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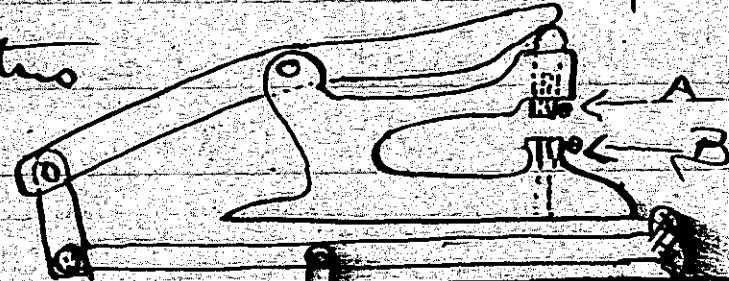
New York, Sep 20th 1887


My Dear Judge,

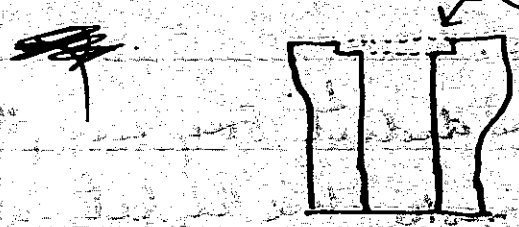
Apr 19th I didn't say anything about having to make dies to make the eyelets, I said that a punch and die would have to be made for setting them. I ordered 500 of each of the 12 sizes eyelets today, and if they have them on hand at the factory they will be here on Friday, if they have to make them can't say positively when they will be here but I did my level best to convince them that you are in a hurry and they said they understood me.

About the punch for setting them, each different diameter must have a punch & die, length is not a consideration but diameter is. It is necessary to have an eyelet to make the punch & die, and as I had only one set of samples, and they go to Waterbury tonight I've just ordered the punches & dies today any way, and some time will tell you something about them.

There is a machine made to make by foot power something like this



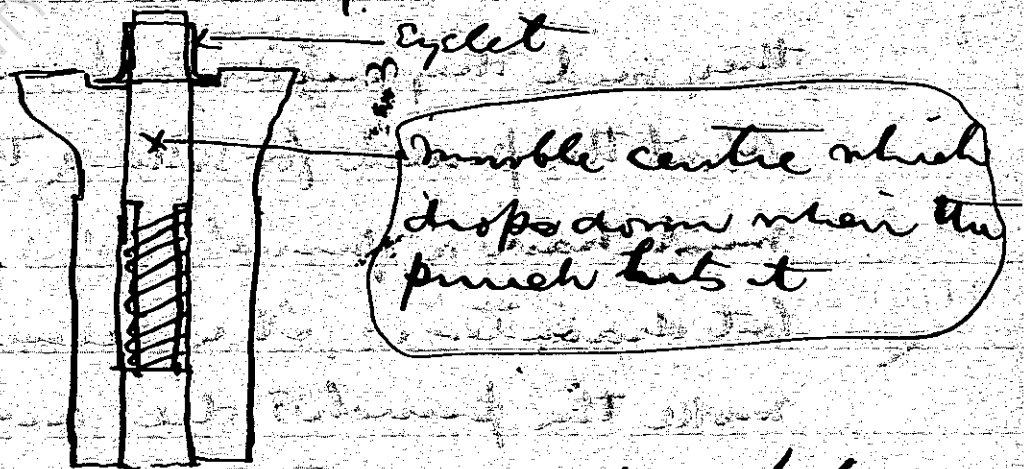
The punch which is shaped something like this  goes into the machine

at point "A" and the die of which a sectional view is 

Eyellet sets in here

is placed in the bottom at B. and different sizes can easily be put in for different sizes of eyellet.

They also arrange the bottom die with a movable centre fixed some way on a spiral spring so that when the punch is up the movable centre will project a little and the eyellet can be set over it like this



The machine costs 15¢, and punch & die 5¢ for each size - or you can have the punch & die to make by hand at 5¢ for each size.

I believe if you have a machine shop at Mayville that for about 25¢ you could have one turned up on or hand lotter that would do the work.

Eyellet are made here by one concern & punches & dies by one entirely different establishment. I shall amount you further advice before ordering the dies. I think eyellet will cost about 2.50 per 1000.
 H. H. H.
 B. H. H.

Dictated.)

Mayville N. Y.
Sept. 20th 1887.

My dear Mead:

I have yours of yesterday.

I am very sorry that Mr. Matthews is dissatisfied with my work.

I have expended more brain-sweat on it than on everything I have ever done put together. Moreover, it has been my intense anxiety to accomplish what he desired that has caused me such trouble. I did not get the work done at the time agreed and expected. Perhaps if he ever sees the time when a mental dyspepsia more terrible than death itself, controls him so that everything he writes seems to him horrible and sickening in the extreme, he will not wonder at it and will then understand that I did always my very best.

Having admitted this which is my misfortune if not my fault, I wish to go farther and say that this is exactly the sort of a book I talked with him about from the first. Over and over again I told him that a direct attack on the Standard Oil monopoly in general would not do. In the first place I could not write such an one and in the second it would be useless. He said all the time that he was willing to leave the method to me--to trust my judgment as to how I would proceed. This I have exercised with a care I never bestowed on any work. As a fulfillment of the contract--barring the time--it is exact and literal. Besides that, I have no hesitation in saying that it will be effective. I have no doubt that its sale will be large--probably very large--and I am satisfied that it will awaken more general attention to the perils to be apprehended from Monopoly and undue accumulation than anything that has been written. Besides that it will be a healthy and radical matter which I understand to be what he desired.

I have said to Matthews repeatedly, that if this book did not repay him financially, I would keep on writing until he was free of every cent advanced.

What is all I can do. It would be impossible for Mrs Bourgee to do what he asks. I suppose he feels hurt that I have done some other things in the meantime, but I have never touched pen to paper on another matter when I was able to work on this. I do not expect him to understand it but such is the fact. The task he assigned me was a terrible one--to attack an evil, a force, an element of our civilization and yet show no pique, no malice, no apparent intention to destroy. I have done it. I have done it too in a way that is in a measure satisfactory to me. It will hit and hurt but no one who reads will think it was specifically aimed at that particular point

Of course if he decides not to pay for the work done and the little more necessary to complete the plates--that is all there is of it. I have given him my best work and my best possibility. I gave it as soon as I could and would have given it sooner if I had not desired to make it better. Except one article every two weeks and two or three special monographs--I have done nothing else except to work over old matter. Button's Inn, I wrote upon a spur and somewhat carelessly. Black Ice was written three years ago. I suppose four days in a week for more than a year has been given to "89". I even neglected the preparation of any of my law lectures and spoke extemporaneously except for the preparation I gave them day by day, during 12 days. Of course this does not make the book satisfactory --but if what he said he wanted me to do, was what he really desired I have at length accomplished it and done it--well not badly.

Now if he will not pay for the plates why there is nothing

more to be done. If he does and it does not pay him back his money
I will work until it does.

As to putting it under my name I would not object at all, only
it would hurt it, just as it would hurt if it were to be under his
name. Its anonymity is its strong point because it is a strong
book and it will be hard to penetrate because I have seemingly so
much in hand.

No one can regret the unpleasant features of this as much as
I. Matthews has been very patient. If the book is late for what he
wishes, neither he nor I can help that now. It seems to me that the
straight, plain way out, is to pay for the plates and let it pay back
what it will. If it does not reimburse him I will assign him another
copyright and so on until it does. That is all I can do. Can he do
any better? If not why thrash over the old straw any longer?

Yours,