

C. F. MARTORANA.

Cancelling and Registering Revenue Stamps.

No. 133,871.

Patented Dec. 10, 1872.

Fig. 1. As stamped in Factory.

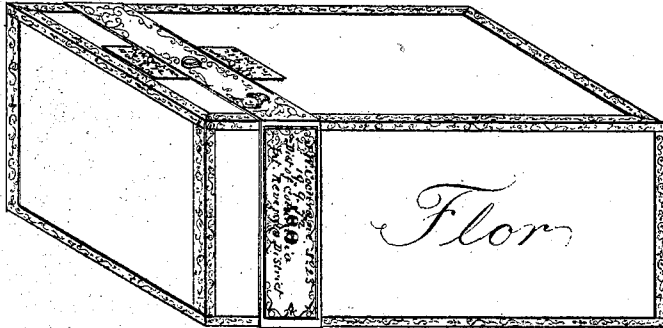


Fig. 2. As canceled upon sale by Manufacturer.

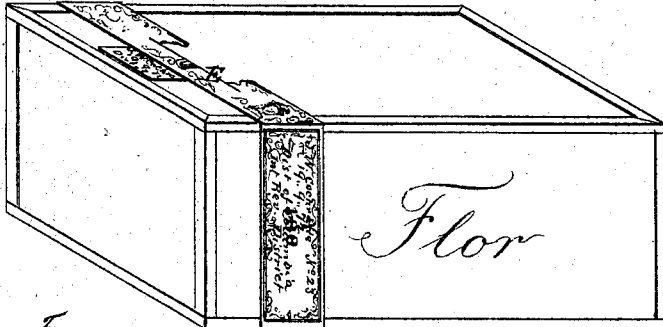


Fig. 3. As canceled before opening by dealer.

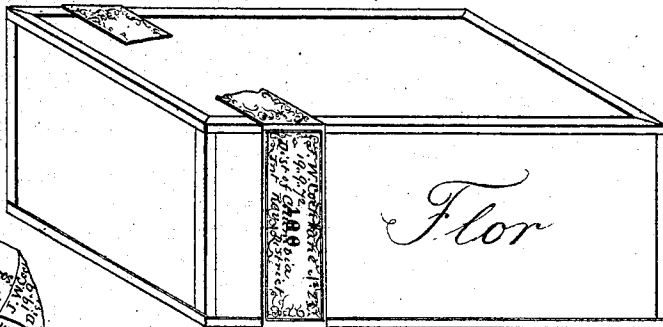
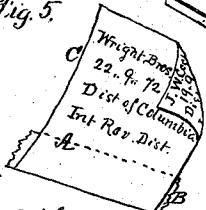


Fig. 5.

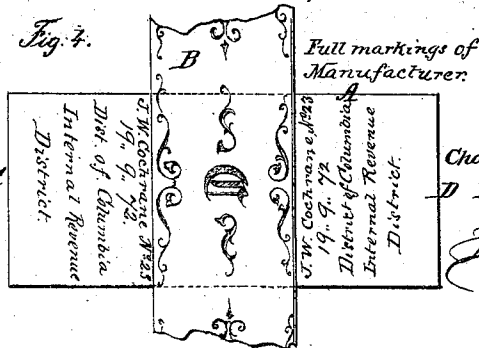


Dealers full cancellation and markings.

WITNESSES:

Aug. H. Girard.
J. West Wagner.

Fig. 7.



INVENTOR:

Charles Frederic Martorana

By John H. Klaue & Co.
His Attorneys

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

CHARLES FEDERICI MARTORANA, OF WASHINGTON, DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, ASSIGNOR OF ONE-HALF HIS RIGHT TO ALBERT E. H. JOHNSON AND J. W. HAMILTON JOHNSON, OF SAME PLACE.

IMPROVEMENT IN CANCELING AND REGISTERING REVENUE-STAMPS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 133,871, dated December 10, 1872.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, CHARLES FEDERICI MARTORANA, of the city of Washington, in the District of Columbia, have invented a new and useful improvement, being a Method of Canceling, Registering, and Detecting the Counterfeiting of Revenue-Stamps for distilled and fermented liquors, tobacco, cigars, snuff, and any other similar packages subject to internal-revenue tax, of which the following is a specification:

In the accompanying drawing, Figure 1 represents a view, in perspective, of a cigar-box embracing my slip-coupon, or registering and detecting slip, for canceling stamps, as applied in factory; Fig. 2 represents a similar view, showing the mode of cancellation by the removal of one branch of the slip-coupon or registering slip by manufacturer; Fig. 3 represents a similar view, showing the completion of the cancellation by the removal of the other branch of the slip-registering coupon by the dealer; and Fig. 4, the registering slip-coupon, as applied to the stamp.

My invention has for its object the cancellation of revenue-stamps to prevent and detect frauds upon the revenue system; and the invention which forms the subject-matter of this patent consists—in the employment of a slip of plain paper or parchment applied to the stamp in a manner to serve the several purposes in relation to the stamp and the thing stamped—of, first, the partial cancellation by the manufacturer; second, the complete cancellation by the dealer; third, the registration of both partial and complete cancellation by the detached coupon-slips; fourth, the detection by such registration-slips of the counterfeiting of said stamp; fifth, affording by these means proper and instant information and record to the internal-revenue officers of the dealing of the manufacturer and dealer, as required by law.

