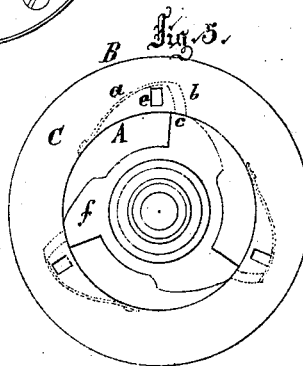
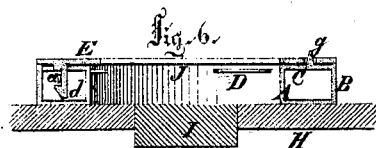
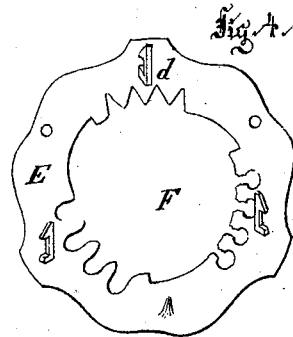
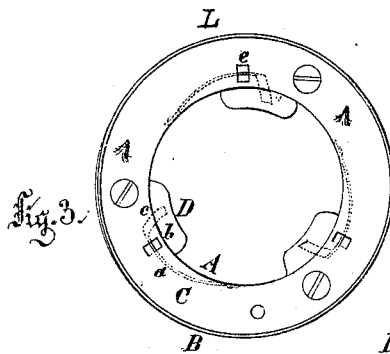
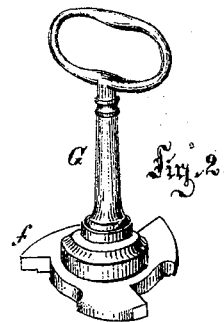
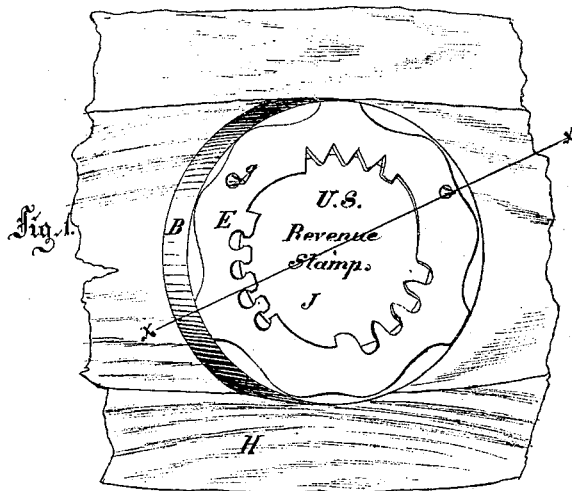


*J. L. Harley,*  
*Bung Stamp Lock.*  
*No 107,176.                      Patented Sept. 6. 1870.*



Witnesses:  
*W. H. Dodge.*  
*P. v. Erickson*

Inventor  
*Joseph L. Harley*  
*by Dodge & Munroe*  
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# United States Patent Office.

JOSEPH L. HARLEY, OF BALTIMORE, MARYLAND.

Letters Patent No. 107,176, dated September 6, 1870.

## IMPROVEMENT IN LOCKS FOR SECURING STAMPS UPON BARRELS.

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, JOSEPH L. HARLEY, of Baltimore city, in the county of Baltimore and State of Maryland, have invented certain Improvements in Locks for Securing Stamps upon Barrels, &c., of which the following is a specification, reference being had to the accompanying drawing.

My invention relates to locks for securing revenue-stamps to beer-barrels, and consists in constructing a case by casting the same entire, or by uniting two concentric cylindrical rings of different diameters, so as to form an annular covered space between them, and in connecting to the upper side of this case a plate, by means of a novel locking device, in such manner that a revenue-stamp may be interposed and secured.

In the drawing—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of my device.

Figure 2 is a perspective view of its key.

Figure 3 is a top plan view, with the plate removed.

Figure 4 is a plan view of the under side of the plate, showing the catches attached thereto in perspective.

Figure 5 is a plan view, showing the operation of the key.

Figure 6 is a vertical cross-section on the line  $x x$  of fig. 1.

The object of this invention is to prevent frauds on the revenues of the government by the improper removal of the revenue-stamps from beer-barrels.

In constructing this locking device, a case is made of two cylindrical rings, A and B, of any size suitable for the purpose, one of them being provided with a flange, C, of the requisite width to cover the space intervening between these rings, when arranged and united concentrically, as shown in figs. 3 and 6.

Between these rings, and to the side of the inner one, three or more flat or leaf-springs,  $a$ , are attached at one end, their opposite or free ends,  $b$ , being bent at right angles, or nearly so, to their length, so as to form an elbow, and project through and extend a short distance within the inner ring, and immediately under horizontal guard-plates, D, as clearly shown in fig. 3.

Upon the upper side of the cylindrical rings A and B thus constructed, and provided with the springs  $a$ , is secured a plate, E, by means of three or more catches,  $d$ , attached to its under side, which are arranged so as to enter holes,  $e$ , in the flange C, and engage or lock with the springs  $a$ , as shown in fig. 6. The form of these catches is clearly shown in fig. 4.

This plate E is made with a central opening, F, the edges of which may be cut in either of the forms shown in fig. 4, or in others of a similar kind for a purpose hereinafter explained.

The opening F is so shaped as to admit a key, G, having its lower end provided with eccentric-arms or

projections,  $f$ , as clearly shown in fig. 2, so shaped that, when the key is turned, they will press the springs  $a$  back, and release the catches  $d$  of the plate E, as clearly shown in fig. 5.

In operating this locking device for securing stamps, the case L, consisting of the cylindrical rings A and B, is fastened to a barrel, H, about its spigot-hole, I, as shown in figs. 1 and 2. A revenue-stamp, J, is then placed thereon, and held in position temporarily by the pins  $g$ , or other suitable device, as shown in fig. 6. The plate E is then placed over the stamp, its catches  $d$  passing through it, and engaging or locking with the springs  $a$ .

The stamp, when thus secured, it will be seen, can only be released by removing the plate F, and this cannot be done without forcing back the springs  $a$ , and thus first releasing the catches  $d$ .

When the spigot is inserted, the stamp is broken, and, of course, canceled, and, when the spigot is removed, the key can be used for releasing the plate, and inserting another stamp.

The object of the guard-plates D is to prevent access to the ends of the springs  $a$  by passing a small, fine instrument through the stamp, for the purpose of pressing the springs back, and releasing the stamp. Stamps that are only slightly punctured, it is found, can be repaired so as to escape detection.

The object of the irregular inner edge of the central opening of the plate E is to prevent any smooth cutting of the stamp along its edge immediately over the ends of the springs  $a$ , as such cuttings would allow access to the ends of the springs, and could also be so repaired as to escape detection.

It is obvious that the case L, instead of being constructed of separate rings, as herein described, may be cast in one piece, and that, in practice, they will be so constructed, since, in this way, they can be made quicker and cheaper, and more readily than in any other.

Having thus described my invention,

What I claim is—

1. A stamp-holder for barrels, consisting of the case L and plate E, the latter being provided with a series of catches,  $d$ , to engage with a corresponding series of springs,  $a$ , arranged within the former, said springs having their free ends projecting through its inner side, so as to be actuated by a key, all constructed and arranged substantially as described.

2. In combination with the springs  $a$ , the guard-plate D and the plate E, when provided with an irregularly-shaped or grooved edge, the whole constructed and arranged substantially as herein shown and described.

JOS. L. HARLEY.

Witnesses:

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