

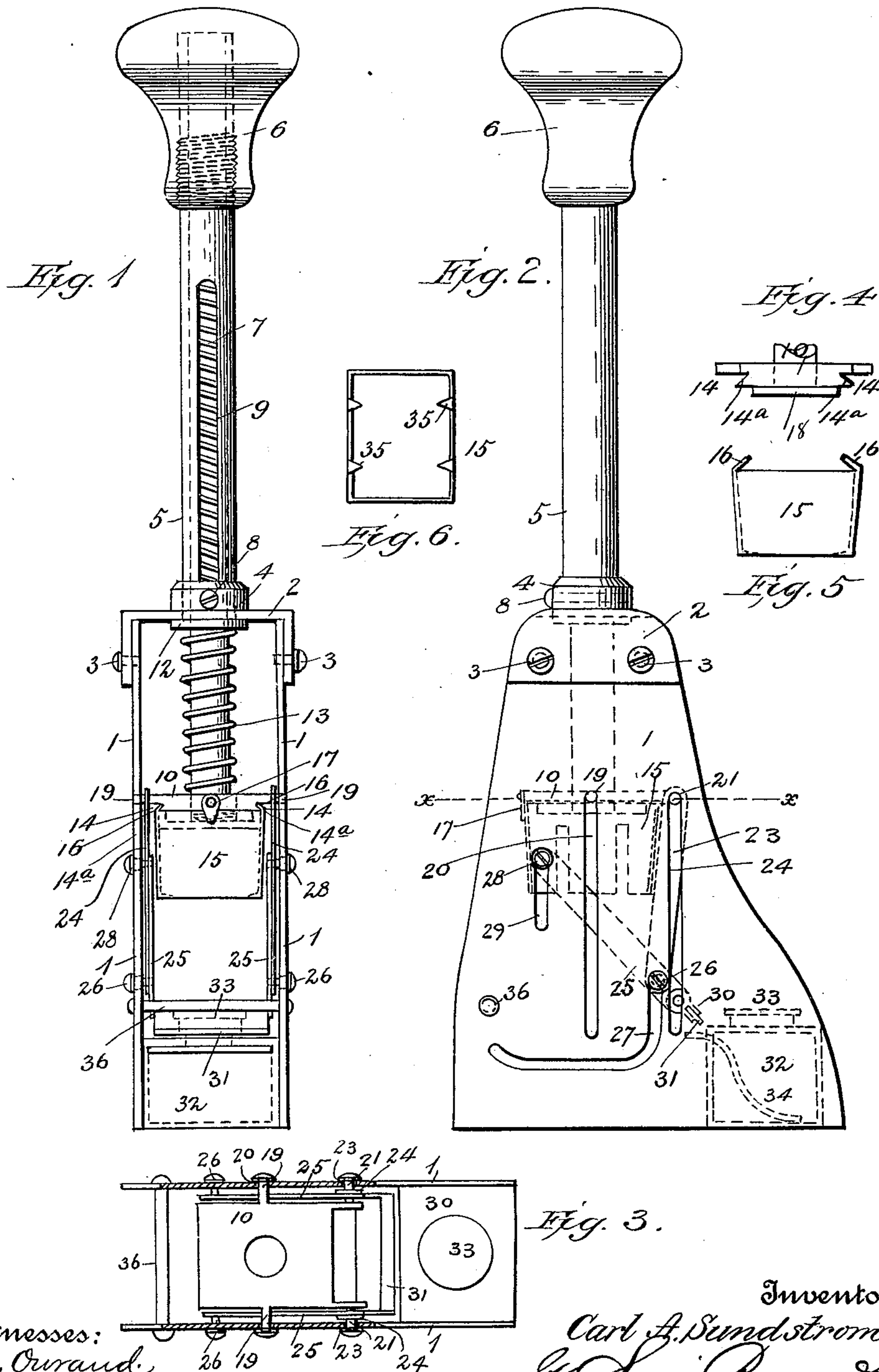
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Patented Oct. 17, 1899.

