

N. B. LYMAN.

Improvement in Ticket Boxes for Railroad Conductors.

No. 124,839.

Patented March 19, 1872.

Figure 1.

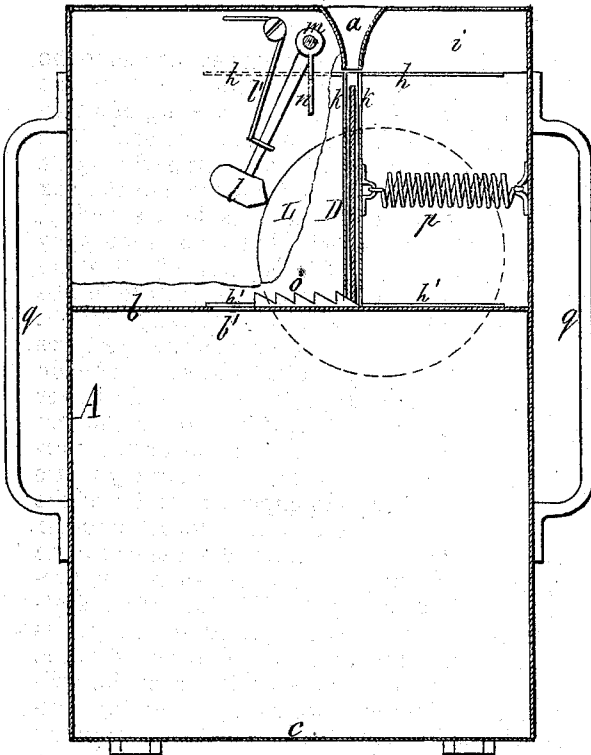


Figure 2.

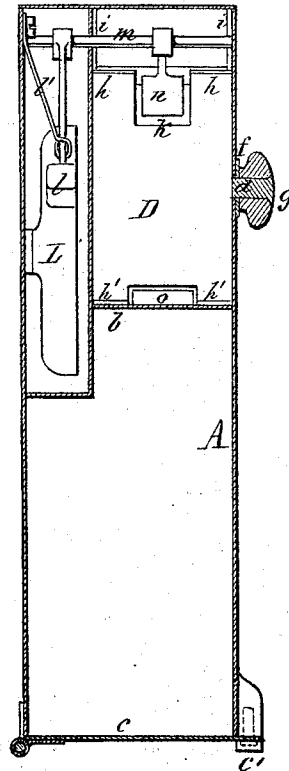
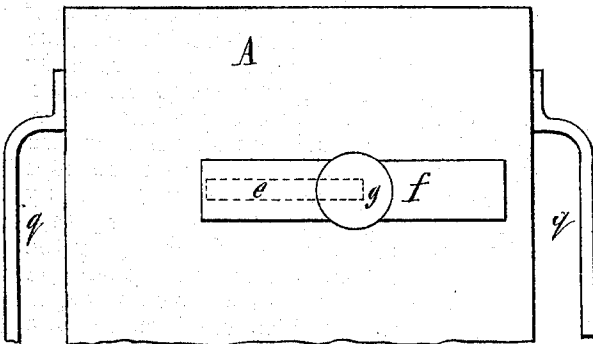


Figure 3.



Inventor
Nathan B. Lyman

Witnesses
Stewart Allen
George L. Elder

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

NATHAN B. LYMAN, OF BUFFALO, NEW YORK.

IMPROVEMENT IN TICKET-BOXES FOR RAILROAD CONDUCTORS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 124,839, dated March 19, 1872.

SPECIFICATION.

I, NATHAN B. LYMAN, of the city of Buffalo, in the county of Erie and State of New York, have invented certain Improvements in Ticket-Boxes for Railroad Conductors, of which the following is a specification:

My invention relates to a box or receptacle, which is attached to the person of a conductor or carried by him, for the purpose of depositing therein the tickets or checks representing the fares of the passengers, and with which is combined an alarm device, which can only be operated upon depositing a ticket in the box, whereby the conductor is compelled to perform his duty and a fraudulent appropriation of the fares by him is prevented. My invention consists, first, in the combination, with a closed ticket-box, provided with an aperture for inserting the tickets and a suitable alarm device, of a movable ticket-receptacle, in which the ticket is received before it is finally deposited, so constructed that an exposed portion of the ticket will operate the alarm device, as hereinafter more fully described; second, in the combination, with the movable ticket-receptacle and short arm of the bell-hammer of an opening or notch, arranged in the ticket-compartment so as to expose a portion of the ticket, for the purpose of operating the bell-hammer, as hereinafter fully set forth; third, in the combination, with the sliding ticket-receptacle and the horizontal partition of the ticket-box, of a ratchet-bar, arranged so as to prevent any retrograde movement of the ticket-receptacle sufficient to ring the bell while the ticket is contained in the receptacle.

