No. 669,661. Patented Mar. 12, 1901.

T. R. POST.

DATING STAMP.

(Application filed Oct. 4, 1900.)

(No Model.) 3 Sheets—Sheet 1.

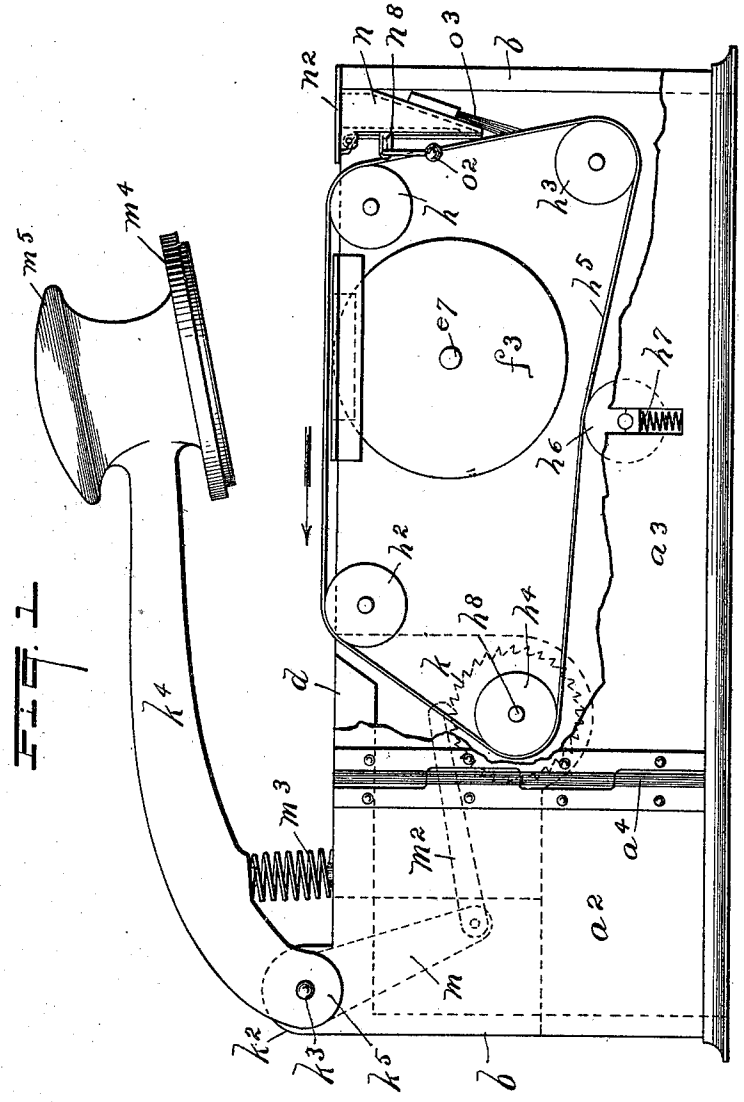

Fig. 1.

