

(No Model.)

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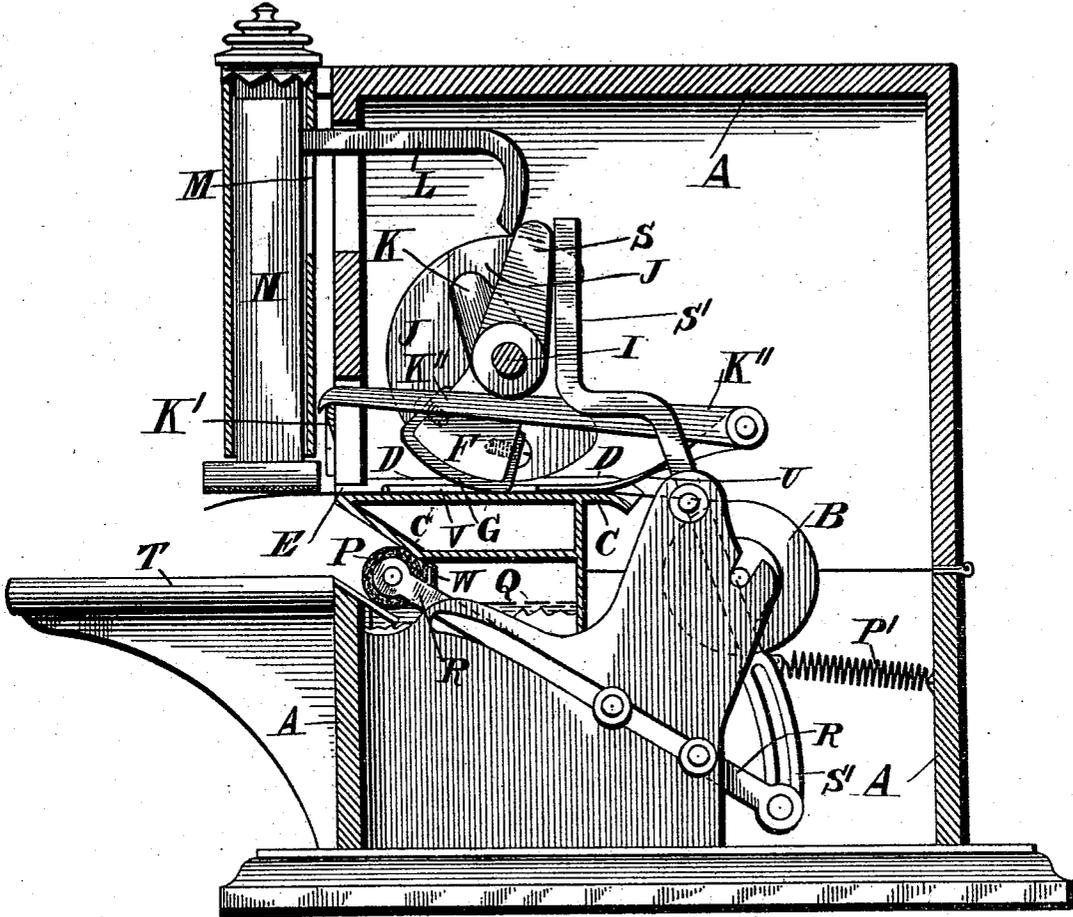
C. ELLIOT.

MACHINE FOR ATTACHING POSTAGE STAMPS TO ENVELOPES.

No. 517,740.

Patented Apr. 3, 1894.

Fig 1



Witnesses:
 G. W. Rea.
 J. A. Paul

Inventor:
 Charles Elliot
 By James S. Norris
 Atty.

