

(No Model.)

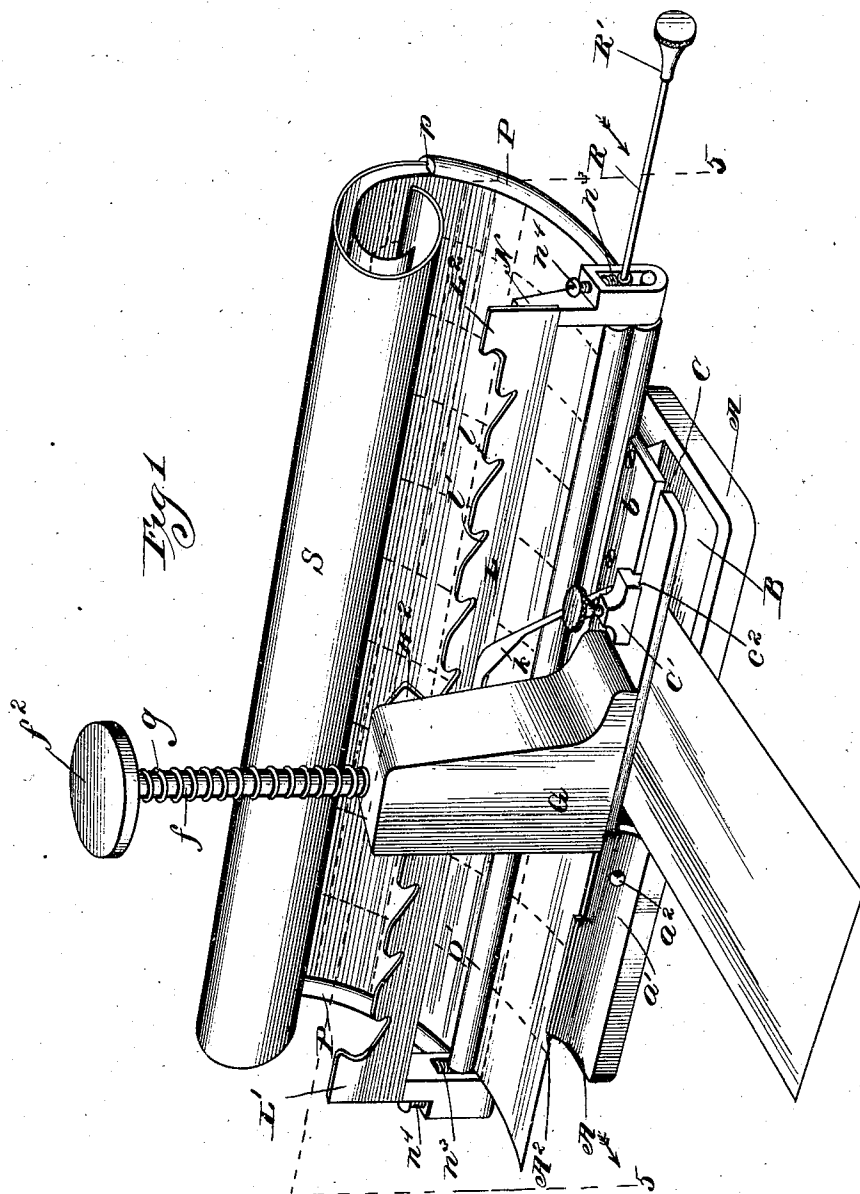
3 Sheets—Sheet 1.

A. S. KIBBY.

MACHINE FOR AFFIXING POSTAGE STAMPS TO LETTERS.

No. 503,933.

Patented Aug. 22, 1893.



Witnesses
John L. Furman
Martin H. Olson.

Inventor
Alexander S. Kibby
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(No Model.)

