(No Model.)

B. B. HILL.

HAND STAMP.

No. 344,903. Patented July 6, 1886.

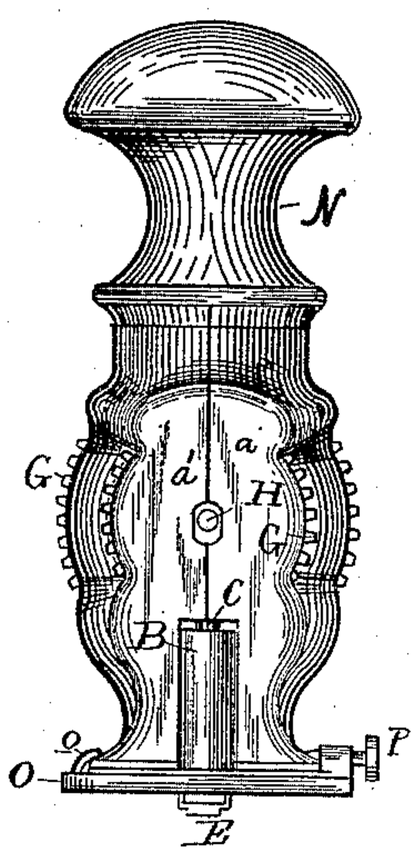


Fig. 1.

Fig. 2.

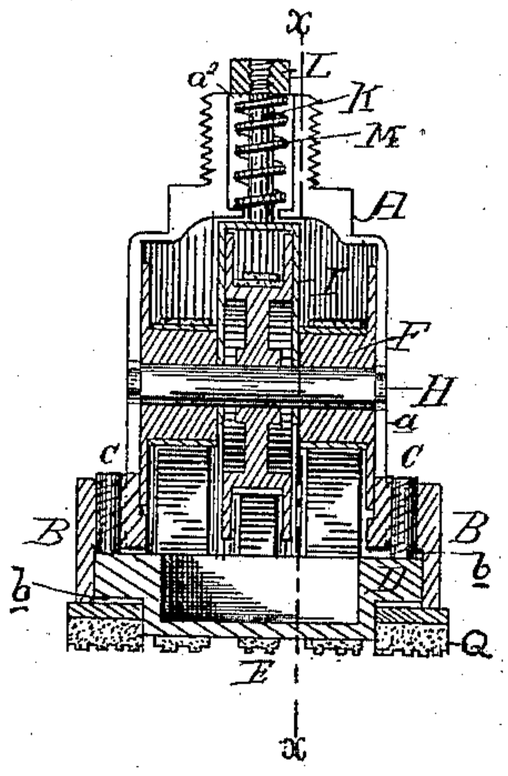
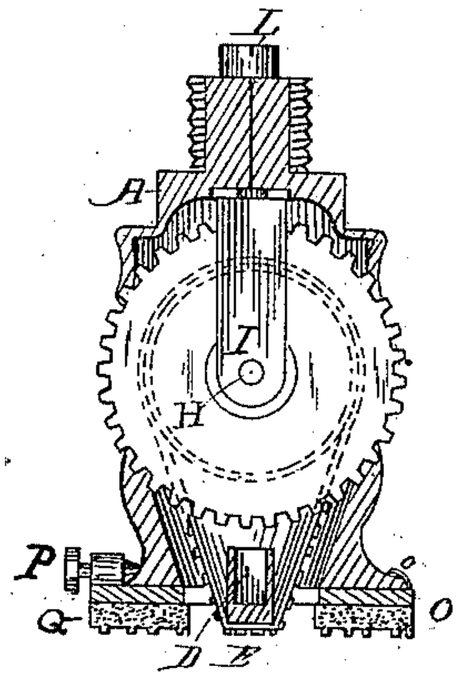


Fig. 3.



WITNESSES:

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BENJAMIN B. HILL, OF PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA.

HAND-STAMP.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 344,903, dated July 6, 1886.

Application filed June 28, 1884. Serial No. 136,252. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, BENJAMIN B. HILL, a citizen of the United States of America, residing at Philadelphia, in the county of Philadelphia and State of Pennsylvania, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Hand-Stamps, of which the following is a specification, reference being had therein to the accompanying drawings.

This invention relates to that class of hand-stamps in which a series of endless bands are employed for changing the dates, numbers, &c., and a permanent plate for the fixed inscription.

