# D. W. Fish.

## Hand Stamp.

No. 109,814. Patented Dec. 6, 1870.

Fig. 1.

Front.

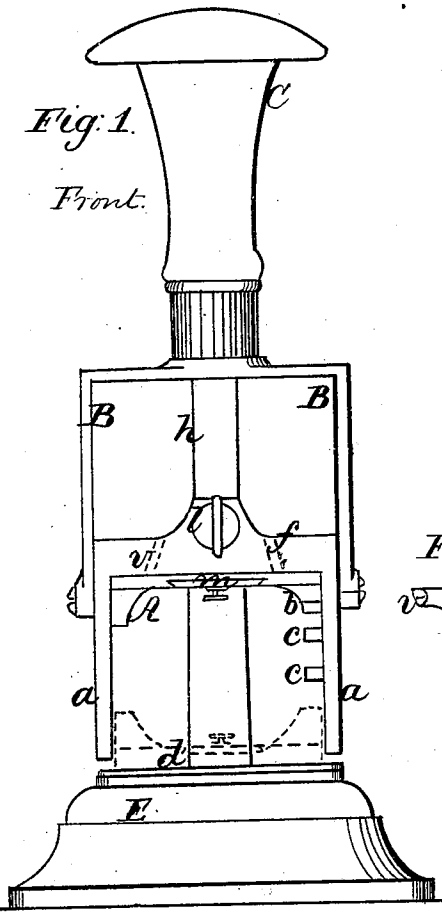



Fig. 2.

Side

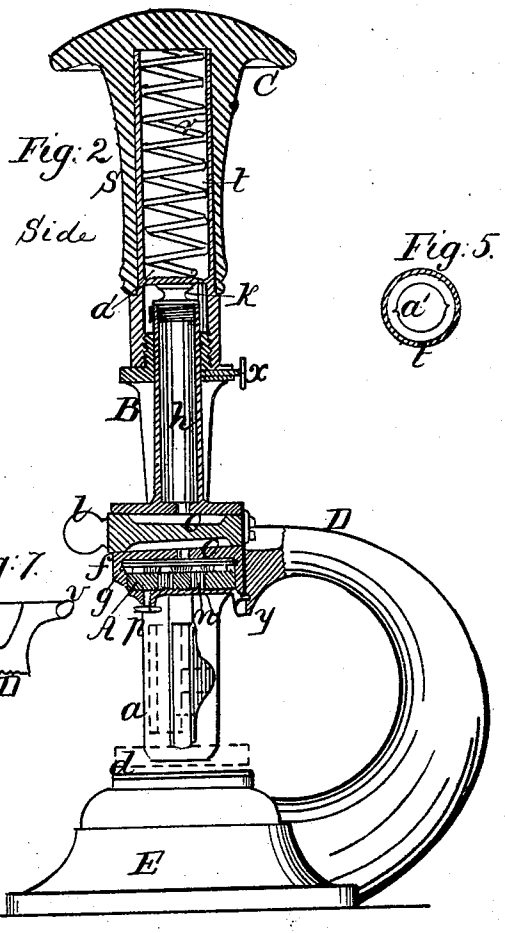



Fig. 5.




Fig. 7.

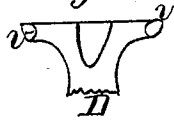



Fig. 3.

Section.

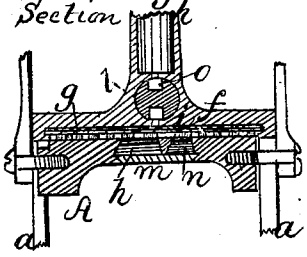



Fig. 4.

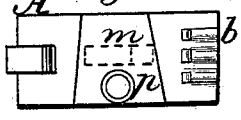
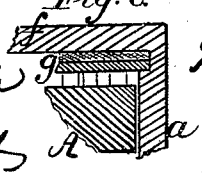



Fig. 6.




Witnesses

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DANIEL W. FISH, OF BROOKLYN, NEW YORK.

Letters Patent No. 109,814, dated December 6, 1870.

## IMPROVEMENT IN HAND-STAMPS.

The Schedule referred to in these Letters Patent and making part of the same.

I, DANIEL W. FISH, of Brooklyn, in the county of Kings and State of New York, have invented certain Improvements in "Hand and Office-Stamps," of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to a novel construction and arrangement of parts in that class of hand-stamps having a reversible die-plate and a tubular ink-fountain.

In the drawing—

Figure 1 is a front elevation of my invention.

Figure 2 is a sectional side elevation.

Figure 3 is a vertical section of the die-plate and inking device.

Figures 4, 5, 6, and 7, are details.

The die-plate A is pivoted at the ends to the yoke B, to which the knob or handle C is attached.

The die-plate is guided in its movement by slots in the bars *a*, and it is given a semi-revolution as it descends by means of the gear teeth *b*, which mesh into corresponding teeth, *c*, upon one of the guides *a*.

It will be observed that a downward movement of the handle C causes the die to leave the ink-pad against which it rests inverted, and become reversed in its descent by means of the gear-teeth, ready to make the impression upon the platen *d* below.

