

(No Model.)

J. T. ARGO.

COMBINED POST OFFICE DATER, CANCELER, AND REGISTER.

No. 381,976.

Patented May 1, 1888.

Fig. 1.

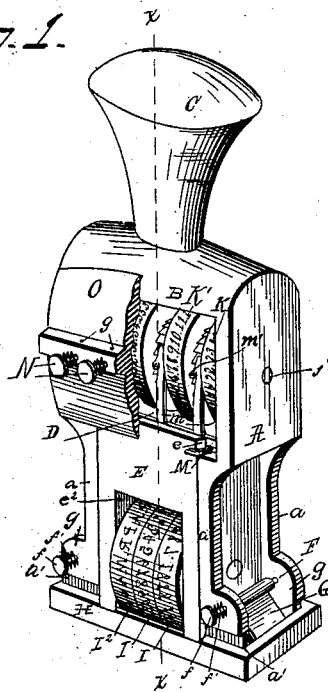


Fig. 2.

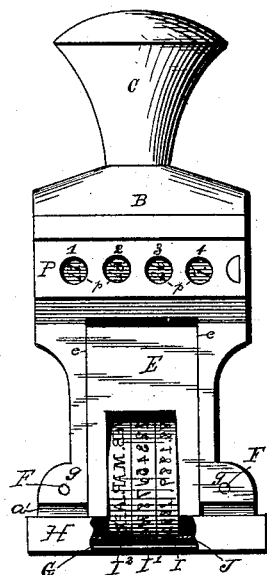


Fig. 4.

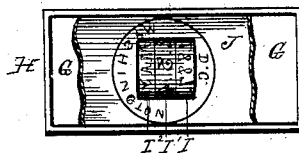


Fig. 3.

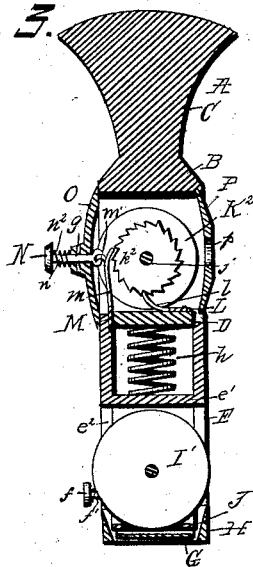


Fig. 5.

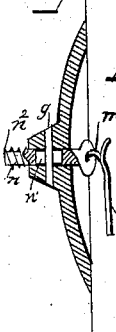
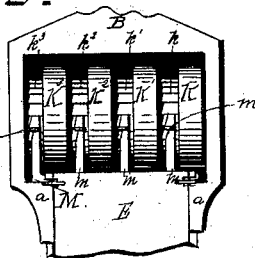


Fig. 6.



Witnesses.

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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOHN T. ARGO, OF POINDEXTER, KENTUCKY.

## COMBINED POST-OFFICE DATER, CANCELER, AND REGISTER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 381,976, dated May 1, 1888.

Application filed October 12, 1887. Serial No. 252,158. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, JOHN T. ARGO, a citizen of the United States, residing at Poindexter, in the county of Harrison and State of Kentucky, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Combined Post-Office Dater, Canceled, and Register; and I do declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and to the letters and figures of reference marked thereon, which form a part of this specification.

This invention relates to a combined post-office dater, stamp-canceler, and register, and has for its object the production of a simple and compact device for dating letters, canceling stamps, and registering the total number of each kind of stamps canceled.

The stamp is provided with a series of registering-wheels which are independent of each other and have a separate actuating-pawl for each wheel, which is held out of engagement with the registering-wheel normally and is thrown in contact with a registering-wheel to operate it by a push-button, a separate push-button being provided for each pawl and each button corresponding to a denomination of stamps to be canceled, whereby the total number of stamps canceled of any denomination may be independently registered.

The improvement consists in the novel and peculiar construction and arrangement of parts, which will be more fully hereinafter set forth, claimed, and shown in the annexed drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a perspective view, parts being broken away, of a stamp-canceler embodying my invention. Fig. 2 is a side view, looking at the side hidden from view in Fig. 1, parts being broken away, of the stamp; Fig. 3, a section on the line X X of Fig. 1; Fig. 4, a bottom plan view of the stamp having the ribbon broken away; Fig. 5, a detail view of the registering-wheels and the upper portion of the standard carried by the yielding frame and the pawls for operating the registering-wheels. Fig. 6 is a detail view of a portion of the stem of a push-button and a section of the frame, showing the means that connect the push-button with the said frame on an enlarged scale.

The frame of the stamp is composed of the side plates, A, the cross-bar B, having the handle C, and the middle plate, D. The inner corners of the side plates are removed and undercut to receive the standards E, which have their edges correspondingly undercut to fit against the shoulders *e*, formed by removing said corners of the side plates. The side plates are strengthened by flanges *a*, which are widened at their lower ends, forming the lugs *a'*, between which the rollers F, carrying the ink-ribbon G, are journaled. The rollers F have knobs *f* at one end, between which and the lugs *a'* are confined the coil-springs *f'*, which hold the rollers against accidental retrograde movement, so as to prevent any slack of the ink-ribbon. The lower edges of the sides and lugs *a'* are reduced to receive the frame H, which is fitted thereto and has a limited movement thereon. This frame H is secured to the lower ends of the standards E and is held projected normally by the spring *h*, placed between the middle plate, D, and the cross-tie *e'*, uniting the standards E.

