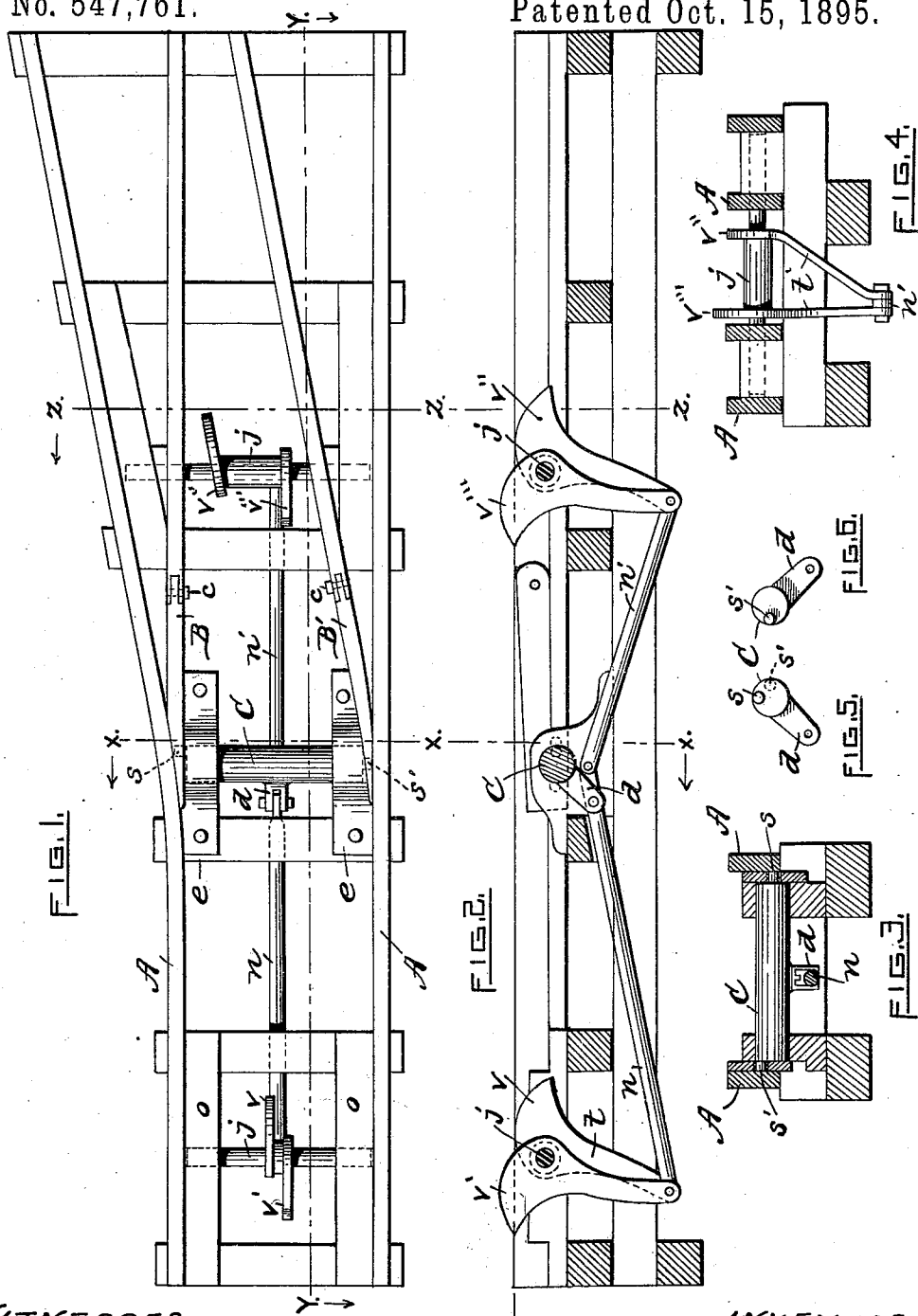


(No Model.)

I. W. BLISS.
STREET RAILWAY SWITCH.

No. 547,761.

Patented Oct. 15, 1895.



WITNESSES.

Charles Hammigan.
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

IRVING W. BLISS, OF WARREN, RHODE ISLAND.

STREET-RAILWAY SWITCH.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 547,761, dated October 15, 1895.

Application filed October 5, 1894. Serial No. 524,995. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, IRVING W. BLISS, of Warren, in the county of Bristol and State of Rhode Island, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Street-Railway Switches; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description thereof, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and to the letters of reference marked thereon, which form a part of this specification.