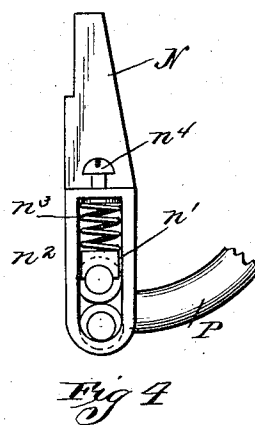
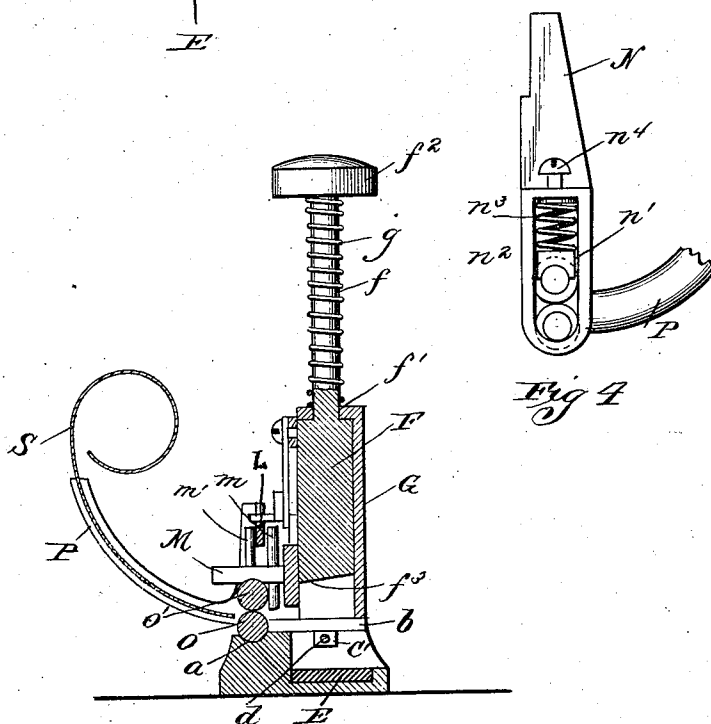
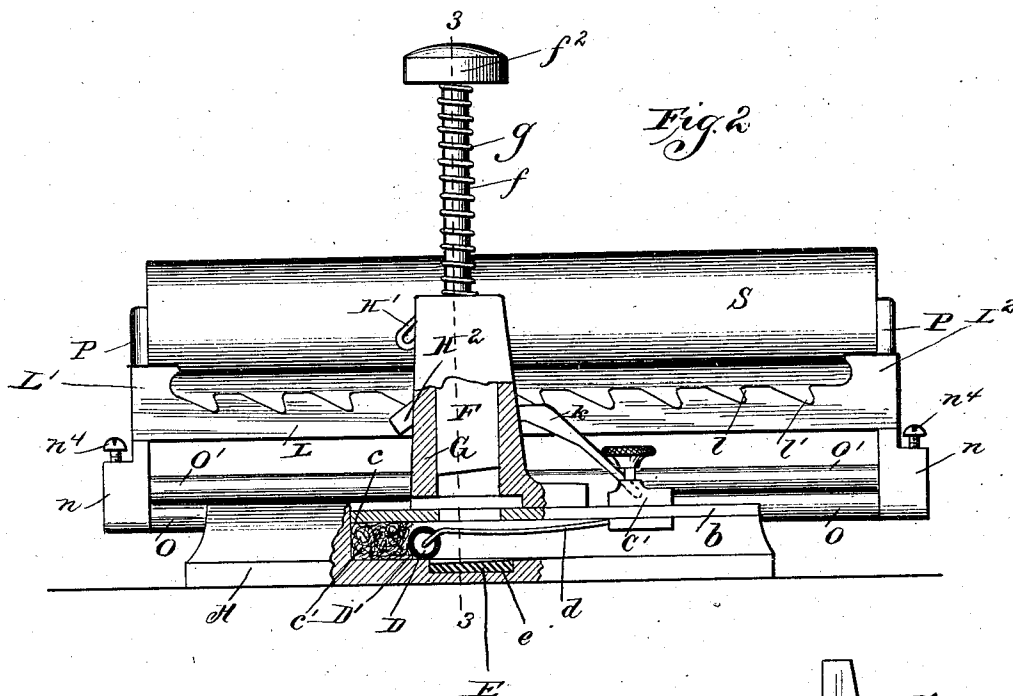
3 Sheets—Sheet 2.

A. S. KIBBY.

MACHINE FOR AFFIXING POSTAGE STAMPS TO LETTERS.

No. 503,933.

Patented Aug. 22, 1893.



