

J. A. RYAN.
HAND SEAL PRESS.
APPLICATION FILED JAN. 17, 1911.

1,055,494.

Patented Mar. 11, 1913

Fig. 1.

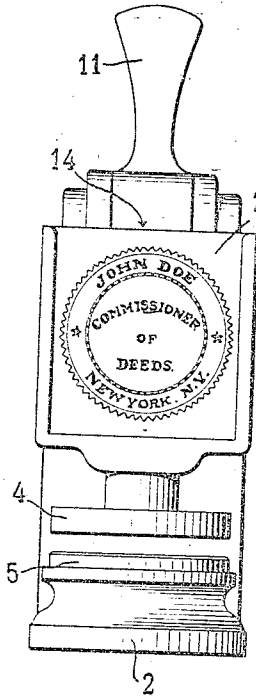


Fig. 2.

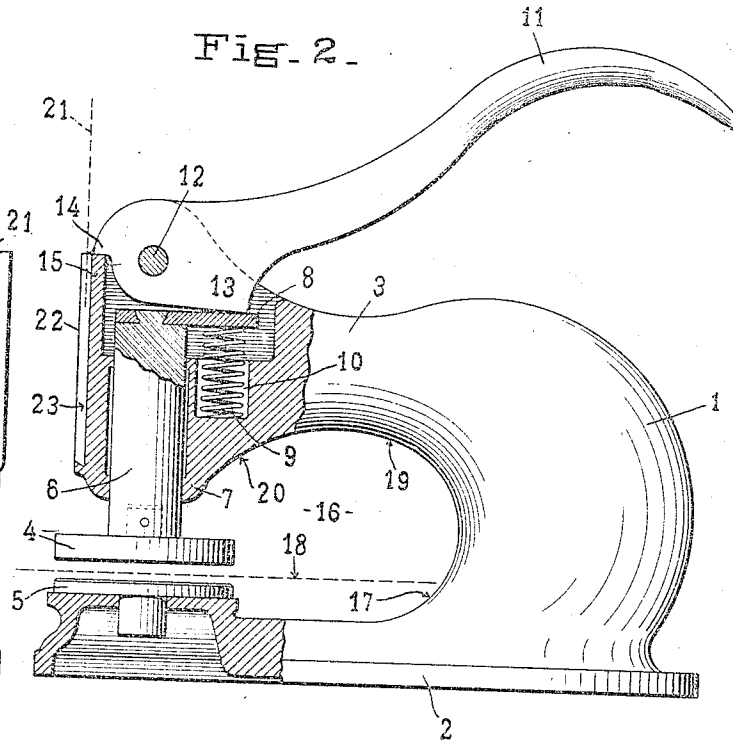
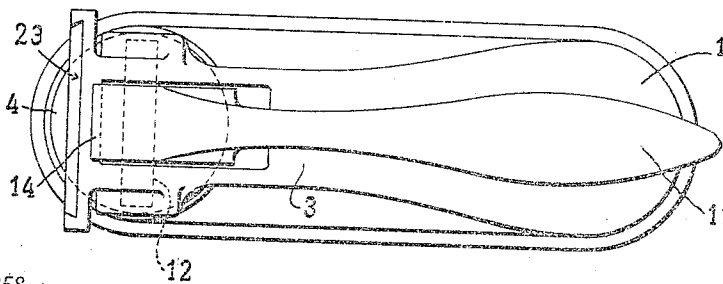


Fig. 3.



WITNESSES

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JAMES A. RYAN, OF NEWARK, NEW JERSEY.

HAND SEAL-PRESS.

1.055.494.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Mar. 11, 1913.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JAMES A. RYAN, a citizen of the United States, and resident of Newark, in the State of New Jersey, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Hand Seal-Presses, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to hand presses, or stamps for impressing seals, such as notarial and corporation seals upon paper and the like. In constructions of this character the faces of the dies are arranged so close together that it is practically impossible to tell from looking at the press what the inscription of the die is and it is necessary to make a test impression.

