

(No Model.)

2 Sheets—Sheet 1.

J. B. ROGERS & W. H. HALL.

MACHINE FOR INDELIBLY MARKING VALUES ON CHECKS.

No. 592,533.

Patented Oct. 26, 1897.

Fig. 1

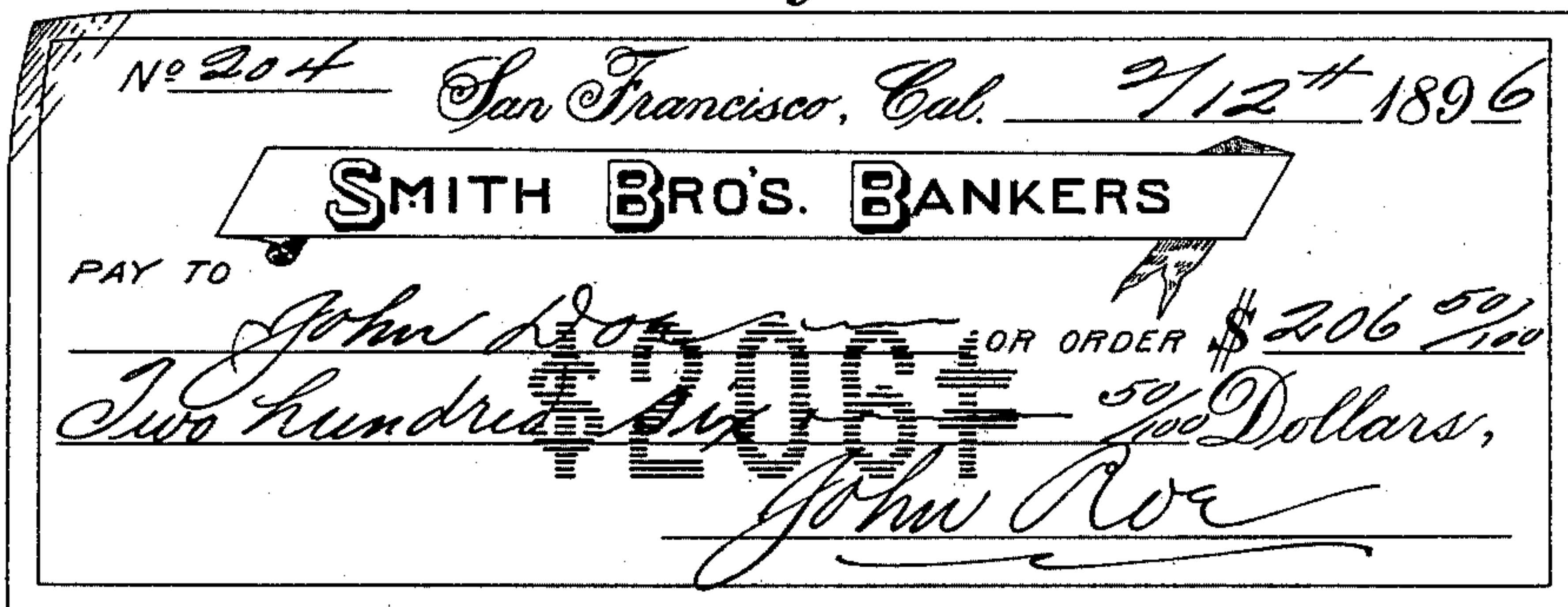
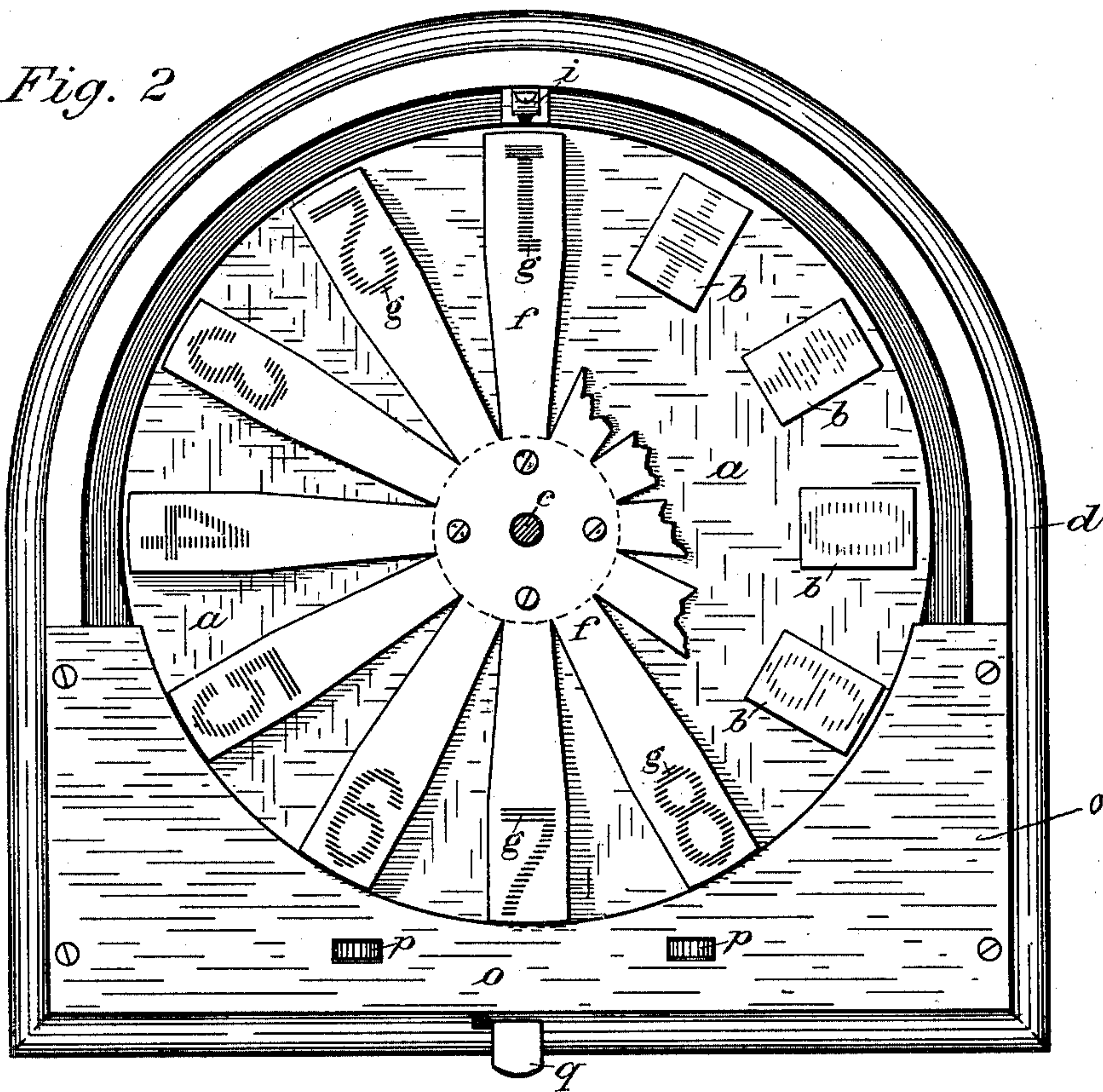