WITNESSES
Elwood Bell
F. A. Stewart

INVENTOR
Thomas R. Post
BY Edgar Tate
ATTORNEYS

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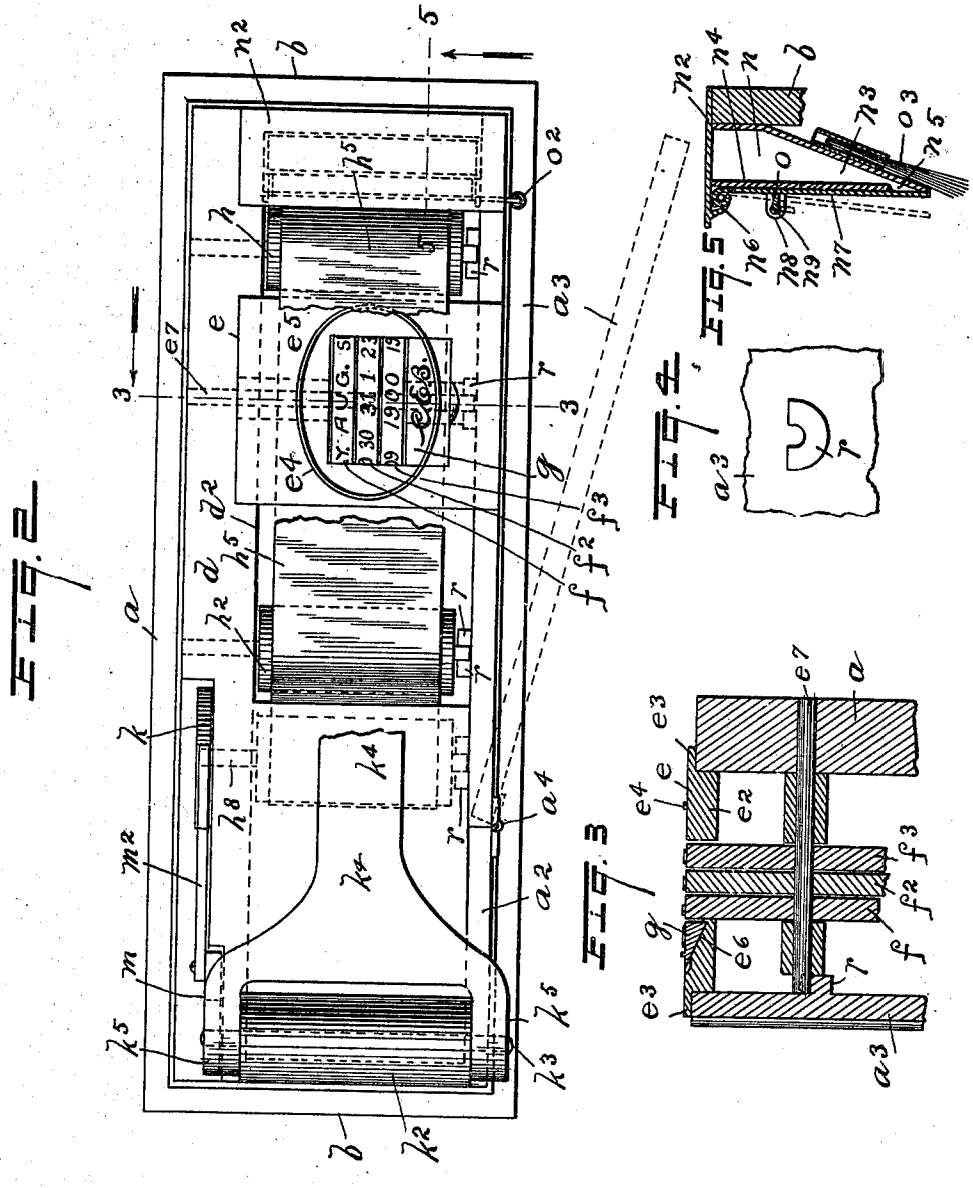
3 Sheets—Sheet 2.



WITNESSES

Elwood Bell

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INVENTOR

BY Thomas R. Post

Edgar Tate

ATTORNEYS

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(No Model.) 3 Sheets—Sheet 3.

