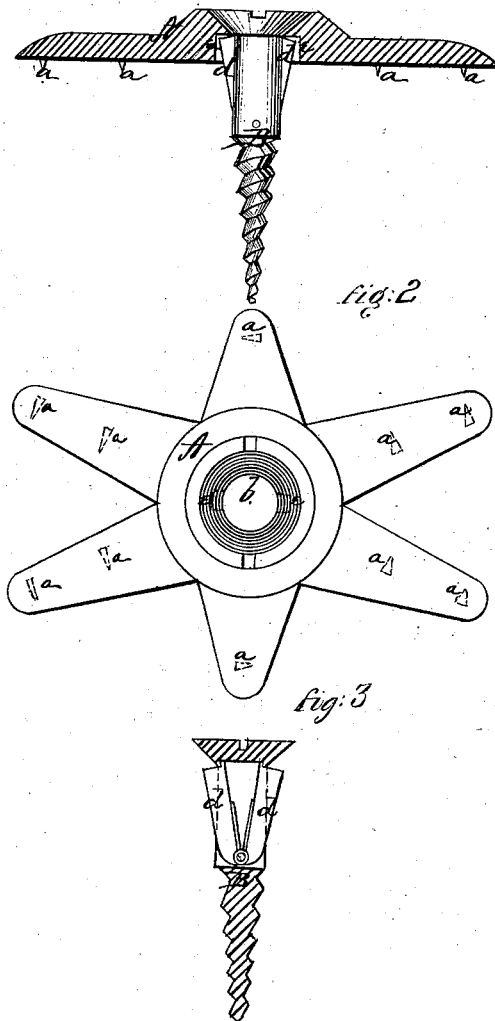


Charles C Egerton's Screw and Plate
for Canceling Stamps

110962

Fig: 1

PATENTED JAN 17 1871



Witnesses.

A. A. Yeatman,
C. L. Everts,

Inventor.

Chas. C. Egerton
per
Alexander Mason
Attys.

United States Patent Office.

CHARLES C. EGERTON, OF WASHINGTON, DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, ASSIGNOR TO
SAMUEL E. MIDDLETON AND DANIEL W. MIDDLETON, JR., OF SAME PLACE.

Letters Patent No. 110,962, dated January 17, 1871.

IMPROVEMENT IN STAMP-CANCELERS.

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, CHARLES C. EGERTON, of Washington, in the county of Washington and in the District of Columbia, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Screw and Plate-canceling Stamps; and do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description thereof, reference being had to the accompanying drawing and to the letters of reference marked thereon making a part of this specification.

The nature of my invention consists in the construction and arrangement of a screw and plate, forming a device for canceling revenue-stamps on barrels or other similar vessels; as will be herein fully set forth.

In order to enable others skilled in the art to which my invention appertains to make and use the same, I will now proceed to describe its construction and operation, referring to the annexed drawing, in which—

Figure 1 is a longitudinal vertical section;

Figure 2 is a plan view; and

Figure 3 is a section of the screw.

A represents a plate made in the shape of an oblong star of any suitable dimension, and provided on its under side with tooth-shaped projections *a a*.

In the center of the plate A is a round countersunk hole, *b*, having in its circumference two recesses, *e e*, opposite each other, said recesses extending upward in the plate from the under side.

The revenue-stamp being placed over the bung of a barrel, the plate A is laid on top of the same so that the central opening *b* will come at about the center of the bung.

A screw, B, is then screwed through the opening *b* into the bung, so far that the head of the screw will fit in the countersink around the hole *b*. This, of course, has the effect of causing the teeth *a a* on the under side of the plate to penetrate the stamp and into the bung.

The shank of the screw B is slotted vertically from the head downward, and in the lower end of this slot

are pivoted two wings, *d d*, the upper ends of which are pressed outward by means of a spring inserted between them in the slot.

The projecting portions of the wings *d d* are rounded on one side so that, when the screw is being forced or screwed in, the wings will, by coming in contact with the inner edge of the plate, be pressed inward.

As soon as the screw B has been screwed in sufficiently, that is, when the head is as far in as it will come, the upper ends of the wings are forced outward and into the recesses *e e* on the under side of the plate A, which effectually locks the screw, as the square sides of the wings will prevent the screw from being turned backward.

The stamp cannot be removed as long as this plate is on, and when the plate is removed, as will be presently mentioned, the stamp is so torn that it is impossible to use it again.

The plate A cannot be removed as long as the bung remains in the barrel, because the screw B cannot be turned backward; but, when the bung is removed, the plate and screw go with it. Then the bung can be unscrewed from the screw, but the teeth *a a*, penetrating into the bung, necessitates or causes a tearing of the upper surface of the bung and consequent tearing of the stamp, rendering it impossible for the stamp to be used again.

Having thus fully described my invention,

What I claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

The combination of the plate A with its teeth *a a*, central opening *b*, and recesses *e e*, and the screw B with its spring wings *d d*, all substantially as and for the purposes herein set forth.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing I have hereunto set my hand this 4th day of November, 1870.

CHARLES C. EGERTON.

Witnesses:

FREDK. KOONES,
A. N. MARR.