The blank slip-coupon A is applied to the stamp B so as to cross the latter, and is secured by the gummed surface of the stamp itself to present a double slip or a coupon-slip having two blank branches C D, each made the register of the date of its separation

from the body of the stamp. In such separation it is caused to bear a portion of the body of the stamp B at least equal in width to the body of the slip-coupon A, thus separating from the package a piece of the stamp, B, in two parts, by different or the same parties, and thus afford facility for matching and comparing them to ascertain the genuineness of the stamp, as well as its denomination. In this way the number of the stamps sold, and what number, if any, are counterfeit, can be ascertained with absolute certainty—a thing with the present system impracticable.

My invention makes no change or expense in the revenue-stamp system now in use, as the blank coupon-slip A is applied by the manufacturer to the under side of the stamp B, or between the article and the stamp. This blank slip-coupon is made by writing or marking on both parts thereof, to register the name of the manufacturer, his number, date of attaching stamp, and the revenue district, the same being also made upon the stamp, separate from the registering-slip, at the same time or in connection with it. The coupon-slip is not gummed to the article, but is left free to be removed therefrom with a certain portion of the stamp which secures it. The separate parts C D of the slip-coupon are removed by cutting the stamp with a knife in the direction of its length above the slip-coupon, as shown at E in Fig. 2. The manufacturer may use any series of numbers he desires without interfering with those used by any other manufacturer. The coupon-slip is separate from and applied with the stamp, and the mode of making the cancellation is equally simple, consisting in writing, marking, or stamping upon the two parts C D of the coupon-slip the initials or name of the manufacturer, the date, and any number he may select, and that of the revenue district in which he is doing business. These he also writes upon any part of the stamp. He then cuts the stamp with a knife over the coupon-slip at E, and tears off one part thereof, to be sent to the proper revenue officer, as shown in Fig. 2. The other part of the coupon is left to be torn off by the retail dealer at the time of opening the purchased article, as shown

in Fig. 3, and upon it he marks or writes, on the back, his initials or name, the date and number of the district, as shown in Fig. 5, and returns it also to the proper revenue officer. Now, each of these registering slips or parts is returned to the district officer, whether of the same or separate districts, by the separate parties, or the same party, if both manufacturer and dealer, and showing the full name, &c., of the party canceling, and the date or dates of such cancellation; and they can be compared to determine many things, among which also may be the amount of business in any particular article of the manufacturer and dealer, as the coupon-slips are themselves registers of all sales of the article made by the parties. In this respect the coupon-slip-stamp system and mode herein described of using them will absolutely prevent all fraud, by being themselves detectives of fraud and their own accusers of clandestine dealing—in fact, a suspended sword over the heads both of manufacturer and dealer, the fall of which is always apprehended in the perpetration of fraud.

The self-registering slips are also of the highest importance in furnishing positive evidence of counterfeiting the stamp itself, as each registering part, C D, has a part of the stamp pasted to it when torn off, so that the two can be matched to show the character of the stamp, and, if found to be counterfeit, can be traced to the manufacturer of the article stamped by him. The returned coupon-slips can be kept in files together under each person's name, and thus form his accounts with the bureau.

By my invention the use of stamps a second time is impossible, because a whole piece having been taken out of them by the registering coupon-slip will show at once the mutilation. The coupon-slip may be applied to the stamp in any suitable manner so long as it is made to perform the functions designed.

By my invention it is impossible to use the same article a second time with the same stamp or to exchange packages for the purpose of fraud.

I have stated that the manufacturer may use any series of numbers he may desire; but it is obvious that my invention does not depend in any degree upon the use of numbers, and they may be dispensed with if desired.

The same pitch which is used in pitching kegs may be used to seal the holes and prevent leakings to the injury of coupon and stamp.

Having described my invention, I claim—

1. A stamp for the collection of revenue having a plain slip, whereby the following several things are effected—first, the partial cancellation of the stamp by the manufacturer; second, the entire cancellation by the dealer; third, the registration of both partial and complete cancellation; fourth, the detection of frauds in counterfeiting; fifth, the use of the same numbers by different manufacturers, and to afford by such means information and record of the dealing of the manufacturer and dealer.

2. A slip-coupon or registering and detecting slip, canceled both by the manufacturer and dealer.

3. The mode herein described of canceling stamps to detect frauds in such cancellation.

4. The mode herein described of detecting counterfeiting by separating in parts a portion of the stamp with the registering-slips, for preservation and examination.

5. The independent slip-coupon or registering-slip secured to the stamp, as described.

6. A revenue-stamp coupon-slip bearing upon its face the cancellation and register thereof of the manufacturer, and upon its obverse side that of the dealer.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand this 18th day of September, A. D. 1872.

CHARLES FEDERICI MARTORANA.

Witnesses:

A. E. H. JOHNSON,
J. W. HAMILTON JOHNSON.