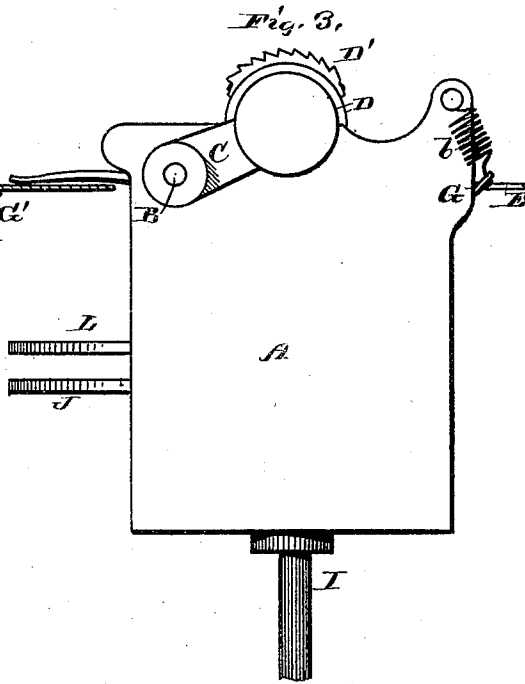
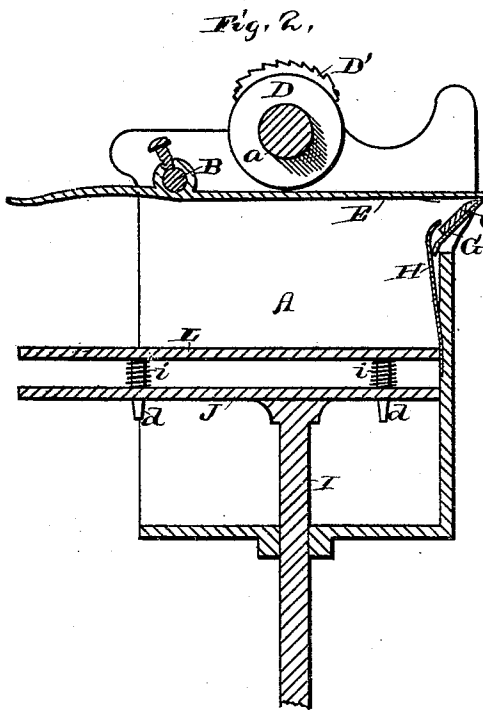
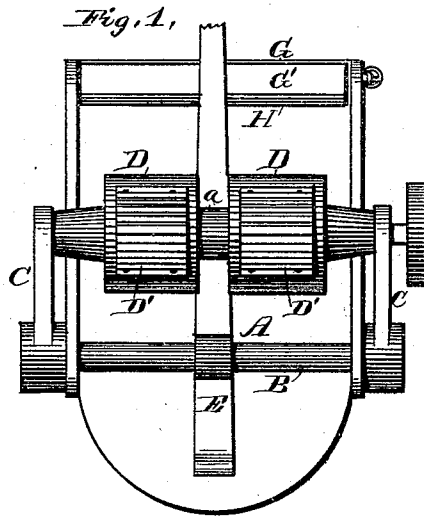


F. MYERS.

FEEDING-DEVICE FOR STAMP-CANCELING MACHINES.

No. 175,487.

Patented March 28, 1876.



WITNESSES:

Jas. F. Duhamel,
Thomas. Byrne.

