keys mounted for independent movement and manipulation in an endless type-receiving way or slot tributary to, and communicating with, one or more aligning guide-ways or slots into which the type-bearing keys are successively and separately introduced for operation. In conjunction with these features, I provide suitable means for inking the type preparatory to their operation, and for bringing them into their proper relative or spaced positions in the aligning guide-ways or slots.

My invention further consists in certain other details of construction, arrangement and combination of parts, all of which will be more fully described hereinafter.

The novel features of the invention are embraced in the appended claims, which are intended to accord in their scope and meaning with the prior state of the art and the existing law.

Referring to the accompanying drawings forming a part of this specification:—Figure 1 is a perspective view of a device embodying my invention. Fig. 2 is an inverted or bottom plan view. Fig. 3 is a central transverse section. Fig. 4 is an enlarged detail perspective view of one of the type-carriers shown detached from the frame. Fig. 5 is a similar view of one of the type-bearing keys and its supporting and guiding type-holder. Fig. 6 is a detail perspective view of one of the detachable type blocks.

In the several views of the drawings, like numerals of reference indicate corresponding parts.

Referring to the drawings, 1, is the base-plate of the frame, of suitable shape, dimensions, and material, and, 2, is the top-plate substantially similar to the base plate and is arranged parallel and coextensive therewith, and is held apart or separated a prescribed distance from the base-plate by means of the transverse space-bars or plates, 3, one at each end of the frame between the upper and lower plates. In the upper plate, 2, is cut an endless type-receiving way or slot, 4, preferably elliptical in shape and extending clear around the plate adjacent to its outer edge as shown. Arranged inside of, and communicating at, both of their ends with this surrounding slot, 4, are the parallel longitudinal aligning guide-ways or slots, 5, and, 6, of which two are shown but which may be of any desired number according to the number of lines to be printed. The type-keys, 7, in the form of disks carrying the letter, figure or symbol corresponding to that particular type, are fitted to the upper ends of squared shanks, 8, guided and capable of vertical play or reciprocation in the correspondingly squared central bores, 9, of the type-carriers or moving supports, 10, which are severally seated in the endless slot, 4, and are arranged to be freely slidable or movable therein independently in order to be readily shifted and introduced into their prescribed positions in the aligning slots, 5, and, 6, when desired. Each type-carrier or movable support, 10, is in the form of a spool

having the upper and lower disks or heads, 11, 12, overlapping the sides of the slot, and the vertical shank or neck connecting the two heads. The neck or shank of each spool passes through, and is loosely seated in, the slot, 4, while the heads, 11, 12, prevent any vertical displacement or removal of any type-carrier. The opposed edges of the slots, 4, 5, 6, are rabbeted to make the guiding shoulders, 13, for the upper heads, 11, which have two squared sides, 14. The rabbets of the two aligning slots, 5, 6, make a snug seat for the heads, 11, so that the type cannot turn in these slots, while the rabbet of the slot, 4, provides a wider seat for the heads, 11, whereby they can be readily shifted and moved along in the said slot until they are in a position to be introduced into the aligning slots, *i. e.*, in other words, the width of the slot 4 is greater than that of the slots 5 and 6, so that the heads 11 are free to move and can be readily shifted in said slot. This difference in width of the slots is clearly shown in Fig. 3 in section. Each stem or shank, 8, is controlled in its return movement by the coiled return or retracting spring, 15, bearing at its upper end on the under side of the key-disk and at its lower end exerting its tension against the upper face of the head, 11, of the particular type-carrier. At its lower free end, the type-shank, 8, of each key is provided with a type-holding clip, 16, in which the type-block, 17, is detachably seated. The type and type block may be made of any suitable material, but I prefer to have the same made of rubber removably fitted to the lower end of each shank, 8, in a suitable holder so that the type can be interchanged or substituted at will.

As shown clearly in Figs. 1 and 2, there are two inking pads, 18, arranged underneath the slot, 4, on each side of the frame in such position that by depressing any key before it is moved out of the slot, 4, the face of the type will come in contact with the inking surface of the pad. The pads are rectangular in shape and fit detachably in a rectangular counter-sunk recess, 19, cut in the upper side of the base-plate on each side. By this construction the pads can be removed when desired in order to replenish the ink or for other purposes.

The aligning slots, 5, 6, are formed by the three guide-plates, 20, 21, and 22, extending longitudinally of the top plate within the outer elliptical slot, 4, and suitably secured in position by screws or otherwise. The edges of these guide-plates adjacent to the slots, 4, 5, 6, are rabbeted in the manner and for the purpose hereinbefore described; and the two outer plates, 20, 22, have both ends adjacent to, and there forming the inner edge of, the slot, 4, cut away or rounded as at, 23, to conform to the curvature of the said slot at those points, as will be readily understood.

