

H. E. LIDDLE.
 DATING STAMP.
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937,251.

Patented Oct. 19, 1909.

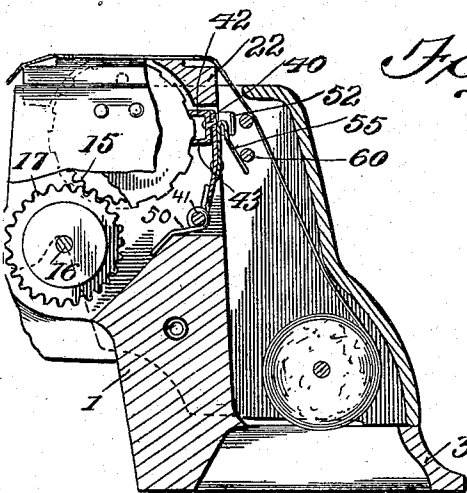
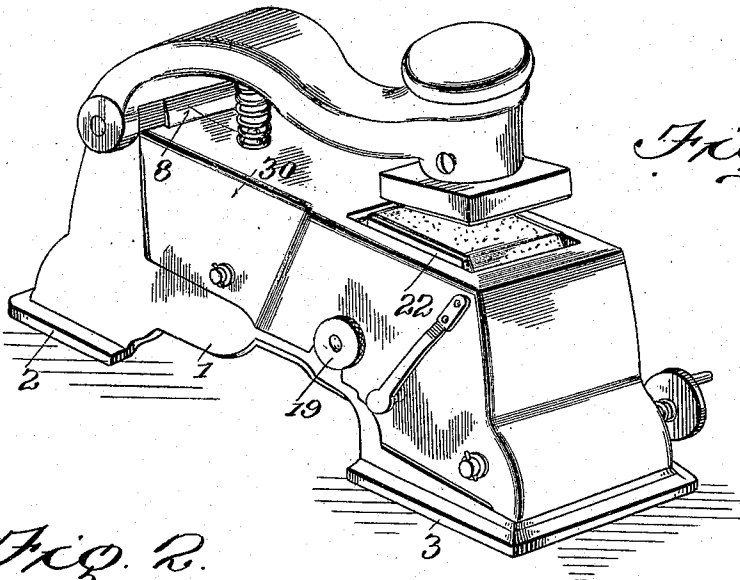
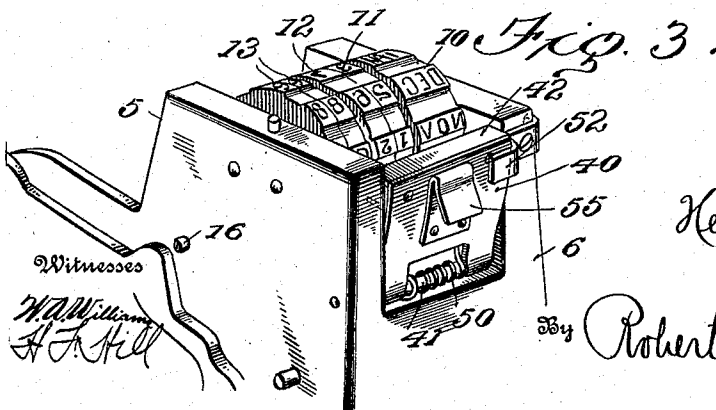
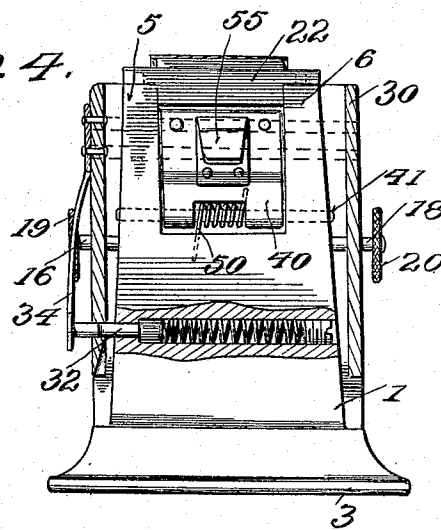


Fig. 4.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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DATING-STAMP.

937,251.

Specification of Letters Patent.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, HENRY EDWARD LIDDLE, a citizen of the United States of America, and a resident of Muskegon, in the county of Muskegon and State of Michigan, have invented new and useful Improvements in Dating-Stamps, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to improvements in that class of hand stamps intended for marking dates on papers, etc. and which are usually provided with rotatable month, day and year wheels, with a ribbon for inking said wheels, a die being provided which has permanent printing matter on both sides of the aforesaid wheels. This is a very common form of dating stamp as used in many railroad ticket offices, and as heretofore constructed it is made in two main parts, one of which is hinged to the other and one of which carries the printing characters, while the other carries the stamping head and the impression block.

The object of my invention is to provide a wheel lock to automatically lock said wheels and keep them from turning merely by the closing of one of the two main parts upon the other. Similarly the opening of the two main parts of the frame automatically unlocks said wheels so that they may be adjusted.

With this object in view, my invention consists in the stamp, as shown in its preferable embodiment, in the accompanying drawings and as hereinafter more particularly described and then claimed.

In the drawings accompanying and forming part hereof: Figure 1 is a perspective view of my dating stamp. Fig. 2 is a sectional view through the wheels and their lock. Fig. 3 is a detail perspective view. Fig. 4 is a vertical section.

