A. V. NAPIER.

PRESS FEEDER'S FINGER STALL.

APPLICATION FILED SEPT. 30, 1907.

911,838. Patented Feb. 9, 1909.

Fig. 1.

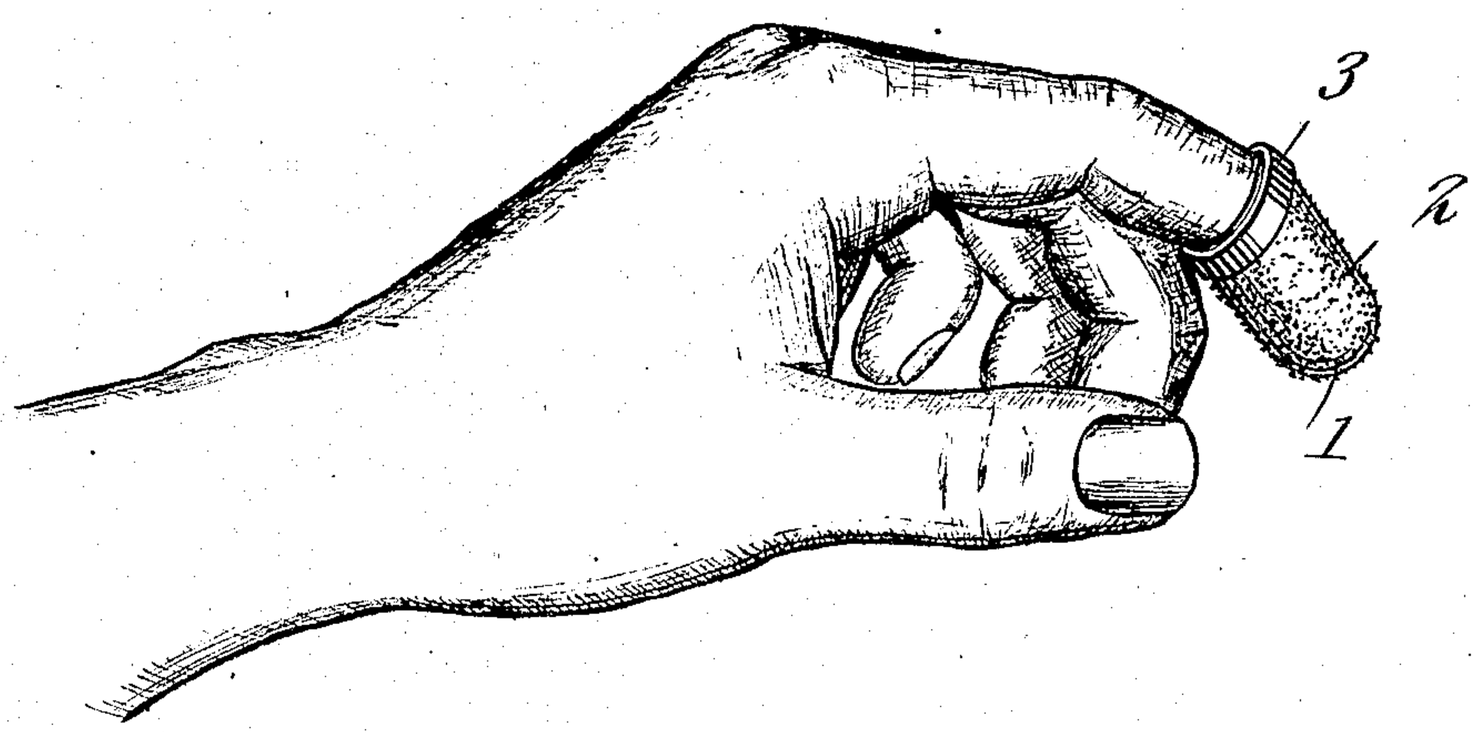



Fig. 2.

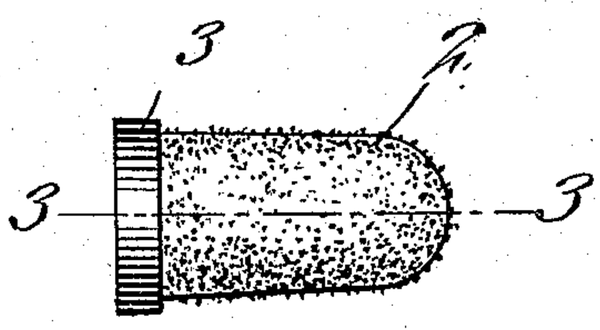
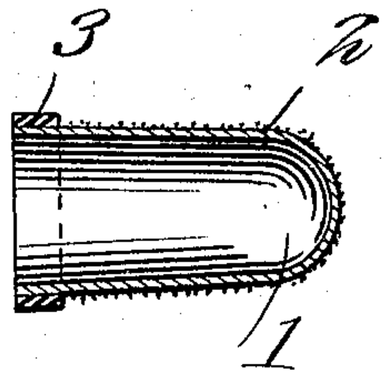



Fig. 3.