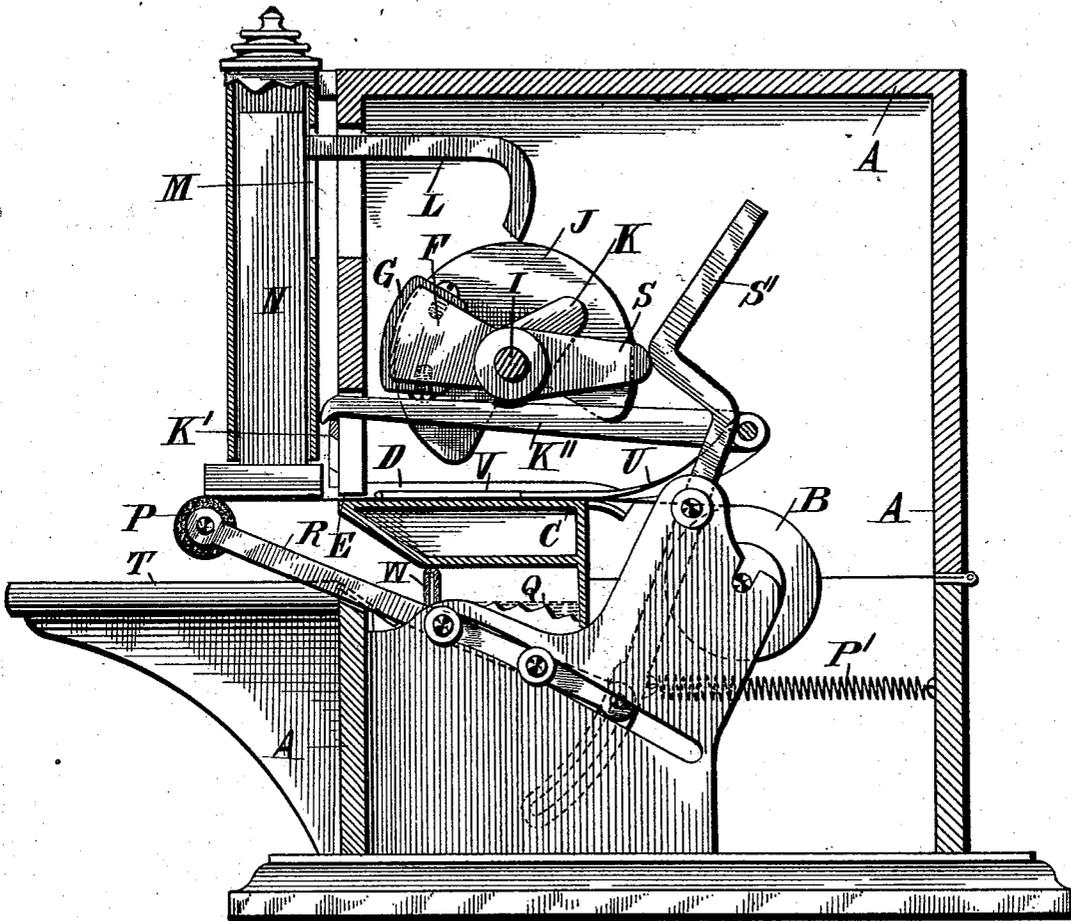
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Fig 2



Witnesses:
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 J. A. Saul

Inventor:
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(No Model.)

