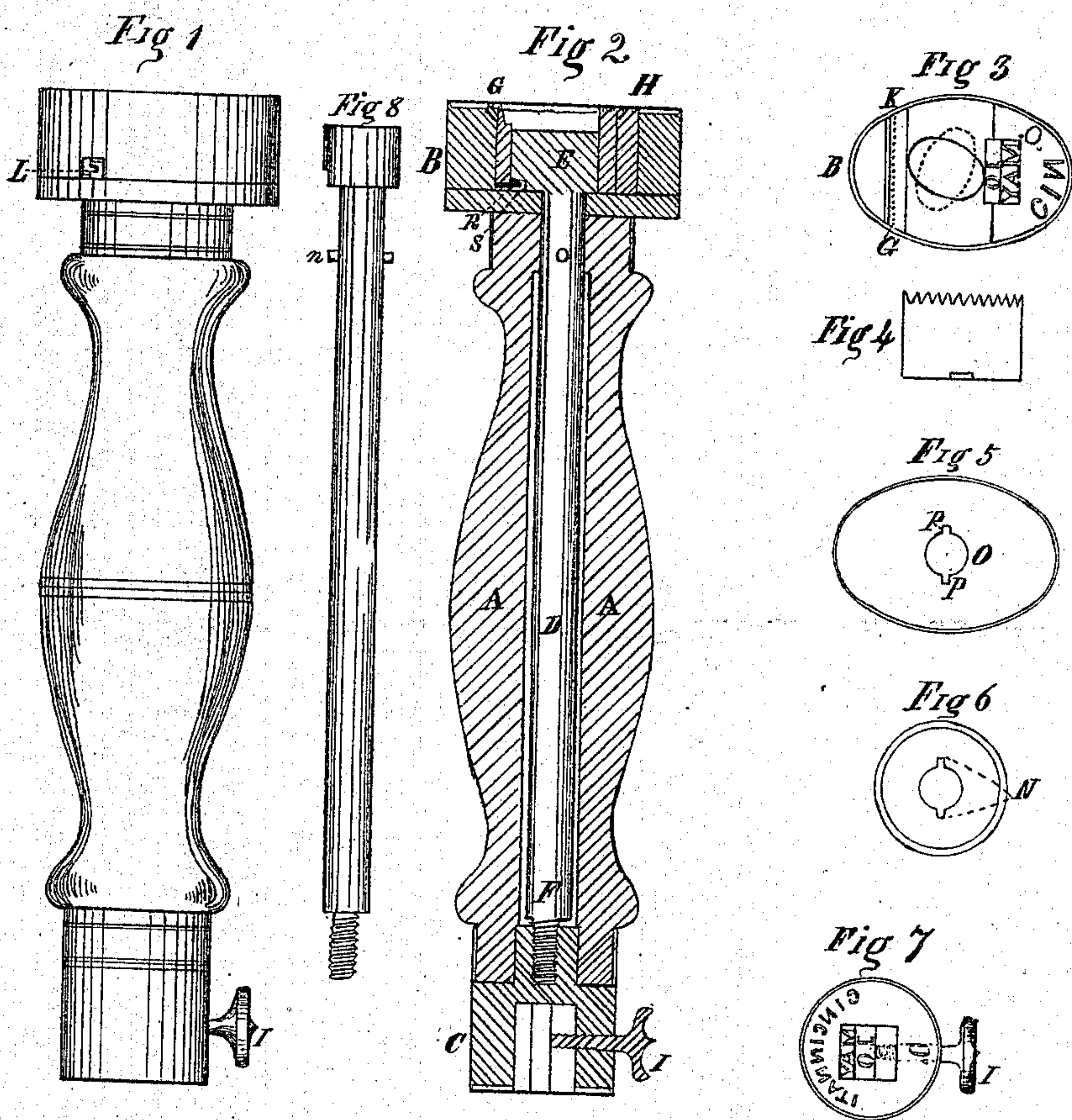


J. C. GASTON.
HAND STAMP.

No. 104,444.

Patented June 21, 1870.