The dating-wheels I I' I<sup>2</sup> are journaled on a common shaft passed through the side plates, A, and they extend on each side of the frame and project through openings *e<sup>2</sup>* in the standards E, to be readily grasped by the fingers for rotating them when it is desired to adjust them. The wheel I carries the type indicating the year, the wheel I' the day of the month, and the wheel I<sup>2</sup> the month. The plate J, provided with the office stamp, is apertured near its center to permit the dating-wheels to project through a sufficient distance to have their type flush with the type-surface of the office-stamp.

The registering-wheels K K' K<sup>2</sup> K<sup>3</sup>, having ratchet-wheels *k k' k<sup>2</sup> k<sup>3</sup>* secured to their sides, respectively, are mounted on the shaft *j*, held at its ends in the side plates, A, and they are held against backward movement by the detent-pawls *l*, formed on the plate L, resting on the middle plate, D, and engaging with said ratchet-wheels *k k'*, &c.

The actuating-pawls *m*, carried by one of the standards E and formed of the plate M, secured to said standard, are connected with push-buttons N by the extended or cut-away portions *m'*, which are passed through the eye formed in the end of each stem *n* of said buttons. The stems *n* extend through the cap-

plate O, which closes in one side of the frame opposite the registering-wheels, and are held in place by pins *g*, projecting through slots *n'* in the stems. The coil-springs *n*<sup>2</sup>, surrounding the stems and held between the cap-plate and the push-button, hold the push-buttons projected and keep the actuating-pawls out of engagement with the ratchet-wheels *k k'*, &c. The push-buttons are numbered to correspond with the relative position of the regulating-wheels.

The side of the frame opposite that closed in by the cap-plate O is closed by the slide P, which has sight-holes *p* opposite the registering-wheels for viewing the numbers on the said wheels. These sight-holes are designated by numbers which correspond with the denomination of the stamp to be canceled. Each registering-wheel is for registering the number of a particular denomination of stamp canceled and is operated independently of any of the other wheels.

The actuating-pawls are normally held out of engagement with the ratchet-wheels of the registering-wheels by the springs *n*<sup>2</sup> on the stems of the push-buttons. Now, to cancel a stamp and at the same time register it the push-button corresponding with the denomination of the stamp to be canceled is pushed in. This brings the actuating-pawl in engagement with the ratchet-wheel of the registering-wheel. A downward pressure on the handle C brings the type upon the latter to be stamped, and at the same time effects an upward movement of the frame H and standard E, carrying the actuating-pawl, which, engaging with said ratchet, moves the registering-wheel forward one step. The number of each kind of stamp canceled can be readily seen through the sight-holes *p*.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. The combination, with the hand canceling-stamp and a series of independent registering-wheels, of the yielding frame and the series of independent actuating-pawls connected with said frame, one pawl being provided for each registering-wheel, substantially as and for the purpose described.

2. The combination, with the stamp and the series of independent registering-wheels having ratchet-wheels secured to their sides, of the yielding frame and the corresponding series of independent actuating-pawls connected with the frame and adapted to engage with said ratchet-wheels, substantially as described.

3. The combination, with the stamp, the registering-wheels having ratchet-wheels, and the actuating-pawls, of the yielding frame connected with said pawls and the push-buttons adapted to be pressed upon for projecting the actuating-pawls within the path of said ratchet-wheels, substantially as described.

4. The combination, with the stamp, the

registering-wheels having ratchet-wheels, and the actuating-pawls connected with a yielding frame, of the push-buttons having slotted stems and the pins passing through said slots in the stems of the push-buttons for limiting their movements, substantially as set forth.

5. The combination, with the stamp, the registering-wheels having ratchet-wheels, and the actuating-pawls adapted to engage with said ratchet-wheels and having the extended portion *m'*, of the push-buttons connected with said extended portions *m'* of the actuating-pawls, substantially as and for the purpose described.

6. The combination, with the stamp, the independent registering-wheels, and the actuating-pawls, of the push-buttons connected with the pawls and the springs for normally holding the push-buttons projected and holding the pawls out of the path of the ratchet-wheels, substantially as set forth.

7. The combination, with the frame of the stamp, composed of the side plates, cross-bar, handle, and middle plate, the registering mechanism located between the cross-bar and middle plate, and the actuating-pawls, of the frame H, the standards E, one of said standards carrying the actuating-pawls, the cross-tie *e'*, and the spring interposed between the cross-tie and said middle plate, substantially as set forth, for the purpose specified.

8. The combination, with the side plates, A, of the frame, the registering mechanism, and the dating-wheels mounted on a shaft supported between the side plates, of the standards E, having openings through which the dating-wheels extend, the actuating-pawls carried by one of the standards, and the frame H, substantially as specified.

9. The combination, with the stamp, the series of independent registering-wheels having ratchet-wheels, the independent detent-pawls carried by a common plate, and the actuating-pawls connected with a plate common to all, of the standards and the frame H, substantially as and for the purpose specified.

10. The herein-described combined post-office dater, stamp-canceller, and register, composed of side plates having flanges *a* and lugs *a'*, the cross-bar B, the handle C, the middle plate, D, the independent registering-wheels having ratchet-wheels, the detent-pawls, the actuating-pawls, the push-buttons connected with the actuating-pawls, the springs *n*<sup>2</sup>, the standards having openings, the frame H, the spring for projecting the frame, the rollers F, the ink-ribbon, the dating-wheels, and the plate J, carrying the office-stamp, substantially as described.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature in presence of two witnesses.

JOHN T. ARGO.

Witnesses:

CHAS. T. WILSON,  
S. S. WILLIAMS.