

No. 766,853.

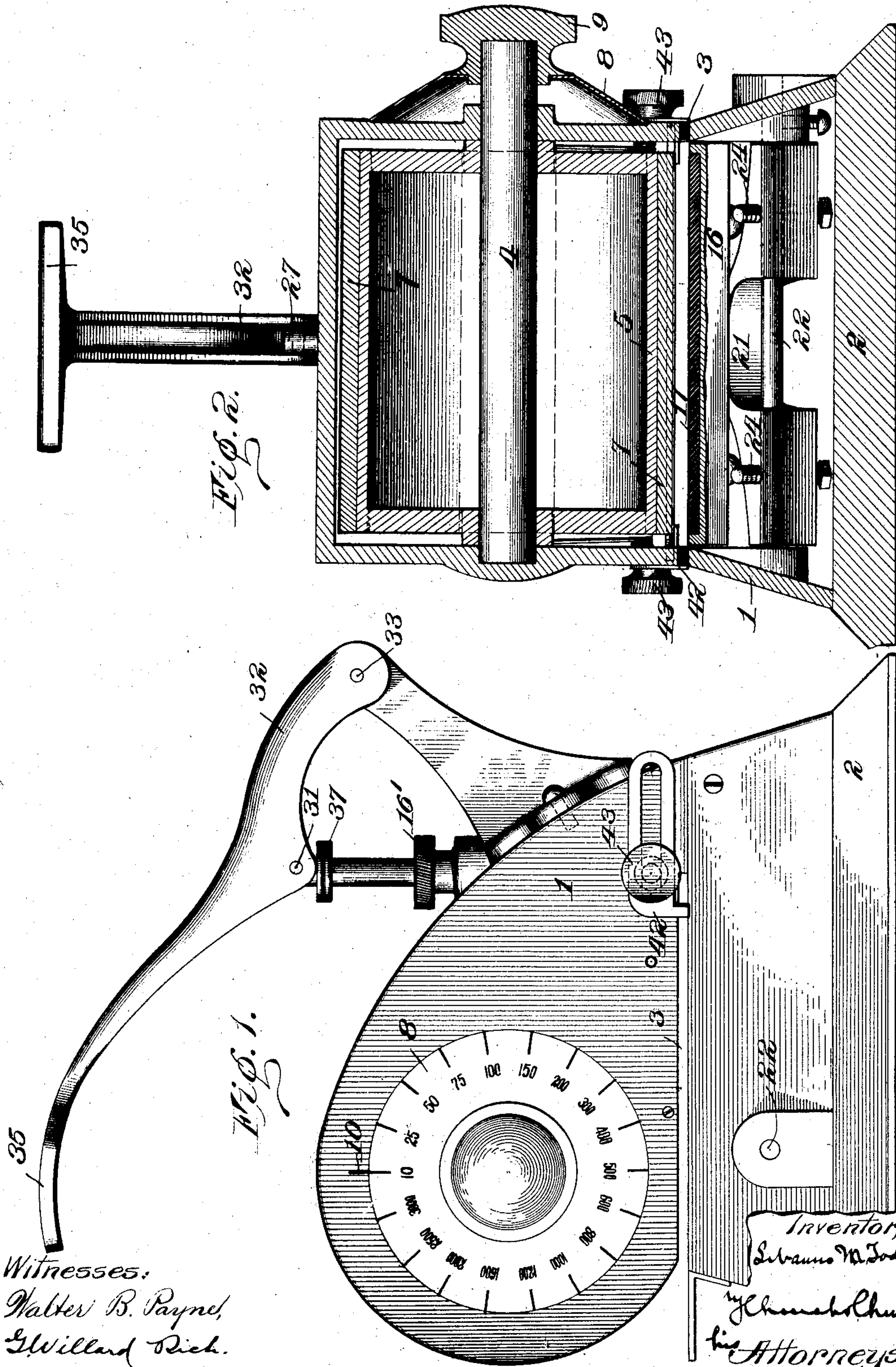
PATENTED AUG. 9, 1904.

L. M. TODD.
PRINTING STAMP.

APPLICATION FILED AUG. 12, 1899.

NO MODEL.