Referring now to the details of the drawings by numerals: 1 designates the main frame of the stamp which is usually provided with two supporting portions or feet 2 and 3 and which is also usually provided with two vertical portions 5 and 6 near the front of the machine and with a vertical portion 8 at the rear of the machine. Within and between the vertical portions 5 and 6 is supported a series of type wheels, one wheel (10) containing the abbreviations of the months while the other wheels (11, 12 and 13) are number wheels to print the

days of the month and also the years. The "day" wheels, or the two middle sets of wheels, are each provided with teeth 15 on their exterior surfaces and with these two parts engage the usual gear wheels 17 which are connected to spindles 16 and 18 which carry thumb wheels 19 and 20. It follows from this construction that the "day" wheels may be independently adjusted by moving either of the thumb wheels 19 and 20 as the occasion may require. The "month" and "year" wheels may be adjusted by hand since these only have to be moved infrequently.

On top of the vertical portions 5 and 6 is secured the usual inscription plate 22 which needs no further description, since it is one ordinarily employed.

To the vertical portion 8 at the rear of the main frame 1 is hinged the movable frame 30. This movable frame 30 is hinged to the main frame 1 so that it may be elevated in order to adjust the wheels without injuring the ribbon, and in order to lock this hinged frame 30 to the main frame 1 I employ a spring acting bolt 32 which may be shoved inward by the spring finger 34 in order to release the hinged frame therefrom when said hinged frame may be moved on its hinge and the stamp opened for adjustment.

In order to lock the wheels from adjustment, I provide a pivot lock or latch 40 which is preferably formed of the construction shown in Fig. 3. As there shown it is formed of sheet metal and has two projecting members 42 and 43 which are of just the proper width to fit over one of the rows of printing characters on the various sets of wheels and fit within the grooves formed in said wheels. At the lower end of this sheet metal structure 40 the ends are curved in two tubular parts into which a spindle 41 projects and on which the lock 40 is pivoted. Around this spindle is fitted a spring 50 which normally tends to hold the lock or latch 40 out of engagement with the printing wheels. In order to prevent the lock or latch 40 from moving too far away from said wheels, I employ a keeper 52 which is preferably screwed to one of the vertical portions 5 or 6. The lock or latch 40 has preferably connected to it a spring member 55 and this spring member is so located that it will be engaged by a fixed part of the

hinged frame 30 when said hinged frame is closed over the main frame 1. As shown in my drawings this fixed member which is designated 60 is merely a rod which connects the two sides of the hinged member 30 but it is obvious that any other fixed part of the hinged frame 30, if properly located to come in contact with the spring member 55, will accomplish the purpose desired.

From the foregoing and accompanying drawings it is obvious that when the hinged frame 30 is in position over the main frame 1, the pivot latch or lock 40 has its members 42 and 43 projecting over the type or characters of the various wheels in such a way that it is impossible to adjust them. Hence the machine cannot be tampered with or accidentally changed by any one unless the hinged member 30 is first unlocked and elevated with respect to the main frame 1. When this is done, the fixed part of the hinged frame 30 moves away from the spring member of the lock or latch 40 and permits said lock or latch to be sprung by its spring out of contact with the wheels, and hence the wheels may be adjusted in the ordinary manner.

It is obvious that changes may be made in my invention without departing from the spirit thereof and the scope of the invention may be found from the appended claims.

What I claim as my invention is:

1. In a hand stamp, the combination of two main members, the first one carrying the printing characters and an inscription plate, and the second member closing over the first to form a housing for said printing characters, and said second member as it is closed over the first member coacting to lock the wheels without moving said inscription plate, whereby when the parts are closed the wheels cannot be moved.

2. In a hand stamp, the combination of two main members, the first one carrying the printing characters and an inscription plate, and the second member closing over the first to form a housing for said printing characters, and a device independent of said inscription plate coacting with said wheels for locking the same from adjustment, said device being controlled by the closing of the said second member over the first member, whereby when said members are closed the wheels cannot be moved.

3. In a hand stamp, the combination of two main members, the first one carrying the

printing characters, and the second member closing over the first to form a housing for said printing characters, an inscription plate, a pivoted lock or latch independent of said inscription plate coacting with said characters to lock the same, the second of said main members, as it is closed over the first member to house the printing characters, coacting with said pivoted lock or latch and thereby locking the wheels in position.

4. In a hand stamp, the combination of two main members, the first one carrying the printing characters, and the second member closing over the first to form a housing for said printing characters, an inscription plate, a pivoted lock or latch independent of said inscription plate coacting with said characters to lock the same, the second of said main members, as it is closed over the first member to house the printing characters, coacting with said pivoted lock or latch and thereby locking the wheels in position, and means for locking one of said main members to the other.

5. In a hand stamp, the combination of two main members, one carrying the printing characters, an inscription plate, a pivoted lock or latch independent of said inscription plate arranged to coact with said characters to lock the same in position, and a spring tending to move the lock or latch away from said printing characters, one of said two main members co-acting with said pivoted latch to move the same against the tension of the spring to engage the printing characters and lock the same from movement.

6. In a hand stamp, the combination of two main members adapted to close one over the other, one of said members carrying the printing characters, an inscription plate, a pivoted lock or latch independent of said inscription plate arranged to co-act with said printing characters to lock the same and having a spring tending to move the lock or latch away from said printing characters, one of said main members, as it closes over the other, arranged to contact with said pivoted latch and move the same against the printing characters to lock the same.

Signed by me at Muskegon, Mich., this 12th day of February 1909.

HENRY EDWARD LIDDLE.

Witnesses:

IRA C. HOOVER,

MARIE O. CHAMBERLAIN.