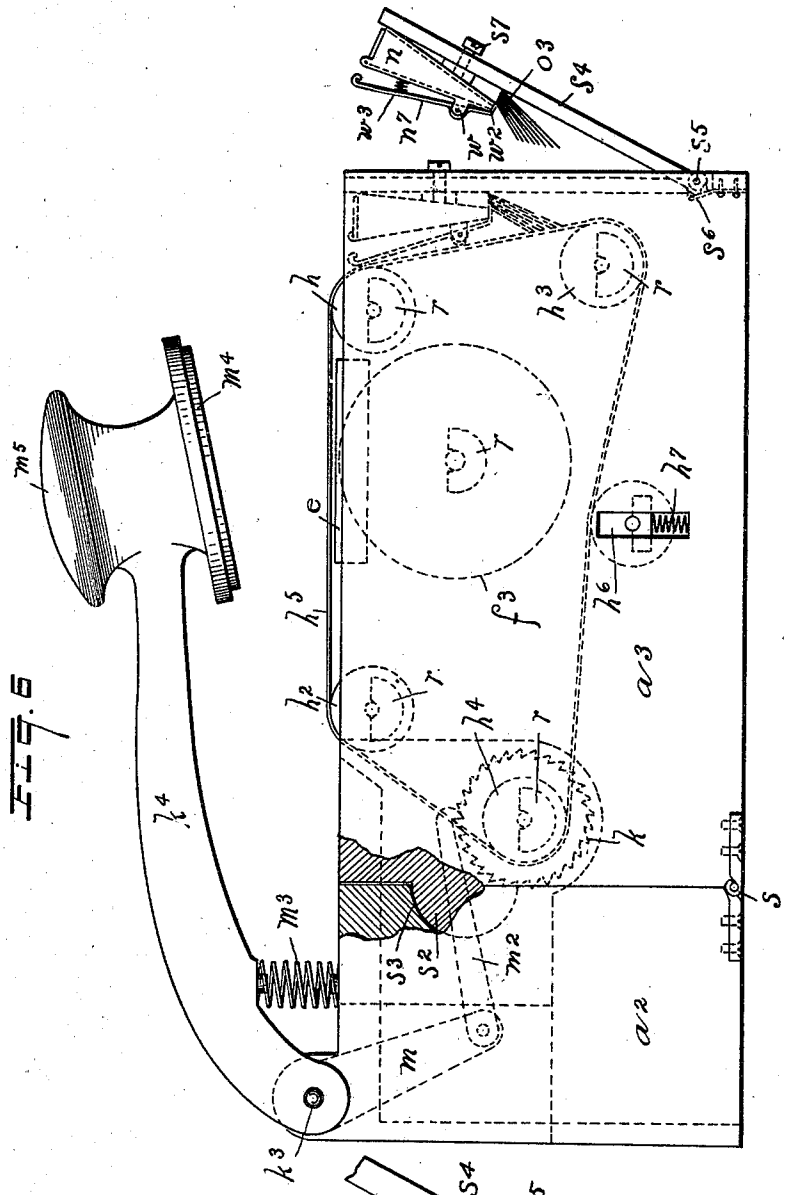

FIG. 6

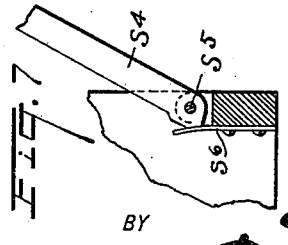

FIG. 7

WITNESSES
C. Elwood Bell.
F. W. Stewart

INVENTOR
Thomas R. Post
BY
Edgar Tate & Co
ATTORNEYS

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

THOMAS RUNELL POST, OF WILMINGTON, NORTH CAROLINA.

DATING-STAMP.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 669,661, dated March 12, 1901.

Application filed October 4, 1900 Serial No. 31,959. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, THOMAS RUNELL POST, a citizen of the United States, residing at Wilmington, in the county of New Hanover and State of North Carolina, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Dating-Stamps, of which the following is a full and complete specification, such as will enable those skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same.

This invention relates to dating-stamps, such as are usually employed in banks, railway-offices, steamship-lines, and other similar business places; and the object thereof is to provide an improved device of this class which is simple in construction and operation and which is also strong and durable and particularly designed to prevent fraud on the part of employees or others having charge and use thereof.