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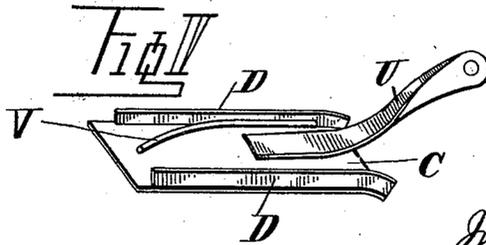
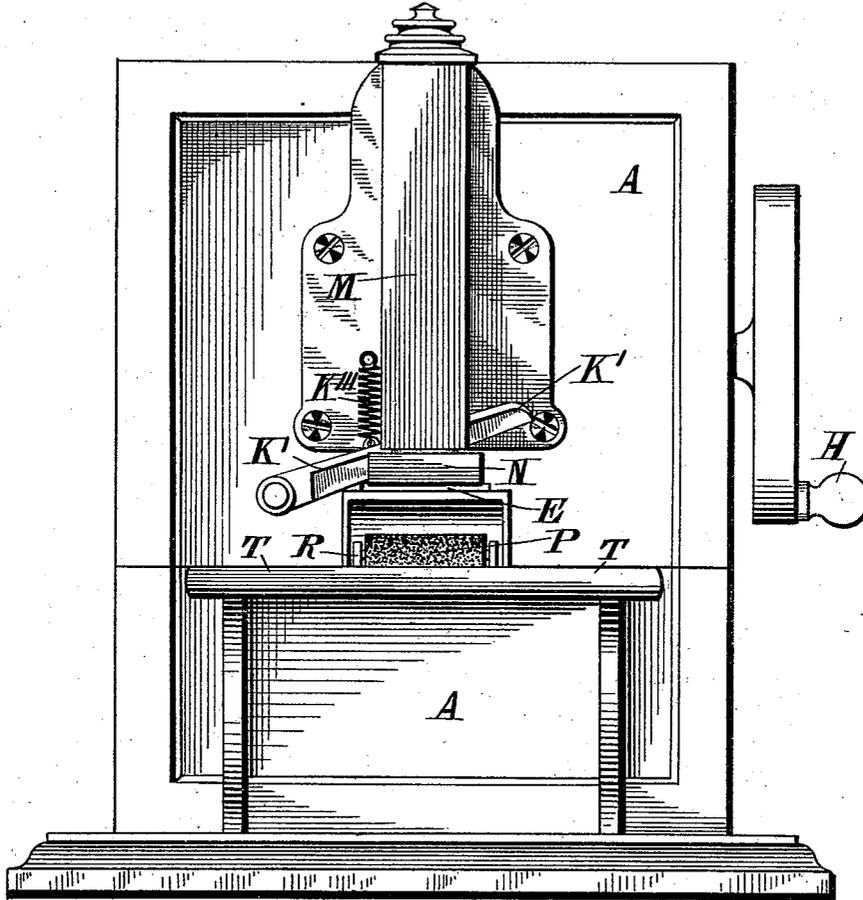
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Fig III



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 J. A. Saul.

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 Atty.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

CHARLES ELLIOT, OF CROYDON, ENGLAND.

MACHINE FOR ATTACHING POSTAGE-STAMPS TO ENVELOPES.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 517,740, dated April 3, 1894.

Application filed May 11, 1893. Serial No. 473,768. (No model.) Patented in England January 7, 1892, No. 352.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, CHARLES ELLIOT, a subject of the Queen of Great Britain, and a resident of Chesterfield, Waddon Old Road, Croydon, in the county of Surrey, England, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Machines for Attaching Postage-Stamps to Envelopes, Circulars, and the Like, (patented in Great Britain, No. 352, bearing date 7th January, 1892,) of which the following is a specification.

The object of my invention is to provide means for issuing, detaching from bulk, wetting and affixing postage stamps to letters, circulars and the like by mechanism contained in a suitable case, and actuated from the outside by means of a handle, lever, or other means so that the articles to be stamped are simply placed in position upon a small table attached to the case and the outside appliance of the machine revolved or lever depressed which actuates the mechanism within for the purpose above described.

My invention is illustrated by the annexed drawings, in which—

Figure I is a sectional view showing a side elevation of the mechanism in its normal position; Fig. II a similar view with the mechanism in the position occupied after the issue of a stamp and of its moistening by the wetting roller; Fig. III, a front elevation of machine showing the stamp severing appliance; Fig. IV, perspective elevation of the stamp guides and springs for preventing the strip of stamps buckling while moving from the reel to the front slot.

To carry my invention into effect I provide a suitable case A which contains a reel or spool B upon which the stamps are wound. For this purpose the postage stamps are either printed in strips of any length required or the stamps may be torn from the sheet in the longest length and such length just attached to another by leaving a small piece of the margin and sticking it to the end stamp of the next length and so on until a sufficient quantity is in one length, and the length is then wound upon the spool the free end being carried over a plate C with guides D. D. at the sides leading to a slot E through the front of the case. Above the plate over which the stamps pass is affixed in suitable bearings a segmental

feeder F covered with rubber or other suitable material G, the feeder being set to press upon the strip of stamps sufficiently to force them forward in succession when revolved, the segment being made of the exact size to push one stamp forward only.