The guides *a* are suspended from the supporting-neck D, formed upon or secured to the base E, and their lower extremities are sufficiently above the surface of the platen *d*, to permit the introduction of the article to be stamped.

By means of this arrangement of the parts, I am enabled to use the reversible die-plate and ink-supply fountain in connection with the fixed bed or platen *d*, an indispensible feature in a stamp for general office use; but I prefer to make the plate and guides separate from the neck or hanger D.

The rear side of the plate *f* is provided with a dovetail recess, indicated by the dotted lines *v*, fig. 1, and the head of the hanger D made to fit, as shown in fig. 7, which is a top view. It will be seen that, by making the dovetail broader at the lower side, as shown. The pressure upon the plate *f* in stamping tends to tighten the connection.

The stamping apparatus is secured to the hanger D by a binding-screw, *y*, fig. 2. When the stamp is made detachable it may be taken off and used for stamping books, &c., or attached to the base or platform by the hanger, and used as the ordinary office-stamp.

This stamp, when detached and provided with proper dating and hour-type, if desired, constitutes the most perfect and convenient post-office stamp yet invented, because it is self-inking, while the ordinary hand-stamp requires a separate movement to ink the type.

The plate *f*, forming the connection between the guides *a*. and the hanger D is recessed upon the lower side, to receive the pad *g*, figs. 2 and 3, which conveys and distributes the ink from the fountain *h* to the die-plate A, and this recess is made re-entrant at the sides or ends, as shown in fig. 6, to prevent the pad from dropping out, and, at the same time, permit its removal for cleaning or renewal.

The ink flows from the fountain *h* to the pad through a small opening, *i*, fig. 3, and the fibrous character of the pad quickly distributes it over the whole surface.

To regulate and cut off this flow, I provide the plug *l*, which is fitted into a suitable seat or socket in the plate *f*, between the fountain and the pad.

This plug has a groove or recess, *o*, upon one or both sides, which is proportioned to contain ink enough to fill the pores of the pad, and an aperture in the bottom of the fountain communicates with the recess when the plug is turned to the proper point.

It is plain that, when a recess, *o*, is filled with ink, it is allowed to flow through the opening *i* to the pad by simply reversing the plug, while communication with the fountain is simultaneously cut off by the solid portions of the plug. By providing two recesses, *o*, at opposite points upon the latter, one may be filling while the other is emptying.

In a dating-stamp it is necessary that provision be made for changing the portion of the die indicating the date. For this purpose apertures are formed through the die-plate, the sides of which are inclined so as to receive the dovetailed dating-types *n*, figs. 2 and 3.

These loose types are clamped in position by a plate, *m*, which is secured to the back of the die-plate by sliding it in a dovetailed recess, as shown in figs. 1 and 3, or by means of suitable thumb-screws, or a spring catch.

A very effective plan of attachment is shown in fig. 4, the plate being dovetailed in two directions, and, if necessary, retained in position by a screw-stop, *p*.

Thus, when the die-plate is partly or wholly reversed, as shown in dotted lines in fig. 2, the plate *m* may be readily slipped out, and the loose types removed and replaced by others.

To assist in making such changes, the die-plate may be clamped at any point of its vertical adjustment by means of the clamp-screw, *x*, in the yoke B.

The horizontal bar of the yoke B is fitted to move vertically upon the tube *h*, which thus constitutes a guide for such movement in addition to the slots in the guides *a*, and a boss is formed at the center of said bar concentric with the tube *h*, upon or into which the ferrule of the handle C is screwed.

The handle C is composed of the outer portion *s*,

fig. 2, of ornamental wood or other suitable material, and the metallic tube *t*, which contains the reaction spring *r*. This spring rests upon the upper extremity of the reservoir *h*, and, since the latter is securely attached to the hanger D, it follows that the spring returns the handle, yoke, and die-plate, to their original position, after the required impression has been made.

The ink-reservoir is closed by a stopper, *k*, and it is obviously necessary to remove the handle to obtain access to the former for refilling, which is done by unscrewing it from the boss upon the yoke, thus leaving the upper portion of the reservoir exposed.

It will be seen that, unless prevented by some means, the spring *r* would be liable to drop out of the tube *t* when the latter is removed, and cause considerable trouble in replacing it.

To obviate this difficulty, I provide the disk *a'*, figs. 2 and 5, resting upon a slight ledge or flange formed upon the inner periphery of the tube *t*, which retains the spring within the latter, while, at the same time, the handle is free to pass down over the reservoir *h* and compress the spring.

This disk is conveniently introduced through notches upon opposite sides of the flange, as indicated in fig. 5. The tube *t* strengthens the handle and cheapens its construction, and its lower end forms the ferrule, by which it is attached to the yoke B.

The upper extremity of the spring *r* may bear against the handle directly, or against the solid end of the tube.

What I claim as my invention is—

1. The detachable stamping apparatus, when provided with a reversible self-inking die-plate, in combination with the bed or platform E, substantially in the manner shown, and for the purposes described.

2. In combination with the reservoir *h* and distributing-pad *g*, the ink-gauge *l*, constructed and arranged to operate substantially in the manner and for the purposes set forth.

DANL. W. FISH.

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