The invention is fully disclosed in the following specification, of which the accompanying drawings form a part, in which—

Figure 1 is a side view of my improved dating-stamp, part of the casing thereof being broken away to better show the interior; Fig. 2, a plan view; Fig. 3, a partial section on the line 3 3 of Fig. 2; Fig. 4, an inside view of a detail of the construction; Fig. 5, a partial section on the line 5 5 of Fig. 2; Fig. 6, a side view similar to Fig. 1, showing a modification; and Fig. 7, a sectional view of a detail of the construction shown in Fig. 6.

In the drawings forming part of this specification the separate parts of my improvement are designated by the same reference characters in each of the views, and in the practice of my invention I provide a dating-stamp comprising a casing composed of sides a and a^2 and ends b, and a part of the side a^2 consists of a door a^3, which, as shown in the drawings, is hinged at a^4.

The casing of my improved dating-stamp is also provided with a top d, in which is formed a rectangular opening d^2, which is preferably nearer one side than the other and one side of which is closed by the door a^3, and for the purposes of this description one end of the dating-stamp is called the "right" and the other the "left" hand end.

Placed over the rectangular opening d^2 and almost centrally thereof is a plate e, having a central depending portion e^2, which fits within the side walls of said opening, and a top flange e^3, which rests on said side walls, and the top surface of said plate is preferably provided with an elliptical bead e^4, within which is formed a rectangular opening e^5, and the side wall of the opening e^5, adjacent to the door a^3, is cut out, as shown at e^6 in Fig. 3, beyond the bead e^4, and mounted transversely of the casing, beneath said opening e^5, is a shaft e^7, on which is placed the usual date-disks f, f^2, and f^3, respectively, on which are placed the characters which represent the months of the year, the days of the month, and the year, these elements being of the usual and well-known construction. I also provide a detachable plate g, which is set into the space formed at e^6 at the side of the opening e^5 and on which is formed a part of the elliptical bead, and this plate is detachable and is designed as an initial-plate or name-plate, and in practice each party having a right to use my improved dating-stamp is provided with one of these plates, on which his name or initials are formed, the initials shown in the drawings being "C. E. B.," and by means of this construction the stamp itself or the imprint or mark formed thereby will always indicate by whom it was used, it being understood that if at any time any party having a right to use the stamp surrenders said right to another for a period of time he will remove his initial or name plate, and the party following him in the use of the stamp will insert his own initials or name-plate.

At the right of the plate e and adjacent thereto is placed a roller h, and a similar roller h^2 is placed at the left of and farther from the plate e^2, said rollers being respectively placed in the right and left hand ends of the opening d^2, respectively, and beneath the roller h and slightly to the right thereof is placed another roller h^3, while a roller h^4 is placed below and to the left of the roller h^2, and mounted on the rollers h, h^2, h^3, and h^4 is an endless inking-tape h^5, which passes over the plate e.

Beneath the bottom stretch of the inking-tape h^5 and substantially midway between the rollers h^3 and h^4 is a tension-roller h^6, the shaft of which is provided with spring-supported bearings h^7, and the shaft h^8 of the

roller h^4 is provided at one end with a ratchet-wheel k, and formed on the left end b of the casing is a bearing k^2, through which passes a shaft k^3, on the ends of which is mounted a lever k^4, provided with side jaws k^5, through which the shaft k^3 passes, and one of the jaws k^5 is provided with an arm m, to which is pivoted a pawl m^2, which operates in connection with the ratchet-wheel k, and between the top plate of the casing and the lever k^4 is placed a strong spiral spring m^3, and said lever k^4 is provided at its forward end with the usual stamp-head m^4 and knob m^5. I also provide an ink-reservoir n, having a top plate n^2, and the lower end of which is wedge-shaped in form, as shown at n^3, the back thereof or that side adjacent to the right end of the stamp being inclined forwardly and downwardly, and the front thereof or that side adjacent to the roller h being straight, as shown at n^4, and at the lower end of the reservoir is an opening n^5, and hinged to the top thereof at n^6 is a plate n^7, and the side walls of the reservoir n are provided with projecting jaws n^8, in which is mounted a rod n^9, having a backwardly-directed projection o, which is adapted to bear on the plate n^7, and the rod n^9 is provided at one end with an angular handle o^2, and said plate n^7 is adapted to close the opening at n^5 in the bottom of the reservoir n, and secured to the inclined back portion of said reservoir is a brush o^3, which projects downwardly and forwardly and which is adapted to bear on the inking-tape h^5. The plate n^2 of the reservoir n rests on the top of the stamp-casing, as shown in the drawings; but said reservoir may be secured in place in any desired manner.

