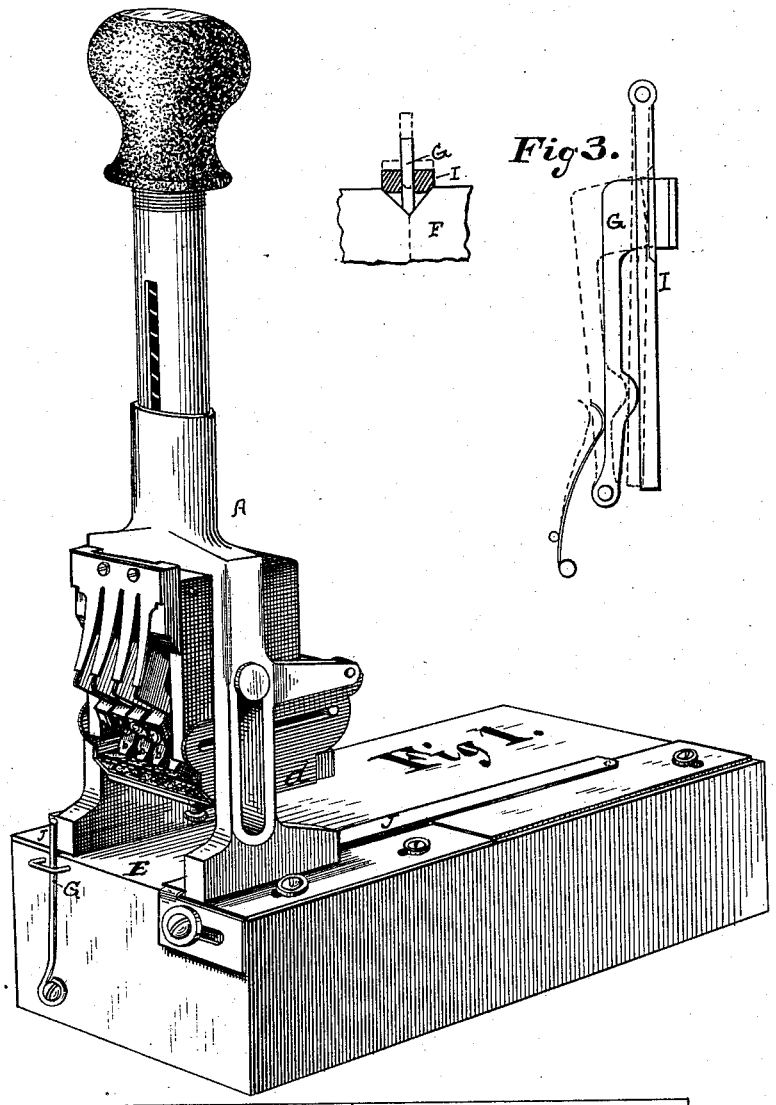
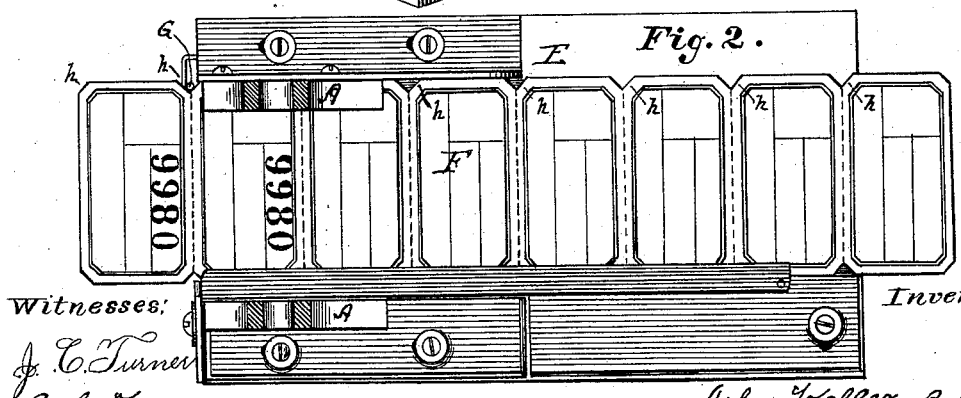
(No Model.)

J. KELLER.

TICKET NUMBERING STAMP.

No. 301,999. Patented July 15, 1884.