Fig. 2



Witnesses

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2 Sheets—Sheet 2.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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MACHINE FOR INDELIBLY MARKING VALUES ON CHECKS.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 592,533, dated October 26, 1897.

Application filed April 7, 1896. Serial No. 586,612. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that we, JOHN B. ROGERS and WILLIAM HAM. HALL, citizens of the United States, residing in the city and county of San Francisco, State of California, have invented certain new and Improved Means for Marking Checks, Drafts, and Similar Papers to Protect the Same from Fraudulent Alteration, of which the following is a specification.

10 The following is a description of our invention, reference being made to the accompanying drawings, forming part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 is an illustration of a check marked 15 by means of our invention. Fig. 2 shows in plan our device, the top case or cover, hammer, and printing mechanism removed. Fig. 3 shows the lower portion of our device in section and the upper portion, with hammer and printing mechanism, in side elevation. Fig. 4 shows a front elevation of our device, 20 with a portion of the lower case broken out to better show the means for moving the paper forward while being stamped.

25 Like letters of reference indicate corresponding parts in the different figures.

The object of our invention is to provide a new and simple means for impressing upon the paper of checks, drafts, or similar documents in non-erasable characters the values 30 of said documents.

By means of our invention the fiber of the paper is raised and broken similarly to the results obtained by a high embossing, and 35 while not necessarily puncturing or perforating the paper the process or operation destroys the sizing, and the fiber is so stretched and raised as to present a ragged surface which would rub up or tear if an attempt at 40 erasure were made over it. In addition to this, as a further safeguard and to make the characters stand out boldly, the raised or broken surface is printed or inked. The sizing being destroyed, the ink or color is readily 45 absorbed by the broken fiber virtually penetrating the paper, making erasure or alteration impossible.