The invention consists in the peculiar construction and arrangement of parts hereinafter described, and then pointed out in the claims.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 shows an elevation of my stamp with the permanent type-plate removed. Fig. 2 shows a vertical section through the center of the drums carrying the type-bands. Fig. 3 shows a similar section through the line x x of Fig. 2.

A represents one-half of the shell or casing, consisting of two parts, a a', the part a being provided with ears B, into each of which is screwed a set-screw, C, and each ear has a recess, b, to receive an end of the bearing D, beneath which the type-bands E pass.

F F are the drums which support and hold the bands in place, and are supplied with wheels G, projecting through slots in the shell in the usual manner. These drums are mounted on a shaft, H, whose ends pass through slots in the shell, and is supported in a yoke, I, whose upper end terminates in a short rod, K, having its upper end screw-threaded and provided with an adjusting-nut, L. The rod K passes through a recess, a^2, in the upper part of the shell, and is surrounded by a spiral spring, M, which finds its points of resistance between the nut and the bottom of the recess a^2.

The exterior of the upper part of the shell has a thread cut on it to fit into a female thread cut in the handle N, which is thus secured to the shell.

At O is shown the permanent inscription-plate, which is provided with lugs o and a screw, P, by which the plate is secured to the shell in the ordinary manner. Attached to this plate O is the usual rubber or other stereotype, Q, having the necessary permanent inscription formed thereon. The plate O and handle N, besides performing the usual functions of such devices, serve as a means for securing the two halves of the shell together.

By the use of the set-screws C C it will be observed the position of the bearing D can be readily changed so as to make the faces of the type on the bands E line with the face of the type on the plate Q. This is very important, for it frequently happens that it is necessary to substitute a new plate in place of the plate Q, which may be of slightly different thickness from the one previously used, and the type-bands will thus require adjustment. With the screws shown the bearing can be readily adjusted to suit any reasonable variation in the thickness of the main inscription-plate. Besides their usefulness when a change of plate is needed, these adjusting-screws will be found very useful in the original setting up or adjustment of the stamp, for it frequently happens that the plates vary in thickness, from reasons not necessary to explain.

Another feature of the invention which will be found particularly useful is the mounting of the drums or upper bearing in an adjustable or spring bearing. I have found in the course of my long experience as a stamp-maker that there is a great deal of trouble resulting from the type-bands becoming loose and slipping on their bearings. This trouble is completely overcome by my spring or adjustable bearing for the drums, by which the proper amount of friction can be kept upon the bands all the time, and thus a movement of a drum is sure to give a corresponding movement to the type-band, and the band when moved is bound to retain its position. Attempts have been made to accomplish this result by arranging springs between the bearings; but this plan is objectionable, as two springs are required, instead of one, as in my case, and there is no means of readily adjusting the power of the same, whereas by my construction the bands may have but little tension at first, and then as their length increases and they become loose it may be increased again by turning the nut L, and thus the proper degree of tension may be kept on the bands without making the pressure of the spring so strong as to inordinately stretch the bands.

What I claim as new is—

1. The combination of the frame of a hand-

stamp, the type-bands thereof, and the upper bearing for the same, with a lower bearing adjustable independently of the upper bearing, substantially as described.

2. The combination, with the shell A of a hand-stamp provided with recesses *b*, of a bearing for the changeable type set in a slot in the fixed inscription-plate, but held independent thereof, said bearing being provided with projections formed integral therewith and set in said recesses *b*, and adjusting-screws passing through the frame into said recesses, and acting on the top of said projections, substantially as described.

3. The combination of the frame of a hand-stamp, the type-bands for the same, and the upper and lower bearings thereof, with a spring tension device for the upper bearing arranged substantially in line with the center of said bearing, as set forth.

4. The combination of the frame of a hand-stamp, the adjustable lower bearing thereof, and the type-bands for the same, with adjustable upper bearings for the bands, substantially as described.

5. The combination of the frame of a hand-stamp, the upper bearing thereof, the yoke connected with the same, and an adjusting-spring acting on said yoke and bearing, substantially as described.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature, in presence of two witnesses, this 27th day of June, 1884.

BENJAMIN B. HILL.

Witnesses:
D. GOODBREAD,
HENRY A. BUCHY.