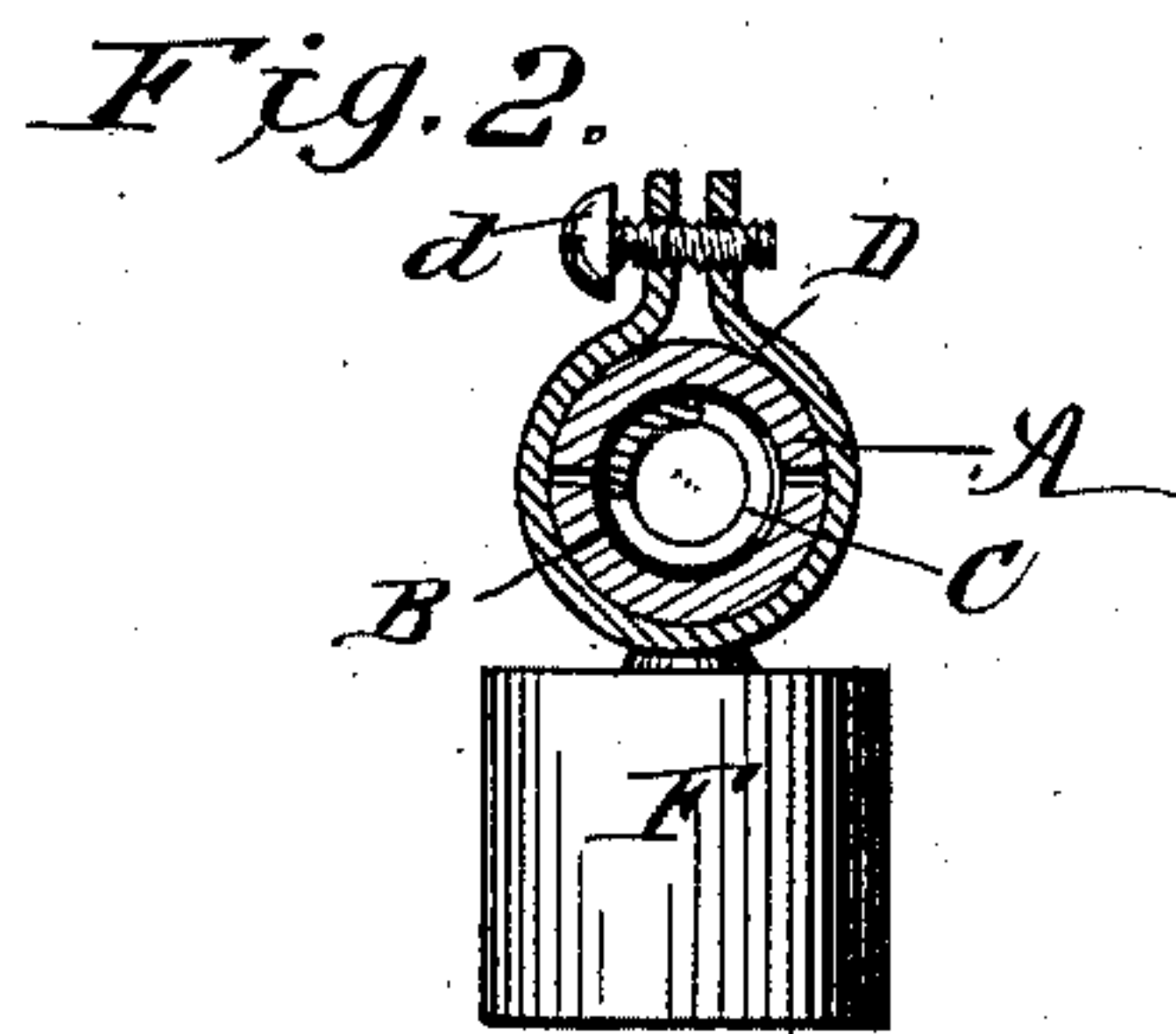
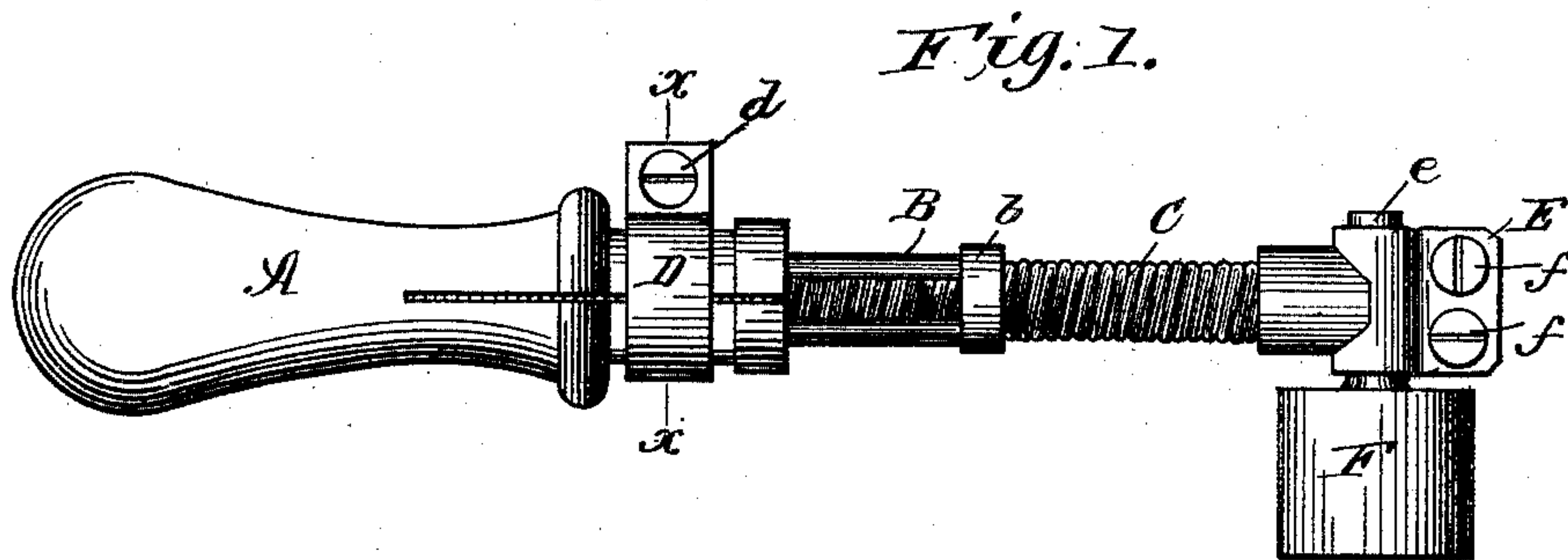


