S. F. GRATZ.

HAND-STAMP.

No. 187,129. Patented Feb. 6, 1877.

Fig. 1.

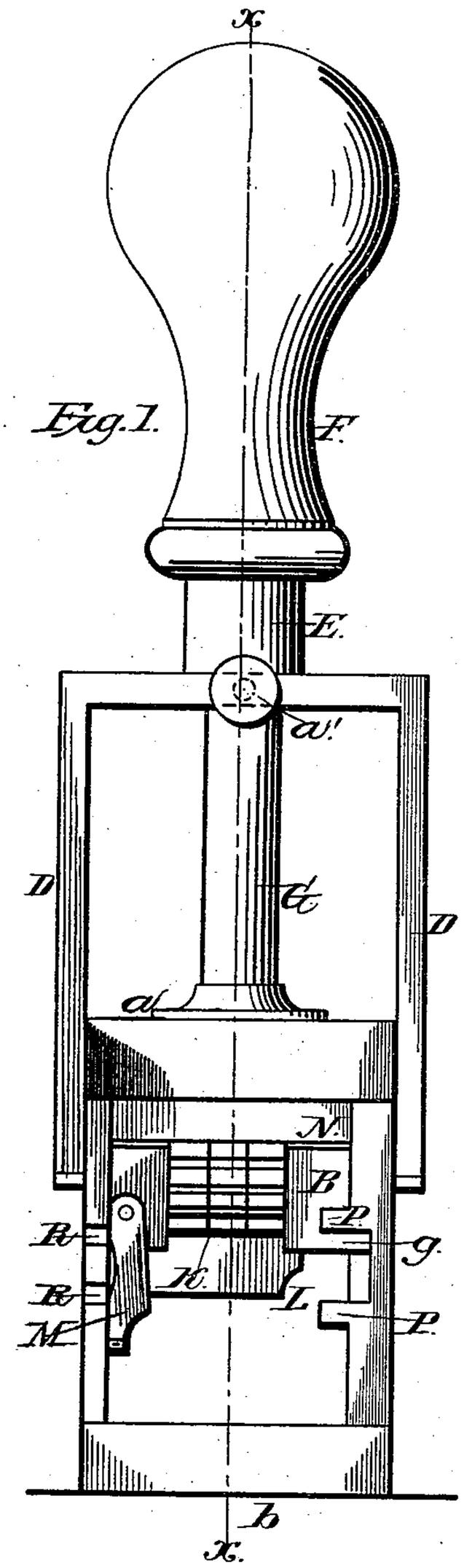


Fig. 2.