Whenever it is desired to ink the tape h^5, all that is necessary is to turn the shaft n^9 by means of the handle o^2 thereof, when the plate n^7 will be released, so that the ink can flow onto the brush n^5, and by turning the handle o^2 of the shaft n^9 back into the position shown in Fig. 1 the opening at the bottom of the reservoir will be closed. The connection of the pawl m^2 with the lever k^4 and the ratchet-wheel k is such that at each downward movement of the lever k^4 the roller h^4 will be turned and with it the rollers h, h^2, and h^3, and the tape h^5 will move in the direction of the arrow x in Fig. 1, and a fresh portion of the tape is thus presented over the date-disks f, f^2, and f^3 at each downward movement of the lever k^4.

By employing the endless tape h^5 and operating it in the manner herein described I secure a great advantage over most of the devices of this class as now constructed and operated. The endless tape h^5 will last indefinitely and is kept constantly in condition for use by means of the ink supplied by the reservoir n.

The shaft e^7, on which the date-disks f, f^2, and f^3 are placed, and the shafts of the rollers h, h^2, h^3, and h^4 are provided with bearings r on the inner side of the door a^3, one of said bearings being shown in Fig. 4 and all of them in Fig. 1, partly in dotted and partly in full lines, and the side of the casing opposite the door a^3 is made thick, as shown in Fig. 3, so as to form an extended bearing for said shafts, the ends of said shafts being simply supported on the bearings r, formed on or secured to the door a^3.

In the drawings forming part of this specification I have shown the door a^3 hinged so as to swing laterally; but said door may be hinged at the bottom or the left-hand lower corner thereof, so that it would swing vertically, and in either event the ends of the shafts will be suitably supported by the bearings r when the door is closed, and any suitable means may be provided for securing the door in a closed position, and in Figs. 6 and 7 I have shown a modified form of construction embodying these principles. In this form of construction the door a^3 or that part of the stamp-casing which is hinged to the body thereof is hinged at its lower left-hand corner, as shown at s, and the said end of the said door or hinged side of the casing is provided with a lug or projection s^2, which fits in a corresponding recess s^3, formed in the stationary part of the side a^2 of the stamp casing or body. The door or hinged side a^3 in this form of construction is adapted to swing downwardly, and when raised into its normal position, as shown in Fig. 6, the lug or projection s^2 is in the recess s^3 and holds said hinged side or door in its proper position and prevents it from moving laterally; but any suitable device may be provided for preventing it from dropping downwardly when the stamp is raised. In this form of construction the bearings r of the various shafts are the same as hereinbefore described, and the ends of the shafts rest thereon when the door or hinged side of the stamp-body is in its raised position, and in this form of construction I have also shown a modified support for the ink-reservoir and a slight modification in the construction of the reservoir itself. The front end of the stamp casing or body, which in this view is designated by the reference character s^4, is hinged at the bottom thereof, as shown at s^5 in Figs. 6 and 7, and secured to the bottom of the stamp body or casing is a spring s^6, which bears on the lower end of said hinged front end of the stamp body or casing, which in this case constitutes a door, and said lower end of said door is so formed that the spring s will hold the door either in a closed or in an open position. The reservoir n in this modification is held in place by a screw s^7, which passes through the door s^4 and into the back of the reservoir or into the brush-holder, and in this form of construction the plate n^7 is hinged at w and is provided at its lower end with a lip w^2, which closes the opening in the lower end of the reservoir, and said plate is normally held in the position shown by a spring w^3, placed between the upper end thereof and the reservoir, and in order to open the opening

in the lower end of the reservoir, so as to allow the ink to flow therefrom onto the brush, the upper end of the plate is pressed in the direction of the reservoir.