One of my objects is to provide a convenient and conspicuous means for indicating the character of the die which is in the press. It has been customary in constructions of this character to so arrange the parts that the operating handle normally stands substantially vertical. This makes it difficult to start the operation of the press. I have found that better results may be obtained by so arranging the construction that the handle in its normal position is nearly horizontal so that the weight of the hand can be immediately brought to bear upon the handle for effective pressure. I have also found that the press can be made more stable and less likely to be overturned when operating by extending the base somewhat and giving additional weight to the body of the press at some distance from the die carrier. By extending the arm of the body I not only provide a much larger opening for the reception of paper but bring the arm into substantial parallelism with the handle so that the hand may grasp the handle as well as the arm when giving the final depression to the handle. This enables me to get a greater pressure. By curving the body around the opening between the base and the arm substantially as shown in Figure 2, I have made it possible to readily insert a paper of very considerable width. The curved surface causes the edge of the paper to automatically curl and return upon itself for quite a distance, for instance, with a press having an opening of substantially 3 inches from the center of the die plunger to the side wall surface of the body in the opening I can readily insert a paper 7 inches without crumpling or folding. The hori-

zontally positioned handle serves also to cover the spring containing recess and prevent the entrance of dirt or other foreign matter.

Fig. 1, is a front view of a press embodying the improvements of my invention. Fig. 2, is a side view and partial section of the same. Fig. 3, is a plan view of the same.

The body 1 has a base 2 and a horizontal arm 3. The dies for forming the impression may be of any suitable character and consist of the upper and lower dies 4 and 5 respectively. The lower die is mounted in the usual manner in the base 2 and the upper die is carried by a plunger 6 which is vertically reciprocable in the head 7 at the outer end of the arm 3. A plate or extension 8 is fastened to the upper end of the plunger 6. The spring 9 mounted in a recess 10 in the head of the arm presses beneath the plate 8 and serves to raise the plunger 6. The operating handle 11 is pivotally mounted on the pin 12 at the upper end of the head 7. This handle has a shoulder 13 engaging the plate 8 of the plunger in the upper part of the recess 10. The handle may also have another shoulder 14 for engaging a shoulder 15 at the upper end of the head 7 in order to prevent the handle from being turned upward above its proper normal position. The handle substantially covers the recess 10 and prevents the entrance of dirt.

The paper or other fabric upon which the impression is to be made is inserted as usual between the dies 4 and 5. I have so shaped the opening 16 in the rear of the dies 4 and 5 that paper may be readily inserted to a considerable distance. For this purpose the wall or inner surface of the opening 16 is curved at the point 17 where the edge of the paper when inserted as shown by the dotted line 18 will engage the wall so that the end of the paper as it is pushed backwardly will be curled up and follow the gradual curve from 17 upward and to the left. The first half of the curve up to about the point 19 is the arc of a circle of a given radius and from there toward the left the radius of the curve increases so as to allow the paper to straighten out and prevent its being curled backward. The construction is such as before mentioned that whereas, the distance from the plunger 6 to the point 7 in the

given construction is say—3 inches—a paper may be inserted fully 7 inches before it will crumple or require folding.

To enable one to quickly and accurately determine the character of the dies of the press at a glance I provide an indicator 21 bearing an impression of the dies. This indicator card or slip is inserted in a groove 22 in the front of the head 7 against the wall 23. This indicator may be readily inserted or removed as desired and affords a most convenient and perfect means for identifying the press. This indicator may consist of a stiff piece of paper or pasteboard bearing an imprint of the seal or other die.

In operating the press after the paper is inserted the handle 11 is pressed downward so that the shoulder 13 presses the plate 8 and the plunger 6 downward. The final pressure may be augmented by claspings the fingers around the arm 3 near the end of the stroke. In releasing the press the handle 11 is lifted and the spring 9 raises the plunger 6. The great weight of the body 1

at the rear serves to prevent the overturning of the press when the handle is being raised. In this way the parts are much better balanced.

What I claim is:—

A hand stamp press comprising an elongated base adapted to rest upon a table or support, an arm integral with the base at one end, extending substantially parallel with the base and leaving an elongated opening between the arm and base of sufficient size to permit the hand to be inserted, a head upon the free end of the arm, a plunger vertically mounted in the head, an operating lever mounted above the plunger and extending over the arm, substantially parallel therewith, and in close proximity thereto to enable the operator to grasp both arm and lever with one hand in operating the stamp.

JAMES A. RYAN.

Witnesses:

ROBT. S. ALLYN,
ELISHA W. MCGUIRE.