Witnesses:
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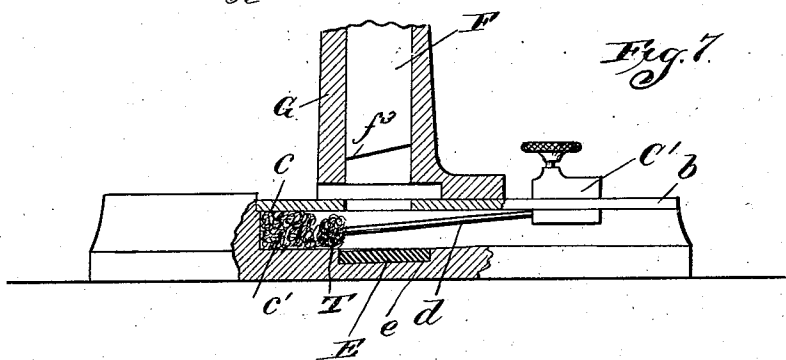
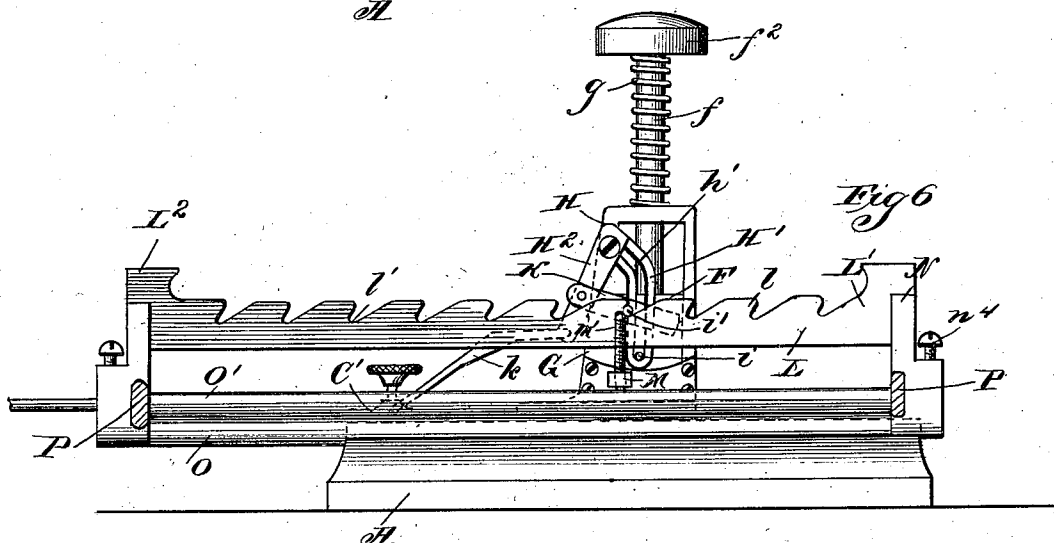
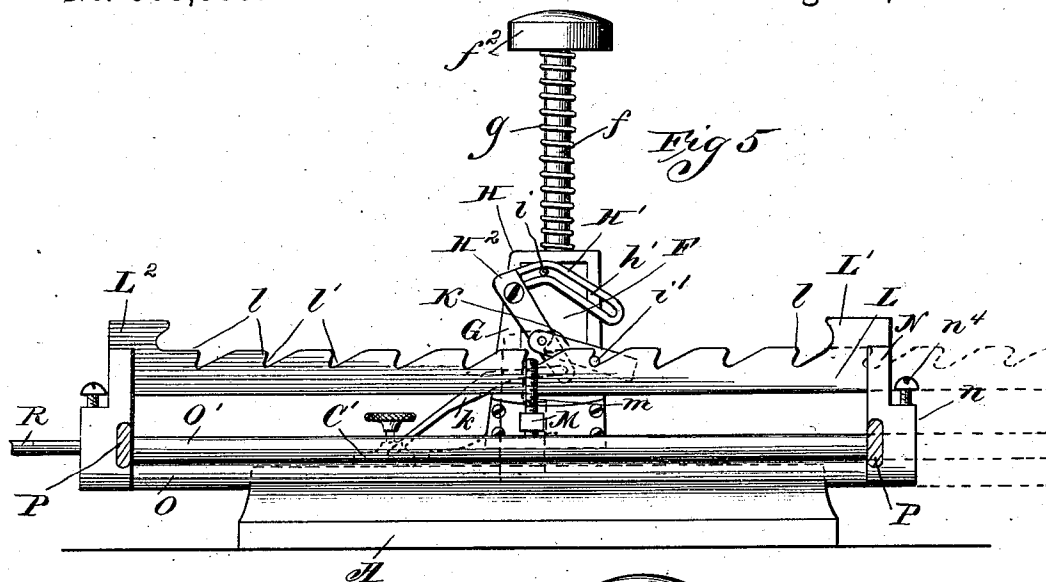
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MACHINE FOR AFFIXING POSTAGE STAMPS TO LETTERS.

No. 503,933.

Patented Aug. 22, 1893.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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MACHINE FOR AFFIXING POSTAGE-STAMPS TO LETTERS.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 503,933, dated August 22, 1893.

