

R. F. HUNTER.  
Revenue Stamps.

No. 138,891.

Patented May 13, 1873.

Fig. 1.

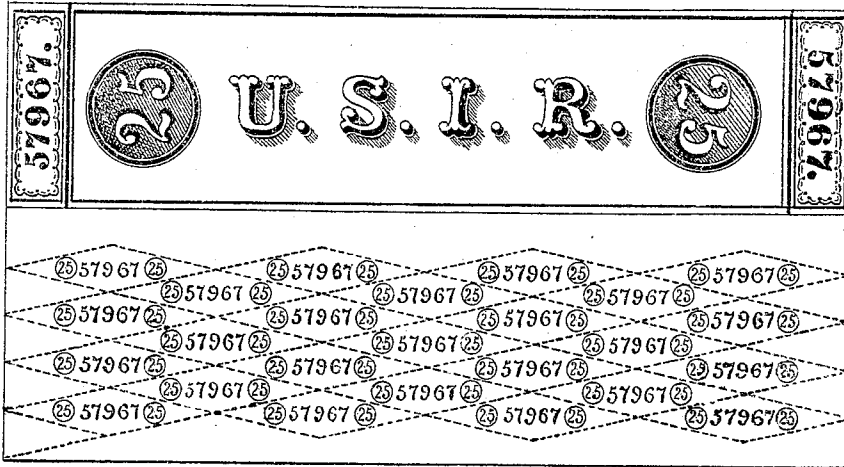


Fig. 3.

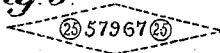


Fig. 2.

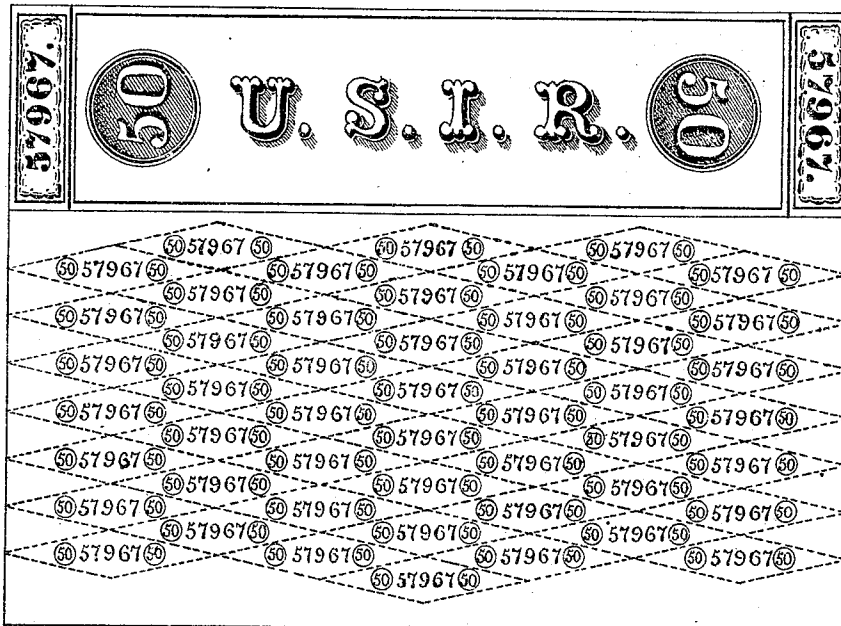
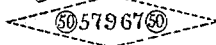


Fig. 4.



Witnesses:

Geo. Artot  
Wm. J. Bayton

Inventor:

R. F. Hunter

# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ROBERT F. HUNTER, OF STAUNTON, VIRGINIA, ASSIGNOR TO HIMSELF  
AND A. F. RANDALL, OF WASHINGTON, DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA,  
ASSIGNORS OF PART INTEREST TO THOMAS HOOD AND OTIS F.  
PRESBREY, OF SAME PLACE.

## IMPROVEMENT IN REVENUE-STAMPS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **138,891**, dated May 13, 1873; application filed  
May 31, 1871.

*To all whom it may concern :*

Be it known that I, ROBERT F. HUNTER, of Staunton, Augusta county, Virginia, have invented an Improved Revenue Stamp for Cigars, of which the following is a specification:

My invention consists in a mode of stamping cigars and insuring thereby the certain collection of the Government tax thereon, by the employment of a general stamp applied to the holding box or package having figures and characters imprinted on its face, indicative, respectively, of its own number and the number of cigars in the box or package to which it is attached, and detachable or accompanying coupons imprinted in like manner as the stamp-head, with corresponding numbers, figures, and characters applied and attached to each individual cigar contained in such box or package, substantially in the manner herein specified. It further consists of a cigar-stamp constructed substantially as specified herein-after, which is adapted to be applied to cigars and cigar-boxes.

In the drawing, Figure 1 is a front view of a stamp for twenty-five cigars, with the attached or accompanying coupons of the class for twenty-five cigars. Fig. 2 is a front view of a stamp for fifty cigars, with attached or accompanying coupons of the class for fifty cigars, having the same serial number as of class of twenty-five cigars. Fig. 3 is a front view of one of the coupons of class twenty-five, detached, ready to be applied to the cigar. Fig. 4 is a front view of the coupons of class fifty, detached, ready to be affixed to the cigars.

The coupons that are attached to or accompanying the stamp for commercial purpose, can be made of paper of any desired manufacture, or of any preferred color, and may be made of paper of the same color as the cigars, and are preferably impregnated with some inflammable substance to facilitate their consumption. When the cigar-box is being filled with cigars the stamp is attached to the box

and a coupon affixed to each individual cigar of the contents.

By the employment of this stamp with the coupons that correspond with the stamp on the box, and the coupons consumed or destroyed with their respective cigars, the stamp itself is rendered useless as to evidence that the tax has been paid on the contents of the box to which it is affixed, and it will be necessary that the cigars contained in the box shall bear duplicate serial numbers as those on the box-stamp.

I am aware that cigars have been stamped in bulk and individually in the same box, so that the withdrawal of such, either collectively or singly, cancels the stamp; but such method I do not claim.

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

1. The method herein described of stamping cigars and insuring thereby the certain collection of the Government tax thereon, by means of a general stamp applied to the holding box or package having figures and characters imprinted on its face, indicative, respectively, of its own number and the number of cigars in the box or package to which it is attached, and detachable or accompanying coupons imprinted in like manner as the stamp-head, with corresponding numbers, figures, and characters applied to and attached to each individual cigar in such box or package contained, substantially as and for the purpose above set forth.

2. A cigar-stamp, constructed substantially as herein described and shown, applied in the manner and for the purpose specified and set forth.

ROBERT F. HUNTER.

Witnesses:

WM. L. HERR.

A. M. CRANE.