The handle H outside the case A is connected to a spindle I on which the segmental feeder is fixed, the spindle of the handle also carries cams J, K for the following purposes: one J to actuate a rod L which is placed vertically in guides M over the position where the stamp is projected. This rod carries a block N having its lower end about the size of a stamp and the cam or crank J is arranged to allow this rod and block to fall and to raise it once at each revolution of the handle; another cam or crank K actuates a knife K' which knife through the intermediation of the lever K'' is made to work between the front of the case and the vertical rod and block or presser N and is arranged so that it is moved just in advance of the block N as to cut off the stamp immediately before the block or presser descends. The knife is returnable by a spring K'''. The block or presser when at rest is just above the opening or slot E in the front of the case so that the stamp has a support while being wetted from the under side. The wetting is effected by a roller P covered with felt or other absorbent material which when at rest is within the case arranged under the plate Cover which the stamps pass and so arranged that the lower part is just dipping in a trough of water Q. The roller is actuated by a forked lever R which carries its spindle and this forked lever is in turn worked by a third cam or crank S pressing against the lever S' the lower end of which is slotted for actuating the lever R, the lever S' being mounted in such a manner that the damping roller P is projected out under the stamp issued and wets it. The roller P is drawn in again by the spring P' before the knife and presser come down.

Just below the opening through which the damper is projected is a table T attached to the case A upon which the letter or the like to be stamped is placed. It will thus be understood that if a letter to be stamped is placed upon the table T and the handle H at the side of the machine revolved once the fol-

lowing action takes place. First, the stamp is projected through the slot in the front of the case, second the damper P is brought up under the stamp and withdrawn again, third
 5 the knife K' comes down and detaches the stamp from the strip and immediately following the presser N drops for pressing the stamp upon the envelope.

To insure the strip of stamps being issued
 10 without buckling or returning I arrange a light spring U at the back of the plate C and from one of the guide ribs D I carry a curved spring V. These springs have a combined
 15 action to keep the strip firmly down upon the plate C and retard the outward movement of the strip so that the rubber covered cam has a good purchase upon a flat surface of the strip for moving it along.

Should it be found that the dipping of the
 20 roller P into the water trough Q caused the roller to be overcharged a fringe of lamp cotton W or other thread may be suspended in the trough from which the roller can take its supply and any indexing apparatus can be
 25 fitted to register the issue of the stamp.

What I claim, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. In a machine for attaching postage stamps, the combination of a casing provided
 30 with a slot, a reel or spool on which the stamps are wound, a plate arranged between the spool and slot and provided with guides for the stamps, and a rotary shaft provided with a segmental feeder adapted to bear on one of
 35 the stamps on said plate and feed it toward and through the slot in the casing, substantially as described.

2. In a machine for attaching postage stamps, the combination of a reel or spool on
 40 which a continuous strip of stamps is wound,

a guide plate for supporting the stamps as the strip is fed from the spool, means for applying moisture to the under side of a stamp after it has passed over the guide plate, a
 45 knife for cutting off the moistened stamp, a presser for pressing the stamp onto a letter or package, and a rotary shaft carrying a segmental feeder to feed the strip of stamps and also carrying cams to actuate the cutting and
 50 pressing devices, substantially as described.

3. In a machine for attaching postage stamps, the combination of a casing provided with a slot for exit of stamps, a table located on the outside of the casing to receive the letter or package to be stamped, a spool located
 55 in the casing and on which the stamps are wound in a continuous strip, a plate located between the said spool and the slot in the casing and provided with guides for the stamps, springs to bear on the strip of stamps
 60 and prevent buckling, a wetting roller for applying moisture to the under side of a stamp projected through the slot in the casing, a knife for cutting off the moistened stamp, a presser for pressing the stamp onto a letter
 65 or package, levers for actuating the wetting roller, the knife and the presser, a rotary shaft provided with cams to actuate said levers, and a segmental feeder mounted on said shaft to feed the strip of stamps one at a time,
 70 substantially as described.

In witness whereof I have hereto signed my name, in the presence of two subscribing witnesses, this 8th day of October, 1892.

CHARLES ELLIOT.

Witnesses:

FREDK. J. NAYLOR,
 140 Leadenhall Street, London, Notary Public.
 ALEX. CENIT RIDGWAY,
 19 Change Alley, E. C., Law Student.