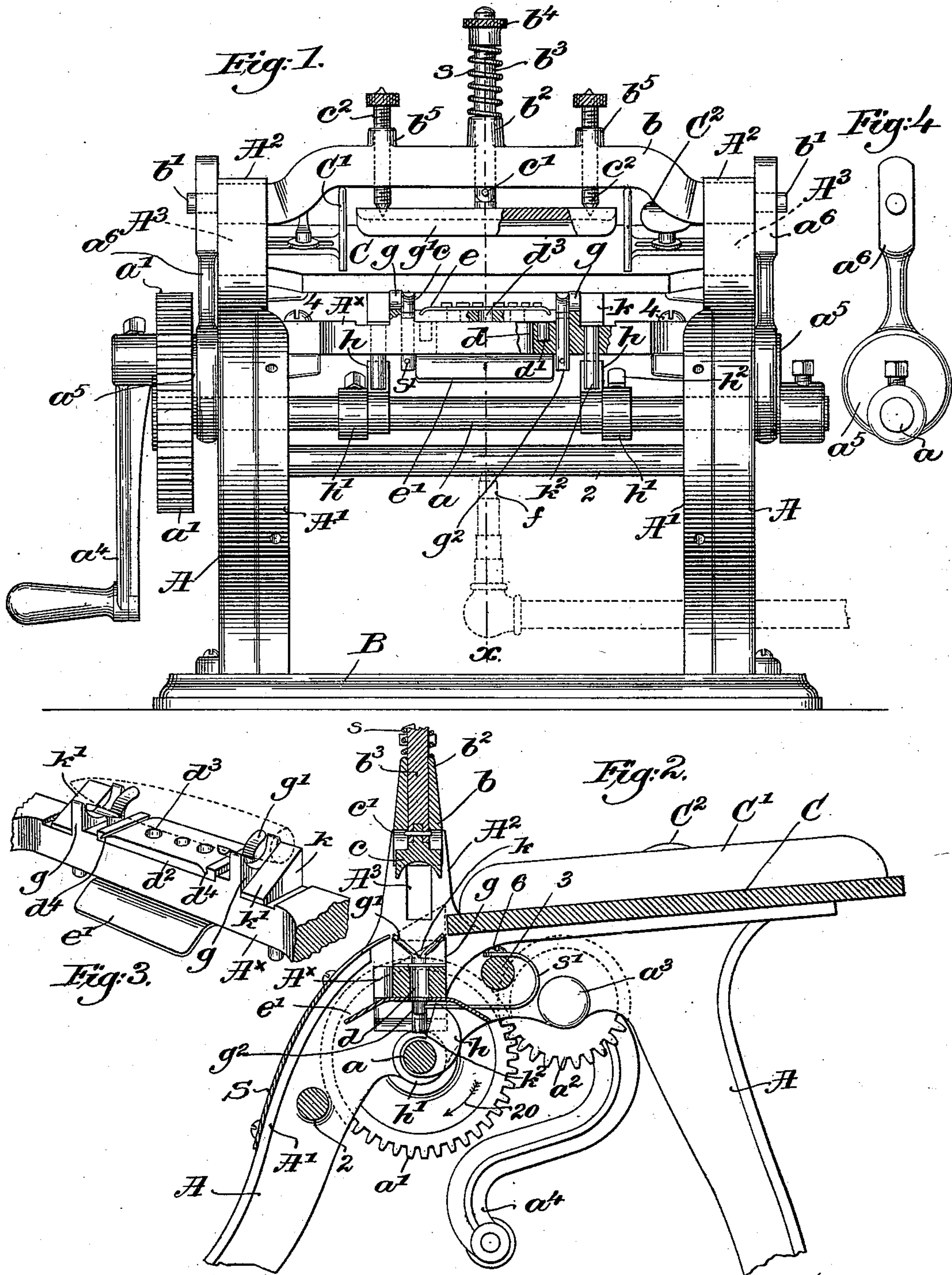


(No Model.)

C. T. STETSON.  
APPARATUS FOR STAMPING CIGARS.

No. 536,843.

Patented Apr. 2, 1895.



Witnesses  
Edward F. Allen.  
Thomas Hammond

Inventor,  
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by Darby Gregory, Atty.



# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

CHARLES T. STETSON, OF WEST HANOVER, ASSIGNOR TO JOSEPH W. STRIEDER, OF BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS.

