

E. W. GERRISH.
SIGNAL LANTERN.

No. 185,440.

Patented Dec. 19, 1876.

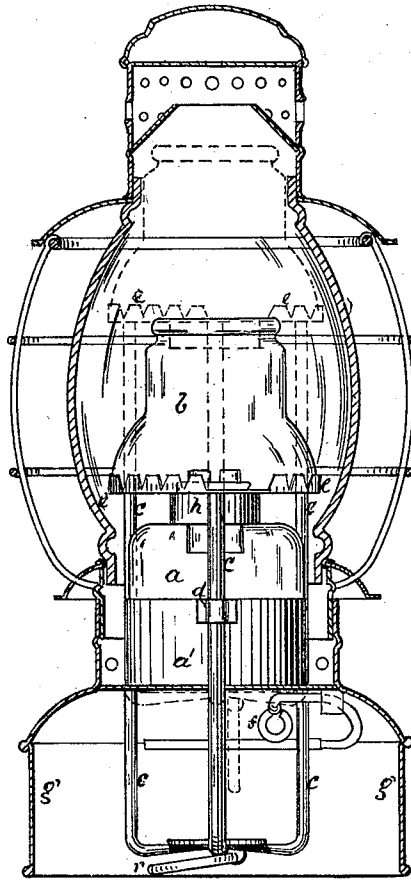


Fig. 1.

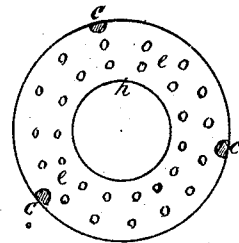


Fig. 3.

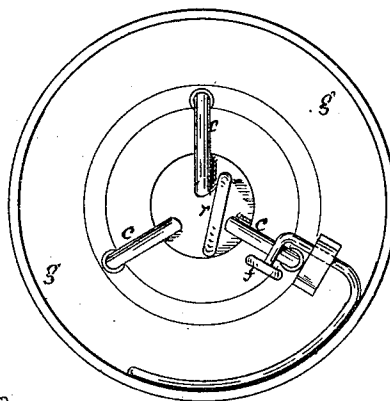


Fig. 2.

WITNESSES

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Att'y.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

EDWARD W. GERRISH, OF SALISBURY, MASSACHUSETTS.

IMPROVEMENT IN SIGNAL-LANTERNS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 185,440, dated December 19, 1876; application filed December 8, 1876.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, EDWARD W. GERRISH, of Salisbury, in the county of Essex and State of Massachusetts, have invented an Improved Signal-Lantern, of which the following is a specification:

My invention relates to an improvement in that class of signal-lanterns in which a colored chimney is made to slide up and down, so as to expose a plain light or cause a colored light to be shown; and the invention consists in so constructing and applying the devices for operating the colored chimney as to enable it to be readily adopted to a certain class of lanterns already made, and so that the operative mechanism may be easily manipulated.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 represents a vertical section of a lantern embodying my invention, and Fig. 2 is a bottom view of the same.

The lantern is of the kind commonly used on railroads and about railroad-stations. The base of the lantern *g* is made somewhat wider than usual, so as to protect the wires that operate the sliding colored chimney. *a* represents the lamp or oil reservoir, the lower portion *a'* being of metal. *b* represents a shade or chimney of colored glass. It is attached at the lower end to a perforated metal disk, *e*, (see Fig. 3,) which is provided with a collar, *h*, projecting downward, and fitting over the wick-tube holder, as shown in Fig. 1. To the under part of the perforated disk *e* are attached three rods or wires, *c*, which pass down in the space between the oil-reservoir *a'* and the casing of the lantern, and are united together at their lower ends. The wires *c* move in guides *d*, attached to the lower part *a'* of the oil-reservoir. To the lower connection of the wires *c* is attached a ring, *r*, by which they are drawn down. The wires *c* are held in an elevated position, when the colored glass *b* is raised to expose the plain light, by means of a spring-catch, *f*, as seen in Fig. 2. Fig. 1 shows the colored glass *b* as drawn down, with

the collar *h* fitting snugly around the wick-tube holder, by which means it is held firmly in position in connection with the guides *d*, through which the wires *c* pass.

When a plain light is required it is only necessary to press up the wires *c*, when the colored glass *b* will be raised clear of the light of the lantern, the wire being securely held by the spring-catch *f*. The central hole in the perforated disk *e* admits of a draft, which serves to give a steady light to the flame of the lamp.

When it is desirable to show a colored light it is only necessary, the lantern being held by the bail in one hand, to press the thumb of the other hand on the spring-catch *f*, and, with the forefinger in the ring *r*, draw down the wires *c* with the colored glass *b*.

The great advantage of my improvement is the facility with which it can be adapted to a ready-made lantern, and the ease and quickness in operating the colored glass, so that it can be readily changed from a plain to a colored light, and vice versa.

I am aware that a sliding colored shade has been used in connection with a lantern; this I do not claim; but

What I do claim, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

The combination, in a lantern, of the colored glass or chimney *b*, the perforated disk *e*, provided with the collar *h*, the oil-reservoir *a'*, the sliding wires or rods *c*, passing in guides *d* on the outside of the lamp, and the spring-catch *f*, together with the enlarged base *g*, all constructed, arranged, and operating substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

In testimony whereof I have signed my name to this specification in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

EDWARD W. GERRISH.

Witnesses:

J. H. ADAMS,

E. A. STOCK.