C. A. SUNDSTROM.  
STAMP AFFIXING DEVICE.

(Application filed July 17, 1899.)

(No Model.)



Witnesses:  
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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

CARL A. SUNDSTROM, OF PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA.

## STAMP-AFFIXING DEVICE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 635,203, dated October 17, 1899.

Application filed July 17, 1899. Serial No. 724,154. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, CARL ALFRED SUNDSTROM, a citizen of the United States, residing at Philadelphia, in the county of Philadelphia and State of Pennsylvania, have invented new and useful Improvements in Postage-Stamp-Affixing Devices, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to devices for affixing postage-stamps to envelopes and comprises in its structure a vertically-reciprocating stamp-receptacle for containing the stamps and a moistening-arm operated by the movement of the stamp-receptacle for moistening the envelop to which a stamp is to be affixed.

The object of the invention is to provide an improved construction of such device which shall possess superior advantages with respect to efficiency in use.

The invention consists in the novel construction and combination of parts hereinafter fully described and claimed.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is an end elevation of a postage-stamp-affixing device constructed in accordance with my invention. Fig. 2 is a side elevation of the same. Fig. 3 is a view on the line *xx*. Figs. 4 and 5 are detail views of cross-head and stamp-receptacle. Fig. 6 is a detail bottom view of the stamp-receptacle.

In the said drawings the reference-numeral 1 designates the sides of the device, consisting of two approximately triangular plates, connected together at the upper ends by a cross-plate 2, having the ends turned downwardly at right angles and secured to said sides by screws 3. Said cross-plate is formed with a central boss 4, through which passes a vertically-reciprocating tubular plunger-rod 5, provided with a handle 6. Located in this tubular rod is a coiled spring 7, the ends of which are confined between the said handle and a screw or pin 8, passing through the said boss. Said rod is formed with opposite vertical slots 9, in which the said screw or pin works as the rod is reciprocated.

The numeral 10 designates a rectangular vertically-movable cross-head, through which the lower end of the plunger-rod loosely passes. Confined between this cross-head

and a collar 12, secured to the plunger-rod, is a coiled spring 13. The said cross-head on its under side is formed with grooves 14, forming longitudinal shoulders 14<sup>a</sup>. The numeral 15 designates a stamp-receptacle made slightly flaring, but otherwise is approximately of the size and shape of an ordinary postage-stamp. The upper ends of the long sides of this receptacle are bent inwardly at an angle, forming flanges 16, which engage with said grooves and hold the receptacle suspended from the cross-head. The said receptacle is engaged with the cross-head by sliding the flanges 16 on the shoulders formed by the grooves. A turn-button 17, pivoted to the cross-head, serves to hold the receptacle in place when engaged with the cross-head. At the lower end of the plunger-rod, below the cross-head, is secured a plunger 18. Secured to or formed with said cross-head are two opposite central trunnions 19, which work in vertical slots 20 in the said sides 1. At one end said cross-head is also formed with trunnions 21, which work in similar vertical slots 23 in said sides. Pivotaly connected with said slots 21 are downwardly-extending bars 24, the lower ends of which are pivotaly connected with moistener-arms 25 by headed pins 26, which pass through and work in curved slots 27 in the sides 1. The upper ends of said moistener-arms are provided with headed pins 28, which work in opposite short vertical slots 29 in the sides of the device. The lower ends of said moistener-arms are connected together by a metal spring-plate bent over into approximately cylindrical form, forming longitudinal flanges 30, between which is clamped a rectangular strip of felt or other absorbent material 31, one end of which projects beyond said flanges.

Secured to the sides 1 is a rectangular water-tank 32, provided with a filling-opening which is closed by a screw-cap 33. Located in this tank is a strip of felt or other absorbent material 34, one end of which extends through an opening in the upper part of the tank and lies in the path of the felt carried by the bent spring-plate.

