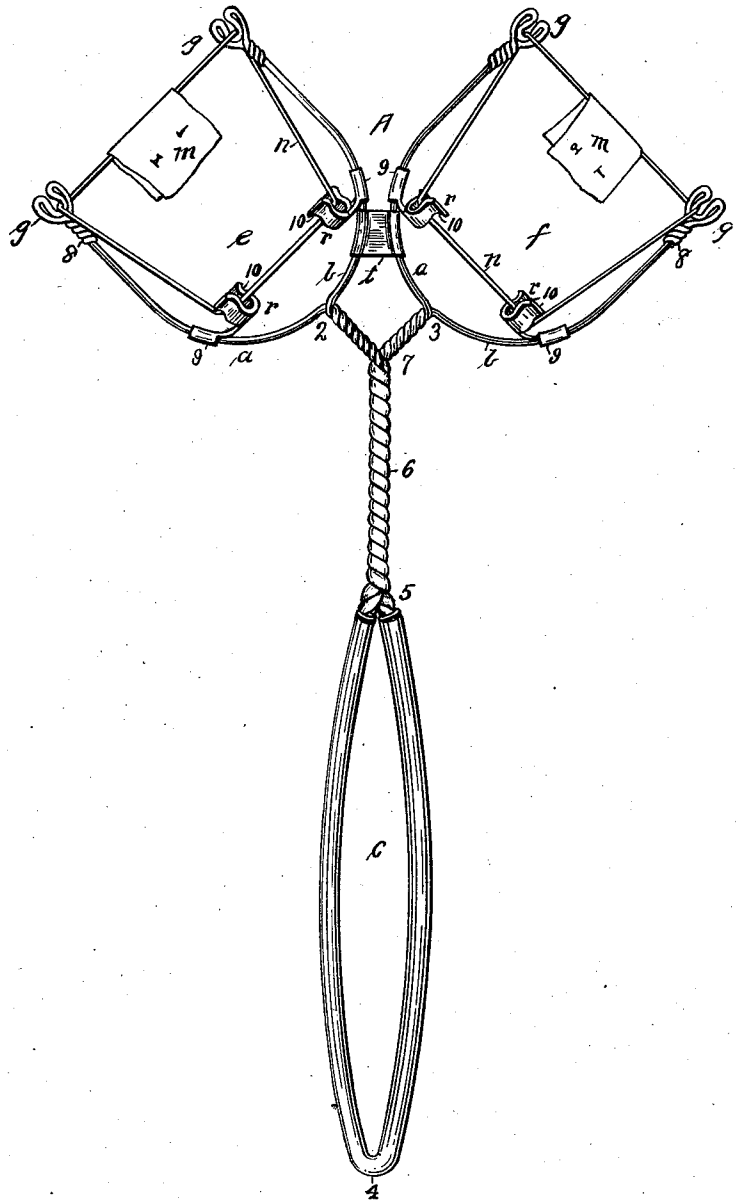
A. G. GODWIN.

DUPLICATE TRAIN ORDER DEVICE.

APPLICATION FILED MAY 15, 1911.

1,000,906. **Patented Aug. 15, 1911.**



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WITNESSES:

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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DUPLICATE-TRAIN-ORDER DEVICE.

1,000,906. Specification of Letters Patent. **Patented Aug. 15, 1911.**

Application filed May 15, 1911. Serial No. 627,351.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ALBERT G. GODWIN, a citizen of the United States, residing at West Terre Haute, in the county of Vigo and State of Indiana, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Duplicate-Train-Order Devices, of which the following is a full specification.

My invention relates to that class of devices, whereby means is provided for delivering train-orders from the station to the crew of a fast moving train; and the objects of the invention are; first, to provide means whereby paper or other light material bearing train-orders or messages, may be safely handed and delivered to the engineer and conductor of a fast moving train, the two orders being delivered by a single device and handled by but one hand of the messenger, leaving the other hand free to hold a lantern or other signal; second, to provide such a device, whereby the order may be delivered to the train crew and the device retained by the messenger; third, to provide such a device, which will be effective, durable, light in weight, convenient to use and economical in structure. These objects I attain by means of the mechanism illustrated in the accompanying drawings, in which the figure illustrates the device, holding duplicate train-orders ready for delivery.

Letters of reference refer to similar parts thoughout the drawings and specification, alike.

The frame A of the device consists of two elastic wires *a* and *b*, which are wound and attached together, in the following described manner; viz: The two wires *a* and *b* are wound or coiled together, between the points 2 and 3, said points being equidistant from the respective ends of said wires, and when so wound together, the doubled wires are bent at the middle point 4 and brought together at a common point 5, to form the handle *c;* at the common point 5, the doubled wires *a* and *b* are again wound upon each other, to form the four-strand stem 6, which extends to a point 7, or a convenient distance to give the desired length of handle for the device. At the point 7, the two-strand wires *a b*, separate and form a V-shaped angle with the point 7 as the apex; and at the points 2 and 3, respectively, the doubled wires *a* and *b* separate from each other, and the corresponding ends of the same are bent to form, between them, two semi-circular forks *e* and *f*, at either extremity of said wires, as shown.

