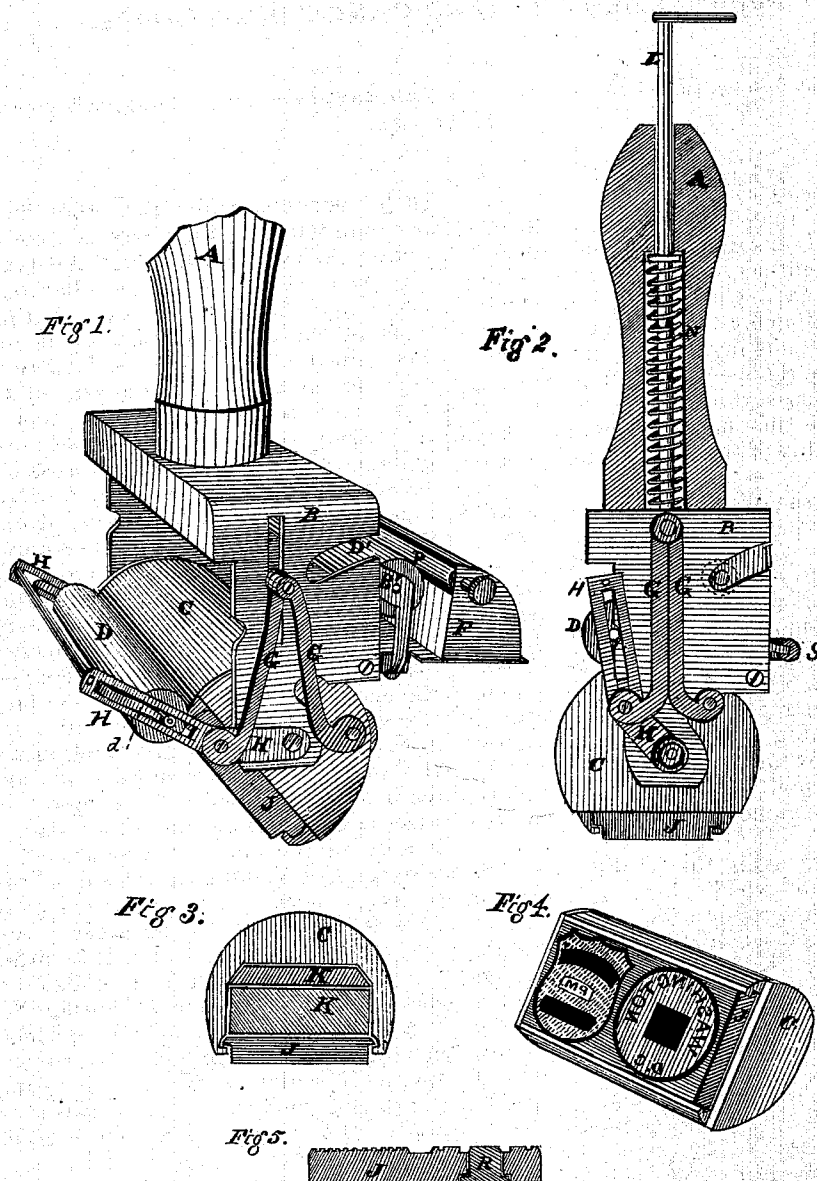


E. H. THOMAS.
Hand-Cancelling Stamps.

No. 139,486.

Patented June 3, 1873.



WITNESSES:
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INVENTOR:
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ERNEST H. THOMAS, OF LOUISVILLE, KENTUCKY.

IMPROVEMENT IN HAND CANCELING-STAMPS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **139,486**, dated June 3, 1873; application filed May 21, 1872.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ERNEST H. THOMAS, of the city of Louisville, county of Jefferson, and State of Kentucky, have invented certain Improvements in a Hand Canceling-Stamp, of which the following is a specification:

The object of this invention is to provide a neat and simple device for hand printing or canceling purposes, that will be self inking, and at the same time make as neat and sharp impressions as any of the best printing presses now in use.

