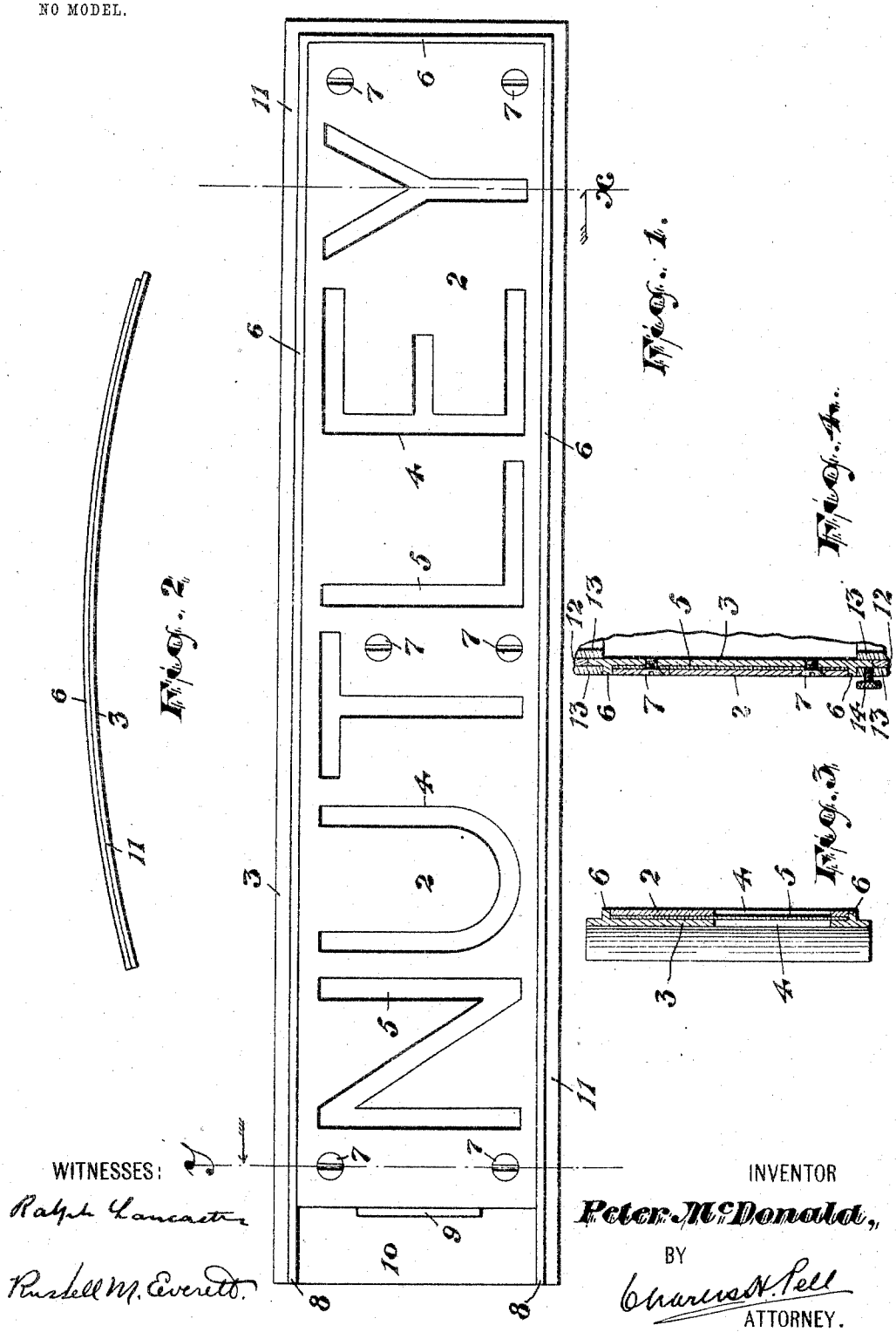
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P. McDONALD.

TROLLEY CAR SIGN.

APPLICATION FILED MAR. 29, 1904.

NO MODEL.



WITNESSES:

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No. 777,482. Patented December 13, 1904.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

PETER McDONALD, OF HARRISON, NEW JERSEY.

TROLLEY-CAR SIGN.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 777,482, dated December 13, 1904.

Application filed March 29, 1904. Serial No. 200,542. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, PETER McDONALD, a citizen of the United States, residing at Harrison, in the county of Hudson and State of New Jersey, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Trolley-Car Signs; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and to numerals of reference marked thereon, which form a part of this specification.