2 SHEETS--SHEET 1.



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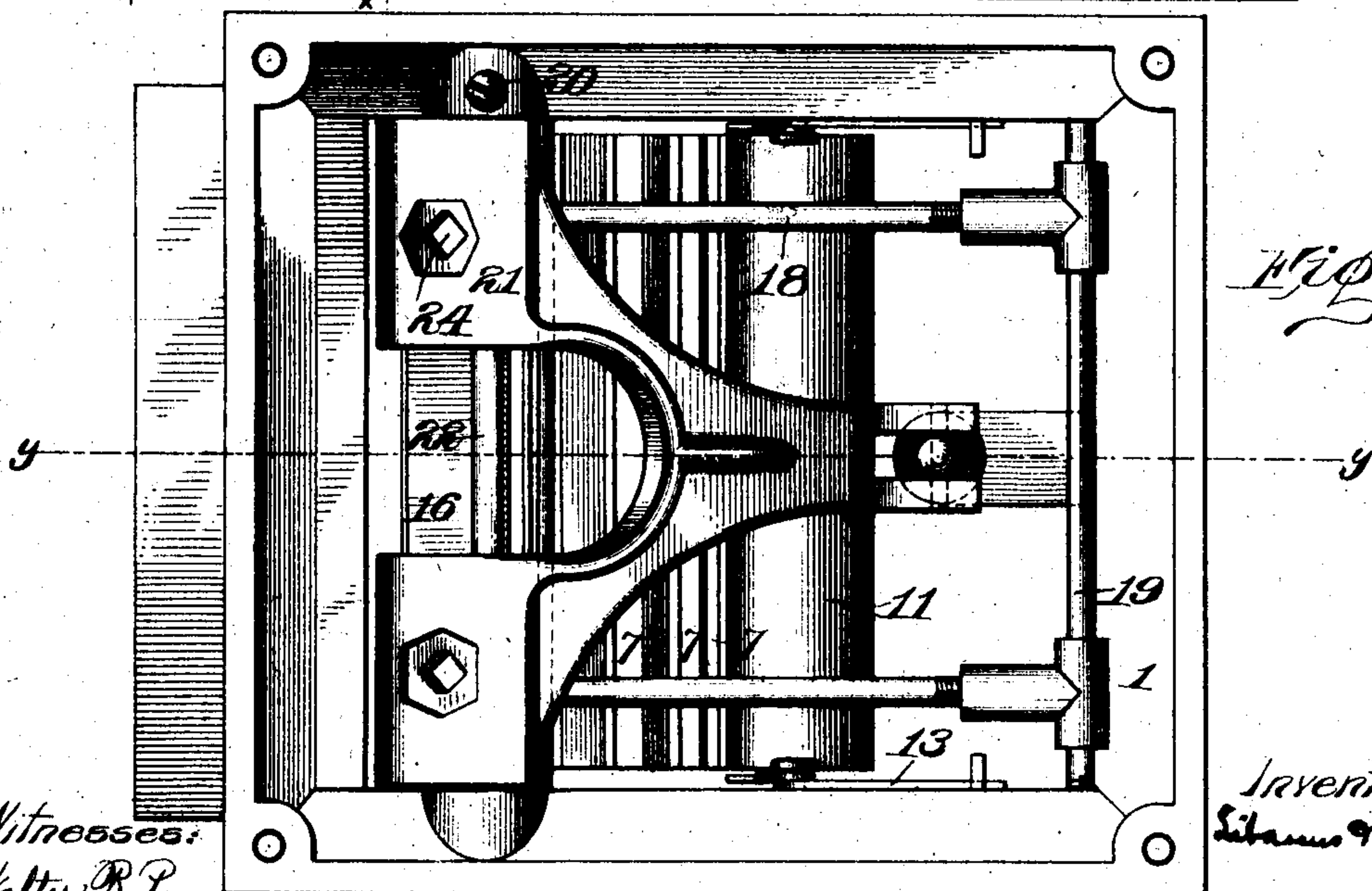
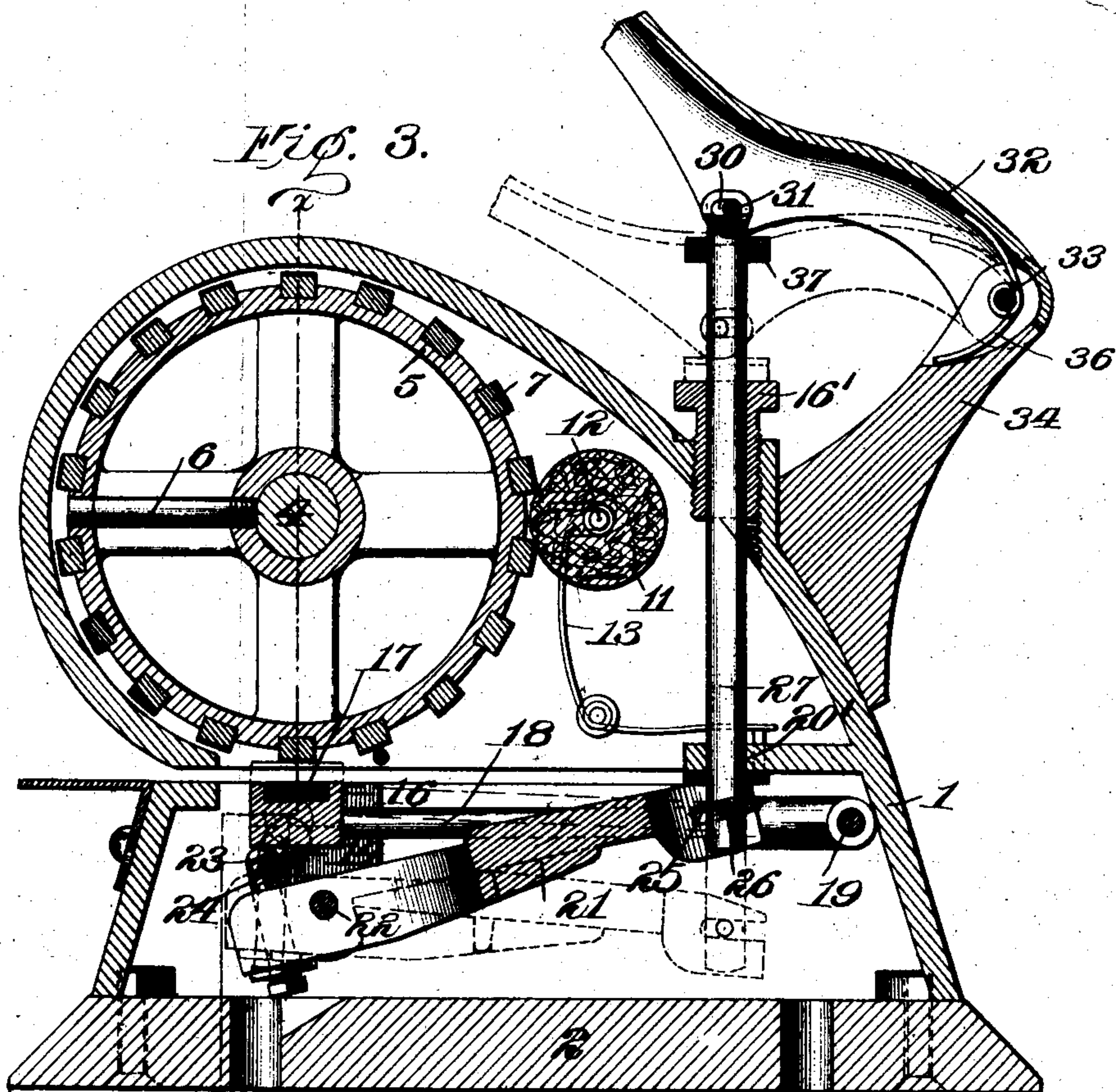
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NO MODEL.

