J. D. Billings. Sheet 1. 2 Sheets.

Self-Inking Stamp.

No. 37884. Patented Mar. 10. 1863.

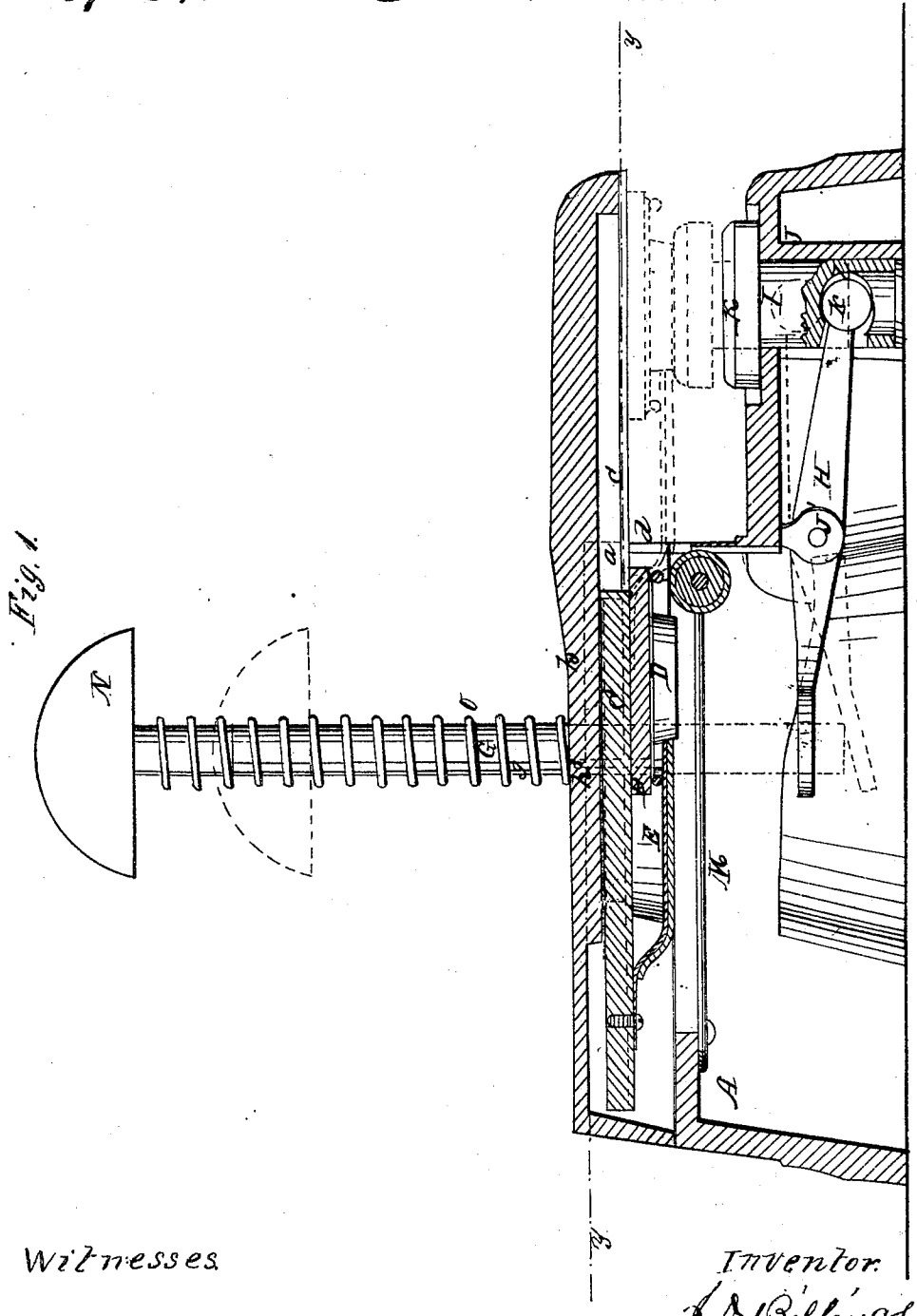

Fig. 1.