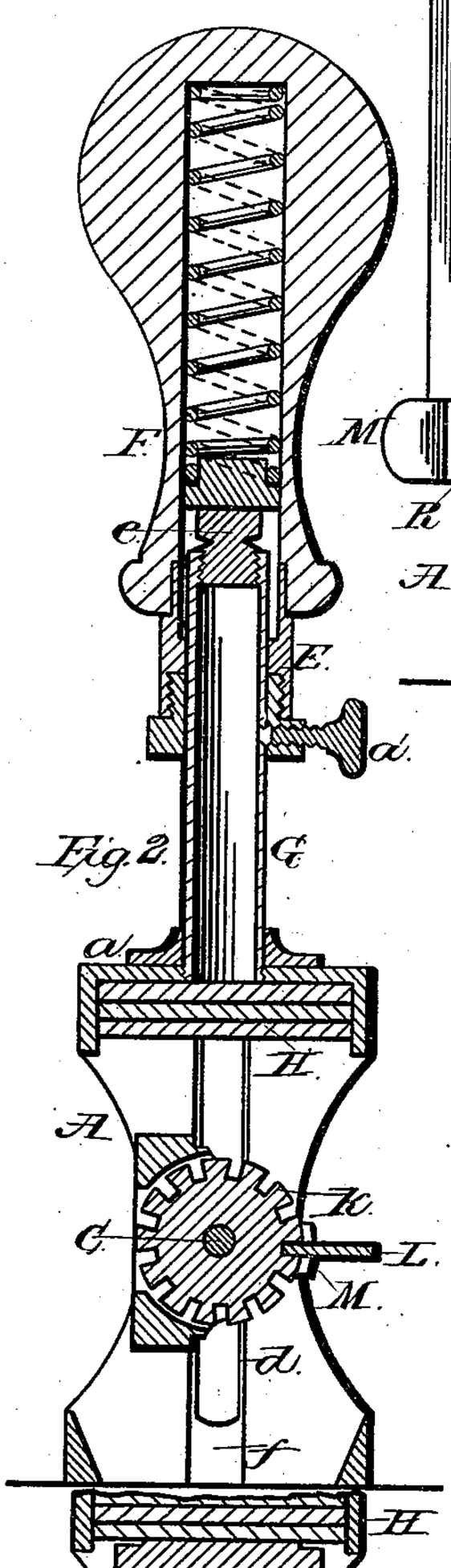


Fig. 3.

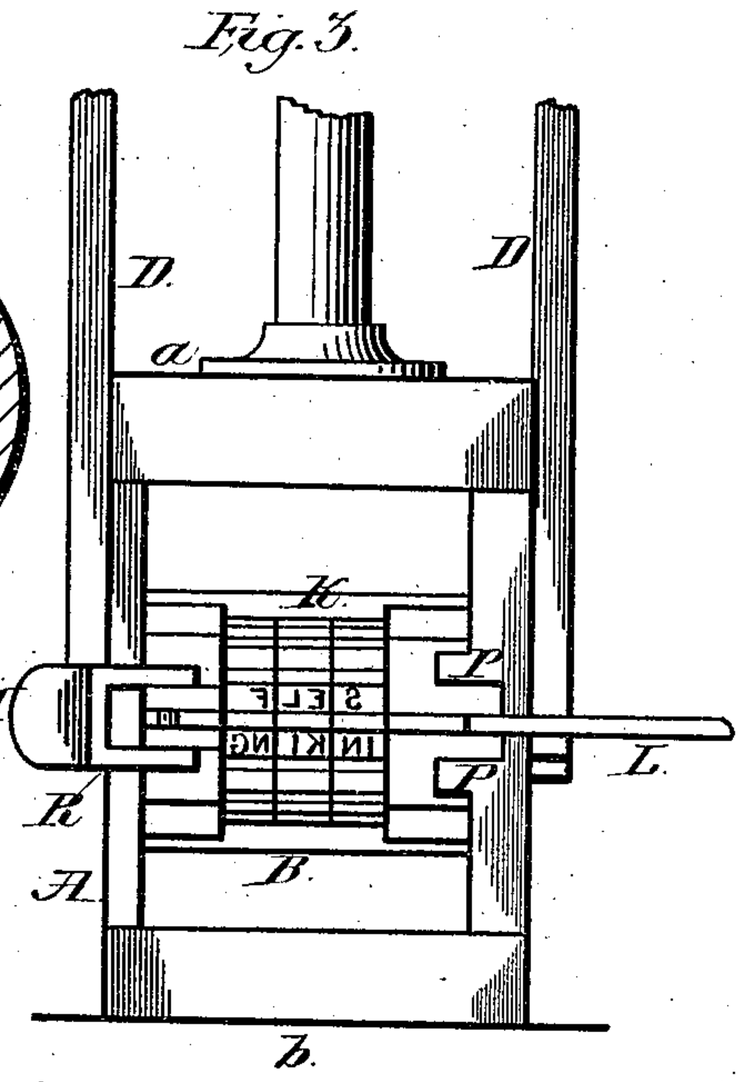


Fig. 4.

