

No. 840,539.

PATENTED JAN. 8. 1907.

C. E. WHITMORE.  
SEAL.

APPLICATION FILED MAR. 2, 1906.

FIG. 1.

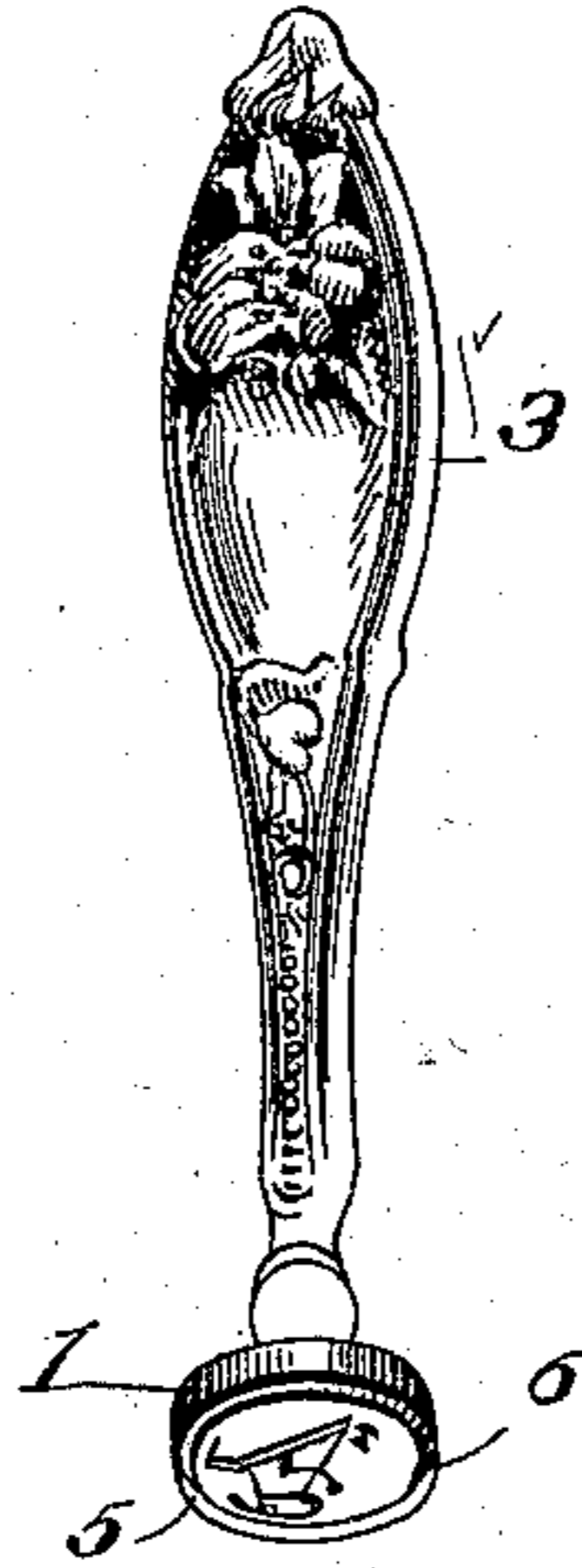


FIG. 2.