The extreme ends of each wire *a* and *b*, are bent to form a Y-shaped, or fork-like retainer *g*, and the outer ends of each wire are coiled upon themselves at 8, below the forked retainers *g*, respectively, to bind and hold the said retainers in shape.

The two semi-circular forks *e* and *f* stand at diverging angles to each other, so that when the handle *c* is held horizontally, one fork, *e*, will stand directly above the other fork *f*, and in the same vertical plane, and at the same time leave the open sides of the forks *e* and *f* pointing forward.

A metallic tie-plate *t*, is placed between the arms of the two forks *e* and *f*, standing adjacent to each other, and the corresponding ends of the tie-plate are turned upon the wires forming said arms, respectively, thereby binding the two forks *e* and *f*, one to the other. The tie-plate *t* holds the two forks *e* and *f* apart and in proper position, relatively to each other.

Four metallic retainers *r*, are attached to the wires *a* and *b*, in the lower quarters of the semi-circular forks *e* and *f*, respectively; consisting each, of a plate of spring-metal, having two laterally projecting arms at one end, bent to form a ferrule 9, adapted to embrace the corresponding wire, *a* and *b;* and two laterally projecting arms 10, bent to oppose each other and form a clamp-like retainer *r*.

To insure durability, the ferrules 9 of the retainers *r* and the turned ends of the tie-plate *t*, are soldered to the wires to which they are attached.

A strong endless cord *n*, of proper length to hold it taut, is threaded through the resilient jaws of the retainers *r* and the fork-like arms of the retainers *g*, as shown. Duplicate train-orders *m*, are pinned, clamped or folded upon the cords *n*, respectively, upon the sides of the forks *e* and *f*, open or exposed. The portion of the united wires *a* and *b*, forming the handle *c*, is incased in strong rubber tubing, to protect the hands from the cold metal in freezing weather. Messages or train-orders, when so attached to the cords *n* and mounted in the open forks, present a prominent and plain target, for the hand of the trainman leaning from a fast moving train and is easily and surely

retrieved from the device by directing the hand under the plainly seen order and thereby passing the arm through the loop formed by the cord *n*, which is easily pulled from between the resilient jaws or arms of the retainers *r* and free from the open forks of the retainers *g*, upon the extremities of the wires *a* and *b;* thereby leaving the order and cord hanging upon the arm of the trainman.

By attaching the duplicate orders, in the manner described, within the duplicate forks *e* and *f*, both orders may be delivered to the passing train, one to the engineer and the other to the conductor, without withdrawing the device, or making any change therein.

The advantages claimed for my invention over other similar devices, used heretofore, are: First, the peculiar construction of the device, affords means of safely delivering train-orders, to the moving train, in duplicate, without the device itself being taken aboard and necessitating its return to the messenger and the many incidental annoyances; second, the peculiar construction of the device, as it is, of but two continuous wires, renders it economical, durable and simple and therefore immune from accidental damage, loss of parts, expensive construction repairs; third, the provision by means of the duplicate set of forks *e* and *f*, enables the messenger to deliver duplicate train-orders with one device and without withdrawing the same to attach the second order, and incidentally, leaving the other hand free to hold a lantern, wherewith to guide the trainman receiving the orders in the dark; and lastly, the accuracy, convenience and safety attained thereby, in delivering train-orders.

I am aware that various devices comprising some of the features of my invention, have been used heretofore and I do not claim such broadly; but—

What I do claim as new and useful, is:—

1. A duplicate device for delivering train-orders and the like, comprising a duplicate set of open forks mounted upon a common handle, and retainers formed at the various extremities of said forks, two spring-like retainers mounted in each of said retaining forks, an endless cord adapted to removably engage said retainers and to carry a message or train-order, all substantially as shown and for the purpose set forth.

2. In a duplicate device for delivering a plurality of messages or train-orders to a moving train, comprising a plurality of retaining forks, an endless cord removably attached within each of said retaining forks, means of removably attaching said cord within the retaining forks, a tie-plate mounted between and fastened to the adjacent arms of said retaining forks, a handle attached to the combined retaining forks, all substantially as shown and for the purpose set forth.

3. In a device for delivering a plurality of messages or train-orders, comprising a frame composed of two continuous wires, coiled or wound together and forming, a handle, two retaining forks attached to said handle and to each other, retainers formed at the extremities of each wire, means of removably attaching an endless cord within each retaining fork and a tie-plate mounted between and attached to said retaining forks, all substantially as shown and for the purpose set forth.

4. In a device for delivering train-orders and the like, comprising two semi-circular and open retaining-forks, said retaining-forks being fixed adjacent to each other and in a common plane, retainers upon the extremities of the arms of the retaining-forks, a plurality of spring-like retainers of the form shown and mounted within the retaining-forks, a tie-plate mounted between and attached to said retaining-forks, a handle formed by uniting the continuous wires of which the retaining-forks are composed and a rubber casing protecting said handle, all substantially as shown and for the purpose set forth.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing as my own, I have attached my signature hereunto, this 12th day of May 1911, in the presence of two witnesses.

ALBERT G. GODWIN.

Witnesses:
JOHN MCMINN,
GEO. M. DAVIS.