This invention relates to that class of trolley-car signs in which an electric light or lights are placed in a recess at the front or dasher of the car and then different transparent signs slid into place across the front of said recess, so that the letters show against the light.

The objects of the present improvements are to cheapen the construction, to hold the central transparent sheet of the signs more firmly, to hold said sheet removably, so that it can be replaced by a new sheet, to thus enable the body portion of the sign to be used over again, and to obtain other advantages and results, some of which may be hereinafter referred to in connection with the description of the working parts.

The invention consists in the improved trolley-car sign and in the arrangements and combinations of parts of the same, all substantially as will be hereinafter set forth, and finally embraced in the clauses of the claim.

Referring to the accompanying drawings, in which like numerals of reference indicate corresponding parts in each of the several figures, Figure 1 is a front elevation of my improved sign detached from its slideway, and Fig. 2 is an edge view of the same. Fig. 3 is a section upon line x, Fig. 1, looking in the direction indicated by the arrow; and Fig. 4 is a section as upon line y, Fig. 1, and also showing the slideway in its relation to the sign proper.

In said drawings, 2 and 3 indicate, respectively, the front and back pieces of my improved sign, each of which is a thin cast-iron plate having formed or cut therein any desired letters, as at 4. The letters of one plate coincide with those of the other, and between said plates is arranged a sheet 5 of celluloid or other transparent or semitransparent material. Both plates are curved longitudinally in coincidence with the transverse curvature of the front or dasher of the car, and the back piece 3 has at its front side a rib or flange 6, extending around three sides of the same about a quarter of an inch, more or less, in from the edge and within which flange the sheet 5 of celluloid and front plate 2 are adapted to lie, the latter being flush at its front side with the edge of said flange. Screws 7 are then passed through the front plate 2 and transparent sheet 5 into the back plate 3 to hold the whole together. At the outer end of the sign or end by which the same is inserted the said rib or flange 6 does not extend across the back piece 3, as at the other end, but terminates at the edge of the plate, as at 8. A stop 9 is cast upon the plate for the end of the front piece 2, said stop being placed sufficiently far from the end of the back plate to allow for a handhold, as at 10, in inserting and removing the sign.

The rim or margin 11 of the back piece 3, which projects outside the rib or flange 6, serves as a tongue to support the sign proper in its slideway in the car front or dasher, the edges 12 of said dasher around the opening for the sign being provided on opposite sides with strips 13 13, which project beyond the said edges to lie on opposite sides of the tongue 11, all as illustrated in Fig. 4. A set-screw 14, working through one of said overlapping strips 13 against the tongue 11 of the sign, may be employed to hold said sign in place and prevent longitudinal movement.

By my improved construction when the celluloid sheet needs renewal it is a simple matter to remove the screws 7 and separate the front and back pieces 2 3, so that the sheet 5 is exposed and free. The rest of the parts can thus be used over and over again, and a great saving of material, labor, and expense is effected.

Having thus described the invention, what I claim as new is—

1. In a sign, a back plate forming at its edges a tongue or slide, a front plate smaller than said back plate to expose said tongue or

slide, said plates having apertures adapted to be brought into coincidence, a middle plate adapted to permit the passage of light through itself, and means for holding said plates removably together.

2. In a sign, an apertured back plate forming at its edges a tongue or slide and having in from said edges a lateral rib or flange, a front plate adapted to fit within said rib or flange and having apertures coinciding with those of the back plate, a middle plate adapted to permit passage of light through itself, and means for holding said plates removably together.

3. In a sign, correspondingly-apertured front and back plates one of which provides a lateral recess forming a seat for a middle plate, said middle plate arranged in said recess between the front and back plates and adapted to permit the passage of light through itself, and clamping-screws binding all three of said plates together to form a single sign while permitting their ready separation for repairs or renewal of the middle plate.

4. In a sign, correspondingly-apertured front and back plates one of which provides a lateral recess forming a seat for the other, a middle plate arranged in said recess between the front and back plates and adapted to permit the passage of light through itself, and clamping-screws binding all three of said plates together to form a single sign while permitting their ready separation for repairs or renewal of the middle plate.

5. In a sign, a plate having at one side a marginal rib, a middle plate adapted to permit the passage of light through itself arranged at its edges within said rib, a second plate arranged at the opposite side of said middle plate from the first plate, said first and second plates having coinciding apertures, and clamping-bolts binding all three of said plates together to form a single sign while permitting their ready separation for repairs or renewal of the middle plate.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing I have hereunto set my hand this 10th day of March, 1904.

PETER McDONALD.

Witnesses:
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