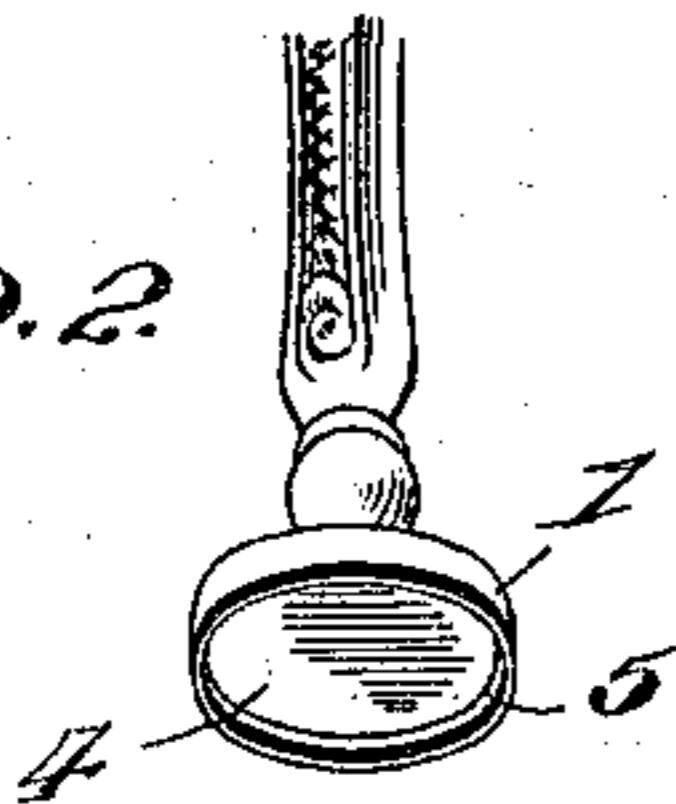


FIG. 3.

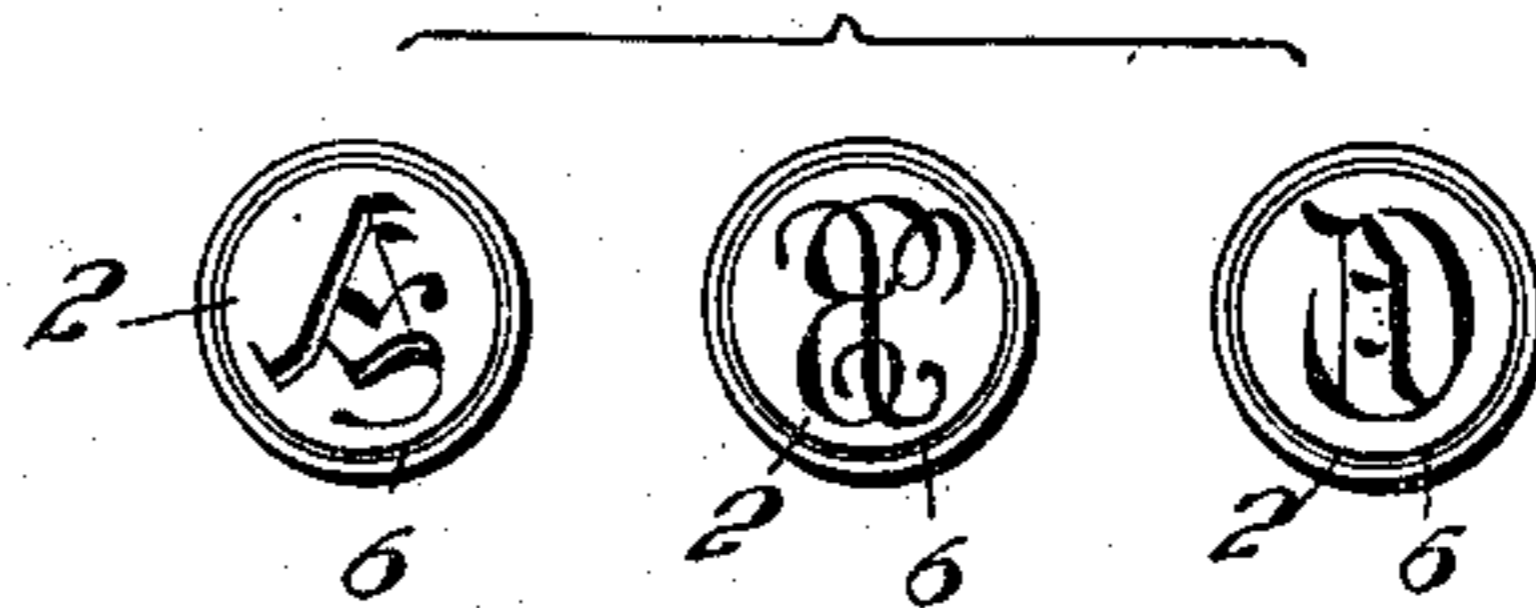


FIG. 4.