Formed integral with the lower end of the stamp-receptacle are opposite integral trian-



gular tongues 35, bent inwardly at a right angle and which serve to hold the stamps in the receptacle.

The numeral 36 designates a transverse rod 5 for holding and bracing the sides 1.

The operation is as follows: The stamp-receptacle is filled with postage-stamps, with the gummed sides down, and the water-tank filled with water. The receptacle is then 10 connected with the cross-head by slipping the flanges thereof on the shoulders formed by the grooves in the cross-head and the turn-button then operated to hold said receptacle in place. By now depressing the plunger-rod by means of the handle the collar 12 and 15 coiled spring 13 will force the cross-head downwardly, the trunnions working in the vertical slots of the sides 1 and guiding the cross-head in its movement. At the same 20 time the bars 24 will be forced downward, and the headed pins thereof working in the curved slots of the sides 1 will force the moistener-arms downwardly and also turning them in the arc of a circle, so that the felt strip carried thereby will strike the project- 25 ing end of the felt located in the water-tank. As said moistener-arms are thus operated the felt connected therewith will moisten an envelop upon which the device rests at the place 30 where the stamp is to be affixed. The stamp-receptacle will continue its downward movement until the lower end thereof rests on the envelop, when further pressure on the handle will force the plunger at the lower end of 35 the plunger-rod upon the stamps in the receptacle and cause the lower stamp of the series to be pressed upon and affixed to the envelop.

Having thus fully described my invention, 40 what I claim is—

1. In a postage-stamp-affixing device, the combination with the sides formed with opposite curved slots and with short vertical slots, the vertically-movable spring-actuated 45 plunger-rod, the vertically-movable cross-head through which the lower end of said rod loosely passes, the plunger secured to the lower end of said rod, the collar fixed to said rod and the coiled spring interposed between 50 said cross-head and collar, of the stamp-receptacle removably connected with said cross-head, the bars pivotally connected therewith, the moistener-arms, the pivot-pins at the upper ends thereof working in said vertical 55 slots, the pins at the lower ends of said arms

working in said curved slots and pivotally connecting said arms and bars, the strip of absorbent material carried by said arms, and the water-tank provided with a strip of absorbent material projecting therethrough, 60 substantially as described.

2. In a postage-stamp-affixing device, the combination with the sides formed with opposite curved slots and with short vertical slots, the spring-actuated plunger-rod, the 65 cross-head through which the lower end of said rod loosely passes, the plunger secured to the lower end of said rod, the coiled spring and the collar on said rod between which and said cross-head said spring is confined, of the 70 stamp-receptacle detachably connected with said cross-head, the bars pivotally connected therewith, the moistener-arms, the pins at the upper ends thereof working in said vertical slots, the pins working in said curved 75 slots and pivotally connecting said bars and arms, the bent plate connecting the lower ends of said arms, the strip of absorbent material clamped between the ends of said plate, the water-tank and the strip of absorbent 80 material located therein with one end projecting therethrough, substantially as described.

3. In a device for affixing postage-stamps, the combination with the sides formed with opposite curved slots, opposite short vertical 85 slots and opposite vertical long slots, the vertically-movable spring-actuated plunger-rod, the cross-head through which the lower end of said rod loosely passes, the plunger secured to the lower end of said rod, the collar fixed 90 to said rod and the coiled spring confined between said collar and cross-head, of the stamp-receptacle detachably connected with said cross-head, the trunnions working in said long slots, the bars pivotally connected with the 95 said cross-head, the moistener-arms, the pivot-pins at the upper ends thereof working in said short slots, the pins working in said curved slots and pivotally connecting said bars and arms, the absorbent strip carried by said arms, 100 the water-tank, and the strip of absorbent material located therein with one end projecting therethrough, substantially as described.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand in presence of two subscribing wit- 105 nesses.

CARL A. SUNDSTROM.

Witnesses:

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CHAS. H. SALMOUJE.