In the accompanying drawing, Figure 1 is a sectional elevation of a ticket-box provided with my improvements. Fig. 2 is a sectional elevation at right angles to Fig. 1. Fig. 3 is a fragmentary elevation representing the upper portion of the ticket-box.

Like letters of reference refer to like parts in each of the figures.

A is the ticket-box, and *a* the aperture formed in the top thereof for inserting the tickets. *b* is the horizontal partition dividing the ticket-box into two compartments, and *b'* the aperture in the partition *b* through which the tickets are dropped into the lower compartment. The ticket-box is provided with a hinged bottom or door, *c*, locked by a seal-rivet, *c'*, or in any

other suitable manner to prevent access to the interior by unauthorized persons. D is the movable ticket-receptacle, consisting of a narrow box, open at the top and bottom. It is provided with a shank, *d*, passing through a horizontal slot, *e*, in the front plate of the box A, and carrying on the outside a shield, *f*, covering the slot *e* and a handle or knob, *g*, by which the receptacle D is operated. *h h'* are plates attached to the top and bottom of the ticket-receptacle D so as to properly guide it in its movements and to obstruct the apertures *a* and *b'* when the receptacle does not coincide with them. The upper plates *h* slide under the plates *i*, while the lower plates *h'* slide on the partition *b*. *k* is an opening or notch arranged in the receptacle D, preferably in its upper portion, so as to expose a portion of the ticket contained therein. L is the bell or other suitable alarm device attached to the rear plate of the box A, and *l* the bell-hammer, provided with a spring, *U*. The hammer *l* is attached to a shaft, *m*, supported in the plates of the box. *n* is an arm, also attached to the shaft *m* so as to form the short arm of the bell-hammer. Its end, which is preferably flattened, reaches down to a horizontal line through the opening *k* of the ticket-receptacle, as clearly shown in the drawing, sufficient clearance being allowed on all sides to prevent the ticket-receptacle from coming in contact with the arm *n*. *o* is a bar provided with ratchets, and arranged on the partition *b* in the direction of the movement of the ticket-receptacle D, the latter being notched so as to pass over the bar *o*. *p* is a spiral spring attached to the ticket-receptacle, and connected to the box A so as to return the receptacle to its former position when forced out of the same. *q* are the loops through which passes the strap or belt by which the ticket-box is attached to the person of the conductor. Instead of employing the knob *g* and concomitant parts for operating the ticket-receptacle, a hand-lever, arranged on the outside of the box, and attached to a shaft, which carries a cam or eccentric connecting with the ticket-receptacle, may be used.

The operation of my improved ticket-box is as follows: Upon inserting a ticket in the receptacle D through the aperture *a* and moving the receptacle toward the aperture *b'*, in order to deposit the ticket in the lower compart-

ment, the portion of the ticket exposed in the opening *k* comes in contact with the arm *n* and moves the same so as to raise the bell-hammer *l*. When the ticket-receptacle reaches the aperture *b'* the ticket has passed under the arm *n*, which, being liberated, the spring *v* returns the striking mechanism to its former position, ringing the bell *L*, while the ticket is dropped through the aperture *b'* into the lower compartment. When the alarm has been sounded the ticket-receptacle is released, and returned to its position under the aperture *a*, by the spring *p*. The ratchet-bar *o* prevents the receptacle *D* from moving backward sufficiently to ring the bell while the ticket is contained therein, thus preventing ringing of the bell by a partial movement of the receptacle *D* without depositing the ticket in the lower compartment. When no ticket is inserted in the receptacle *D* the latter moves freely without operating the bell *L*. If very substantial tickets are used the opening *k* of the ticket-receptacle may be dispensed with and a projecting portion of the ticket may be made to operate the bell-hammer. For comparatively

thin tickets the opening *k* is preferable, as the exposed portion of the ticket is supported on three sides, whereby bending or tearing of the ticket is prevented.

I claim as my invention—

1. The combination, with a closed ticket-box provided with an aperture, *a*, of a movable ticket-receptacle and an alarm device, so arranged that an exposed portion of the ticket contained in the receptacle will operate the alarm device, substantially as hereinbefore set forth.

2. The movable ticket-receptacle *D*, having the opening *k*, in combination with the arm *n* of the bell-hammer, substantially as and for the purpose hereinbefore set forth.

3. The combination of the ratchet-bar *o* with the partition *b* of the ticket-box, and the ticket-receptacle *D*, provided with a notch for passing over said ratchet-bar, substantially as and for the purpose hereinbefore set forth.

NATHAN B. LYMAN.

Witnesses:

GEORGE G. ELDER,
STEWART ELDER.