

Patented Sept. 16, 1879.

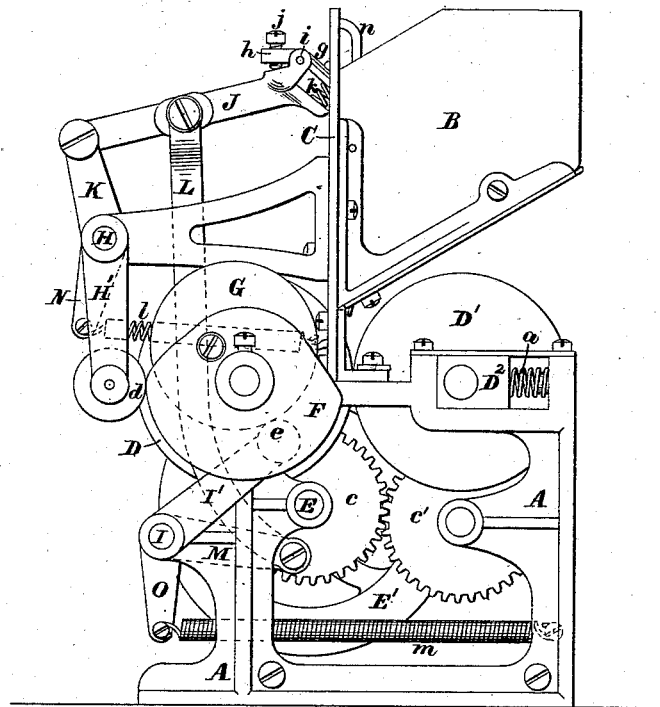


Fig. 2.

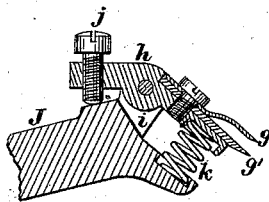


Fig. 3.

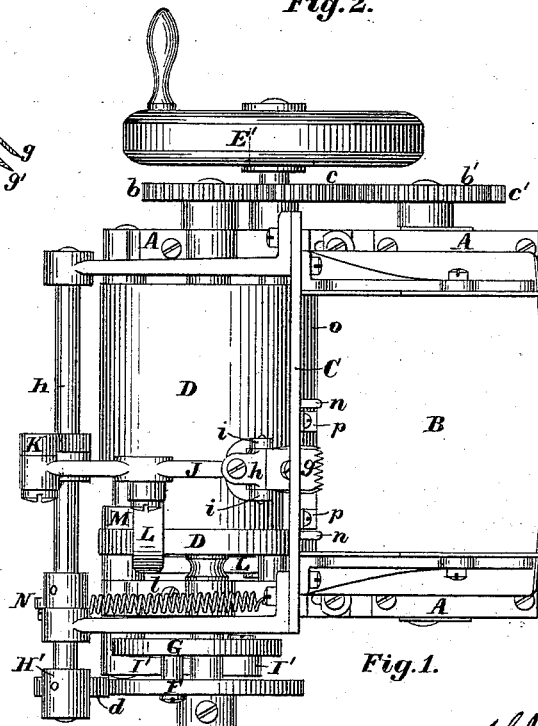


Fig.1.

Witnesses:

E. A. Hemmerway.
C. H. Dodd.

Inventor:

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by N. P. Lombard
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

THOMAS LEAVITT, OF EVERETT, MASSACHUSETTS.

IMPROVEMENT IN POSTMARKING AND CANCELING MACHINES.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **219,587**, dated September 16, 1879; application filed June 21, 1879.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, THOMAS LEAVITT, of Everett, in the county of Middlesex and State of Massachusetts, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Postmarking and Canceling Machines, of which the following, taken in connection with the accompanying drawings, is a specification.

My invention relates more especially to the feeding mechanism for separating the letters or cards and feeding them successively to the type and impression cylinders, and is an improvement upon the invention described in another application of even date herewith; and it consists in the combination and arrangement of certain mechanical devices for accomplishing that end, which will be best understood by reference to the description of the drawings.