Witnesses.

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Sheet 2. 2 Sheets.

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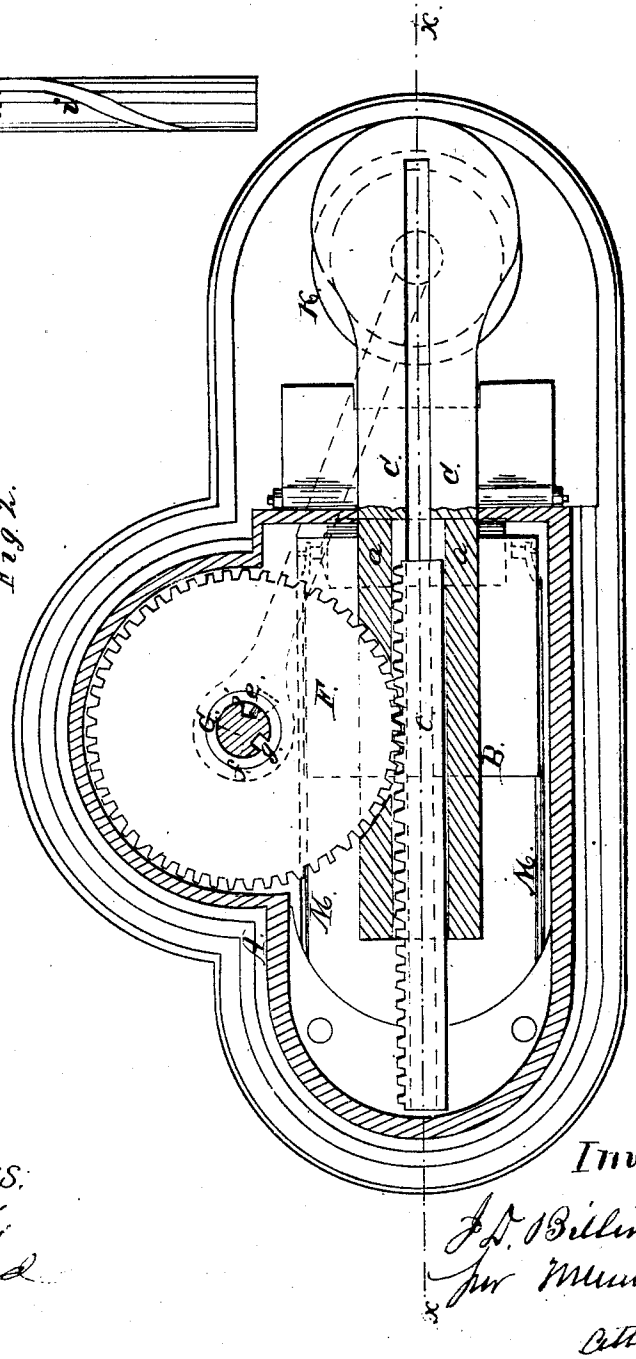
Fig. 3.

Fig. 2.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

J. D. BILLINGS, OF RUTLAND, VERMONT, ASSIGNOR TO HIMSELF AND GEORGE R. WEED, OF SAME PLACE.

SELF-INKING STAMP.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **37,884**, dated March 10, 1863.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, J. D. BILLINGS, of Rutland, in the county of Rutland and State of Vermont, have invented a new and Improved Self-Inking Stamp for Stamping Labels, Canceling Papers, &c.; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description of the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, making a part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 is a vertical central section of my invention, taken in the line *x x*, Fig. 2; Fig. 2, a horizontal section of the same, taken in the line *y y*, Fig. 1; Fig. 3, a detached view of a rod or shaft pertaining to the same.

Similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts in the several figures.

This invention consists in having the stamp or raised surface which is to be printed from attached to a slide which has an ink-apron connected to it, the slide being provided with a rack into which a toothed wheel operated by a grooved plunger-rod works, the above parts being arranged in connection with an ink-roller and a pressure-pad in such a manner that the stamp or raised surface to be printed from will be properly inked and the pressure given by a single blow of the hand on the plunger-rod.