Application filed August 19, 1892. Serial No. 443,472. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ALEXANDER S. KIBBY, a citizen of the United States, residing at Chicago, in the county of Cook and State of Illinois, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in an Apparatus for Clipping and Affixing Postage-Stamps to Envelopes, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to improvements in an apparatus for clipping and affixing postage stamps to envelopes, and it consists in certain peculiarities of the construction, and the novel arrangement and operation of the various parts thereof, as will be hereinafter more fully set forth and specifically claimed.

The objects of my invention are first, to provide a device for clipping and attaching postage stamps to envelopes, which shall be strong, durable, and effective in operation, yet quite inexpensive; and second, such a device which will first moisten the envelope at the point to receive the stamp, and will then clip the stamp from the sheet and cause the same to adhere to the envelope, by one movement of the hand of the operator.

In order to enable others skilled in the art to which my invention pertains to make and use the same, I will now proceed to describe it, referring to the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1, is a perspective view of my apparatus, with the postage stamps and an envelope in position, as it appears when ready for operation. Fig. 2, is a view in side elevation, with a portion broken away, in order to show the means of moistening the envelope and the die for clipping and affixing the stamp. Fig. 3, is a vertical sectional view, taken on line 3, 3, of Fig. 2. Fig. 4, is an enlarged detail view of a portion of one end of the postage-stamp carrier, showing the method of adjusting its rollers. Fig. 5, is a rear view, taken on line 5, 5, of Fig. 1, showing the parts as they appear when in their normal position. Fig. 6, is a similar view, showing the device as it appears after the postage stamp has been clipped from the sheet and pressed down on the envelope, and Fig. 7, is a front sectional view of a portion of the base-plate and the die-guide, showing a modification in the method of moistening the envelope.

Similar letters refer to like parts throughout the different views of the drawings.

A, represents the base-plate of my device, which is made of any suitable size, form and material but preferably of metal, and substantially rectangular in form as shown in the drawings, and is formed in its upper rear surface with a longitudinal groove *a*, into which fits and operates one of the rollers for adjusting the postage stamps.

Directly in front of the groove *a*, and extending from one end to near its middle, the upper surface of the base A, is provided or formed with a recess B, which recess is covered by means of a plate *b*, which is secured to the base A, by means of screws or otherwise. The inner end of the recess B, is closed by a portion of the front side of the base A, as shown at *a'*, in Fig. 1, and forms a box or receptacle *c*, for the reception of a piece of sponge *c'*, or other absorbent material, which may be moistened, and kept in such a condition by means of a sufficient quantity of water, which may be injected through the opening *a''*, made in the side *a'*, for said purpose. As before stated the plate *b*, is secured to the base A, over the recess B, and its inner portion forms a top for the receptacle or reservoir *c*, while its outer portion is provided with an open longitudinal slot C, which slot extends from near the outer end of the plate *b*, inwardly to a proper point, and is designed for the operation and guidance of the moistener-carrier *C'*, which carrier, is provided on each side with a groove *c''*, of a depth about equal to the thickness of the plate *b*, which fits in said carrier, when in the slot C.

To the lower portion of the carrier *C'*, and beneath the plate *b*, is secured one end of a spring *d*, which is bifurcated at its free end, and is provided at said bifurcation with a small roller D, which roller may be covered with felt *D'*, or other suitable absorbent material, which material will absorb water from the saturated sponge *c'*, and will distribute it over a portion of the envelope in its outward movement.

About the middle of the base A, and on the upper surface of the recess B, thereof, and near the sponge receptacle *c*, is formed a recess *e*, into which is placed and secured

a piece of rubber E, or other soft material, to act as a cushion upon which the die F, for clipping the stamps on the envelope will strike. To the upper surface of the plate b, and near the front edge thereof, and directly over the recess e, containing the cushion E, is secured an upright die-guide G, which is formed with a rectangular hollow, in which fits and operates the die F, to the upper end of which is secured a shank f, which shank passes through a suitable opening f', in the top of the guide G, and is provided at its top with a knob f², or hand piece. Between the hand piece f², and the top of the guide G, and around the shank f, is placed a spring g, which raises the die, and restores the various parts of the operating mechanism to their normal positions.