Our device, as shown, consists of the circular plate *a*, carrying the raised characters *b*, 50 mounted and made fast to a spindle *c*, which

has its lower bearing in the center column of the lower case *d*. Directly above the plate *a* and made fast thereto through the disk or filler *e* is a thin spring-metal disk having flexible arms *f*, in shape substantially as 55 shown and provided with perforations through the thickness of the arms *f*, forming the characters *g*, corresponding with the raised characters *b* on the plate *a*, and so arranged that when the arms *f* are depressed 60 the perforations therein will close over and closely engage the corresponding raised portions of the characters *b*.

The disk *h*, having stamped upon its upper face characters corresponding to and in position bearing fixed relation to those upon plate 65 *a* and disk *f*, is made fast to the upper end of the spindle *c*, providing a means for rotating the same, together with plate *a* and disks *e* and *f*, to bring any desired character into position for use. 70

On the periphery of the plate *a* opposite each character or in fixed relation thereto are indentures *a'*. A spring-lug *i* in the lower 75 case *d* is so placed as to engage the indentures *a'* as the plate *a* is rotated and holds the plate in any desired position.

The upper case or cover *j*, with a column *j'* bored to receive the upper portion of the spindle *c*, which extends upward through it, 80 carries the hammer-arm *j'*, provided with an index *j''* for the disk *h*. The hammer device, consisting of the hammer *k*, rod *k'*, and cap *k''*, slides vertically in the hammer-arm *j'* and can be depressed sufficiently to force a per- 85 forated character *g* on an arm of the disk *f* into engagement with its corresponding raised character *b* of the plate *a*. The hammer is returned to and held in normal position by the spiral spring *l*. The projection 90 *d'* within the lower case *d* provides a solid bearing beneath the hammer for the plate *a*.

On either side of the hammer *k* and made fast thereto are drums *m*. An inked ribbon 95 *n* wound from one drum to the other and passing beneath the hammer *k* furnishes an inking-surface for the hammer. Means for automatically moving the ribbon may be provided, but are not shown or specified.

The device for moving the paper forward 100

upon the table-plate *o* consists of the milled rollers *p* and cog-wheels *p'*, geared together and mounted upon spindles on either side within the front of the lower case *d*. A ratchet-wheel *p²* is mounted upon the spindle of one of the cog-wheels *p'* and is rigidly connected with said cog-wheel. The lever *q*, with the spring-pawl *q'* for engaging the teeth of the ratchet *p²*, is mounted on the same spindle with it and is held in normal or raised position by the spring *q²*. The arm *r*, fastened to the hammer *k*, serves to depress the lever *q* at each downward stroke of the hammer. The pawl *q'*, engaging the teeth of the ratchet *p²* on the return stroke of the lever *q*, actuates the wheels *p*, *p'*, and *p²*, and this motion is transmitted to the corresponding set of wheels *p* and *p'* on the other side of the case by the cog-gear *p³*, which is constantly in engagement with the cog-wheels *p'*. The length of the stroke of the lever *q* is limited to the length of the slot *d²*.

The carriage *s*, fastened to the upper case or cover *j* by the spring-arms *s'*, carries the milled rollers *s²*, which are in engagement with the milled rollers *p*, which extend through the table-plate *o*, except when the carriage *s* is raised to allow the insertion of the paper.

The operation for stamping a check or draft is as follows: The carriage *s* is raised sufficiently to allow the paper to be inserted between the two sets of milled rollers *p* and *s²*. When the paper is in the proper position upon the table-plate *o*, the carriage *s* is released and the paper is held firmly between the milled rollers *p* and *s²*. Then by turning the disk *h* until the desired character thereon is opposite the index *j²* the corresponding character of the plate *a* and disk *f* is brought into position beneath the hammer *k* and held in place by the spring-lug *i*. Then by a sharp blow of the hand upon the cap *k²* the hammer is driven downward against an arm of the disk *f*, forcing the perforated character *g* thereon into engagement with its corresponding raised characters *b* on the plate *a*, thus forcing the paper through to the upper surface of the disk *f*, which destroys the sizing and stretches and breaks the fiber of the paper. The paper thus forced up through the perforations of the disk *f* is brought into contact with the inked ribbon *n* and is thereby simultaneously colored or inked. The downward stroke of the hammer, by means of the arm *r*, depresses the lever *q*. When the hammer is released, it is returned to its normal position by the spring *l*. The spring *q²* forces the lever *q* upward to its normal position as the hammer is released, and the spring-pawl *q'*, engaging the teeth of the ratchet-wheel *p²*, rotates the milled rollers *p* and carries the paper forward upon the table-plate *o* the proper distance for another stamping. Then by means of the disk *h* any other desired character of the plate *a* and disk *f* may be brought into posi-