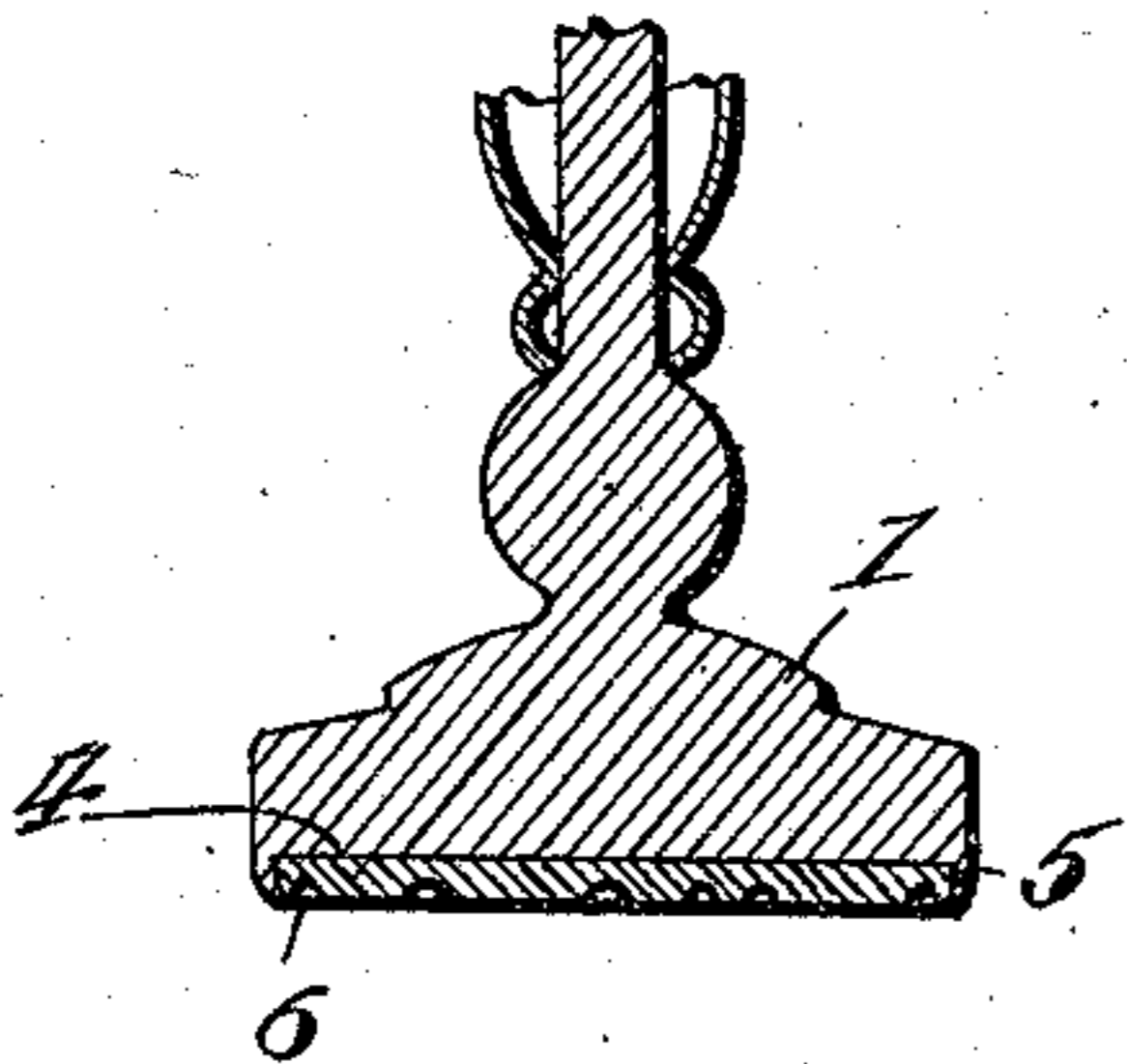
