

(No Model.)

A. M. & S. M. A. FORTIER.

STAMP CANCELER.

No. 293,443.

Patented Feb. 12, 1884.

FIG. 1.

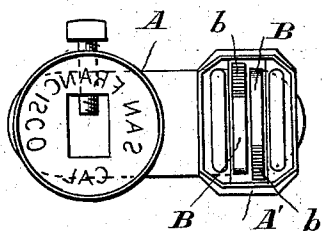


FIG. 2.

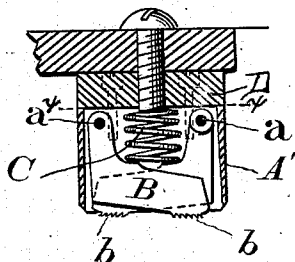
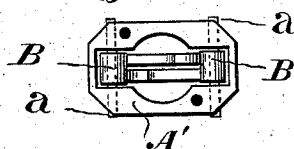


FIG. 3.



WITNESSES -

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ANNA M. FORTIER AND SHADRACH M. A. FORTIER, OF SAN FRANCISCO, CAL.

STAMP-CANCELER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 293,443, dated February 12, 1884.

Application filed October 1, 1881. Renewed August 17, 1883. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that we, ANNA MARY FORTIER and SHADRACH M. A. FORTIER, citizens of the United States, and residing at San Francisco, in the county of San Francisco and State of California, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Stamp-Cancelers, of which the following is a specification.

The objects of our invention are to provide a means whereby postage, revenue, and other stamps are canceled by mutilation, so that these stamps cannot be restored and used again, and at the same time the name of the post-office given and the inking of the mutilated stamp had simultaneously. We attain these objects by the mechanism illustrated in the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a plan view of the canceling-face of the stamp. Fig. 2 is a central vertical sectional view. Fig. 3 is a sectional view taken on line *xx* of Fig. 2.

Similar letters are used to designate like parts throughout the several views.

In carrying out our invention, we employ the ordinary canceling-case and postmarking-stamp, *A*, now so generally used by the departments, and within the canceling-case *A'* of this stamp we pivot, by means of the pins *a a*, two bent arms or dogs, *B*. The upper ends of these dogs are rounded, and they are pivoted to the containing-case, so as to have a slight movement upon the pins when actuated, the reverse or backward movement being limited by the sides of the case. The dogs *B B* are bent at right angles, and their lower faces are provided with teeth or serrations *b*, the points of which incline outwardly toward the ends of the case, so that when a blow is given to the canceler the teeth or serrations will strike the stamp in a slanting or oblique manner, and have a tendency to peel up or strip the stamp from the envelope without cutting or perforating the envelope, which would be the case if the

teeth were caused to enter the stamp in a more direct manner. When two dogs are employed, they are placed in juxtaposition within the case, the teeth of one dog extending outwardly toward one side of the case, and those of the other dog toward the opposite side, in an alternate manner, as shown, in which position they project a little below the end or edge of the case.

In order to impart an elastic or yielding blow, a spiral spring, *C*, is arranged between the horizontal portions of the dogs and the lower face of the lid *D*. This spring is slightly compressed, and its lower coil rests on the horizontal arms of the dogs, while the lid or cover *D* holds it in position. When a blow is given to the stamp, the spring will be first compressed and then recoil, so as to force the dogs outward with an elastic pressure to the right and left, while the teeth or serrations of the dogs will be caused to strike the stamp in a slightly-oblique direction and mutilate and detach it from the envelope at the points of contact without perforating the envelope, even if the latter is manufactured of thin paper.

Having thus described our invention, what we claim, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

In a canceling-stamp, the combination of the casing *A'*, lid *D*, bent dogs *B B*, pivoted in said casing and provided with teeth *b b*, and the coiled spring *C*, resting on the horizontal arms of the dogs between the same and the lid of the case, substantially as shown and described.

In testimony that we claim the foregoing we have hereunto set our hands and seals this 22d day of September, 1881.

ANNA M. FORTIER. [L. s.]
SHADRACH M.-A. FORTIER. [L. s.]

Witnesses:

C. W. M. SMITH,
WILMER BRADFORD.