

A. C. PAQUET.

Improvement in Bank-Checks, &c.

No. 114,963.

Patented May 16, 1871.

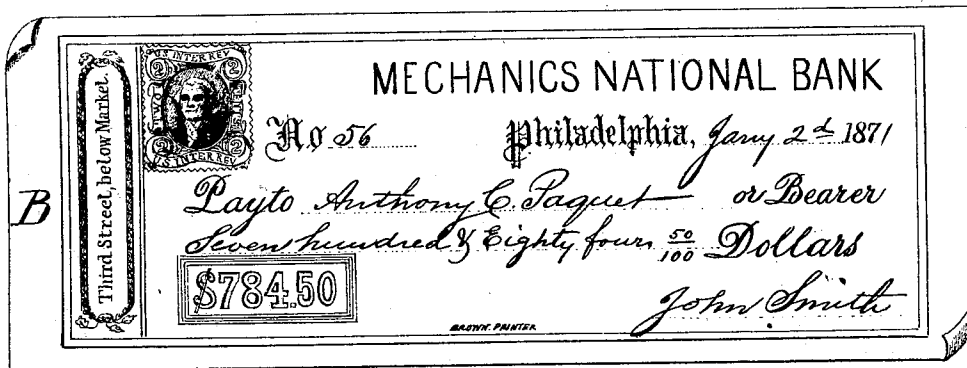


Fig. 1

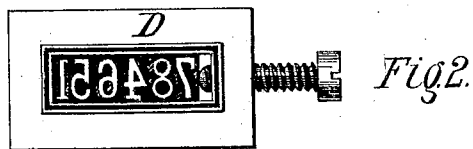


Fig. 2.

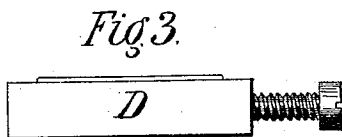
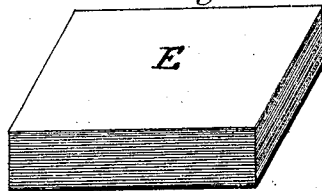


Fig. 3.

Fig. 4



Fig. 5



Witnesses
Joseph Evans.
Frank Hunt

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ANTHONY C. PAQUET, OF PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA.

Letters Patent No. 114 963, dated May 16, 1871.

IMPROVEMENT IN BANK-CHECKS, &c.

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

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ANTHONY C. PAQUET, of Philadelphia, in the county of Philadelphia and State of Pennsylvania, have invented a new and improved Device for Preventing the Fraudulent Alteration of Bank-Checks and other papers expressing a money valuation; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description of the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawing which forms part thereof, and in which—

Figure 1 is a view of a bank-check, showing my invention.

Figure 2 is a view of the acting face of the steel die used to produce the result hereinafter described.

Figure 3 is a side elevation of the same.

Figure 4 is a view of one of the steel types detached from the die.

Figure 5 is a view, in perspective, of the hardened-steel bed or block on which the check is laid to receive the action of the die.

My invention relates to means for preventing the fraudulent alteration of checks and other papers of value; and

It consists in compressing the fibers of the paper by means of a suitable die of hardened steel, having therein figures corresponding to the amount expressed in the paper, the said die acting against a bed, which is likewise of hardened steel, by means of which compression the amount for which the check is drawn is produced in "water-line" or translucent figures, as will be hereinafter more fully described.

In the accompanying drawing the die D is represented as being of rectangular form, having a space for the insertion of the required steel figures, which are secured firmly therein by a set-screw or other equivalent device. They are so adjusted as that their acting faces shall project a little beyond the plane of the die.

Used with the latter is the bed or block E, likewise of hardened steel, having a plain smooth surface to receive the action of the compressing-die upon the paper laid thereon.

After the check or other paper has been filled in with the amount for which it is drawn, the steel figures to express such amount are placed in the die and secured therein in any suitable manner. The check is then laid upon the hardened-steel bed to receive

the action of the compressing-die. When the latter is brought down upon the paper the result is the compression thereof corresponding to the figures in the die, for, having a solid surface underneath, the fibers of the paper are not stretched or extended, (as in embossing or indenting,) but compressed, which causes the lines forming the figures to have a translucent or water-line appearance, while the surrounding portions of the check are unaltered. This result has obviously a great advantage over other inventions claiming to prevent the alteration of checks. It is impossible to alter or efface the water-line or translucent impressions produced as described, while it is apparent that, by dampening a check or other paper having the value thereof indented or embossed upon it, (as is the case when a yielding bed is used to resist the action of the die,) and subjecting it to heavy pressure while yet moist, such mark or indication of value may be changed to suit fraudulent purposes, if not entirely eradicated.

By my process the fibers of the paper once displaced by the action of the hardened compressing-dies against an equally hard bed cannot by any means be brought to bear the same appearance as the body of the paper not subjected to the action of the said die.

I do not wish to limit my device alone to bank-checks, as it can be used for any and all purposes where it is desirable that a money valuation should be marked as well as written upon papers of value.

I contemplate the placing of a piece of parchment between the dies and check to prevent undue injury to the fibers of the paper during compression.

Having described my invention,

I claim—

The amount for which a check or other paper of value is drawn produced in the body of the paper by a die of hardened steel, or equivalent, acting against a bed or block, likewise of hardened steel, whereby the fibers of the paper are compressed and the impression rendered translucent, or has the appearance of what is known as "water-line," as herein described.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto signed my name in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

ANTHONY C. PAQUET.

Witnesses:

JOSEPH EVANS,
FRANK STOUT.