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J. W. PLACE & H. L. CONTER.

SHIPPING BOOK.

APPLICATION FILED MAR. 13, 1905.

Fig. 1.

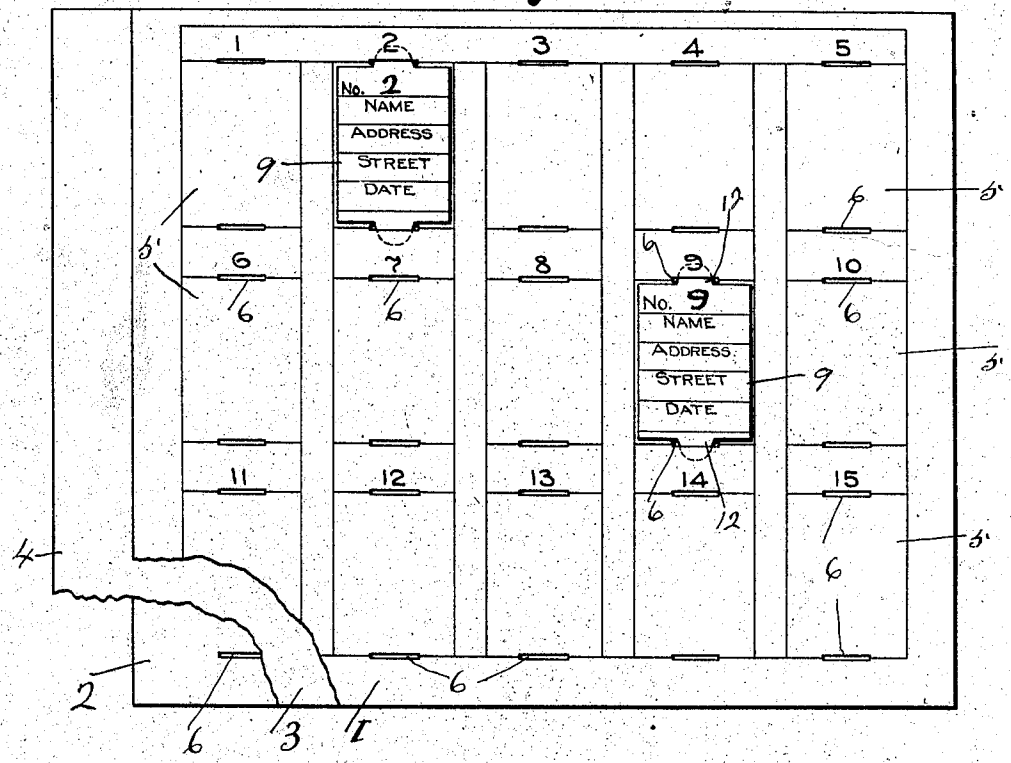
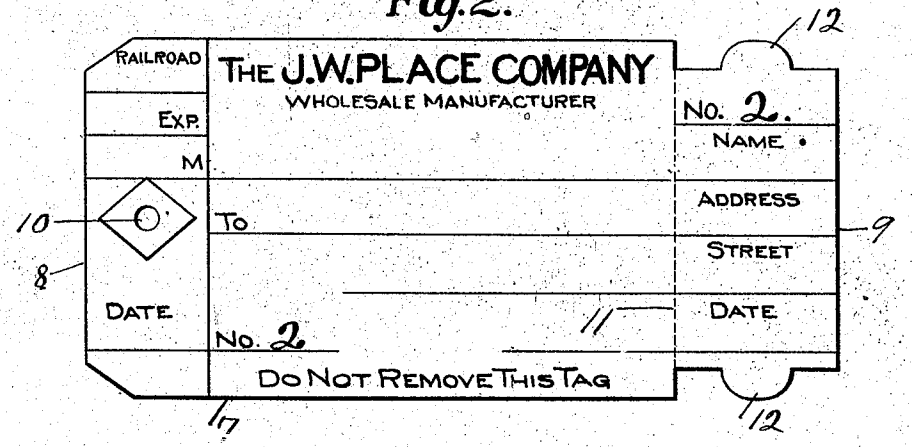


Fig. 2.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JAMES W. PLACE AND HERMAN L. CONTER, OF DECATUR, INDIANA.

SHIPPING-BOOK.

No. 814,871. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented March 13, 1906.

Application filed March 13, 1905. Serial No. 249,742.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that we, JAMES W. PLACE and HERMAN L. CONTER, citizens of the United States, residing at Decatur, in the county of Adams, in the State of Indiana, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Shipping-Books; and we do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, which will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, which form part of this specification.

Our invention relates to improvements in shipping-books, especially designed for use by manufacturers who ship their goods in cases or other receptacles which are to be returned when empty.

The primary object of our present invention is to provide an improved shipping-book adapted to greatly simplify and facilitate the work of keeping a record of certain classes of goods which are shipped in cases, casks, or baskets which are to be returned by the consignee when empty, and is specially designed for use by brewers, bottlers, ice-cream manufacturers, bakers, and laundrymen and others.