## APPARATUS FOR STAMPING CIGARS.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 536,843, dated April 2, 1895.

Application filed November 19, 1894. Serial No. 529,263. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, CHARLES T. STETSON, of West Hanover, county of Plymouth, State of Massachusetts, have invented an Improvement in Apparatus for Stamping Cigars, of which the following description, in connection with the accompanying drawings, is a specification, like letters and figures on the drawings representing like parts.

This invention relates to machines for stamping or branding a name or brand upon cigars, and has for its object the production of a simple, compact and efficient machine for performing such work in an expeditious and satisfactory manner.

In accordance therewith my invention consists, in a machine for stamping cigars, of a stamp, yielding carriers adjacent the ends thereof and normally elevated, to receive a cigar, a plunger to press the cigar against the stamp, ejectors to lift the stamped cigar up from and out of the carriers after the latter separate it from the stamp, and means to reciprocate the plunger and to raise the ejectors to contact with the cigar as the plunger is raised, substantially as will be described.

Other features of my invention will be hereinafter described and particularly pointed out in the claims.

Figure 1 is a front elevation, partly broken out, and with the shield or apron removed, of an apparatus embodying my invention. Fig. 2 is a section thereof on the line  $x$ . Fig. 3 is a perspective detail view of the stamp yielding carriers and adjacent parts; and Fig. 4 is a detail in elevation of one of the cams and its co-operating link.

The apparatus is herein shown as comprising side frames A of suitable shape to support the operative parts, mounted on a base B and connected by transverse ties 2, 3, and a bed plate  $A^x$ , attached, as by screws 4, to ears or lugs upon the inner sides of the frames.

The main shaft  $a$ , supported in suitable bearings in and extended beyond the frame, has fast thereon a gear  $a^1$  in engagement with a driving gear  $a^2$  mounted on a stud  $a^3$ , provided with a suitable crank  $a^4$ . See Figs. 1 and 2. Like cams or eccentrics  $a^5$  are secured to the projecting ends of the shaft  $a$ , operatively connected by suitable links  $a^6$  to a reciprocating

cross head  $b$  guided in slots  $A^3$  in uprights  $A^2$  of the frame, the links being pivotally attached at  $b^1$  to the cross head, which is shown in the drawings as at the upper extremity of its movement.

Through the cross head and boss  $b^2$  a shank  $b^3$  is extended, threaded at its upper end to receive a nut  $b^4$ , and surrounded by a spring  $s$  between said nut and boss, the tension of the spring being regulated by the nut  $b^4$ .

A plunger  $c$ , preferably concave at its under side, is pivoted at  $c^1$  to the depending end of the shank  $b^3$ , and adjusted about said pivot by set screws  $c^2$  extended through threaded bearings, as  $b^5$ , on the cross head, whereby the plunger  $c$  may be tipped about its pivot or regulated as to its distance below the cross head  $b$ .

Rotation of the shaft  $a$  will reciprocate the plunger  $c$  toward and from the bed  $A^x$  beneath it, and which is longitudinally slotted at  $d$ , see Fig. 1, for a purpose to be described, and provided with holes to receive lugs or pins  $d^1$  on the under side of a stamp holder  $d^2$ , shown only in Figs. 1 and 3, having one or more perforations  $d^3$  above the slot  $d$  in the bed.

Preferably the stamp-holder has undercut transverse grooves  $d^4$  at its ends to receive and hold the stamp  $e$ , which may be an electrototype having the desired stamp or brand upon its upper side, preferably in relief.

A guard, shown as a concave metal plate  $e^1$ , is secured to the underside of the bed, to condense the heat of a gas or other flame, which may be supplied by a suitable burner  $f$ , shown in dotted lines Fig. 1.

At each end of the stamp-holder I have provided rigid concave rests  $g$  to firmly position the cigar while being stamped or branded, and preferably within said rests I have located yielding carriers  $g^1$ , shown as substantially Y-shaped, the depending shanks  $g^2$  thereof passing loosely through holes in the bed  $A^x$  and secured to the ends of springs  $s^1$ , herein shown as bent and secured to the cross tie 3 by suitable screws 6. The carriers are thus free to yield to pressure, the springs  $s^1$  normally maintaining them elevated somewhat above the concavities in the fixed rests  $g$ .

A feed table C is secured to the frame at the rear of the path of the cross head, and having



a slight incline, end gages  $C'$  being adjustably secured to the table by suitable set screws  $C^2$ .

The front edge of the table is a little higher than the tops of the yielding carriers  $g'$  when in normal position, in order that a cigar when unobstructed will roll from the table into said carriers above the stamp and between it and the plunger.