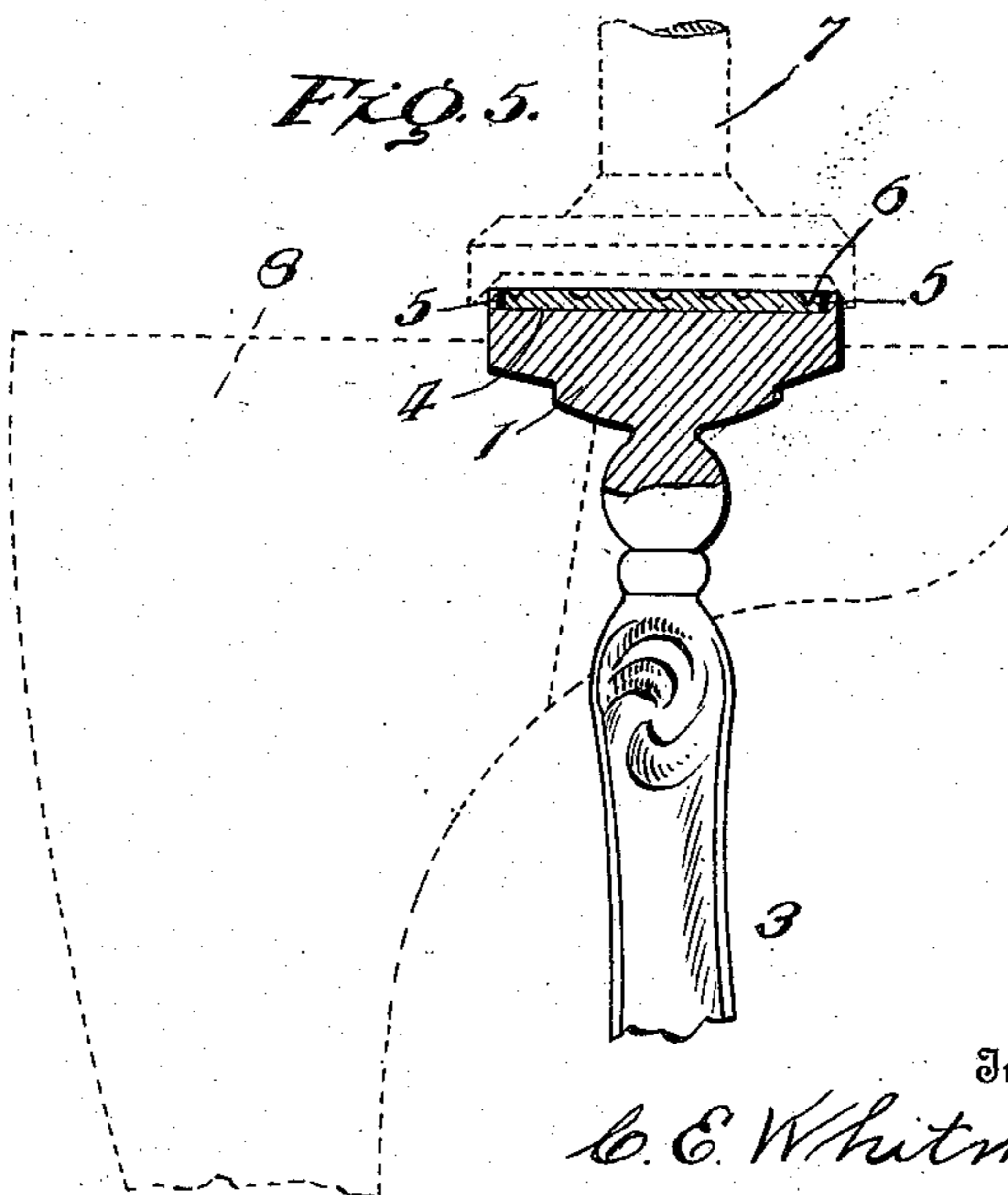