Witnesses.
Wm. H. Cleaman
Edm. F. Brown

Inventor.
Jeremiah C. Gaston.
Daniel Breed, Atty

United States Patent Office.

JEREMIAH C. GASTON, OF CINCINNATI, OHIO.

Letters Patent No. 104,444, dated June 21, 1870.

IMPROVEMENT IN HAND-STAMPS.

The Schedule referred to in these Letters Patent and making part of the same

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JEREMIAH C. GASTON, of Cincinnati, in the county of Hamilton and State of Ohio, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Stamps and Cancelers for Post-offices; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full and exact description thereof, reference being had to the accompanying drawing and to the letters of reference marked thereon.

In the accompanying drawing—

Figure 1 is a side view of my stamp and canceler.

Figure 2 is a longitudinal section of the same.

Figure 3 is a view of the face of the stamp and canceler.

Figure 4 is a side view of the toothed canceler, detached.

Figure 5 is a view of the under side of the head of the stamp and canceler, when removed from the handle, and the stem of the cam withdrawn from this head.

Figure 6 is a view of the end of the handle when the head is removed, as above mentioned.

Figure 7 is a view of the face of the second head, C, attached to the lower end of the handle, as shown in figs. 1 and 2.

Figure 8 is a detached view of the cam and its stem or rod.

My invention consists of the combination of two heads on opposite ends of the handle when the heads are connected by the cam, stem, or rod, and also in the combination of a cam with the head of a stamp for holding type, letters, or figures.

In the construction of my improved post-office stamp and canceler, the handle A is provided with two heads, B and C, which may be used for different purposes.

The upper head, as shown in the drawing, is to have upon its face both a stamp and a canceler, but the lower head, C, may have the face of the ordinary stamp, of any desired form, and letters or figures. The face of the head B is seen in fig. 3, and that of head C in fig. 7.

These two heads are connected upon the handle by means of a rod, D, passing through the handle and forming the stem of cam E.

This stem or rod D has a screw, F, for the attachment of the head C, which serves as a nut to bind the whole together, as will now be explained in detail.

Upon the stem D is a pin, n, fig. 8, the ends of which pass into grooves N, fig. 6, in the handle, when the stem D, fig. 8, is inserted in putting the parts together.

This stem is first inserted into the head B through

the hole O, fig. 5, the pin passing through the notches P and then into the grooves in the handle. Thus the stem is locked to the handle, so both must turn together. Now, the handle C or nut may be put upon the screw F, but not turned quite home. Then the canceler and type are to be put in place in the head B, and the handle A turned to operate the cam, and thus tightly hold in place the canceler and type or letters. When the cam is thus tightly set, the head or nut C is brought home upon the screw F, so as to hold all the parts from jarring loose in using the stamp.

The type or figures seen in fig. 5 are held in place by means of the thumb-screw I in the usual manner.

The motion of the cam is shown in dotted lines in fig. 3.

A check-bearing, K, runs across the face of the stamp at the side of the toothed canceler G. This bearing is elevated from the general face of the stamp so as to correspond with the rim around the face of the stamp. This check prevents the canceler from penetrating too deep, and thus injuring the contents of the envelope, and it also prevents the paper from puffing into the depression on the face of the stamp.

The canceler has a small projection or hook, R, fig. 2, which locks under a lip, S, in the cam-head, and thus prevents the canceler from falling out, when the cam is loosened to remove or replace the letters, type, or figures.

The canceler is adjusted by means of a slip or slips of paper, pasteboard, or other suitable material passed into the hole L, fig. 1, and laid under the heel of the canceler before the cam is turned to tighten the canceler in place. As the points of the canceler wear away, an additional slip may be inserted under the heel of the canceler. This packing may be gummed to keep it in place, if desired.

Having thus described my invention,

I claim—

1. The combination of the rod or stem D, passing through the handle A, in combination with the two heads of the stamp, substantially in the manner and for the purposes set forth.

2. A cam, E, or its equivalent, in combination with a head or heads of a stamp for holding a canceler, type, letters, or figures, substantially as set forth.

JEREMIAH C. GASTON.

Witnesses:

DANIEL BREED,
WM. H. SEAMAN.