The hinged door or end s^4 of the stamp frame or body may be held in the closed position by any suitable means. By providing the shafts on which the various rollers and the date-disks are mounted with bearings of the form described, secured to or formed on the door a^3, I provide a construction by means of which the endless tape h^5 may be conveniently placed in position or removed whenever desired.

My invention is not limited to the construction herein shown and described, and many alterations in and modifications of the same may be made without departing from the spirit of my invention or sacrificing its advantages.

Having fully described my invention, I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent—

1. In a dating-stamp of the class described, a casing provided in the top thereof with an opening, a plate set into said opening transversely thereof, said plate being provided with a central opening, a shaft mounted beneath said plate and provided with date-disks which pass upwardly through said opening, and a detachable name-plate mounted in the first-named plate adjacent to one side of said opening, substantially as shown and described.

2. In a dating-stamp of the class described, a casing provided in the top thereof with an opening, a plate set into said opening transversely thereof, said plate being provided with a central opening, a shaft mounted beneath said plate and provided with date-disks which pass upwardly through said opening, and a detachable name-plate mounted in the first-named plate adjacent to one side of said opening, and means for inking said disks and said name-plate, substantially as shown and described.

3. In a dating-stamp of the class described, a casing provided in the top thereof with an opening, a plate set into said opening transversely thereof, said plate being provided with a central opening, a shaft mounted beneath said plate and provided with date-disks which pass upwardly through said opening, and a detachable name-plate mounted in the first-named plate adjacent to one side of said opening, and means for inking said disk and said name-plate, consisting of an endless tape mounted on rollers arranged within the casing forwardly and backwardly of said plates and said disks, substantially as shown and described.

4. In a dating-stamp of the class described, a casing provided in the top thereof with an opening, a plate set into said opening transversely thereof, said plate being provided with a central opening, a shaft mounted beneath said plate and provided with date-disks which pass upwardly through said opening, and a detachable name-plate mounted in the first-named plate adjacent to one side of said opening, and means for inking said disk and said name-plate, consisting of an endless tape mounted on rollers arranged within the casing forwardly and backwardly of said plates and said disks, and means for inking said tape, substantially as shown and described.

5. In a dating-stamp of the class described, a casing provided in the top thereof with an opening, a plate set into said opening transversely thereof, said plate being provided with a central opening, a shaft mounted beneath said plate and provided with date-disks which pass upwardly through said opening, and a detachable name-plate mounted in the first-named plate adjacent to one side of said opening, and means for inking said disks and said name-plate, consisting of an endless belt mounted on rollers arranged within the casing forwardly and backwardly of said plates and said disks, and means for inking said tape, consisting of a detachable reservoir mounted in the casing at one end thereof and adjacent to said tape, and provided with devices for supplying ink thereto, substantially as shown and described.

6. A dating-stamp, comprising a casing provided with an opening in the top thereof, a plate mounted therein, and provided with a central opening, date-disks mounted on a shaft beneath said plate and adapted to project through the opening therein, a detachable name-plate mounted in the first-named plate adjacent to one side of said disks, an endless tape arranged in said casing on rollers mounted therein, and adapted to pass over said first-named plate, and a tension-roller operating in connection with said tape, substantially as shown and described.

7. A dating-stamp, comprising a casing provided with an opening in the top thereof, a plate mounted therein, and provided with a central opening, date-disks mounted on a shaft beneath said plate and adapted to project through the opening therein, a detachable name-plate mounted in the first-named plate adjacent to one side of said disks, an endless tape arranged in said casing on rollers mounted therein, and adapted to pass over said first-named plate, and a tension-roller operating in connection with said tape, said casing being provided at one side with a hinged door having bearings for the shaft of said disks and for the shafts of said rollers, substantially as shown and described.