Figure 1 of the drawings is a plan of so much of a machine as is necessary to illustrate my present invention. Fig. 2 is a side elevation of the same; and Fig. 3 is a longitudinal section of a portion of the feed-arm.

A A are the side frames of the machine, connected together by suitable tie-rods and the vertically-arranged plate C, to the back side of which is secured the hopper B, as shown.

D is the type-cylinder, mounted in fixed bearings in the frames A A; and D' is the impression-cylinder, mounted in yielding boxes D², which are forced toward the type-cylinder by the springs *a*. The cylinders D and D' have secured to their shafts the gear-wheels *b* and *b'*, respectively, which mesh into and are rotated by the two gear-wheels *c* and *c'*, respectively, the gear-wheels *c* being mounted upon the driving-shaft E, which has mounted thereon the fly or crank wheel E'. The shaft of the cylinder D has firmly secured to the end thereof opposite to the gear-wheel *b* two cams, F and G, which act, respectively, upon the trucks *d* and *e*, mounted upon pins set in the movable ends of the levers H' and I', secured to the rocker-shafts H and I, as shown.

J is a feed-lever, pivoted at one end to the movable end of the lever K, secured upon the rocker-shaft H, and at or near the middle of

its length to the upper end of the crooked link or connecting-rod L, the lower end of which is pivoted to the movable end of the lever M, secured upon the rocker-shaft I, all so arranged that the lever J will have imparted to it an endwise motion toward the hopper, a downward motion of its inner end, an endwise motion away from the hopper, and an upward motion of its inner end, whereby the toothed feed-plates *g g'* are made to engage with the front letter or card contained in the hopper and feed it downward till its lower end is seized by the cylinders D and D', and then recede therefrom and be moved upward out of contact with said letters or cards.

The feed-plates *g* and *g'* are formed upon or secured to the lever or pad *h*, which is pivoted between the ears *i i* on the lever J, said lever or pad *h*, with the feed-plates *g* and *g'* secured thereon, being rendered adjustable to vary the projection of the toothed plates into the hopper by means of the set-screw *j* and spring *k*.

The truck *d* is held in contact with the cam F by the tension of the spring *l*, attached at one end to the lever N, secured upon the rocker-shaft H, and at the other end to some fixed part of the machine, and in like manner the truck *e* is held in contact with the cam G by the tension of the spring *m*, attached at one end to the lever O, secured upon the rocker-shaft I, and at the other end to the frame of the machine.

A slot (not shown) is cut through the plate C to permit the passage of the feed-lever J and the toothed plates *g* and *g'*, and upon the inner face of said plate are secured two or more vertically-arranged stop wires or rods, *n n*, to limit the forward movement of the pile or pack of letter and cards, and reduce to a minimum the friction upon the letters or cards tending to resist their downward movement.

The bottom of the hopper B is cut short, so as to form a throat or opening, *o*, between its front end and the plate C, through which the letters and cards are fed to the cylinders, said throat being closed against the accidental passage of a letter or card by the light spring-fingers *p p*, secured to the inner face of the

plate C and extending downward and backward across said throat, as described in another application of even date herewith.

What I claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent of the United States, is—

In a machine for postmarking and canceling letters or cards, the combination of the lever J, provided with one or more toothed feed plates or surfaces at one end, and pivoted at its other end to the lever K, rocker-shaft H,

lever H', trucks *d* and *e*, cams F and G, levers I' and O, connecting-rod L, and the springs *l* and *m*, all arranged and adapted to operate substantially as and for the purposes described.

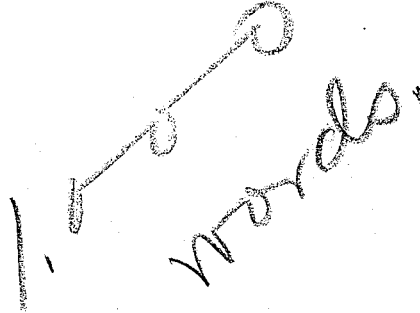
Executed at Boston, Massachusetts, this 18th day of June, A. D. 1879.

THOMAS LEAVITT.

Witnesses:

N. C. LOMBARD,

C. H. DODD.

1.  Words.