

(No Model.)

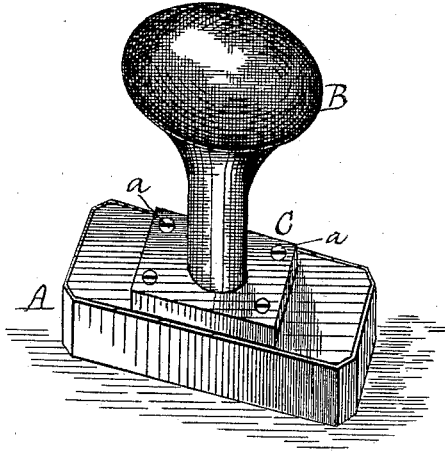
F. M. IRONMONGER.

HAND STAMP.

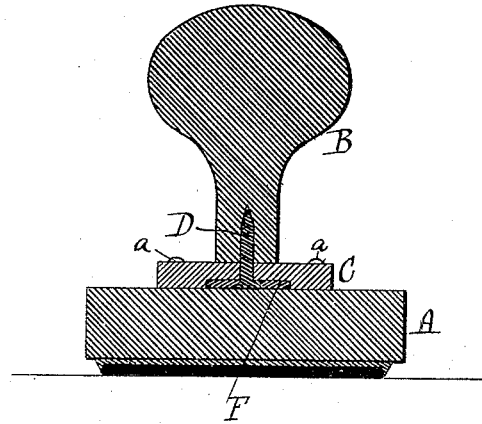
No. 344,581.

Patented June 29, 1886.

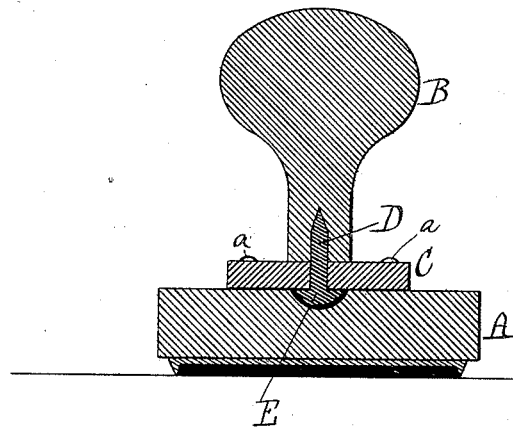
*Fig. 1.*



*Fig. 2.*



*Fig. 3.*



Witnesses.

*H. L. Gue-*  
*A. B. Brown*

Inventor.

By *Francis M. Ironmonger,*  
*Soule & Co.*  
Attorneys.

# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

FRANCIS M. IRONMONGER, OF BROOKLYN, NEW YORK.

## HAND-STAMP.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 344,581, dated June 29, 1886.

Application filed February 6, 1886. Serial No. 191,036. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, FRANCIS M. IRONMONGER, a citizen of the United States, residing at Brooklyn, in the county of Kings and State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Hand-Stamps; and I do declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and to the letters and figures of reference marked thereon, which form a part of this specification.

In the ordinary hand-stamps in general use the handle is rigidly attached to the type-block, and unless the type is perfect and great care is taken it is very difficult to obtain a perfect impression. In order to obtain a perfect impression with these stamps it is necessary to strike the stamp true and exact, and as this is seldom done it becomes necessary to rock or move the type-block, so as to apply pressure to every part of the type-surface, and the result is in most cases to blur the impression. It has been sought to obviate this objection by so connecting the handle to the type-block that while the type-block remains stationary on the surface to be impressed the handle may be rocked, and thus pressure be brought to bear on different parts of the type-surface. Among the constructions adopted for the purpose may be mentioned interposing between the handle and the type-block an elastic block of rubber, which constitutes the lower end of the handle inclosing the lower end of the handle in an elastic tube, the tube itself being secured to the type-block, and employing coiled springs arranged in a somewhat similar manner around the handle, in order to allow a limited rocking movement to the same.

This invention belongs to the class of inventions wherein a flexible handle is so connected to the type-block as to have a limited rocking movement; and it consists in an improved construction which is simple, economical, and efficient. This construction is shown in the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of a hand-stamp constructed in accordance with this in-

vention. Fig. 2 is a central vertical longitudinal section of the same, and Fig. 3 is a similar section showing a slightly-different and preferable construction.

A is the type-block, to the lower surface of which the type is attached, and to the upper side of which the handle B is secured. To the upper surface of the type-block a small plate, C, of suitable elastic material—such as india-rubber—is permanently secured by tacks *a a* or other suitable means. The handle is connected to the block by means of a screw having a shank, D, which screws into the handle, and a large head, E, which is flat on the surface nearest the point. The screw is secured to the handle by having its shank passed first through the elastic plate and then into the handle, the flat face of the screw seating against the elastic plate. This screw, handle, and plate thus connected constitute a flexible handle, and after being so put together the handle is attached to the type-block by securing the plate thereto by means of the tacks. To accommodate the head of the screw the type-block will be recessed on the upper side, as shown.

Normally the handle is retained in a position perpendicular to the type-block by the tension of the elastic plate upon the flat face of the screw. When an impression is to be made, if the block is not brought down perfectly square, the handle will yield sufficiently to permit every portion of the type to be brought into contact with the surface to be impressed.

In Fig. 2 a modification is illustrated, showing how an ordinary screw having a head flat on its upper surface may be utilized. In this case the screw alone cannot be used, since its tapered head would permit it to be easily pulled through the rubber plate. To prevent this a small circular washer, F, having a central aperture and countersunk to admit the head of the screw, is put on the screw before the same is passed through the rubber plate. The operation of this is then like the handle first described.

I claim as my invention—

1. A flexible handle for hand-stamps, composed of an elastic plate adapted to be secured to a type-block, a handle, and a headed shank

inserted through said plate and into said handle, substantially as set forth.

2. A type-block and an elastic plate permanently secured thereto, in combination with  
5 a screw having its head held between said block and plate, and its point extending through said plate, and a handle secured to said screw, substantially as set forth.

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

FRANCIS M. IRONMONGER.

Witnesses:

JONAH H. WHITE,  
J. D. RICHARDSON.