8. A dating-stamp, comprising a casing provided with an opening in the top thereof, a plate mounted therein, and provided with a central opening, date-disks mounted on a shaft beneath said plate and adapted to project through the opening therein, a detachable name-plate mounted in the first-named plate adjacent to one side of said disks, an endless tape arranged in said casing on rollers mounted therein, and adapted to pass over said first-named plate, and a tension-

roller operating in connection with said tape, said casing being provided at one side with a hinged door having bearings for the shaft of said disks and for the shafts of said rollers, and one of said rollers on which said tape is mounted being provided at one end with a ratchet-wheel, and a spring-supported lever pivoted to said casing and provided with an arm having a pawl in operative connection with said ratchet-wheel, substantially as shown and described.

9. A dating-stamp, comprising a casing provided with an opening in the top thereof, a date-plate mounted in said opening, dating-disks mounted beneath said opening and projecting therethrough, an endless inking-tape mounted on rollers within said casing and adapted to pass over said date-plate, and means for inking said tape consisting of a reservoir mounted in one end of said casing and provided with a brush which bears on said tape, said casing being also provided with a hinged side which is adapted to swing vertically, and which has bearings on its inner side for the shaft of said rollers, and the shaft of the date-disks, substantially as shown and described.

10. A dating-stamp, comprising a casing having a hinged door at one side, and an opening in the top thereof, a date-plate mounted in said opening, a shaft mounted thereunder and provided with date-disks which project through the opening in said plate, said plate being also provided at one side and adjacent to the opening therein with a detachable name-plate, rollers mounted in said casing, and provided at one end with bearings in said door, said rollers being adapted to receive an endless tape which passes over the date-plate, one of said rollers being also provided with a ratchet-wheel, and a spring-supported lever mounted over the casing, and in operative connection with said ratchet-wheel, substantially as shown and described.

11. A dating-stamp, comprising a casing provided with an opening in the top thereof, a plate mounted therein, and provided with a central opening, date-disks mounted on a shaft beneath said plate and adapted to project through an opening therein, rollers mounted in said casing and adapted to receive an endless tape, one side of said casing being hinged and adapted to swing vertically, and the shafts of said rollers and the shaft of the date-disks being provided with open bearings secured to said hinged door or side, substantially as shown and described.

12. A dating-stamp, comprising a casing provided with an opening in the top thereof, a plate mounted therein, and provided with a central opening, date-disks mounted on a shaft beneath said plate and adapted to project through an opening therein, rollers mounted in said casing and adapted to receive an endless tape, said casing being also provided with a hinged door or side which is adapted to swing vertically, and the shafts of said rollers and the shaft of the date-disks being provided with open bearings secured to said hinged door or side, and means for inking said ribbon, consisting of an ink-reservoir secured to the front of said casing, and provided with a brush adapted to bear thereon, substantially as shown and described.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing as my invention I have signed my name, in presence of the subscribing witnesses, this 29th day of September, 1900.

THOS. RUNELL POST.

Witnesses:
S. P. COLLIER,
W. M. CUMMING.

Correction in Letters Patent No. 669,661.

Affidavit having been filed showing that the name of the patentee in Letters Patent No. 669,661, granted March 12, 1901, for an improvement in "Dating-Stamps," should have been written and printed *Thomas Russell Post* instead of "Thomas Runell Post," it is hereby certified that the proper correction has been made in the files and records pertaining to the case in the Patent Office, and should be read in the Letters Patent that the same may conform thereto.

Signed, countersigned, and sealed this 9th day of April, A. D., 1901.

[SEAL.]

F. L. CAMPBELL,
Assistant Secretary of the Interior.

Countersigned:

F. I. ALLEN,
Commissioner of Patents.