Another object of our invention is to provide an improved shipping-tag which remains attached to the shipping-receptacle for the goods and having a detachable coupon which is retained by the shipper and placed in the shipping-book as a record of the shipment and so remains until the receptacle so entered is returned to the consignor.

Our invention consists of a shipping-book whose pages are adapted to receive for temporary record the detachable coupons of a novel form of shipping-tag until the article of which it is a record is returned to the consignor.

Similar reference-numerals indicate like parts in the drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a leaf of our improved record, which may be either a bound or a loose-leaf record, showing the manner of numbering the places for entry and the manner of entering the detachable record-coupons, one corner of the leaf being broken away to show its construction for employing both faces of the leaf. Fig. 2 is an enlarged detail of our improved shipping-tag, showing the manner of placing shipping directions thereon and also showing the relative arrangement of the detachable record-coupon.

The leaves of our improved shipping-book are all exact duplicates of the one shown in Fig. 1, and consists of two duplicate paper sheets 1 and 2, firmly pasted or otherwise secured to the opposite sides of an intermediate sheet 3, preferably of muslin or other suitable fabric, whose inner edge is so extended, as shown at 4, to admit of its being properly secured in either a bound book or a loose-leaf book in a well-understood manner. The opposite edge of each leaf is divided in any desired number of duplicate blank spaces 5 of proper size and proportions, having a proper separating-space between them at both their ends and sides and provided at their opposite ends with the slots or openings 6, adapted to receive the retaining ends of the tag-coupons about to be described.

The blank spaces 5 are numbered consecutively in any proper manner, preferably beginning at the upper left-hand corner, as shown, the number for each space being placed directly above the same.

The shipping-tag used with our invention may be variously arranged, but is preferably constructed as shown in Fig. 2, and consists of a body portion 7, having a permanent stub 8 on one end thereof and a detachable coupon 9 upon its other end. The body 7 of this tag contains the address of the shipper and the address of the consignee, with the number of the case or other receptacle to which it is attached, and also contains the direction that the tag is not to be removed. The stub portion 8 has a reinforced perforation 10, by which it is secured in position in the usual manner, and contains the usual directions for shipment and the date of shipment, as shown in Fig. 2. The detachable coupon 9 is united to one end of the body portion 7 by a perforated connection, as shown at 11, Fig. 2, whereby it can readily be detached at pleasure, and is provided upon its opposite ends and midway of its sides with an extended lip or lug 12, adapted to snugly fit the slots or openings 6 for the purpose of retaining the coupon in position on the leaf, as shown in Fig. 1. This coupon also contains when in use the number of the receptacle to which the tag from which it has been detached is secured for the purpose of preserving a record of the shipment of the same and to identify it when returned, in the manner about to be described.

The manner of employing our invention is obvious and, briefly stated, is as follows:

When a case or receptacle containing an order of goods—such as ice-cream, bottled beer, bread, or laundried articles—is shipped to a customer, our shipping-tag, Fig. 2, is fastened thereto, as described, with the address of the consignee and the number which is given the receptacle placed upon both the tag-body 7 and the coupon 9. This coupon is now detached from the body of the shipping-tag and placed in position in the blank space 5 which corresponds to the number of the tag and coupon. For example, assuming that the case or receptacle is numbered "2," then both the shipping-tag and the coupon will also be numbered "2," and this coupon after detachment is placed for record in the space 5, which is numbered "2," as shown in Fig. 1. When the case numbered "2" is returned to the consignor, the shipping-tag is removed and checked up with the record-coupon No. 2, after which this coupon is detached from its place on the page and is either filed away or destroyed. Should the shipping-tag get lost before its return, the return of the receptacle itself numbered "2" will be checked up with the record-coupon, as before, so that the same receptacle need never be charged up twice to the same party. It is evident this method of keeping track of such receptacles is far more convenient and reliable than the present irregular method.

Our invention is capable of many other similar uses too numerous to mention and can readily be adapted for use in public and circulating libraries.

Obviously, both sides of each leaf of our invention are adapted for use in the same manner, since they are exactly alike, though, if desired, but one side of the leaf need be prepared to receive the record-coupons.

Having thus described our invention and the manner of employing the same, what we desire to secure by Letters Patent is—

1. A shipping-book having duplicate leaves secured to the opposite sides of an intermediate dividing-leaf, the outer face of each duplicate leaf being divided into a plurality of blank spaces provided with a proper separating-space between them at their opposite ends, the said separating-spaces being numbered as described, and the opposite ends of the said blank spaces being slotted to receive the retaining ends of a detachable shipping-tag coupon correspondingly numbered with the indicated space into which it is received and retained.

2. A shipping-book whose leaves are divided into a plurality of blank spaces, having a proper separating-space between them at their ends and sides, the said end spaces being numbered for the purpose specified, and the opposite ends of the said blank spaces being provided with slots adapted to receive the retaining ends of a detachable shipping-tag coupon correspondingly numbered with the indicated space into which it is received and retained.

Signed by us at Decatur, Adams county, State of Indiana, this 10th day of March, A. D. 1905.

JAMES W. PLACE.
HERMAN L. CONTER.

Witnesses:
JESSE C. SUTTON,
C. A. DUGAN.