

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

FELIX WALKER, OF NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA.

IMPROVEMENT IN ADHESIVE STAMPS AND LABELS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 127,663, dated June 4, 1872.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, FELIX WALKER, of New Orleans, in the parish of Orleans and in the State of Louisiana, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Adhesive Stamps and Labels; and do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description thereof.

The nature of my invention consists in the mode of preparing and printing "adhesive stamps or labels," so that when once applied they become self-canceling, and cannot be used a second time.

In order to enable others skilled in the art to which my invention appertains to make and use the same, I will now proceed to describe how such stamps or labels are or may be prepared so as to prevent their being used over again.

I take transparent paper and saturate the same with coal or other oil, and upon one side of said paper I print such letters, figures, or devices as may be required. On the reverse side of the paper I apply a coat or coating of adhesive paste or mucilage; and when the said adhesive coating or covering is perfectly dry I print, with any suitable-kind of ink, such letters, figures, or designs as may be desired on the pasted side of the paper.

The printing on the two sides of the paper should not be exactly opposite each other so as to obstruct the view of the different figures or letters. The first printing, or the printing of the face of the stamp or label, is to guard against being counterfeited.

To apply the adhesive stamps or labels, I cut them in proper shape, and apply them by dampening the part where it is intended to attach the stamp or label, with the paste side, on which is the second printed matter, to said dampened part, when the stamp or label will readily adhere; and when once dry the said stamp or label cannot be removed without defacing the printed matter or device on the pasted side, and consequently rendering the said stamp or label unfit for use a second time.

Although I prefer to print on both sides of the stamp or label, it is not absolutely necessary to do so. The stamp or label may have printing only on the pasted or mucilage side.

I am aware of a patent granted to Henry Loewenberg, of New York, November 15, 1864, in which he described making the paper transparent by means of varnish, then applying the paste or mucilage, and printing on the pasted side. But in his case the mucilage will adhere to the varnished paper to such a degree that when the stamp is made wet to remove it a large part, and often the whole printed matter, will be carried off with the stamp.

The varnish will prevent the moisture from going through the stamp, and thus the mucilage will be prevented from leaving the surface of the stamp.

This dislocation, as it were, of the mucilage with its entire print is my aim, and which cannot be done from a hard and water-proof surface. My paper is first saturated with coal-oil, and soon thereafter the mucilage is applied, and when quite dry the printing is made on the mucilage side. Very soon the coal-oil evaporates, when the prepared transparent paper will receive moisture, and be easily separated from the mucilage with all the printed matter, which will nearly all remain on the object to which the stamp was applied.

Hence I do not claim a stamp or label made transparent by means of varnish; but

What I do claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. An adhesive stamp or label made of paper prepared with coal or other volatile oils, and having letters, figures, or other devices printed upon the pasted or mucilage side, all substantially as and for the purposes herein set forth.

2. An adhesive stamp or label made of paper prepared with coal or other volatile oils, and having letters, figures, or other devices printed both upon the face and pasted sides, all substantially as and for the purposes herein set forth.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing I have hereunto set my hand this 6th day of November, 1871.

FELIX WALKER.

Witnesses:

GEO. CROMWELL, Jr.,
J. CROMWELL.