FIG. 5.



Inventor

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Witnesses

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By

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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

CLARENCE E. WHITMORE, OF BAR HARBOR, MAINE.

## SEAL.

No. 840,539.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Jan. 8, 1907.

Application filed March 2, 1906. Serial No. 303,890.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, CLARENCE E. WHITMORE, a citizen of the United States, residing at Bar Harbor, in the county of Hancock and State of Maine, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Seals, of which the following is a specification.

In devices of the kind designed most particularly for impressing a letter, design, or the like upon material such as wax it is customary to cut or stamp the letter, design, or the like in the head forming the guide. It is not always convenient or desirable to incur the delay incident to sending the device or stamp to the engravers, and as a consequence sales are frequently not effected. This is overcome in part by providing seals or stamps having letters of the alphabet or other design or the like engraved or stamped in the face thereof; but this is objectionable, as it requires the carrying in stock of quite a number of seals or stamps.

In accordance with this invention a head of the seal or stamp is countersunk and plates are provided to snugly fit within the countersink or recess and are adapted to be secured in place by crimping an edge of the surrounding rim, said plates being provided with the letter, design, or the like to meet the demands of the trade.

The invention therefore contemplates a countersink or recessed seal-head and a series of plates provided with initial letters or other matter stamped or engraved therein, said plates being of a size to snugly fit within the countersink or recess and retained in the head by crimping the edge of the rim surrounding the recess, all as will appear more fully hereinafter, and illustrated in the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of a seal embodying the invention. Fig. 2 is a perspective view of the seal-head, the initial-plate being omitted. Fig. 3 is a detail view of a series of initial-plates adapted to be fitted in the countersink or recess of the seal-head. Fig. 4 is a sectional view of the seal with the initial-plate in position and secured by crimping the rim. Fig. 5 is a view similar to Fig. 4, showing the manner of crimping the rim.

Corresponding and like parts are referred to in the following description and indicated

in all the views of the drawings by the same reference characters.

The seal comprises the head 1, initial-plate 2, and handle 3 and in general appearance is not unlike the accustomed stamp provided for sealing letters and packages. The head 1 is provided in its face with a countersink or recess 4, the surrounding rim 5 being comparatively thin to admit of its crimping, so as to embrace the edges of the initial-plate and retain the same in place. The initial-plate 2 is comparatively thin and of a size to snugly fit within the countersink or recess 4 and is provided upon its face with a letter or other matter, either stamped or engraved therein. The number of initial-plates are provided, and since they are of uniform size any one is adapted to snugly fit within the countersink or recess 4. The plate 2 may be struck up from sheet material, such as metal, and the letter or like design may be stamped in the face thereof. Hence the initial-plates may be provided in great quantity at a nominal cost, and when a sale is effected the merchant may select the desired plate and place it in the countersink or recess of the seal-head and crimp the rim thereof, so as to retain the plate in position.

The initial-plate is provided near its outer edge with a groove 6, which is arranged to form an exceedingly thin edge or rim at the outer side of the groove and which is slightly inwardly bent or crimped at the time of crimping the rim 5, thereby providing an extremely close joint between the seal-head and initial-plate, so as to prevent any possible displacement of the latter. The groove 6 is also advantageous in the provision of a circular border surrounding the initial when the letter is impressed in the sealing-wax or other material employed for sealing a letter, package, or the like. The crimping of the rim 5 may be accomplished in any manner, and in order that the operation may be uniform a crimping-tool 7 is employed, the same having a rim the inner edge of which is beveled, so that upon tapping the tool after being fitted to the seal or head the inner beveled edge of the rim riding upon the rim 5 of the seal-head will crimp or bend the latter inward, as will be readily understood. An anvil 8 is provided to support the seal-head during the crimping operation.

The devices 7 and 8 may be of ordinary or special construction, as found most advantageous.

Having thus described the invention, what  
5 is claimed as new is—

A seal, die or stamp comprising a head provided with a countersink or recess, and an initial-plate adapted to be fitted snugly within said countersink and having a groove near  
10 its outer edge to form a thin edge or rim exterior to said groove, said plate being re-

tained in place by crimping the rim of the head surrounding the countersink and at the same time crimping the rim surrounding the groove of the initial-plate.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature  
in presence of two witnesses.

CLARENCE E. WHITMORE. [L. s.]

Witnesses:

CLARICE P. GETCHELL,  
EUGENE S. THURSTON.