To enable those skilled in the art to fully understand and construct my invention, I will proceed to describe it.

A represents a cast-metal case, in which the principal parts of the device are fitted, and B is a slide which has a rack, A, attached to its upper surface, said rack being fitted between parallel guides *a a* at the under side of the top plate, *b*, of the case A and retained in proper position between said guides by means of plates *c c*, which project underneath the rack a trifle at each side. (See Fig. 2.) The guides *a a* project beyond one end of the top of the case A in order to admit of the slide B being forced out beyond the case, an aperture, *d*, being in the end of the case for that purpose, and the base or lower portion of the case also projects out underneath and parallel with the guides *a a*, the object of which will be presently shown. To the under surface of the slide B the stamp or raised surface D which is to be printed from is secured, and an ink-apron, E, is also attached to the under side of the slide just behind the stamp D, said apron being of cloth or any suitable fabric which is slightly absorbent.

F is a toothed wheel, which gears into the rack C, and has a pin, *e*, which projects radially into its center opening, *f*. (See Fig. 2.)

G is a vertical shaft or rod, which passes through the center of the wheel F. This rod G has a straight groove, *g*, made longitudinally in it, and into this groove *g* a pin, *h*, is fitted, the latter being attached to the top plate of the case A. Another groove, *i*, is also made in the rod G, the upper part of said groove being straight and the lower part curved. (See Fig. 3.) Into this groove *i* the pin *e* of the toothed wheel F is fitted. (See Fig. 2.)

H is a lever, which is placed in the lower part of the case A, having its fulcrum at J. The lower end of this lever projects underneath the lower end of the rod G, and the outer end of the lever has a ball, *k*, formed on it, which is fitted within a socket, *l*, in a vertical rod, I, which is placed in a tubular guide, J, in the part of the base of the case which extends outward and underneath the ways *a a*. To the upper end of the rod I there is attached a pad, K.

L is an ink-roller, the journals of which are fitted in the ends of elastic rods M M, secured within the case A. These elastic rods M M are placed in such a position that they will have a tendency to press the roller L upward against the stamp D and apron E where the latter are shoved out from the case A. The upper end of the rod G is provided with a knob, N, and a spiral spring, O, is placed on said rod, the spring having a tendency to keep the rod elevated and the slide B with the stamp and apron within the case A.

The operation is as follows: A suitable quantity of printer's ink is placed on the apron E and the rod G is forced down several times by the hand, so that the slide B will be moved back and forth and the apron E passed over the roller N to distribute the ink evenly thereon. The paper to be stamped or printed is then laid on the pad K and the rod G forced down by the hand, and the slide B consequently shoved out from the case A, the slide being moved in consequence of the wheel F being turned by the curved part of the groove *i* acting upon the pin *e* of the wheel and the latter gearing into the rack C. The stamp is inked

in passing over the roller L, and by the movement of the slide is brought directly over the pad K, and, the rod G being still farther pressed down, the inner end of the lever H is pressed down and the outer end forced upward, and the pad K forces the paper against the stamp, thereby producing the impression. It will be perceived that when the slide B is forced outward from the case A the pin *e* will be in the straight part of the groove *i*, and the wheel F will remain stationary while the impression is being given. After the impression is given the spring O raises the rod G and brings the several parts to their original position. At each movement of the slide B it will be understood that the apron E distributes the ink on roller L. The pin *h* and the straight groove *g* in the rod G prevent the latter from turning as it is forced down. It will be seen that by this simple arrangement of parts a self-inking stamp is obtained, the inking and pressing or stamping operation being performed at a single operation, and when the device is not in use the die and inking apparatus are all inclosed and fully protected from dust.

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

The slide B, having the stamp D and apron E attached, and operated through the medium of the wheel F, rack C, and groove-rod G, provided with the spring O, in combination with the roller L, and the pressure-pad K, operated from the rod G by means of the lever H, all arranged as shown, or in an equivalent way, for the purpose herein set forth.

J. D. BILLINGS.

Witnesses:

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