I have provided the shaft  $a$  with step cams  $h$ , held in place by set screws  $h^2$  extended through their hubs  $h'$ , said cams at certain times lifting the ejectors, shown as blocks  $k$  having outwardly inclined upper faces  $k'$  and straight backs, and located just outside of the rests  $g$ , the blocks being provided with depending shanks  $k^2$  extended through the bed  $A^x$  and in the paths of the lifting cams  $h$ .

In the relative position of parts shown in Figs. 1 and 2, the carriers  $g'$  are ready to receive a cigar, as shown by dotted lines Fig. 3, and rotation of the shaft  $a$  in the direction of arrow 20, Fig. 2, will bring the plunger  $c$  down upon the top of the cigar, forcing the latter and the carriers down until the cigar is pressed firmly upon the heated stamp  $e$ , it being positioned at such time by the rests  $g$ . As soon as the continued rotation of the shaft raises plunger  $c$ , the springs  $s'$  will cause the carriers  $g'$  to lift the cigar quickly from the stamp, to prevent burning, and the cams  $h$  elevate the ejectors, until the inclined faces  $k'$  raise and eject the cigar from the carriers and over a shield or apron  $S$ , shown only in section in Fig. 2, secured to flanges  $A'$  of the frame. When the ejectors are in the dotted line position Fig. 2, they act also as detents, their straight backs projecting above the front edge of the table  $C$  to prevent the next cigar thereon from rolling into the carriers  $g'$ . As the cams  $h$  continue to rotate the shanks  $k^2$  of the ejectors suddenly drop from the high to the low path of the cams, and the endmost cigar on the table is allowed to roll into the carriers, the immediate descent of the plunger  $c$  preventing the next cigar from interfering. It will thus be seen that the ejectors also act as let-offs, being aided in this latter function by the plunger. The heat of the flame from the burner  $f$  passing through the slot  $d$ , and the holes  $d^3$  in the stamp-holder heats the stamp  $e$ .

If the cigar is small the plunger  $c$  is adjusted farther from the cross head than were it large, the degree of pressure upon the cigar being thus regulated, and if the diameter of the cigar varies considerably toward the opposite ends the unequal adjustment of the set screws  $c^2$  maintains the plunger at the proper angle.

I claim—

1. In a cigar stamping machine, the following instrumentalities, viz;—a stamp, yielding

carriers adjacent the ends thereof and normally elevated, to receive the cigar, a plunger to press the cigar against the stamp, ejectors to lift the stamped cigar up from and out of the carriers after the latter separate it from the stamp, and means to reciprocate the plunger and to raise the ejectors to contact with the cigars as the plunger is raised, substantially as described.

2. In a cigar stamping machine, the following instrumentalities, viz;—a stamp, fixed rests adjacent thereto to accurately position the cigar while being stamped, yielding carriers to receive the cigar and to automatically separate it from the stamp, a reciprocating plunger to press the cigar against the stamp, an independent ejecting device to lift and remove the stamped cigar, positively from the carrier and mechanism to operate the plunger and the ejecting device, substantially as described.

3. In a cigar stamping machine, a stamp, means to heat it, yielding carriers adjacent to the stamp to receive the cigar, a feed table at the rear of the carriers, combined with a reciprocating plunger to press the cigar against the stamp, ejectors having a rising and falling movement to eject the stamped cigar from the carriers and to simultaneously act as a detent for the next cigar on the table, and mechanism to reciprocate the plunger and operate the ejectors, substantially as described.

4. In a cigar stamping machine, a stamp, fixed rests to position the cigar while being stamped, yielding carriers adjacent thereto to receive the cigar and to lift it from the stamp, and a plunger to depress the carriers and force the cigar into the rests and against the stamp, combined with rising and falling ejectors having outwardly inclined upper faces to act on the projecting ends of the stamped cigar beyond the carriers and remove it therefrom, a main shaft, and connections between it and the plunger and the ejectors, to operate, substantially as described.

5. In a cigar stamping machine, a stamp, a co-operating plunger to press the cigar against it, yielding carriers to receive the cigar to be stamped, a feed table at the rear of the carriers, combined with ejectors and let-offs to remove the stamped cigar from the carriers and thereafter to permit an unstamped cigar to pass to the carriers, and actuating mechanism for the plunger and ejectors, substantially as described.

In testimony whereof I have signed my name to this specification in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

CHARLES T. STETSON.

Witnesses:

JOHN C. EDWARDS,  
THOMAS J. DRUMMOND.