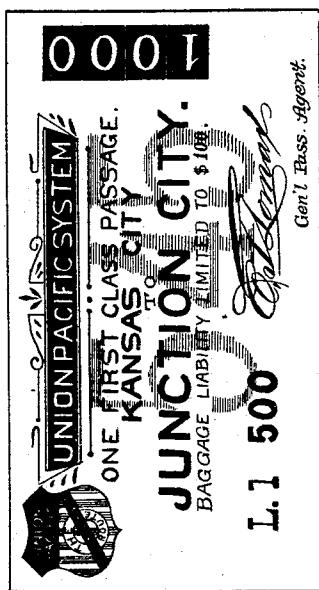


(No Model.)

E. L. LOMAX & B. B. ANDERSON.
RAILROAD TICKET.

No. 484,331.

Patented Oct. 11, 1892.



Witnesses:

John S. Maynard,
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

EDWARD L. LOMAX, OF OMAHA, NEBRASKA, AND BENJAMIN B. ANDERSON, OF CHICAGO, ILLINOIS, ASSIGNORS OF ONE-THIRD TO ALLEN I. BLANCHARD, OF CHICAGO, ILLINOIS.

RAILROAD-TICKET.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 484,331, dated October 11, 1892.

Application filed April 8, 1890. Serial No. 347,028. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that we, EDWARD L. LOMAX, residing at Omaha, Douglas county, Nebraska, and BENJAMIN B. ANDERSON, residing at Chicago, Cook county, Illinois, citizens of the United States, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Railroad-Tickets, of which the following is a specification.

As is well known, tickets are sold upon the various railroads of this country entitling the holder to ride from one city to another, and in case of local tickets, or tickets entitling the holder to travel from one station to any other short of the terminal of the road, frequent trouble is met with from the tickets falling into outside hands and being raised or having the destination erased and a new destination farther on inserted, thus enabling the holder to travel a greater distance than the amount paid for the ticket would entitle him to do.

The object of our invention is to provide means for preventing raising or alteration of these tickets, such means consisting in providing the tickets, in addition to the names of the stations, with secret ciphers corresponding to such names. These ciphers are printed or otherwise placed upon the ticket, and consist either of numbers or letters, as desired. These numbers or letters are preferably arbitrarily chosen without reference to the sequence of the stations and may be altered from time to time as it becomes necessary.

The drawing represents a plan view of a ticket provided with our improvement.

The ticket in the case supposed runs from Kansas City to Junction City, and, if printed in the ordinary form, the words "Junction City" might be erased and the name of a station more distant from Kansas City inserted in their place; but on this ticket we have printed, as shown, the number "500" near the bottom of the ticket and the number "545" in larger figures across the face thereof. These figures correspond to the stations, the small number "500" representing selling station (Kansas City) and larger number "545" Junction City, the destination. The figures

or letters being chosen irregularly, without reference to the sequence of the stations, any 50 may be used that are desired, and if at any time they become known to outside parties they may be changed and a different set substituted. In this way they form what we have termed a "cipher," which is perfectly intelligible to those acquainted with it; but being known merely to the officials of the road it will be impossible for the holder to alter the ticket, since, although he might erase the name of the destination and substitute the name of another station therefor, he would be unable to put upon the ticket the cipher corresponding to such station.

The figures or letters may be simply printed upon the ticket, as shown, or, if desired, and 65 in order to render it more difficult to alter the ticket, they may be indented or embossed in or upon the face of such ticket, since any way of accomplishing my object of providing a ticket with ciphers corresponding to the 70 starting and arriving stations will fall within our invention.

We claim—

1. A railroad-ticket provided with secret ciphers corresponding to the names of the stations between which it is valid, whereby any alteration of such ticket without detection is prevented, substantially as described.

2. A cipher-ticket provided with the names of the two stations between which it is valid 80 and also with two secret-cipher numbers, irregularly chosen and corresponding to the names of such stations, substantially as described.

3. A cipher-ticket provided with the names 85 of the stations between which it is valid and also with two secret ciphers corresponding to such names, the faces of the ciphers being in a different plane from the surface of the ticket, substantially as described.

EDWARD L. LOMAX.

BENJAMIN B. ANDERSON.

Witnesses:

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