This invention relates to that class of street-railway switches called "automatic"—that is, adapted to be operated by devices attached to the car, though those devices are under the control of the person running the car as to the way in which the switch shall be moved. It is fully explained and illustrated in this specification and the accompanying drawings. Figure 1 is a top view of a portion of a railway-track, sufficient to show all that pertains to the invention. Fig. 2 shows a vertical section taken lengthwise of the track on line *y y* in Fig. 1, looking at the farther side of the section. Fig. 3 shows a vertical cross-section of the railway-track, taken on line *x x*, Fig. 1, representing the devices for raising and lowering the switch-tongues. Fig. 4 is another vertical cross-section of the track, taken on lines *z z*, showing those devices that are moved by contact with the car in operating the switch. Figs. 5 and 6 are end views of the switch-operating roller.

One feature of this invention is that the switch-tongues are raised and lowered in operating, instead of being moved sidewise, as they are in most cases.

The switch-tongues *B B'* are made in the ordinary shape, only instead of being pivoted at their fixed ends *c c*, so as to swing laterally, they are held in horizontal pivots or hinges, so that their free ends will move vertically from a position in which their tops are level with the permanent rails *A A* down, so as to be out of the way of the flange of a car-wheel. To give the required vertical motion to the switch-tongues *B B'*, a stout roller or shaft *C* is placed across the rails *A*, a little below them, in substantial bearings *e e*, supported on the sleepers. Strong pins *s s'* project out of each end of the roller *C*, outside of its center, into slots in the tongues,

the pin in one end being placed about quartering to the pin in the other end, so that when the roller is turned so that one pin is up the other pin will be about one-quarter the way down. These pins *s s'* support the free ends of the switch-tongues *B B'*, and it will be readily seen that when one switch-tongue is up the other one will be down. This roller *C* has an arm *d* on its under side, connected by the bars *n n'* to the devices operated by the car to change the switch. These devices consist on the left side in the drawings of a rocker-shaft *j*, held in bearings *o o* between the rails *A*, provided with a downwardly-projecting arm *t*, connected by a rod *n* to the arm *d* on the roller *C*.

On the upper side of the shaft *j* are two wings *v v'*, placed nearly quartering to each other, so that when one wing is up the other will be down level with the track. A like shaft *j* is placed on the right of the switch, with similar wings *v'' v'''* and arm *t'*, which is connected by a rod *n'* to the arm *d* on the roller *C*. The wings *v* are arranged to be struck by a changeable device on the car under the control of the driver. This device on the car may be made to shift sidewise or vertically, as may be desired, to direct which wing *v* shall be pressed down and which track the car shall take. If the car is proceeding from left to right and it is desired to keep the straight track, the changing device on the car is arranged to strike the wing *v* and turn the shaft *j* and by means of the rod *n* and arm *d* turn the roller *C* and cause the pin *s* to raise the switch-tongue *B*, the pin *s'* turning slightly past the center, and at the same time cause the pin *s'* to pull down the switch-tongue *B'* out of the way and the car will continue on the straight track. If the next car going in the same direction is intended to turn off on the side track, its switch-operating device is set to strike the wing *v'*, which has been raised by the depression of the wing *v*, and turn the shafts *j* and *C* back, so as to raise the switch-tongue *B'* and lower the tongue *B*, by their respective pins and cause the car to turn off of the direct track onto the side track. The position of the wings can be easily seen by the driver of the car as it approaches the switch and the proper direction given to the changing

device on the car. This makes a very simple switch-operating device that holds the switch-tongues up securely against any load passing over them, because the pins *s*, when they raise one of the tongues, pass a little by the center of the roller, and no amount of pressure on the tongue will turn it back to let it down.

Having thus described my improvements,
10 I claim as my invention and desire to secure by Letters Patent—

1. In a railway switch the combination of a roller having a pin in each end set on different sides of the center of the roller, single
15 switch tongues hinged at one end so that their free ends can be raised and lowered, and having their free ends held on said pins in slots in said tongues of proper length to lock

said pins when the tongues are raised, with means for operating said roller by an attachment on a car, substantially as described.

2. In a railway switch, the combination of a roller having a pin in each end set on different sides of the center of the roller, switch tongues hinged at one end so that the free ends can be raised and lowered, and having their free ends held on said pins, a cross shaft having wings set at an angle to each other on its upper side and connected by a rod extending from a downwardly extending arm
3 on said shaft to a like arm on said roller, substantially as described.

IRVING W. BLISS.

Witnesses:

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