

(No Model.)

F. C. GELLENBECK.
MEAL CHECK.

No. 482,899.

Patented Sept. 20, 1892.

Fig. 1.

Wine List.	SOUP
_____	FISH

<i>A</i>	ROASTS <i>B</i>
_____	VEGETABLES

_____	DESSERT

	Meals \$1.00

Fig. 2.

<i>D</i>	
Cook's Check	
NO1	
<i>D</i>	
Guest's Check	
Meals \$1.00	
NO1	
<i>D</i>	
Waiters Check	
NO1 1-2-3-4-5-6	

Fig. 3.

Wine List	<i>E</i>	<i>F</i>	<i>G</i>
_____	SOUP		
_____	FISH		
<i>A</i>	ROASTS <i>B</i>		
_____	VEGETABLES		
_____	DESSERT		

	NO1	NO1	

Fig. 4.

	<i>F</i>
Guest's Check	
NO1	
Wine List	NO1
_____	SOUP
_____	FISH <i>B</i>
<i>A</i>	ROASTS
_____	VEGETABLES
_____	DESSERT

	Meals \$1.00

Witnesses

Wm. P. Chapman.
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

FRANK C. GELLENBECK, OF CHICAGO, ILLINOIS, ASSIGNOR, BY MESNE ASSIGNMENTS, TO CHARLES E. PADGETT AND CHARLES C. DENTON, OF SAME PLACE.

MEAL-CHECK.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 482,899, dated September 20, 1892.

Application filed August 27, 1891. Serial No. 403,884. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, FRANK C. GELLENBECK, a citizen of the United States, residing at Chicago, in the county of Cook and State of Illinois, have invented a certain new and useful Improvement in Meal-Checks, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact specification.

My invention relates to meal-checks and bills of fare, and has for its object to provide a combined meal-check and bill of fare or to associate a meal-check and bill of fare in such manner that when the check is detached or used the bill of fare is mutilated, so as to be of no further use.

My invention is illustrated in the accompanying drawings, wherein—

Figure 1 is a front view of the preferred form of my device. Fig. 2 is a back view of the same. Fig. 3 is a view of a modification. Fig. 4 is another view of a modification.

Like parts are indicated by the same letters in all the figures.

A is a wine-card, which of course may or may not be associated with the rest of the device, or may be printed somewhere upon the bill of fare or the back thereof.

B is the printed bill of fare in usual form.

C C are lines of perforation across the bill of fare or along it and designed to permit the easy detaching of the check or checks.

D D are checks, as indicated, printed upon the back of the bill of fare.

It will be quite evident that this construction or arrangement or combination or association of parts may be greatly changed without departing from the spirit of my invention.

In the modification shown, E is a check printed across the face of the bill of fare, and F a check detachably secured to the bill of fare.

One important feature of my invention is the association or combination of a bill of fare with one or more checks. Another important feature is the combination of such elements bearing each the same number. Another important feature is the association or combination of a check or checks in a bill of fare in such manner that the detaching of

the check destroys the usefulness of the bill of fare. I do not, therefore, wish to be limited to the specific construction shown or to the manner of arrangement or the materials employed.

The use and operation of my invention are as follows: I will explain the use and operation of my invention as applied to or used upon dining-cars, and its use and operation would of course be somewhat modified according to the conditions under which it was employed, and also by reason of any departure in construction from the form or arrangement here shown. These conditions will be easily comprehended. The bills of fare with the checks will be provided with a number, the same number being applied to a bill of fare and all of its associated checks. Bills of fare are then issued to the dining-car manager, and he must account for all the bills of fare sent to him. A check will be detached from the bill of fare at some portion of the meal, and if that is not done the guest will know that the company is being defrauded. If it is done, the company will know that a meal has been taken, and will thus have a complete check upon its employés, for either the bill of fare or the check or checks must be returned to the company, and if the bill of fare is returned with the check or checks detached it will signify that a meal has been taken. In other words, by the use of this system the company can be defrauded only by collusion between the guest and the employé, and such collusion can easily be detected by the detectives who watch the car.

If the device is arranged as proposed in Figs. 1 and 2, the first or kitchen check will be detached at the first part of the meal, as indicated on its face, and the other checks later on. When so detached, they will destroy the bill of fare, so that the same bill of fare cannot be used with another guest. In other words, each guest will insist upon an uncut bill of fare unless he is in collusion with the employés, and this he can only have by the use of a bill of fare not previously employed by any other guest. With the three checks shown in my device there must be col-

lusion between the waiter, the cook, the manager, and the guest in order that any fraud can be perpetrated.

I claim—

- 5 1. The combination, with a menu-card, of two or more checks detachably secured thereto, two of said checks being designated, respectively, as "guest's check" and as "cook's check," so as to make the remainder incomplete as a bill of fare, and hence useless for
10 another guest.

2. The combination of a menu-card having a bill of fare on its face, with a check or checks upon the reverse side thereof, and placed so that when removed the bill of fare 15 will be mutilated, so as to make the remainder incomplete as a bill of fare, and hence useless for another guest.

FRANK C. GELLENBECK.

In presence of—

FRANCES W. PARKER,
CELESTE P. CHAPMAN.