By reference to Figs. 2, and 7, of the drawings, it will be seen that the upper surface of the recess B, in the base-plate, is slightly inclined toward the inner portion of said recess, and that the cushion E, is correspondingly inclined. This construction is thus designed so that the envelope will lie in a slightly inclined position under the die F, the bottom of which is also inclined in a slight degree, as is clearly seen in Figs. 2, 3, and 7, toward the rear side of the base A, and toward the end of the recess B, adjacent to the receptacle c, thus making the corner f³, of the die F, somewhat longer than its other corners, so that in its downward movement it will act upon the sheet of stamps with a shearing cut, and when pressed entirely down on the envelope will firmly affix the stamp to the same.

To the rear side of the guide G, and near its upper portion, is pivotally secured a compound lever II, one arm II¹, of which is slightly curved, and formed with a longitudinal or cam slot h', within which slot is placed and operates a pin i, which is secured to the upper portion of the die F, and moved therewith.

To the lower end of the arm II², of the compound lever II, is pivotally secured one end of a rod or arm k, the other end of which is secured to the upper portion of the carrier C'. Near the lower portion of the arm II², of the lever II, is pivotally secured an arm K, which has near its free end, a rearwardly extending pin i', to engage with the teeth l, on the horizontal ratchet L, as will be presently explained.

To the lower portion of the guide G, and extending horizontally therefrom, is an arm or bracket M, which is provided at a suitable point near the rear of the guide G, with an upright pin m, and a short distance rearwardly therefrom with a screw m', which passes vertically through said arm. Between the screw m', and the pin m, is placed in a horizontal position the ratchet L, which is provided on its upper surface with a number of teeth l, for engagement with the pin i', on the

arm K. In order to make the engagement of said pin with the ratchet, more effectual, I form the teeth l, with a slight under-cut l', as shown.

The ratchet L, is secured at each of its ends to upright pieces N, the lower portions of which are formed with extensions n, which are provided with vertical slots n', into which fits and operates one above the other, the bearings or ends of the rollers O, and O'. Within the slots n', of the pieces N, is placed movable blocks n², which rest upon the upper surface of the ends of the roller O', and are held in position by means of springs n³, the tension of which is regulated by means of screws n⁴, located in the top of the extensions. It is apparent that as the ratchet L, is connected at each of its ends to the rollers o, and o', by means of the upright pieces N, and passes in its longitudinal movement between the pin m, and screw m', on the arm M, which operates between the lower surface of the ratchet and the upper roller, it and the rollers will be held in an upright position.

Secured to the rear and lower portion of the pieces N, and extending backward in an upwardly curved position, are the arms P, which are or may be provided with grooves p, on their inner surfaces for the reception and retention of a sheet of tin or other suitable material, which is formed into a scroll S, as shown in Fig. 1, and acts as a protection and carrier for the sheet of stamps.

To one of the rollers O, and O', and at the end adjacent to the open end of the recess B, is attached an extension rod R, having on its free end a thumb-piece R', for revolving the roller. This rod is thus extended so that the revolution of the roller may not be interfered with, when the stamp carrier is placed in position to begin the operation of stamping the envelopes, as indicated by dotted lines in Fig. 5.

In Fig. 7, I have shown a modification in the manner of moistening the envelope which I may sometimes use, and which consists in employing a brush T, made of sponge or other absorbent material, secured to the end of the spring-rod d, instead of a roller.

The operation of my device is simple and as follows: The sheet of stamps is placed within the scroll S, and has its edge passed between the rollers O, and O', which is done by revolving one of said rollers by means of the extension rod R, until the outer edge of the sheet of stamps rests against and is guided, by the flange A², on the upper surface of the base A. The envelope is then placed in the recess B, and the die F, is forced downward by pressing upon the hand-piece f², when the pin i' will engage with one of the teeth l, of the ratchet L, and by reason of the pin i, operating in the cam groove h', of the arm II', will move the ratchet and the stamp carrier or scroll S, forward for a

distance equal to the length of the postage stamp, and at the same time the moistener carrier will be forced in the same direction, thus causing the moistener to pass over a portion of the envelope, and the die in its downward movement to clip the stamp from the sheet and press it on and firmly secure it to the envelope. The pressure is then withdrawn from the hand-piece f^2 , when the spring g , will return the die, with its lever H , and moistener-carrier C' , to their normal positions, and the above described operation may be repeated till the entire length of the sheet has passed under the die, when the arm K , will be raised out of engagement with the teeth l , by means of the curved lug L' , which is placed on the end of the ratchet L , for said purpose, and the stamp carrier or scroll S , moved back to its original position, indicated by dotted lines in Fig. 5, and another row of stamps passed between the rollers O , and O' , by turning the extension rod, when the above described operation may be again repeated.