2 SHEETS—SHEET 2.



Witnesses:
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

LIBANUS M. TODD, OF ROCHESTER, NEW YORK, ASSIGNOR TO G. W. TODD AND COMPANY, OF ROCHESTER, NEW YORK, A FIRM.

PRINTING-STAMP.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 766,853, dated August 9, 1904.

Application filed August 12, 1899. Serial No. 727,052. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, LIBANUS M. TODD, of Rochester, in the county of Monroe and State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Printing-Stamps; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, forming a part of this specification, and to the reference-numerals marked thereon.

My invention has for its object to provide an improved printing apparatus or stamp particularly adapted for marking or embossing upon checks, drafts, and similar instruments words or figures indicating a limiting amount beyond which such instrument is not good; and it consists in certain improvements, hereinafter fully described, whereby not only is the construction of the device simplified, but the operations necessary to effect the marking of the check may be readily accomplished and the marking surfaces or forms readily changed to bring one or the other of the series contained on the printing-wheel in position for printing, all as will be hereinafter described, and the novel features pointed out in the claims at the end of this specification.

In the drawings, Figure 1 is a side elevation of a printing-stamp constructed in accordance with my invention; Fig. 2, a sectional view taken on the line *x x* of Fig. 3; Fig. 3, a longitudinal sectional view taken on the line *y y* of Fig. 4; Fig. 4, a bottom plan view with the bottom of the casing removed.

Similar reference-numerals indicate similar parts.