tion beneath the hammer *k* and the operation of stamping is repeated, and so on in like manner until all the desired characters are stamped upon the paper, when it may be removed by raising the carriage *s*. Adjustable guide-blocks may be fastened upon the table-plate *o* to insure the proper alinement of impressed characters.

A cam-lever might be used to better advantage for actuating the hammer. We do not limit ourselves to any special device for this purpose; also, as regards plate *a* and disk *f* they may be arranged in several ways, so that the characters of each will stand in proper relation to the other.

If in handling documents it is found to be a disadvantage to have the characters thereon raised or embossed, as provided for in the device shown and described, the same object of preventing fraudulent alterations of values would still be accomplished if the embossed characters were ironed down by pressing the papers between rollers or by other equivalent means, as the characters would still remain indelibly marked in the mutilated and broken sizing and fiber of the paper. Means for this resmoothing of the paper might be added to our device, but they would be common and their combinations would add nothing to the value of our invention.

In addition to impressing upon the paper of checks, drafts, or similar documents characters to denote the value of said documents, as herein described, the paper of any portion of the check, draft, &c., might be so treated by our device as to prevent alteration of the subject-matter thereon or addition to or change of the characters indicating value originally impressed.

What we claim as our invention is—

1. In a device for marking checks, drafts and other papers, the combination of a male die, a female die corresponding thereto provided with perforations extending through said female die, means for forcing said dies together so that the sizing and fiber of an interposed paper will be mutilated or broken and means for inking or coloring the broken fiber of said paper through the perforations of said female die.

2. In a device for marking checks, drafts and other papers, the combination of a series of male dies, a series of female dies corresponding thereto provided with perforations extending through said female dies, means for forcing said dies together so that the sizing and fiber of an interposed paper will be mutilated or broken, and means for inking or coloring the broken fiber of said paper through the perforations of said female dies.

3. In a device for marking checks, drafts and other papers, the combination of a male die, a female die corresponding thereto one of said dies being provided with perforations extending through said die, means for forcing said dies together so that the sizing and fiber of an interposed paper will be mutilated or

broken, and means for inking or coloring the broken fiber of the paper through the perforations of the die.

4. In a device for marking checks, drafts, and other papers, the combination of a series of male dies, a series of female dies corresponding thereto one of said series being provided with perforations extending through the dies of said series, means for forcing said dies together so that the sizing and fiber of an interposed paper will be mutilated or broken, and means for inking or coloring the broken fiber of said paper through the perforations of said dies.

5. In a device for marking checks, drafts and other papers, the combination of a male die, a female die corresponding thereto provided with perforations extending through said female die, means for forcing said dies together so that the sizing and fiber of an interposed paper will be mutilated or broken, and means for simultaneously inking or coloring the broken fiber of said paper through the perforations of said female die.

6. In a device for marking checks, drafts, and other papers, the combination of a series of male dies, a series of female dies corresponding thereto provided with perforations extending through said female dies, means for forcing said dies together so that the sizing and fiber of an interposed paper will be mutilated or broken, and means for simulta-

neously inking or coloring the broken fiber of said paper through the perforations of said female dies.

7. In a device for marking checks, drafts, and other papers, the combination of a male die, a female die corresponding thereto one of said dies being provided with perforations extending through said die, means for forcing said dies together so that the sizing and fiber of an interposed paper will be mutilated or broken, and means for simultaneously inking or coloring the broken fiber of said paper through the perforations of said die.

8. In a device for marking checks, drafts, and other papers, the combination of a series of male dies, a series of female dies corresponding thereto one of said series being provided with perforations extending through the dies of said series means for forcing said dies together so that the sizing and fiber of an interposed paper will be mutilated or broken, and means for simultaneously inking or coloring the broken fiber of said paper through the perforations of said dies.

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