Witnesses

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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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## PRESS-FEEDER'S FINGER-STALL.

No. 911,838. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Feb. 9, 1909.

Application filed September 30, 1907. Serial No. 395,150.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, ARY V. NAPIER, a citizen of the United States, residing at Dodge City, in the county of Ford and State of Kansas, have invented new and useful Improvements in Press-Feeders' Finger-Stalls, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to a finger stall for the use of press feeders; and it has for its object to provide a finger stall having a coating or covering of abrasive material that will frictionally engage the sheets that are being fed to or removed from the press; especially the sheets that are being removed from the press after receiving an impression, the purpose being to cause such sheets to be positively engaged so that they will be readily manipulated without danger of slipping.

A further object of the invention is to provide a finger stall having a coarse abrasive coating whereby printed sheets having so narrow a margin that the freshly printed surface is liable to be touched by the hand of the operator may be manipulated without danger of smearing the ink or blurring the freshly printed surface; the latter being engaged directly by the abrasive material thus enabling the sheets to be moved or slid aside without danger of rubbing or smearing.

Further objects of the invention are to simplify and improve the construction and operation of this class of devices.

With these and other ends in view which will readily appear as the nature of the invention is better understood, the same consists in the improved construction and novel arrangement and combination of parts which will be hereinafter fully described and particularly pointed out in the claim.

In the accompanying drawing has been illustrated a simple and preferred form of the invention; it being, however, understood that no limitation is necessarily made to the precise structural details therein exhibited, but that changes, alterations and modifications within the scope of the invention may be resorted to when desired.

In the drawing, Figure 1 is a perspective view showing the improved finger stall applied to the hand in position for operation. Fig. 2 is a side elevation showing the improved finger stall detached. Fig. 3 is a longitudinal sectional view.

Corresponding parts in the several figures are denoted by like characters of reference.

The body 1 of the improved finger stall is preferably made of textile material and of conventional shape, consisting of a tube of suitable dimensions closed at one end. It is to be understood, however, that no limitation is made to the use of textile material, inasmuch as any suitable material may be employed; it is further to be understood that the said finger stall may be woven or manufactured in one piece, or it may be manufactured from a suitable sheet of blank material having its edges joined by stitching or otherwise. The body 1 is provided with a coating or covering 2 of coarse abrasive material, such as sand or emery; the same being applied thereto by means of glue or cement, or in any suitable manner; it being understood that it is entirely within the scope of the invention to manufacture the improved finger stalls from a sheet of coarse emery cloth.

The open end of the tube constituting the finger stall is provided with an elastic band 3 of rubber or other suitable material which serves to retain the finger stall securely in position upon the finger to which it is applied; said elastic band being held securely in position by any suitable means. The presence of this elastic retaining band is particularly desirable owing to the fact that the body of the finger stall is usually and preferably made of non-elastic material, and it would be liable to slip and become detached from the finger of the operator but for the presence of the elastic retaining band.

In operation, the improved finger stall is usually applied to the first finger of the left hand of the operator; it being made of suitable dimensions to fit snugly upon the first joint of the finger, and the entire exterior surface of said finger stall being covered with the abrasive substance, so that it will operate successfully in any position in which it may be placed upon the finger, and moreover, as the abrasive substance becomes worn or detached from any particular spot, the finger stall may be partially rotated and a fresh surface exposed for operation. The sheets that are to be removed from the press may be engaged by the finger stall without danger of slipping or sliding, and liability of rubbing or smearing is thus prevented or reduced to a minimum.

By the use of the improved device, much time will be saved, inasmuch as slipping is prevented; and wastage caused by smearing or blurring is practically obviated.

A press may be fed much faster by the use of this device, it not being necessary to engage the printed sheet in any particular unprinted spot.

Finger stalls made of rubber and provided with integral projections of conical, pyramidal or other shapes have heretofore been used to assist in the manipulation of sheets or leaves, for the purpose of turning the same; a device of this character is radically different from my invention and could not be utilized as a substitute therefor. Projections of rubber, or other flexible or bendable nature would cause the fresh ink to smear or smudge, and the prime object of the invention would thus be defeated. I am also aware that leaf turning finger rings have been provided with sharpened pins adapted for engagement with the sheets; such pins are liable to pierce more than a single sheet and, in any event, are liable to pierce the sheet to such an extent as to render the operation difficult and uncertain. My improved finger stall consisting of flexible material having a coating of abrasive material, such as sand or coarse emery, is materially different from devices heretofore used, and is thoroughly efficient for the purposes for which it is provided.

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

A thimble-shaped press feeder's finger stall of relatively non-elastic material, having a closed, semi-spherical outer end, an open, inner end, an annular, elastic retaining band on the outer side of said inner end, and further having an exterior coating on its substantially cylindrical portion and semi-spherical outer end, said coating consisting of non-flexible abrasive material, providing points to frictionally engage a freshly printed sheet surface without smearing the same.

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

ARY V. NAPIER.

Witnesses:

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