Witnesses:
J. C. Turner
E. C. Ford

Inventor:
John Keller By his attys
R. D. O. Smith

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOHN KELLER, OF NEW YORK, N. Y.

TICKET-NUMBERING STAMP.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 301,999, dated July 15, 1884.

Application filed December 13, 1883. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOHN KELLER, of the city, county, and State of New York, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Stamps for Printing Tag or Ticket Numbers, especially adapted to printing lot or other numbers upon clothing-tickets, for which Reissued Letters Patent No. 10,186 were granted to me August 22, 1882.

Manufacturers of clothing attach to each garment a small tag or ticket upon which are inscribed numbers indicating the lot or size to which the particular garment belongs. For the sake of uniform legibility these figures are commonly printed upon the ticket, but are necessarily printed after the ticket itself has been printed, and commonly this numbering takes place in the establishment where the clothing is manufactured. In very large establishments it may be done by persons specially employed for that purpose and with appropriate machinery—such, for instance, as that patented to me September 26, 1882, No. 265,101. In smaller establishments, however, this special service is not available, and it is found impracticable to keep the special machinery in good working order without the employment of special skill for the purpose.

To meet the demand for a printing-machine to number my strip-tickets, adapted to properly gage the same and operative in any unskilled hands, I have devised the improvement hereinafter more particularly described, having reference to the accompanying drawings, wherein—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of my device in operation. Fig. 2 is a sectional plan of the same.

A is a hand-stamp provided with a series of numbering-wheels, *b b*, upon the periphery of each of which there is a series of digit-types, each wheel being adjustable, so that said digits can be arranged in series, as desired. In the stamp shown there is a swinging ink-pad, *d*, whereby the types are inked prior to each depression, by which they are caused to print. This ink-pad may be replaced by an ink-ribbon, if preferred. Below the digit-wheels there is an impression bed or foundation, E, to which the frame of the stamp A is attached. This foundation is provided with guides J, under and within which the ticket-strip F is caused to slide. The ticket-strip has marginal notches *h* at the points of division between the individual tickets, for the purposes explained in my said reissued patent, and I am therefore enabled to utilize said notches to gage the movement of the ticket-strip, to bring the stamp-impression uniformly in one place on the ticket-faces; but it is not desirable in a machine intended to present the utmost simplicity to provide an automatic feed, and I therefore depend upon the operator to feed the strip, and depend upon the automatic action of the gage-point G as it falls into the notches *h* successively to cause a proper arrest. The gage-point G may be automatically moved by a spring or by a weight; but I prefer a spring. In the drawings it is shown as a piece of spring-wire standing vertically across one edge of the guide-way, so that it is constantly in engagement with the edge of the ticket, and by the pressure of its spring it falls into the notches *h* successively as they arrive. This is the simplest form, and on many accounts to be preferred. If, however, it is desired to reduce the abrading effect of the friction of the gage-point, it may be done, as illustrated in Fig. 3, by adding a lever, I, with a flat face, somewhat narrower than the notch *h* at its widest point, so that it will sink but a little way into the notch, and by its compound-lever action upon the gage-point arm or lever the gage-point will have a larger motion, and will only engage the ticket-strip at or near the re-entrant angle of the notch *h*. The broader face of the lever I will not abrade the edge of the ticket.

The guides may be made adjustable to adapt them to tickets of different widths, and the press may be adjusted upon its foundation to cause the type to descend upon the ticket-face at one point or another; or the same end may be accomplished by making the gage-point adjustable. The legs of the frame A are provided with feet capable of adjustment on the foundation or bed E, so that the relative position of the stamp as to the gage-point may be varied to adapt the implement to tickets of different proportions. It is evident, however, that the same result can be attained by adjustment of gage-point.

In the drawings the feet above mentioned

are represented by flat plates, upon which the legs of the stamps are supported. On one side the leg is supported above the level of the foundation E, so that the edge of the ticket may slide under it. This is a mode of construction, however, which may be varied upon in manufacturing stamps for the market.

Having described my invention, I claim as new—

A hand-stamp numbering-machine provided with digit-types arranged in proper series, an inking pad or ribbon for the same, adjustable guides for the ticket-strip, and a self-acting gage-point, the relative position whereof as to the digit-types may be adjusted at will, whereby the types may be caused to strike such point on the face of the ticket as may be desired.

JOHN KELLER.

Witnesses:
WM. KOCH,
JOHN A. ROE.