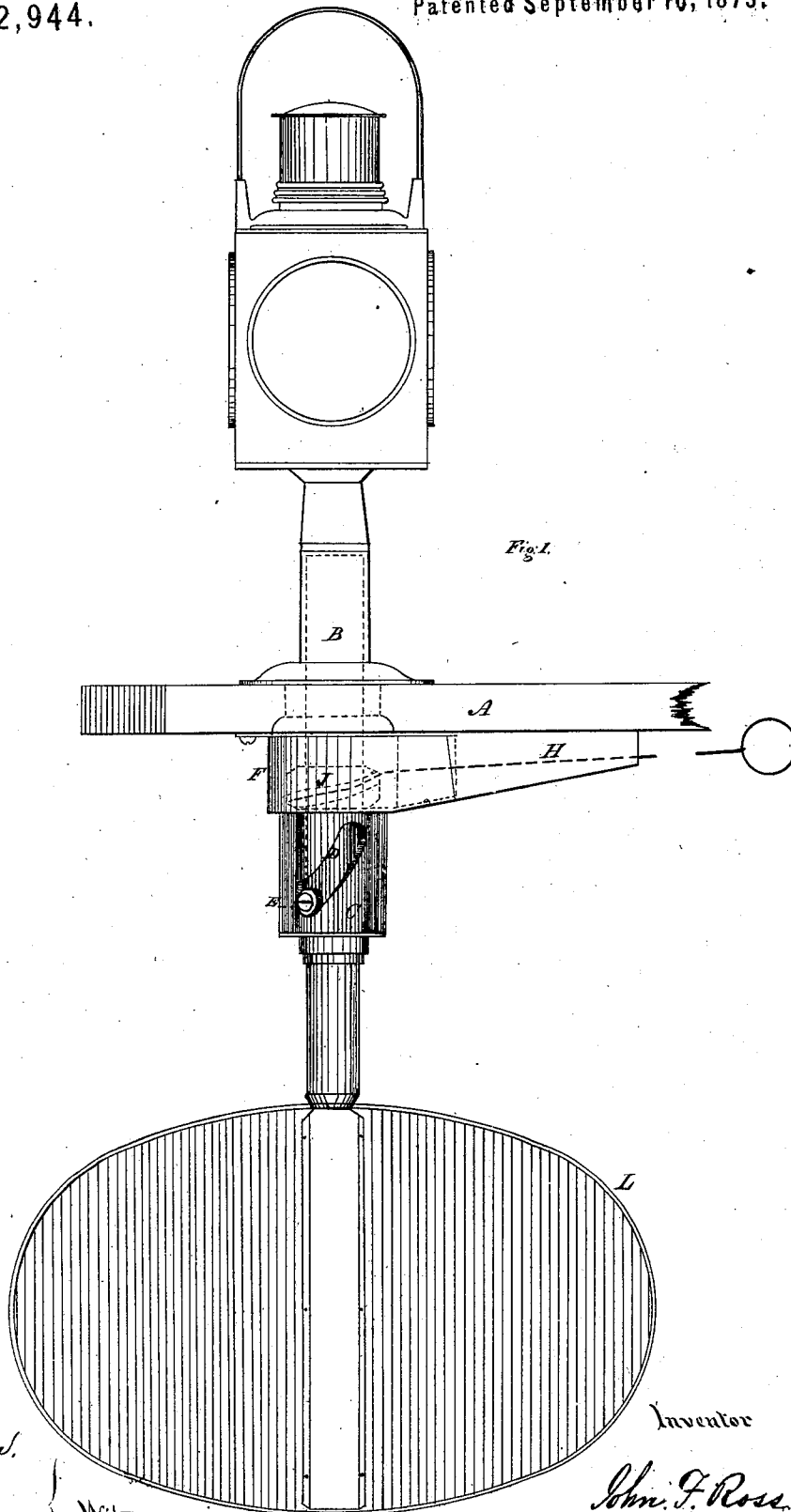


J. F. ROSS
Railway Signals.

Patented September 16, 1873.

No. 142,944.



M. Bruce.

Wm. B. Adams } Witnesses

Inventor

John F. Ross.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOHN F. ROSS, OF HAMILTON, CANADA.

IMPROVEMENT IN RAILWAY-SIGNALS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **142,944**, dated September 16, 1873; application filed May 6, 1872.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOHN FORSTER ROSS, of the city of Hamilton, in the county of Wentworth, in the Province of Ontario, Canada, have invented a certain Improvement in Railway-Signals, of which the following is a specification:

The object of the invention is to render the working of railway-signals more simple and effectual than any heretofore used.

Reference being had to the annexed drawings, it will be seen that Figure 1 is a view of a railway-signal, which consists of a platform, A, to which is secured a metal box, F, and tube C. Passing through the said tube is a shaft, B, for holding the signal-disk L at the bottom, and pivoting a lantern, containing red and green glass, on its upper extremity. On the lower side of the tube C is cut a spiral-shaped slot, D, as shown, and secured to the upright shaft B is a small friction-roller, E, on a pin or button projecting from the shaft, which works in the said spiral slot D, as will be more fully explained hereafter. The shaft B has a stationary grooved pulley, J, attached to it inside of the box F. A chain or cord, H, is secured to the shaft B, winding around the grooved pulley. The opposite end of the chain or cord is conducted to the inside of an office and secured.

When the signal-disk L requires to be shown, the cord or chain is released, and the shaft containing the signal disk and lamp is carried downward by the weight of the disk and lamp, or either of them, if used alone, and turned by the friction-roller E on the shaft running in the groove or slot D, as shown. When the signal is not in use, the cord H is drawn and secured in an office. The signal-disk then only presents a thin edge to the track.

The advantages of my device are, first, its extreme simplicity; second, all weights, springs, and other clumsy gearing now in use are avoided, and the signals worked by the simplest mechanical contrivance; third, on account of its simplicity, there is no possibility of anything getting out of order; fourth, it is adapted to switches, lamps, semaphores, and all kinds of signals.

I claim—

The combination of the platform A, box F, tube C, having the spiral slot D, and shaft B, having a pin or button bearing the roller E, with lamp and disk, or either of them, of sufficient weight to carry down said shaft, as and for the purpose specified.

JOHN FORSTER ROSS.

Signed in the presence of—

W. BRUCE,

WM. B. ADAMS.