

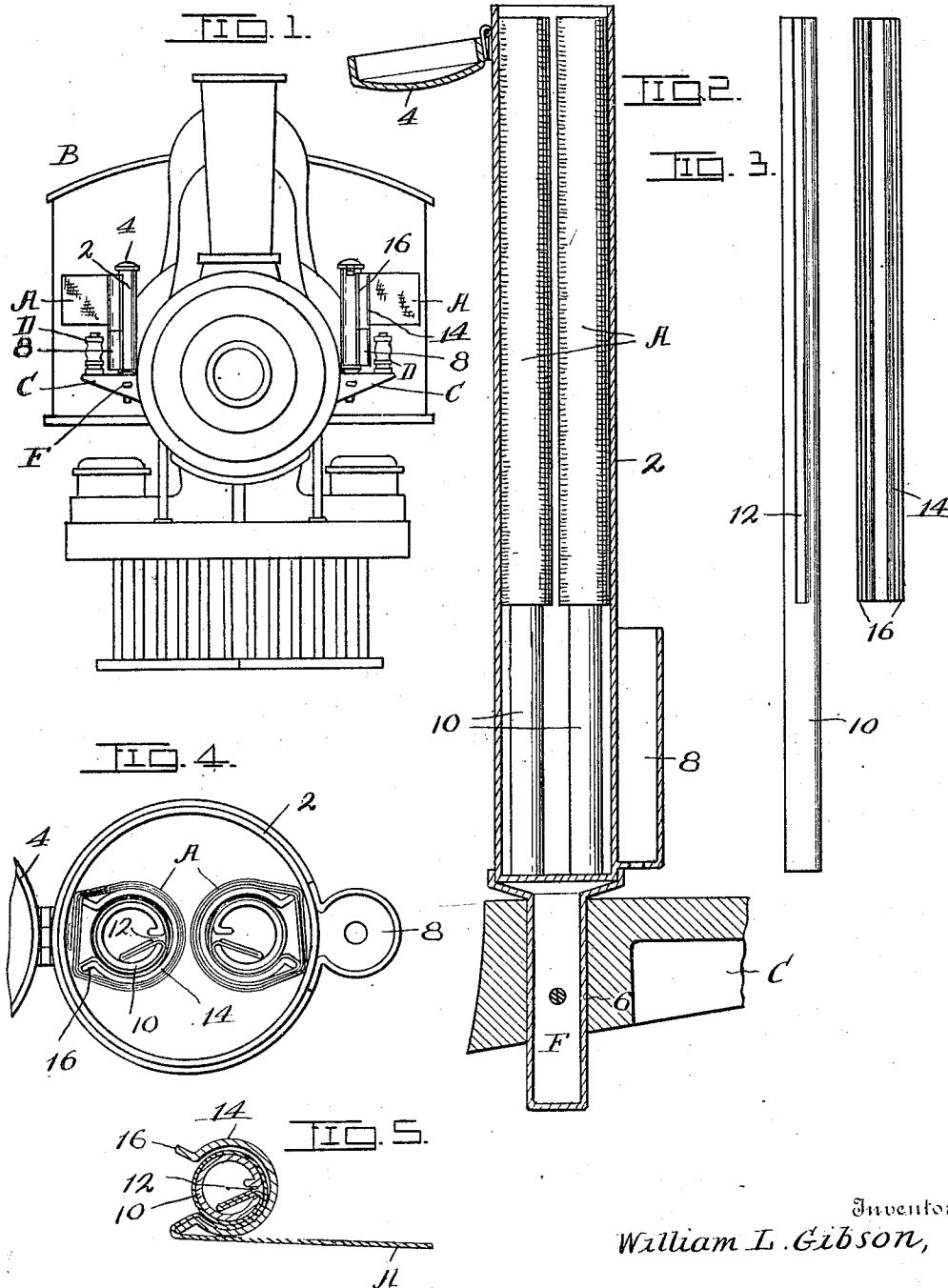
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W. L. GIBSON

LOCOMOTIVE FLAGSTAFF AND CONTAINER

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Inventor
William L. Gibson,

By *F. G. Fischer,*

Attorney

Witness:
Fred C. Fischer.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLIAM L. GIBSON, OF TRENTON, MISSOURI.

LOCOMOTIVE FLAGSTAFF AND CONTAINER.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM L. GIBSON, a citizen of the United States, residing at Trenton, in the county of Grundy and State of Missouri, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Locomotive Flag-staffs and Containers, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to flag staffs and containers therefor, for use more particularly in classifying railway trains, and one object is to provide a flag staff to which a signal flag may be readily attached for use, or detached so that it may be laundered or replaced by another when worn out.

