

D. W. Messer.
Hand Stamp.

N^o 12468.

Patented Feb. 27. 1855.

Fig. 2

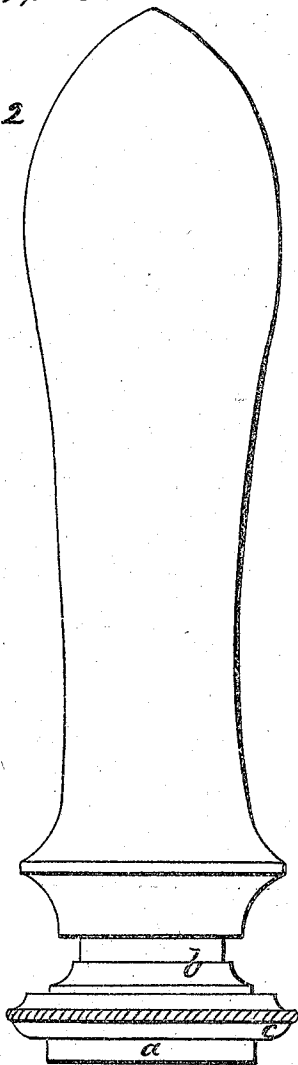
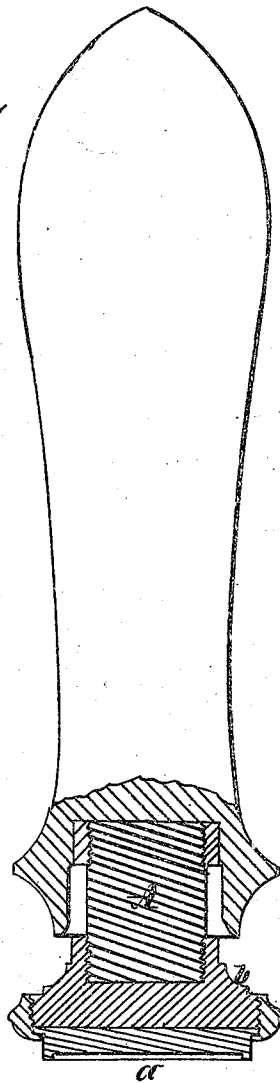


Fig. 1



UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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R. B. FITTS, AND A. JAMES.

HAND-STAMP.

Specification of Letters Patent No. 12,468, dated February 27, 1855.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, DANIEL W. MESSER, of Boston, in the county of Suffolk and State of Massachusetts, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Hand-Stamps, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description, reference being had to the annexed drawings, making part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 is a view of my stamp; Fig. 2, a longitudinal section through the same.

In hand stamps for post office and other similar uses, in which the types or characters are secured rigidly to the handle by which they are operated, it is not found possible to obtain a correct impression, owing to the difficulty in bringing down the type plate level upon the surface to be printed. To remedy this inconvenience, the types have been secured to the handle by means of a spring and a ball and socket joint; this allowed the type plate to accommodate itself to the surface of the paper, but the rigid connection between the handle and the types causes the latter soon to wear out, as there is no elasticity interposed between the type plate and the handle. To remedy this and at the same time to diminish the cost of the stamp is the object of my present invention, which consists in securing the type plate to the handle by means of an india rubber connection, which shall be capable of yielding not only so as to accommodate the type plate to the surface of the paper, but also in a

vertical direction, by which means as the impression is made by a smart blow, as is customary, the india rubber yields slightly, and the blow is not felt so injuriously by the type plate as when there is a rigid connection.

In the accompanying drawings *a*, is the plate which carries the letters or other marks or figures to be printed. It is held to the socket *b* by means of the screw ring; *c*, a flange upon the bottom of which projects over a corresponding flange on the plate as seen in Fig. 2.

A is a piece of india rubber which is securely fastened in any suitable manner to both the socket and the handle. This india rubber connection thus serves as a spring connection between the printing plate and handle and allows the latter to accommodate itself to the surface of the article to be stamped as before suggested.

I do not claim uniting the type plate to the handle by means of a ball and socket joint, as that has been done before, but

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

The india rubber connection between the plate and the handle operating in the manner and for the purpose herein set forth.

D. W. MESSER.

Witnesses:

SAM. COOPER,
JOHN S. CLOW.