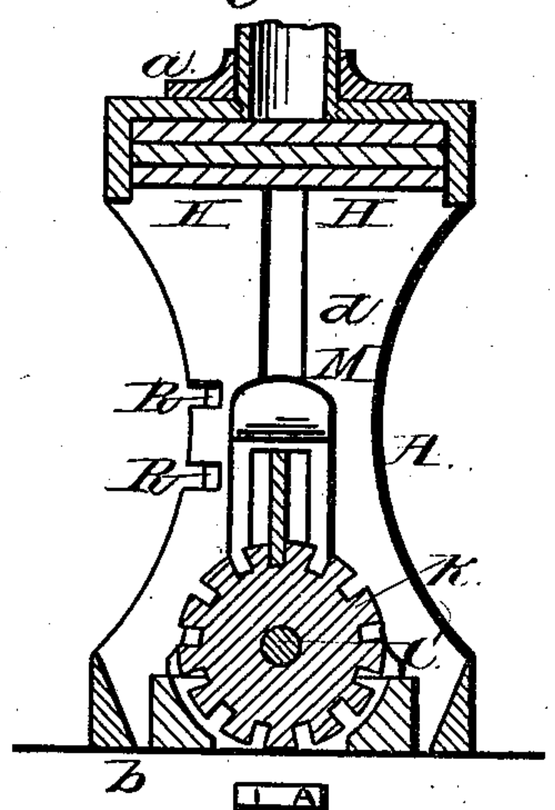


Fig. 6.

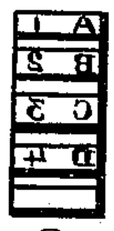
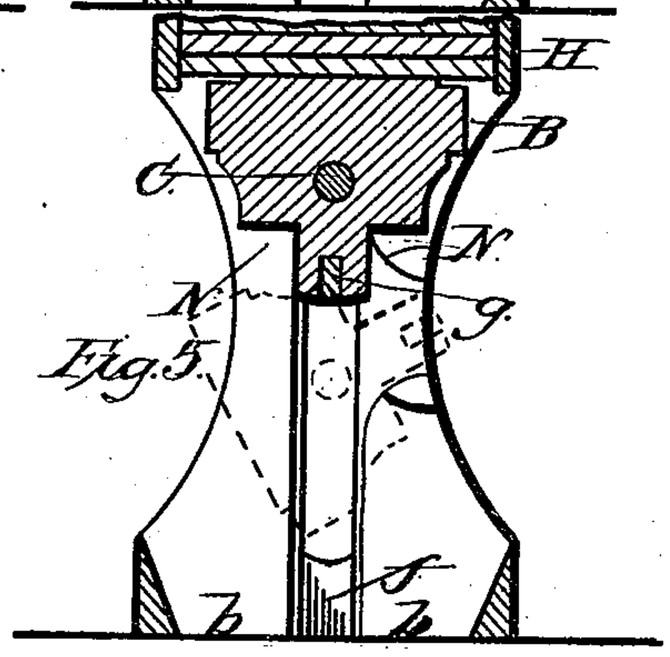


Fig. 5.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

SIEGFRIED F. GRATZ, OF PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA.

IMPROVEMENT IN HAND-STAMPS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **187,129**, dated February 6, 1877; application filed December 11, 1876.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, SIEGFRIED F. GRATZ, of city and county of Philadelphia, and State of Pennsylvania, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Hand-Stamp, which improvement is fully set forth in the following specification and accompanying drawing, in which—

Figure 1 is a side elevation of the stamp, embodying my invention. Fig. 2 is a central vertical section thereof in line *x x*, Fig. 1. Fig. 3 is a side elevation of a portion thereof. Figs. 4 and 5 are central vertical sections of a portion thereof. Fig. 6 is a face view of a type-wheel.

Similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts in the several figures.

My invention relates to a hand-stamp having a sliding and rotary head, which carries the stamping or printing characters, and presents the face thereof successively in opposite directions to the inking-pad, and in position for stamping or printing.

The invention consists of means for rotating the head, in combination with means for holding the same during shifting or setting and examination of the printing-characters. It also consists of a shifting type-wheel formed of two or more stamping or printing faces with intervening grooves for the engagement of a locking-bar attached to the head on which the wheel is mounted. It also consists of a latch for controlling the locking-bar of the type-wheel, and holding the head to which the wheel is pivoted during the operation of shifting the type-wheel.