A further object is to provide a container in which one or more staffs and the flags may be kept from becoming soiled or damaged when not in use, and which constitutes a support for one of the flag staffs when the attached flag is displayed as a signal.

Each container is preferably supplied with a green flag and a white flag, the former being displayed on a regular train followed by a section, and the latter on an extra train, for the purpose of classifying or indicating the character of said trains.

In order that the invention may be fully understood, reference will now be had to the accompanying drawing, in which:

Fig. 1 is a front elevation of a locomotive equipped with the devices and holding two flags in display position.

Fig. 2 is a vertical sectional view of one of the containers with two flags and their staffs within, the container being supported by a bracket shown in section.

Fig. 3 is a detail elevation of one of the flag staffs and its clamp for securing a flag to said staff.

Fig. 4 is an enlarged view of the parts disclosed by Fig. 2, with the lid partly broken away.

Fig. 5 is a cross section of one of the flag staffs and its clamp holding one end of a flag.

Referring now in detail to the various parts, 2 designates the container which is, preferably, cylindrical in form and constructed of sheet metal. The upper end of said container 2 is provided with a hinged lid 4 while its lower end has a fixed stock 6. A socket 8 is fixed to the exterior of the container 2 near the lower end thereof.

10 designates a flag staff constructed, pref-

erably, of sheet metal and having a longitudinal slot 12 to receive one end of a flag A, which is held in said slot 12 by a metallic clamp 14 adapted to be slipped longitudinally over the flag staff 10.

B designates a locomotive provided at its forward portion with the usual oppositely-disposed brackets C for carrying the customary signal lamps D and signal flags.

In practice the brackets C are equipped with two containers 2 and each container is provided with two signal flags A, usually a white flag and a green flag, as hereinbefore stated. The stocks 6 of the containers 2 fit in holes extending through the bracket C and are held from becoming dislodged, due to the motion of the locomotive, by suitable means such as cotter pins F. When the flags A are not in use they, together with their staffs 10, are kept within the containers 2 where they are protected from becoming soiled or damaged. When one set of flags are to be used they are removed from their respective containers 2 and the staffs 10 are placed in the sockets 8 as disclosed by Fig. 1, where they are prevented from rotating and winding up the flags, due to the motion of the locomotive, by clamps 14, the marginal flanges 16 of which bear against the adjacent portions of the containers 2 as shown by Fig. 1. The pressure of the flanges 16 against the containers 2 also reliably hold the flag staffs 10 in the sockets 8 against being jolted out by the motion of the locomotive. When soiled or damaged a flag can be readily removed from its staff 10 after removing the clamp 14, so that said flag may be laundered or replaced by another.

While I have shown the devices applied to a locomotive it is to be understood that they can be used with equal advantage at the rear end of a train or wherever else desired.

From the foregoing description it will be understood that I have provided a device embodying the advantages above pointed out, and while I have shown and described the preferred construction, combination, and arrangement of parts, I reserve the right to make such changes as properly fall within the spirit and scope of the appended claims.

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

1. In a device of the character described a container adapted to hold one or more

furled flags and their staffs, and an exterior socket on said container for holding a staff in position to display its unfurled flag.

2. In a device of the character described
5 a container adapted to hold one or more flags and their staffs, a lid to said container, and an exterior support on said container for holding a staff in position to display its flag.

10 3. In a device of the character described a container adapted to hold one or more furled flags and their staffs, a spindle fixed to the lower end of said container to support the same, and an exterior socket on said con-
15 tainer for holding a staff in position to display its unfurled flag.

4. In a device of the character described, a container, an exterior support on said container, a flag staff adapted to be placed with-
20 in said container or fit within said support, and means for removably securing a flag to said staff.

5. In a device of the character described, a container, an exterior support on said con-

tainer, a flag staff adapted to be placed with- 25
in said container or fit within said support, and a clamp for removably securing a flag to said staff and adapted to engage the exterior of the container to prevent the flag staff from rotating in the support. 30

6. A device of the character described consisting of a tubular container provided at its lower end with a stock, a lid at the upper end of said container, a socket fixed to the exterior of said container, a flag staff adapt- 35
ed to be placed within said container or fitted within said socket, and clamp means for securing a flag to said staff and provided with flanges for engaging the exterior of said container to prevent the flag staff from 40
rotating in the socket.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature, in the presence of two witnesses.

WILLIAM L. GIBSON.

Witnesses:

L. J. FISCHER,

F. C. FISCHER.