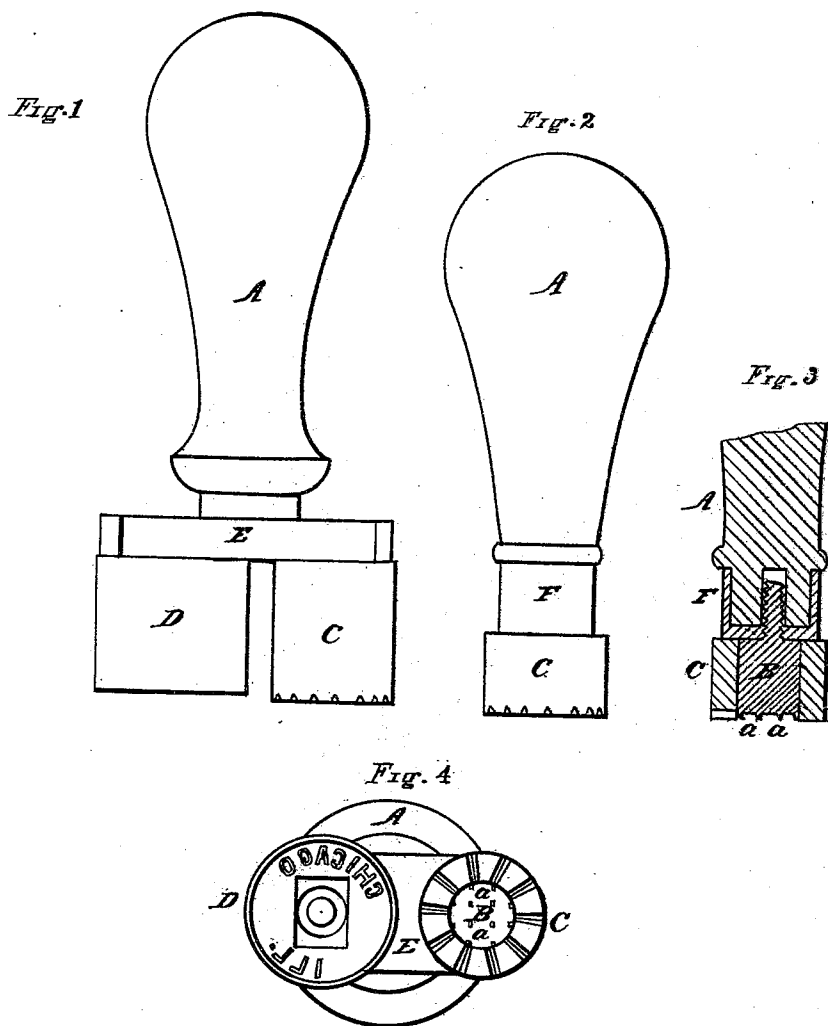


C. ARMSTRONG.
COMBINED PERFORATING AND CANCELING STAMP.
 No. 180,309. Patented July 25, 1876.



WITNESSES.

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IMPROVEMENT IN COMBINED PERFORATING AND CANCELING STAMPS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **180,309**, dated July 25, 1876; application filed December 30, 1875.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, CHARLES ARMSTRONG, of Chicago, in the county of Cook and State of Illinois, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Canceling-Stamp, of which improvements the following is a full, clear, and exact description, which will enable others skilled in the art to which my invention appertains to make and use the said improvements, reference being had to the accompanying drawing, forming a part hereof, and in which—

Figure 1 is a side elevation of a double canceling-stamp embodying my invention; Fig. 2, a like representation of a single stamp, also embodying my invention; Fig. 3, a vertical central section of the single stamp; Fig. 4, a face elevation of the double stamp.

Like letters of reference indicate like parts.

The object of my invention is to make a hand canceling-stamp whereby postage-stamps, envelopes, newspapers, commercial paper, and the like may be canceled with facility by means of ink impressed thereon, and also by puncturing or perforating the same, both by the same act or operation.

To this end, my invention consists in certain details of construction, as hereinafter specified and claimed.

In the drawing, A represents the handle of the stamp; and B is a metallic die, attached to the handle, and having on its lower face the perforating points or disks *a a*. C is a yielding die or blotter, made, preferably, of rubber, and adapted, on its lower face, to imprint a canceling-mark to whatever it may be applied for that purpose, it being understood that the lower face of the part C is first suitably inked.

The lower face of the die C extends a little way below the lower face of the die B, as shown in Fig. 3, so that the die C will strike the object to be canceled at about the same time the perforators *a a* do, and then yield sufficiently to allow the perforators either to pass through or break the paper to which the stamp is applied. These perforators may be either pointed, or they may consist of small projections, having flat faces or disks; and I

deem the latter construction preferable for most purposes.

The die C is prevented from being pushed upward out of place when the blow is given, by means of a shoulder formed by the handle, as shown.

The device shown in Fig. 1 is, in its general appearance, the same as those heretofore employed in post-offices for the purpose of canceling the stamps on letters and newspapers, and at the same time indicating, by means of the die or stamp D, the office from which they are mailed, but differs in construction from the said stamps, in the fact that my improved canceler, hereinbefore described, is applied thereto in the place of the ordinary stamp-canceler or die. This attachment I make by screwing the die B into the bar E, and by arranging the die C on the die B, as already described; and for the purpose of rendering this canceling-stamp capable of being transferred with facility from the single stamp or die to the double one, and vice versa, I also screw the die B into the handle of the single stamp, as shown in Fig. 3.

To make this stamp more durable, I employ the metallic thimble F, arranged on the lower end of the handle, as shown.

In Fig. 3 the part C is represented as surrounding the die B.

The advantage of the combination of the yielding die with the perforating die or disk is, that the letters, papers, and stamps will be more effectually canceled, and the stamps, for example, even though the ink be removed, will plainly appear to have been once canceled, for the perforations will remain, and the appearance thus given cannot afterward be effaced.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. In a hand canceling-stamp, the combination, with the yielding post-marking die C, of the rigid perforating-die B, the latter formed solid, with its working-face provided with perforators, and arranged relatively to the yielding die, that the lower faces of the duplex die shall be practically on the same

plane, substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

2. The combination, with the solid perforating-die B, provided with a screw-threaded shank, of the annular yielding die C, ferrule F, and handle A, substantially as and for the purpose specified.

In witness whereof I have hereto set my hand this 24th day of December, A. D. 1875.

CHARLES ARMSTRONG.

Witnesses:

N. C. GRIDLEY,
F. F. WARNER.