Referring to the drawings, A represents what may be termed the base of the stamp, and it consists of a box or frame with a top plate, *a*, open at the bottom *b*, and having vertical slots *d* in its sides. B represents the head, which carries a die or type wheel, or both, and it is fitted within the base A, and mounted on an axial pin, C, whose ends play in the vertical slots *d* of the sides of the base, and to said ends there are connected arms D, attached to a boss, E, at the lower portion of a handle, F, which is hollow or partly hollow, and receives a spring, which bears against the upper end of a tubular stem, G, which passes through the boss E, and is connected to the top plate *a* of the base A, on the under side of which plate is placed the inking-pad H, the upper end of the stem G being closed by a cap, *e*. The type-wheel K, formed of one piece, or in series, is connected to the head B by the axial pin C, and it will have two or more faces, which may be presented for making impressions, said faces consisting of numbers, names, words, dates, addresses, or other desired characteristics, and between each face will be formed a horizontally-extending groove for the reception of a bar, L, which is hinged to the head B, to which also, at the side opposite to the axis of the bar L, there is hinged a latch, M, which is adapted to engage with the bar L when the latter is in one of the grooves of the type-wheel. N represents shoulders, which are formed on the side or sides of the head B; and P represents lugs, which project inwardly from one or both sides of the base A, and they are arranged in such position that at a proper time the shoulders N of the head will engage with the lugs, as will be stated. On the inner face of one side of the base there is a groove, *f*, which extends in the direction of the length of the slot *d*, and on the head B, adjacent to the shoulder N, there is a guide-piece, *g*, which is adapted to enter said groove *f*. R represents horizontal slots, formed in the side of the base, and located in proximity to the latch M, so that when the latch is opened it may enter said slots for holding the head B at a certain point, as will be stated.

The operation is as follows: The die will be properly secured to the head B, and the type-wheel set so that the proper face will project at the central opening of the die. The tubular stem G will be supplied with a sufficient quantity of ink and closed at top by means of the cap *e*, the pad H absorbing the ink passed to it from the stem G. When the parts are in their normal position, the face of the die or type wheel, or both, will be uppermost in contact with the inking-pad, so as to be properly supplied with ink. Place the base on the article to receive the impression and depress the handle F, whereby the arms D will descend and lower the head B. The shoulder N of the head B now comes in contact with the upper lug P of the base A, whereby a quarter-turn will be imparted to the head. Then, by means

of the guide-piece *g* and the lower lug P, another quarter-turn will be imparted to the head, whereby the face of the die or type wheel, or both, will be down, or face down, and the guide-piece *g*, moving in a right line in the groove *f* of the base, said face advances on the paper or other article to be stamped or printed, and the impression will be made. Then the handle is let go, or permitted to rise, and, owing to the spring therein, the movable parts are elevated, in which movement the head is rotated, and making a half-turn it resumes its normal position, bringing the face of the die or of the wheel, or both, in contact with the inking-pad, so as to feed said face afresh, after which the former operation may be repeated, as desired. When the type-wheel E is to be shifted, in order to bring another face thereof in position for stamping or printing, the handle F is depressed sufficiently to cause the head B to make a half-turn. Now, open the latch M and insert it in the slots R of the base, thus preventing movement of the head. The bar L will then be swung from the groove of the type-wheel, whereby the latter is free to be rotated on the pin C, and it may be adjusted in order to bring the desired face in position for stamping or printing; after which move the bar into the adjacent groove of the type-wheel, close the latch on said bar, and proceed with stamping or printing, as has been stated.

In order to assist in preventing movement of the head during the operation of shifting the type-wheel, a screw, *a'*, may be passed through the upper connecting-piece of the arms D, so as to press against the stem on which said piece moves.

When the handle is depressed the upper end of the stem G enters the hollow thereof. By unscrewing the handle F or boss E, access will be had to the cap of the tubular stem G, for replenishing the latter with ink, and other purposes.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. The base A, with projecting lugs P and slots R, and the sliding and rotary head B, with latch M, combined and operating substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

2. The type-wheel, in combination with the locking-bar L and latch M, substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

3. The base A, with slots R and latch M, combined and operating substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

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Witnesses:
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