The main casing 1 of the machine is preferably composed of a single casting having the forward rounding portion for containing the printing-wheel and open at the bottom, said opening adapted to be closed or partially closed by a base piece or block 2 of wood or other material. Just beneath the rounding portion of the casing is formed a slot or passage 3, preferably formed by sawing through the casing and adapted for the entrance of a check, draft, or other instrument in position to be printed upon. Journaled in the casing is an arbor or shaft 4, upon which is mounted a

printing-wheel 5, preferably secured in position by a screw 6 and having at its periphery a series of notches or recesses in which are secured a series of printing-forms 7, composed of a stereotype-block or line of printing-type forming any suitable words, such as "Not over \$2000," or such other amount as may be desired. Arranged upon one end of this wheel, preferably on the arbor upon which it is mounted, is an indicating-disk 8, having upon its face suitable figures or marks corresponding in position with the type-forms on the wheel, also provided with an operating-handle 9, by means of which the printing-wheel may be rotated to bring any of the numbers upon the dial 8 into coöperative relation with a suitable index 10 on the main frame. The coincidence of the figures with the index indicates that the printing-form corresponding to the figures is on the under side in proper printing position. This printing-wheel is freely rotatable and is centered or yieldingly held in proper position with the printing-form directly above the coöperating platen, presently described, by means of a suitable centering device, in the present instance consisting of a felt-covered roller 11, mounted upon an arbor 12, supported upon and pressed toward the center of the printing-wheel by spring-arms 13, as shown particularly in Fig. 3, the type forms or blocks constituting the necessary projections on the wheel or carrier. This felt-covered roller contains ink upon its surface and not only serves to center the printing-wheel by the movement toward the arbor 4 and between the printing-forms 7, as described, but also serves to apply ink to the surfaces of the type during the rotation of the wheel in either direction.

Located in the base of the main frame is a movable platen 16, preferably provided in its upper surface with a rubber, leather, or other suitable yielding block 17 and secured to or formed with arms 18, fitting in sockets secured to or sleeved upon an oscillatory arbor 19, mounted in the frame, as shown in Figs. 3 and 4. This platen 16 is normally in a depressed position, as shown in full lines in Fig. 3, with the pad 17 directly beneath the

center of the printing-wheel, so that a check or other instrument may be introduced between the platen and printing-wheel, and the former may be moved up to press the paper into contact with the type-form, the yielding pad in the platen serving to make a good impression and depending upon the force exercised, causing the type-form to more or less emboss or indent the paper, so that as the fibers are stretched the ink may sink into the paper and prevent ready erasure. In the present embodiment the means for elevating the platen consists of a lever 21, formed as shown particularly in Fig. 4, pivoted upon an arbor or shaft 22, secured in the sides of the main frame by a screw 20 or otherwise, and having on its shorter end or ends lugs or abutments adapted when the rear end of the lever is pressed down to engage with the under side of the platen 16 or, preferably, small inclined surfaces 23 thereon to raise said platen and bring the paper into contact with the printing-form. In the present embodiment the lugs are in the form of adjustable screws 24, so as to permit the greater or lesser elevation of the platen, as may be desirable or necessary, and the surfaces 23 on the under side of the platen consist of hard-metal balls 14, arranged in sockets formed in the latter and held in place by compressing or upsetting the metal of the platen beneath them to prevent their accidental removal, but without preventing their free rotation in the sockets, thereby reducing the friction between the parts, or, if desired, the balls may be made stationary, simply affording hard smooth surfaces in which point contact only is had. The rear end of the lever 21 is slotted both vertically and horizontally, as shown, and in the horizontal slots 25 is arranged a pin 26 on a plunger 27, vertically movable through a suitable adjustable sleeve or collar 16 on the casing and also through a lug 20 formed in the latter. The upper end of the plunger is provided with a slot 30, in which operates a pin 31 on a lever or handle 32, pivoted at 33 to a bracket 34 on the casing and having the broad forward end 35. The handle is held in raised position by a spring, such as 36, whereby the platen is allowed to fall to its lowest position, as in full lines in Fig. 3. Interposed between the lever 32 and the top of the adjustable stop or sleeve 16 is a buffer or washer 37, serving to arrest the handle or plunger, and as the stop is adjustable the amount of force exerted in printing or stamping may be regulated as desired. While I prefer to employ the lever, it is not absolutely necessary, as a handle could be applied directly to the end of the plunger; but I prefer the lever, as it increases the power.