Figure 1 of the drawing is a perspective view of the device when thrown open, showing the stamp-cylinder, inking-rollers, and ink-fountain. Fig. 2 is an elevation view of the device when closed up, showing the end of the stamp-cylinder and link attachments, also the operating-stem and spring thereon, in section. Fig. 3 is a section of the stamp-cylinder, showing the stamp and pieces of gum under it. Fig. 4 is a perspective view of the cylinder, showing the stamp as set therein. Fig. 5 is a sectional view of the stamp-plate, showing how the names and dates are inserted therein.

In the drawing, A is the handle, which is generally made of wood. B is the frame or jaws of the device, all of which are made of metal, of the required thickness or strength, and in form as shown in the drawing. C is the type-form or stamp-cylinder, all of which is made of metal, about two inches long and one and three-eighths inch in diameter, closed at the ends. In form it consists of about two-thirds of a circle, leaving one side flat in order to admit of an opening sufficiently large to receive the type or stamps, and also deep enough to give room for pieces of gum under them in order to be elastic to relieve the shock in stamping; but when dies are used for stamping, they are formed on a plate of suitable shape and size, and made to slide into the cylinder through grooves cut in the inside edges, but at the same time made to rest hard on the gum under it; but when type alone are used, one or more pieces of the gum are taken out and the type-form set in their places, and fastened in any suitable manner. D D' are inking-rollers, one of which is made of the composition ordinarily used for

such purposes, while the other is made of common felt, and only acts as a conveyer for inking the cylinder, and not the type. H H are the arms of the inking-roller, one end of which is made to work loosely on a pin in the ends of the cylinder-shaft, so as to vibrate easily, while in the other end there are slot-openings in which the journals of the roller work in order to permit it to raise or lower in passing over the uneven surface of the cylinder and stamps in the process of inking. It is provided with a spring, d, in the openings over the journals to keep it up against the surface of the cylinder and stamps in inking. G G are links at the ends of the cylinder, one of which is made to work loosely on a pin in the arms H H, about one-half inch from the lower end where it connects with the cylinder-shaft, while the other connects with the ends of the cylinder in a similar manner the same distance from the center, in order to answer as a crank to give motion to it and the roller D for the purpose of inking the stamps. The upper ends of these last-named links G G are slipped over and made to work loosely on the ends of a small bar working through slot-openings in the side of the frame, so as to permit it to be raised or lowered. This bar constitutes the cross-piece of the operating stem L, to which it is attached at the center. The stem L extends up through the handle, and has a spiral spring, N, around it within the handle for the purpose of replacing it after being pressed down to ink the stamps J, which is done by pressing down the stem L while the stamp is raised from the paper. By this means motion is transmitted to the cylinder C and roller D, causing the two surfaces to revolve on each other, and thereby distribute the ink over the stamp at each impression. B' is the stand or arm of the ink-conveyer roll D'. This arm connects with a bar across the back cap, and is provided with a spiral spring, S, attached to the cap to hold the roller D' in position. F is the ink-fountain, which is made of metal inclosed at all sides, leaving only a small space at the inside edge for the distributing-roller P to work in. This roll is made of ordinary felt. Both the ink fountain F and conveyer-roller D' are fastened to the cap for conveni-

ence in supplying it with ink, but when closed up ready for use, the conveyer-roller D' rests on the cylinder C, and also at times against the fountain-roller P; and as the cylinder C turns, ink is distributed over its surface, which is again taken up by the inking-roller D and transferred to the type or stamp as it passes over them. J is the stamp and plate, the die of which may be provided with any suitable design, but when used for canceling letters or other similar purposes, an opening is left in the plate, where the date, postmaster's name, and that of the different mails should appear, and a small die inserted containing these names and date in such a manner as to be easily changed without loss of time, they being held in their places by a flange on the under side, countersunk in the plate. R is the die containing the names or date.

Having thus fully described the drawings, what I claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

The revolving cylinder C, with its stamp J, inking-rollers D D', fountain F, and delivering-roller P, in combination with the frame B, the arms H H, and links G G, by which they are operated, spiral spring N, and stem L, by which the whole device is operated, when arranged, constructed, and operated substantially as and for the purpose hereinbefore set forth.

ERNEST H. THOMAS.

Witnesses:

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