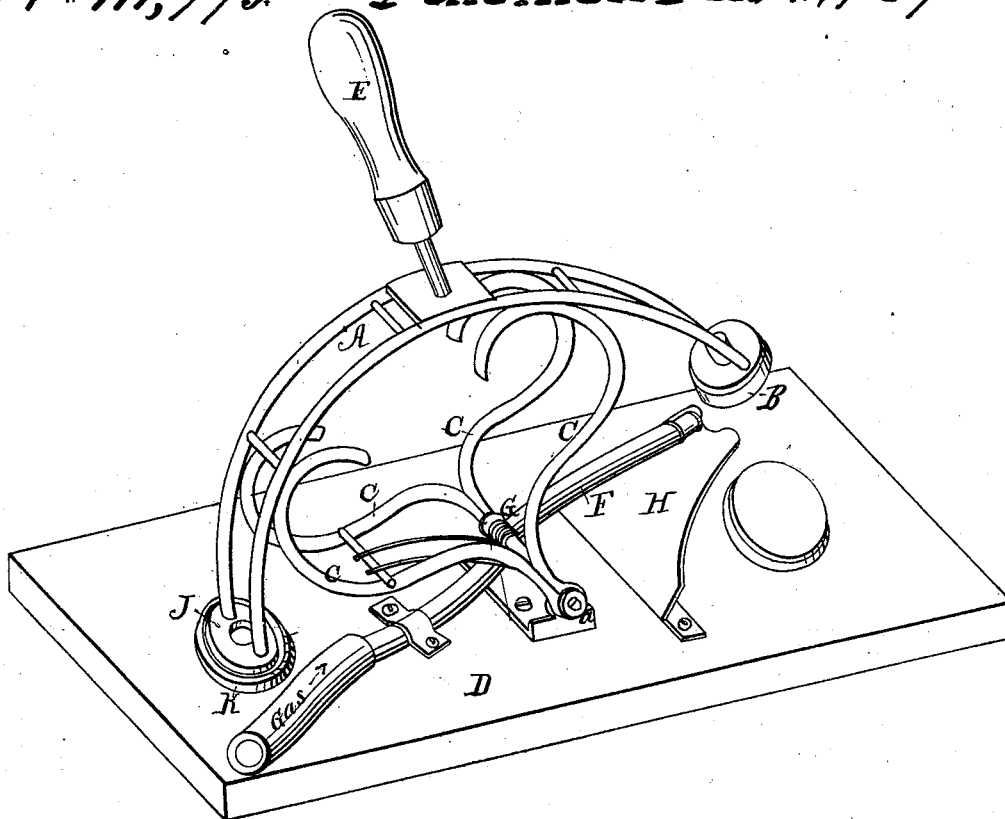


*A.D. Owen.*  
*Cancelling Stamp*  
*Nº 111,773 Patented Feb. 14, 1871.*



*Witnesses;*  
*W. H. S. Merck.*  
*W. H. S. Merck.*

*Inventor;*  
*Amos D. Owen.*  
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Attys.

# United States Patent Office.

AMOS D. OWEN, OF THORNTOWN, INDIANA.

Letters Patent No. 111,773, dated February 14, 1871.

## IMPROVEMENT IN STAMP-CANCELERS.

The Schedule referred to in these Letters Patent and making part of the same.

### *To whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, AMOS D. OWEN, of Thorntown, in the county of Boone and State of Indiana, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Canceling and Date-Stamps; and I do declare that the following is a true and accurate description thereof, reference being had to the accompanying drawing and to the letters of reference marked thereon, and being a part of this specification.

The nature of this invention relates to the construction of a device for canceling revenue, postal, and other stamps, while at the same time it will operate as a post-office and date-stamp, and is designed to be an improvement to a device for a similar purpose for which Letters Patent were granted me on the 7th day of June, A. D. 1870.

The invention consists in securing the canceling and date-stamp to the end of an arm which describes the segment of a circle, operated by radial arms, to which it is secured, and which are in turn pivoted to a center in such a manner as to allow said arm an easy movement. Also, in combination therewith, of a gas or wick-tube, so arranged as to heat the stamp, and in a protecting-shield, the whole arranged and operating as more fully hereinafter described.

The invention further consists in so constructing and operating curved arms that, while a heated canceling-stamp may be employed at one end of said curved arms, a date-stamp may be employed, with a ribbon or any other suitable inking device, at the opposite end of said arms, the whole forming a very simple and economical device for the purpose, and constructed as more fully hereinafter described.

In the accompanying drawing—

A represents a curved arm, which may be single or double, as shown, and connected together by suitable braces. This arm should represent a segment of about a quarter of a circle, and to one end of it is secured in any convenient manner the die B, whose face may be cut with any desired device or legend, or it may be arranged as ordinary date-stamps are, so that dates may be readily changed.

By means of radial arms C this arm A is securely pivoted at a to a suitable bed or table, D, and a handle, E, is provided and secured to the arm A, by means of which the operator compels the die B to engage with the stamp to be canceled, which rests upon the base I for that purpose.

F is a gas-pipe or wick-tube, so arranged that when the die B is not in operation a small flame,

issuing from said pipe F, will impinge against and keep hot the said die.

G is a spring, so arranged that after the operator has employed the die B and released the handle E it will rapidly and violently compel the arm A to resume its original position.

H is a shield, of any suitable non-combustible material, secured to the bed D or in any other convenient manner, so as to allow of a free and uninterrupted operation of the curved arm A, and is interposed between the base I and the flame issuing from the gas-pipe F to prevent any danger which might arise from a careless operator in burning the document to which the stamp to be canceled may be affixed.

J is a date-stamp or die of the usual construction, so arranged that dates may be readily changed, and is conveniently secured to the opposite end of the curved arm A. A suitable base, K, is provided, against which this die J is designed to impinge.

I adopt the plan of heating the canceling-die B in preference to any other mode of cancellation for the reasons that there is no ink employed which can be washed out and the stamp thus canceled fraudulently reused, and that there is no mutilation of the document to which the stamp is affixed, as when the cancellation by cutting devices is employed.

It also frequently happens that two stamps or dies are required, the one being employed for the purposes of canceling, while the other is desired for other purposes. In the present device I present a perfect method of cancellation by branding by the use of the die B, heated by a flame, and operated by the operator through the handle E; also, in the same device, a date-stamp by the use of the die J and any suitable manner of inking the same, operated by the spring G upon the handle being released.

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

1. The dies B J, secured at opposite ends of the curved arm A, the latter being pivoted at a by means of the radial arms C C, when constructed, arranged, and operating substantially as and for the purposes set forth.

2. The shield H, in combination with the tube F and the die B, when all are constructed and arranged substantially as described and shown, for the purposes set forth.

Witnesses:

THOS. S. SPRAGUE,  
SAM'L. G. MARR.

AMOS D. OWEN.