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

1. In an apparatus for clipping and affixing postage stamps to envelopes, the combination of a base plate having a recess to receive the envelope, a receptacle for moistening material and a cover for said receptacle and recess, having a guide-way C , for the moistener-carrier, with the die-guide G , the die F , having the shank f , hand-piece f^2 , pin i , and spring g , the compound lever H , fulcrumed to the die-guide G , and having the arm H' , provided with the cam-slot h' , and arm H^2 , having secured to its lower portion the arm K , having the pin i' , and the rod k , secured at its other end to the carrier C' , the said carrier having the spring rod d , provided at its free end with a moistener distributor, the stamp-carrier S , having the rollers O , and O' , adjustably secured at their ends, and the ratchet L , to engage with the pawl-arm K , all constructed, arranged and operating substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

2. In an apparatus for clipping and affixing postage stamps to envelopes, the combination of the base-plate A , having the recess B , the receptacle c , provided with absorbent material c' , the recess e , having the cushion or seat E , with the cover b , having the guide-way C , the die-guide G , having the arm M , provided with the screw m' , and pin m , the die F , having the shank f , hand-piece f^2 , pin i , and spring g , the compound lever H , fulcrumed to the die-guide G , and having the arm H' , provided with the cam-slot h' , and arm H^2 , having secured to its lower portion the pawl-arm K , having the pin i' , and the rod k , secured at its other end to the carrier C' , the said carrier having the spring rod d , provided at its free end with a moistener-distributor, the stamp-carrier S , having the rollers O , and O' , adjustably se-

cured at their ends, and the ratchet L , to engage with the pawl-arm K , all constructed, arranged and operating substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

3. In an apparatus for clipping and affixing postage stamps to envelopes, the combination of the base-plate A , having the recess B , the receptacle c , provided with absorbent material c' , the recess e , having the cushion or seat E , with the plate or cover b , having the guide-way C , the die-guide G , having the arm M , provided with the screw m' , and pin m , the die F , having the shank f , hand-piece f^2 , pin i , and spring g , the compound lever H , fulcrumed to the die-guide G , and having the arm H' , provided with the cam-slot h' , and arm H^2 , having secured to its lower portion the pawl-arm K , having the pin i' , and the rod k , secured at its other end to the carrier C' , the said carrier having the grooves C^2 , and rod d , provided at its free end with a moistener-distributor, the stamp-carrier or scroll S , having the rollers O , and O' , having their bearings in the pieces N , the said pieces having the vertical slots n' , and provided with movable blocks n^2 , and springs n^3 , the ratchet L , having the under-cut teeth l , to engage with the pawl-arm K , all constructed, arranged and operating substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

4. In an apparatus for clipping and affixing postage stamps to envelopes, the combination of a base-plate A , having a recess to receive the envelope, a receptacle for the moistening material and a cover for said receptacle and recess, having a guide-way C , for the moistener-carrier, with the die-guide G , having the arm M , provided with the screw m' , and pin m , the die F , having the shank f , hand-piece f^2 , pin i , spring g , and projecting bottom corner f^3 , the compound lever H , fulcrumed to the die-guide and having the arm H' , provided with the cam-slot h' , and arm H^2 , having secured to its lower portion the arm K , having the pin i' , and the rod k , secured at its other end to the carrier C' , the said carrier having the rod d , provided at its free end with a moistener-distributor, the stamp-carrier or scroll S , having the rollers O , and O' , adjustably secured at their ends, the ratchet L , having the teeth l , to engage with the pawl-arm K , and the curved lug L' , to throw said arm out of engagement with the ratchet, all constructed, arranged and operating substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

5. In an apparatus for clipping and affixing postage stamps to envelopes, the combination of a base plate, having a recess to receive the envelope, a receptacle for the moistening material and a cover for said receptacle and recess, having a guide-way C , for the moistener-carrier C' , with the die-guide G , having the arm M , provided with the screw m' , and pin m , the die F , having the shank f , hand-piece f^2 , pin i , spring g , and projecting bottom cor-

er f^s , the compound lever H, fulcrumed to the die-guide and having the arm H' , provided with the cam-slot h' , and arm H^s , having secured to its lower portion the arm K, 5 having the pin i' , and the rod k , secured at its other end to the carrier O' , the said carrier having the rod d , provided at its free end with a roller D, having the absorbent covering D' , the stamp-carrier S, having the rollers O,

and O' , adjustably secured at their ends, the ratchet L, to engage with the pawl-arm K, all constructed, arranged and operating substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

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