The operation of the device will be readily understood from an inspection of the drawings. The operator desiring to cancel or mark a check places the latter in the slot 3 in the

main casing, moving it up against an adjustable stop 42, held by a set-screw 43. He then operates the handle 9 of the printing-wheel until the desired character on the dial is brought into coincidence with the index 10. Then he strikes a sharp blow upon the end of the lever, moving the platen and check up against the form on the printing-wheel, as will be understood. After the wheel 5 has been adjusted with the proper character approximately in line with the index 10 the inking-roller 11 will serve to center it, as before described, and during the rotation of the wheel the proper amount of ink will be applied to the printing-forms.

The printing-forms upon the wheel 5 may be removed or changed, if desired, or the whole wheel may be removed by withdrawing the arbor, first loosening the screw 6, when the head of the latter is accessible through the bottom of the casing.

By making the main frame of a single casting, as shown, not only are the parts well protected, but I insure simplicity of construction and give the whole device a neat and substantial appearance.

I claim as my invention—

1. In a printing apparatus, the combination with a support, a freely-rotatable printing-wheel mounted on an axis journaled in the frame and having projecting printing characters, of a yielding centering device movable radially of the printing-wheel and engaging between the type characters to center them and hold the wheel in printing position, a platen movable toward and from the wheel and means for operating it.

2. In a printing apparatus, the combination with a support, a printing-wheel journaled thereon, rotatable in either direction and having radially-extending printing characters thereon, and an inking-roller movable on the support and coöperating with the printing characters as the wheel is rotated to center the latter, of a platen movable toward and from the periphery of the printing-wheel.

3. In a printing apparatus, the combination with the casing, a printing-wheel therein having radially-extending printing characters thereon and movable inking devices for the characters adapted to lie between the rows of characters to center the printing-wheel, of the platen, the lever separate from the platen and adapted to coöperate therewith to move it toward the wheel, and the plunger for operating the lever.

4. In a printing apparatus, the combination of the casing, the printing-wheel journaled therein having the separate type characters thereon and freely rotatable in both directions, and the spring-pressed inking-roller provided in the casing and coöperating with the type and passing between them to center the wheel, and a platen with which the type characters coöperate.

5. In a printing apparatus, the combination with a casing, the printing-wheel journaled therein, having the separate type characters and rotatable in both directions, and a centering device for the wheel, of the supporting-arm, the platen thereon having an inclined surface upon its lower side, the lever cooperating with said surface on the platen, and the plunger movable in vertical guides and cooperating with the lever to move the latter.

6. In a printing apparatus, the combination with a casing, a printing-wheel journaled therein rotatable in both directions, and devices bearing against the surface of the wheel for centering the latter in printing position, of the supporting-arm, the platen thereon having the inclined projections, the lever pivoted in the casing having the adjustable projections engaging the shoulders, and the spring-retracted plunger engaging the lever to cause it to operate the platen.

7. The combination with the hollow casing formed of a single casting comprising a base, and a top portion overhanging the latter and having a narrow slit for the passage of a check or draft between the parts, and a printing-wheel located within the casing on one side of the slit having characters thereon, of an indexed dial upon the outside of the casing connected to the wheel, a platen arranged in the casing at the side of the slit opposite the wheel, a plunger connected to the platen and leading to the exterior of the casing, and an operating-lever pivoted to the casing and cooperating with the plunger.

8. In a printing apparatus, the combination with a casing, a printing-wheel journaled therein, rotatable freely in either direction and having notches or depressions in its surface, and separate type-bars secured in said notches with their faces projecting beyond the surface

of the wheel, of a movable inking-roller engaging the face of the wheel between the type-bars and serving to center the wheel, a platen movable toward and from the wheel, and means for operating the platen into engagement with the type-bars.

9. The combination with the casing and the rotatable printing-wheel, of the movable pivoted platen having sockets in its lower side and the balls in the sockets forming bearing-surfaces, the lever having adjustable abutments thereon engaging the balls and means for operating the lever to cause the movement of the platen toward the printing-wheel.

10. The combination with a casing, the rotatable printing-wheel, and a platen movable relative the wheel, of a lever cooperating with the platen, a plunger for operating the lever, guides for the latter on the casing, and a movable sleeve forming one of said guides adjustable in the casing for limiting the movement of the plunger.

11. The combination with the casing, the printing-wheel, the movable platen, a movable plunger and connections between it and the platen for moving the latter toward the wheel, of the hand-lever pivoted to the plunger and a sleeve guiding the plunger and adjustable on the casing to limit the movement of the lever.

12. The combination with the casing having the aperture, the sleeve adjustable in the aperture and the plunger operating through the sleeve and adapted to engage therewith, of a printing mechanism arranged in the casing embodying changeable type-forms and a relatively movable platen and connections between said printing mechanism and the plunger.

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