INVENTOR:

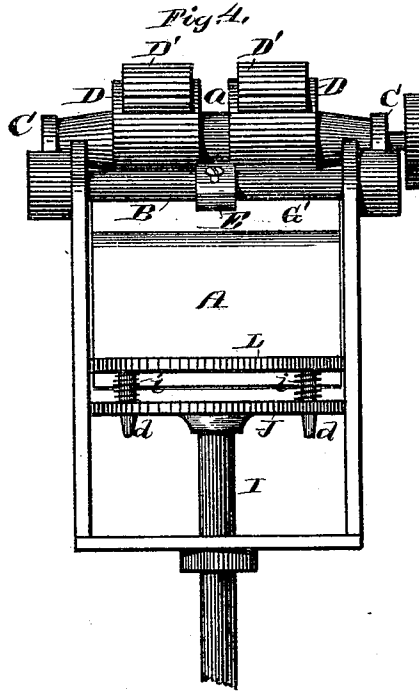
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ATTORNEY,

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

FREDERICK MYERS, OF NEW YORK, N. Y.

IMPROVEMENT IN FEEDING DEVICES FOR STAMP-CANCELING MACHINES.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **175,487**, dated March 28, 1876; application filed March 20, 1876.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, FREDERICK MYERS, of New York, in the county of New York and State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Feeding Devices for Stamp-Canceling Machine, of which the following is a specification:

My invention relates to stamp-canceling machines; and it consists in the construction and arrangement of a feeding apparatus for such machines, as will be hereinafter more fully set forth.

In order to enable others skilled in the art to which my invention appertains to make and use the same, I will now proceed to describe its construction and operation, referring to the annexed drawing, which forms part of this specification, and in which—

Figure 1 is a top view. Fig. 2 is a sectional view. Fig. 3 is a side view. Fig. 4 is an end view.

A represents the feed-box in which the letters are placed to be fed to the stamp-canceling machine, the box being open at the back and top. At the rear side of the box at the top is a cross-shaft, B, having an arm, C, secured on each end. In the outer ends of these arms is placed another cross-shaft, *a*, upon which are secured two feed-rollers, D D, which are covered on the outside with rubber D'. This rubber is of the kind known to the trade as "artists' rubber," retaining always a rough surface, and it may be corrugated, as shown, or used without corrugation, and it may, if desired, extend entirely around the rollers, or cover only a part of the surface, as shown.

On the shaft B is secured a spring-guide, E, which extends forward between the lower edges of the feed-rollers D D, and out a suitable distance beyond the front of the box. The front of the box is at the top provided with an apron, G, pivoted in suitable side plates, and provided on top with a piece of artists' rubber, G'. The apron is held by means of a spring, *b*, so that the upper edge thereof, as well as of the rubber, will be in contact with the lower face of the spring-guide E, as shown in the drawing. The lower edge of the apron G bears against a spring-plate, H, fastened to the inner side of the

box-front to assist in holding up the apron. Through the bottom of the box A passes a vertical rod or shaft, I, on the upper end of which is fastened a false bottom, J. On top of this false bottom is a plate, L, provided with downward-projecting pins *d* surrounded by spiral springs *i*, and passing through holes in the false bottom J.

The rod I will, in a working machine, be automatically operated by a weighted lever so adjusted that it shall exert the same pressure whether the false bottom is up or down. The letters to be passed into the stamp-canceling machine are placed upon the plate L, and held by the weighted lever mentioned against the rubber surfaces of the feed-rollers.

The yielding plate L causes said rollers to take hold of a thick letter as well as a thin one, and even a postal-card, and as the rollers revolve they take one letter at a time and draw it out under the guide E, and over the top edge of the apron, the rubber surface G of said apron holding the letters against the guide and conducting it properly into the canceling-machine.

If more than one letter should be moved at one time by the feed-rollers the lower one will strike the edge of the apron and be prevented from passing out until the top one has fully passed out.

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

1. The apron G, provided with the rubber G', and operated by the spring *b*, as and for the purposes herein set forth.

2. The spring-plate H, in combination with the apron G and feed-rollers D D, for the purposes herein set forth.

3. The movable false bottom J of a feed-box or receptacle, provided with the yielding top plate L, as and for the purposes herein set forth.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing as my own I affix my signature in presence of two witnesses.

FREDERICK MYERS.

Witnesses:

H. B. BROWN,
JAS. F. DUHAMEL.