(No Model.)

H. T. KEITH.
HOLDER FOR POSTMARKING STAMPS.

No. 476,049.

Patented May 31, 1892.



WITNESSES:

Fred G. Dieterich
Edw. H. Byrnes

INVENTOR:

Harrison T. Keith
BY *Munn & Co.*

ATTORNEYS

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

HARRISON T. KEITH, OF VINCENNES, INDIANA.

HOLDER FOR POSTMARKING-STAMPS.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 476,049, dated May 31, 1892.

Application filed November 11, 1891. Serial No. 411,637. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, HARRISON T. KEITH, of Vincennes, in the county of Knox and State of Indiana, have invented a new and useful
5 Improvement in Holders for Postmarking-Stamps, of which the following is a specification.

My invention is in the nature of an improved holder for supporting and manipulating the
10 ordinary postmarking-stamp which is used for canceling the postage-stamp and marking the mailing-office on the envelope.

The object is to relieve the operator in a measure of the tiresome work by a change of
15 action, to facilitate the work, and to cause the marking-stamp to print evenly with all its letters, so that the postmark may be perfectly legible.

Figure 1 is a side view of the holder, and
20 Fig. 2 is a transverse section through line $x x$.

In the drawings, A is an ordinary wooden tool-handle, which is bored out centrally at one end, and has this end bisected by a saw
25 cut which divides this end of the handle into two ends capable of being compressed.

B is a longitudinally-slotted metal sleeve having a thimble or ferrule b at its outer end and having its slotted portion partially contained within the hollow portion of the han-
30 dle, which it fits closely.

C is a stout closely-coiled spiral spring which forms the flexible shank of the handle and the end of which spring enters the metal sleeve and is pinched and held therein ad-
35 justably. For compressing the slitted end of the handle upon the sleeve and the sleeve upon the spring a clamp-collar D encircles the handle near its slitted end and is provided with a set-screw d , which passes through its
40 two adjacent ends. By turning this set-screw the clamp-collar is made to pinch and hold these parts adjustably, so that the flexible

shank of the handle may be increased or lengthened at will. By extending the sleeve more or less over the spiral spring the latter
45 is made stiffer or more flexible, as may be desired. At the outer end of the spiral spring there is permanently attached a clamp-socket E, in which is contained at right angles to the holder the stem e of the postmarking-stamp
50 F. This clamp-socket is provided with set-screws $f f$, by loosening which one marking-stamp may be removed and another inserted.

By means of the marking-stamp holder constructed as thus described the impression
55 may be made with a very slight movement of the wrist, and the leverage may be changed from time to time to vary the action and relieve the monotony of the stroke or to give greater or less flexibility. The flexible shank
60 also permits the face of the stamp to adjust itself always flatly to the envelope, and thus make a perfect and legible mark.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim as new is—
65

1. A postmarking-stamp holder consisting of a hollow longitudinally-slitted handle, a clamp-collar for the slitted end of the handle, a flexible shank or spiral wire extending into the slitted handle, and a socket or head for
70 the stamp, fixed to the outer end of the spiral shank, substantially as shown and described.

2. A postmarking-stamp holder consisting of a slitted handle with a clamp-collar, a slot-
75 ted sleeve extending into the handle, a shank formed of a spiral spring extending into said sleeve, and a socket at its outer end for holding the stamp, substantially as shown and described.

HARRISON T. KEITH.

Witnesses:

J. KEITH,
A. S. MCKEE.