Adjacent to the edge of each aligning slot is a scale or gage-plate, 24, to enable the operator to assemble the type-keys in their proper

relative positions in order to form the desired spaces between the letters or characters.

The slot, 4, is designed to act as a type-holder and receiver for all the type-keys when the device is not in use; and when it is desired to address a box or package, the operator places the frame in proper position on the same; selects the desired type-key in the slot, 4; depresses same in the slot, 4, to ink the type on the lower end of the shank, 8; releases the key; shifts it together with all opposing keys around in the slot, 4, until that particular key is coincident with the desired aligning slot; brings the type-key to the required position by means of the scale plate; depresses the key again, thus impacting the face of the type carried by the key against the printing surface underneath and effecting an imprint of the particular letter or character desired. In substantially the same manner this operation is repeated until the matter desired is printed on the article.

For printing ordinary addresses comprising the name, the street and number, and the city or county and State, it will be found that two aligning slots are sufficient for this purpose, for in the first two lines printed can be given the name, city, and State; and then by shifting the device to a different position, two more lines are provided for a more detailed address.

In practice it may be found advisable to deviate from the exact construction illustrated and described, since it is obvious that numerous changes and variations may be made which should be viewed only as mechanical expedients, not requiring the exercise of inventive faculties. Therefore, as long as the fundamental principles of the invention are adhered to, I am at liberty to make certain variations, changes and departures without stepping beyond the domain of this invention.

Having thus fully described my invention, what I claim, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. A device of the class described comprising a suitable frame provided with a type-receiving way communicating with one or more aligning guide-ways; a series of type-bearing and type-operating keys mounted for free independent movement in the type-receiving way, and adapted to be moved into printing position in an aligning guide way; and suitable means for inking the type carried by the said keys.

2. A device of the class described comprising a suitable portable frame provided on its top portion with a type-receiving way communicating with both ends of one or more aligning guide-ways; a series of type-bearing and type-operating keys mounted for free independent movement in the type-receiving way, and adapted to be moved into printing position in an aligning guide-way; and suitable means for inking the type carried by the said keys.

3. A device of the class described comprising a suitable frame provided with one or more aligning guide-ways communicating at both ends with an endless type receiving way; 45
 5 a series of type-bearing and type-operating keys slidably mounted for independent movement in the type-receiving way, and adapted to be shifted into printing position in an aligning guide-way; and suitable means for inking the type carried by the keys. 10

4. A device for the purpose specified comprising a suitable frame provided with a type-receiving way communicating with one or more aligning guide-ways communicating 15
 15 with the type-receiving way; a series of type-bearing and type-operating keys mounted for independent movement in the type-receiving way, and adapted to be shifted into printing position in the aligning guide-way or ways; 20
 20 and one or more detachable inking pads arranged underneath and in operative relation to the type carried by the keys.

5. A device of the class described comprising a suitable frame provided with an endless type receiving way communicating with 25
 25 both ends of one or more aligning guide ways; a series of spring supported type-bearing and type-operating keys mounted for independent movement in said type-receiving way, and 30
 30 adapted to be shifted into printing position in an aligning guide-way; and an inking surface for the type carried by the keys, arranged underneath the said type to be contacted by the latter when they are depressed.

6. A device of the class described comprising a suitable frame provided with an endless type-receiving and guiding way communicating with both ends of one or more aligning guide-ways; a series of type-bearing and 35
 40 type-operating keys mounted for vertical reciprocation in type-carriers; a type-carrier for each type-bearing key, mounted for inde-

pendent movement in said type-receiving way, and adapted to hold and guide the shanks of the type in their vertical play; and suitable inking means for the type carried by the 45
 said keys.

7. A device of the class described comprising a suitable frame provided with an endless type-receiving and guiding way communicating with both ends of one or more aligning guide-ways; a series of type-bearing and type-operating keys severally mounted for vertical reciprocation in type-carriers; a series of type-carriers slidably fitted in the endless way, and adapted to be moved in proper position in an aligning guide-way and held against twisting or turning therein; and suitable means for inking the type carried by the 50
 55 said keys. 60

8. In a device of the class described, the combination, with a suitable frame provided with an endless type-receiving way communicating with both ends of one or more aligning guide-ways provided with rabbeted edges; 65
 65 of a series of type-carriers mounted for independent movement in the type-receiving way and provided with squared edges adapted to fit snugly against, yet move in between, the rabbeted edges of an aligning guideway. 70

9. In a device of the class described, the combination, with a suitable frame provided with an endless type-receiving and guiding way communicating at both ends of one or more aligning guide-ways; of a series of type-bearing and type-operating keys mounted for independent movement in the ways; and detachable type fitted to the said keys. 75

In testimony whereof I affix my signature in presence of two witnesses.

CHRISTOPHER L. ANTON.

Witnesses:

GEO. T. LINN,

GEO. A. FIFE.