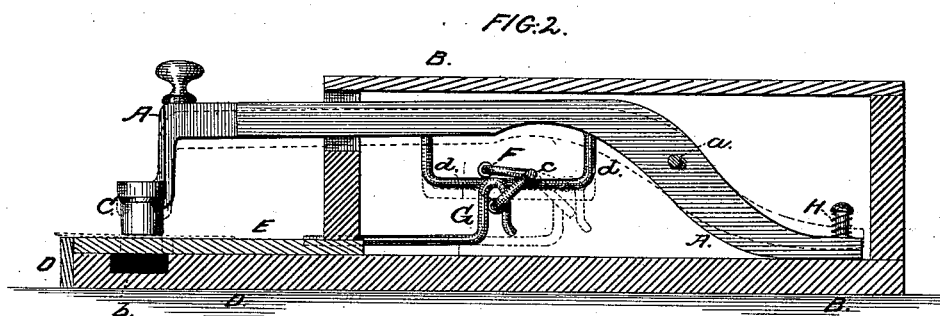


Patented May 27, 1879.



**ATTORNEYS.**

# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLIAM J. BLACKWELL, OF WAYNESBOROUGH, VIRGINIA, ASSIGNOR TO  
WILLIAM BLACKWELL, OF SAME PLACE.

## IMPROVEMENT IN CANCELING AND DATING STAMPS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **215,866**, dated May 27, 1879; application filed  
March 20, 1879.

### *To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, WILLIAM J. BLACKWELL, of Waynesborough, in the county of Augusta and State of Virginia, have invented a new and Improved Canceling and Dating Stamp; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description of the same.

The object of my invention is to provide an improved hand-stamp for canceling postal stamps and printing, dating, and marking generally.

The invention is an improvement in such machines as combine a device carrying the canceling or marking devices proper and a sliding plate and cam-shaft in such a manner that when the said cam is rotated the plate will be moved back to uncover the ink-pads and the cancelers or markers forced down upon the pads.

The improvement consists in the construction and arrangement of parts, as hereinafter described and claimed.

In the accompanying drawings, forming part of this specification, Figure 1 is a plan view with the cover of the box removed, and Fig. 2 is a longitudinal section of the machine.

The lever A is arranged horizontally and fulcrumed upon a rod, *a*, in a box, B. The canceling and dating or other marking devices, C, are attached to the free end of the lever A in any suitable manner, and the box B has an extension, D, in which the ink-pads *b* are placed directly beneath said devices. A sliding plate, E, forms the top or cover of such extension D, and is arranged to slide into and out of the box B through a slot in the end of the latter.

The reciprocation of the plate E may be effected by hand; but the means I preferably employ and have illustrated in the drawings is the crank-shaft or lever F, which is arranged beneath and at right angles to the lever A, and suitably journaled in the sides of the box B.

The plate E is connected to a crank or bend of said shaft F by a metal loop or hoop, G, while the lever A is depressed to bring the

canceling devices C down upon the ink-pads *b*, or upon the letter or other paper to be marked, by means of the crank or bend *e* of the shaft, which may be caused to press upon a rod or other pendent portion, *d*, of the lever A.

A spring, H, serves to hold the lever horizontal when the crank-lever F is not acting to depress it.

By turning the handle *e* of the crank-lever F to the backward, as shown in full lines, Fig. 1, the slide E will be moved back, the ink-pads *b* thereby uncovered, and the canceling or marking devices C pressed down upon the latter.

By reversing the handle *e* of the crank-shaft the slide E will be moved back to cover the ink-pads, and the canceling and marking devices C pressed upon a letter or other paper placed beneath them upon said plate E, as shown in full lines, Fig. 2.

Thus the slide E serves as a cover for the ink-pads, and also as a table or bed for the device C to strike upon in the act of canceling or marking, while the same instrumentality—to wit, crank-shaft F—operates both slide E and lever A.

By such construction and arrangement of parts I provide a cheap, simple, easily-operated, and efficient machine.

A knob, *f*, is applied to the free end of the lever A, for use in pressing the latter down upon the ink-pads, or upon letter or other paper to be canceled or otherwise marked.

Rotating sleeves may be applied to the crank of shaft F, to enable the machine to operate with little friction.

What I claim is—

1. The combination of the crank-shaft F with the pivoted spring-lever and the stamps or marking devices attached to its free end, the sliding plate E, connected directly to the crank-shaft, the box having the ink-pads *b* fixed in its front portion, and the guards or loops *d*, connecting shaft and lever, as shown and described, so that when the shaft is oscillated it will depress the lever by pressing on the guard, as specified.

2. The combination of the sliding pad-cover

or plate E, the box B, having a slot, through which the former works, the crank-shaft F, journaled in the sides of the box, and the lever A, pivoted in a plane parallel, or nearly so, to the bottom of the latter, and provided with the pendent portion d, upon which the crank-shaft acts to depress the lever, as shown and described.

The above specification of my invention signed by me this 14th day of March, 1879.

W. J. BLACKWELL.

Witnesses:

AMOS W. HART,  
CHAS. A. PETTIT.