

J. E. SULLIVAN.

BAGGAGE-CHECK.

No. 176,493.

Patented April 25, 1876.

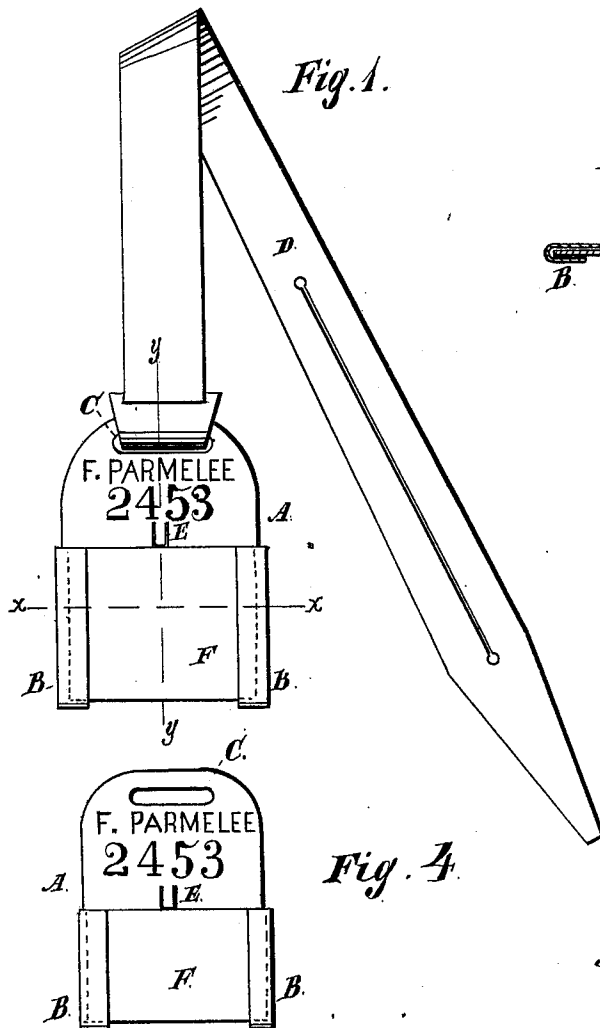


Fig. 2.

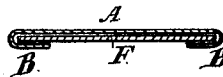


Fig. 3.

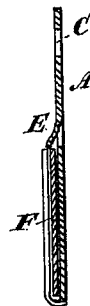


Fig. 4.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

JEREMIAH E. SULLIVAN, OF CHICAGO, ILLINOIS, ASSIGNOR TO FRANKLIN PARMELEE, OF SAME PLACE.

IMPROVEMENT IN BAGGAGE-CHECKS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **176,493**, dated April 25, 1876; application filed December 14, 1875.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JEREMIAH E. SULLIVAN, of Chicago, in the county of Cook and State of Illinois, have invented a Transfer Baggage-Check, of which the following is a specification, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, which form a part hereof.

It is the practice in most of large cities for individuals or companies to make a business of carrying passengers and their baggage from railway-depots to the hotels, and vice versa, as well as from one depot to another. The agent of these transfer-companies usually boards the train before it gets to its destination, and sells transfer-tickets to the passengers, takes up their railway baggage-checks, and gives them a transfer baggage-check in return. This exchange of checks relieves the passenger from waiting at the depot for baggage to be unloaded so that he can claim his own, and enables him to go to his hotel or other destination, where the baggage will be delivered by the transfer-company. It is necessary for the transfer-company to know the destination of each particular passenger, and mark it upon the check for his baggage, and also upon the check given to the passenger, by which he may reclaim his baggage.

My invention consists in a check, which is used by these transfer-companies, made of sheet metal, provided with an opening suitable to be attached to an ordinary baggage-strap, having turned-over edges, and a projecting shoulder for holding a tablet in such a manner that a tablet will stay in place in all ordinary usage of the check, but can be removed and replaced by springing it over the projecting shoulder, as will be hereinafter fully described.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 represents a front elevation of one of my checks, with the leather strap for attaching it to the trunk-handle; Fig. 2, a transverse sectional view taken at the line *xx*, Fig. 1; Fig. 3, a longitudinal sectional view taken at the line *yy*, Fig. 1; and Fig. 4 is a front elevation of a duplicate check of the one shown in Fig. 1.

A represents a sheet-metal check, with edges turned over at B, and with the slit C to receive the leather strap D. E is a shoulder or projection, made by striking the piece out from the body of the check. F is a tablet cut out with such dimensions as to fit in between the turned-over edges B, and is held in place by the projecting shoulder E.

I make this tablet from what is known as an erasive tablet, so that whatever letters or figures are made upon it, as hereinafter specified, can be washed off, and the same tablet used more than once.

The agent who boards the train carries a number of these checks, always having two with the same numbers upon them, which I term duplicates, like the two shown in the drawing. If a passenger desires to go to a hotel he writes the name of the hotel upon the tablet F on each check, and gives the one represented in Fig. 4 to the passenger, and keeps the other to attach to the trunk, as he receives it from the railway officials.

This check is a guide to the driver who delivers the baggage, as it tells him which hotel to deliver it at. The driver may deliver it to the passenger and receive a duplicate check, having a corresponding number 2,453, or, as is more usually done, he delivers it to the hotel proprietor, taking a receipt therefor, and the proprietor receives the duplicate check when he delivers the baggage to the guest, and places it upon the strap of the check, which he removes from the trunk, and afterward delivers them up to the transportation company. The company collect their checks from the hotels each day, and prepare them for reuse by erasing the writing from the tablets, or by inserting new tablets. The old tablets are removed by springing the upper edge at its center over the shoulder E, and sliding the tablet up from behind their turned-over edges B. This shoulder E projects so as to hold the tablet in place in all ordinary usage, but admits of its being removed, as above described. The lower ends of the turned-over edges B are bent down as shown at H H, so that the tablet will rest upon them and be held in place.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

A device for use in transferring baggage, consisting of duplicate metallic checks A, bearing the same numbers, in combination with erasive tablets F, which are held in place

on the checks A by means of the turned-over edges B and shoulder E, substantially as and for the purposes set forth.

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