

W. E. Prall,

Ticket.

No. 85,092.

Patented Jan 5, 1869

Fig. 1

Months		Stations
1.	2.	Montgomery 1
3.	4.	Montgomery 2
5.	6.	Montgomery 3
7.	8.	Montgomery 4
9.	10.	Montgomery 5
11.	12.	Montgomery 6
13.	14.	Montgomery 7
15.	16.	Montgomery 8
17.	18.	Montgomery 9
19.	20.	Montgomery 10
21.	22.	Montgomery 11
23.	24.	Montgomery 12
25.	26.	Montgomery 13
27.	28.	Montgomery 14
29.	30.	Montgomery 15
31.		Montgomery 16

Passenger Ticket
Good for one seat this day and trip only.
Between the stations not cut out.

B. & D. R.R.

Instructions to Issuer

Stations

Stations
Montgomery 1
Montgomery 2
Montgomery 3
Montgomery 4
Montgomery 5
Montgomery 6
Montgomery 7
Montgomery 8
Montgomery 9
Montgomery 10
Montgomery 11
Montgomery 12
Montgomery 13
Montgomery 14
Montgomery 15
Montgomery 16
Montgomery 17
Montgomery 18
Montgomery 19
Montgomery 20
Montgomery 21

Conductor's Signature

Attest
F. D. Sproge
Cholansum

W. E. Prall
Inventor
D. R. Holloway & Co

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLIAM E. PRALL, OF WASHINGTON, DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.

IMPROVEMENT IN RAILROAD-TICKETS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 85,692, dated January 5, 1869.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM E. PRALL, of the city of Washington and District of Columbia, have invented a new and useful Method of Preventing Peculations by Collectors or Conductors upon Railroads and other Public Conveyances; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description thereof, reference being had to the accompanying drawings.

Figure 1 shows a coupon-ticket arranged in accordance with my invention, the coupons being attached thereto as formed upon the same. Fig. 2 shows the coupons as detached from the ticket.

This invention relates to an improvement in coupon-tickets for railroads and other public conveyances; and it consists of a ticket which may have upon its face the name of the road upon which it is to be used, or of the company issuing the same, and the figures corresponding to the day of the month, and also to the month of the year; or it may have any other words or figures that the person issuing the same may desire. To this ticket is to be attached a coupon or coupons, printed upon the same sheet with the ticket, but which may, if desired, be upon a separate sheet and attached to the ticket in any convenient manner. When printed upon the same sheet as the ticket a line of perforations is made at the point of junction, for the purpose of facilitating their removal from such ticket. These coupons are divided into sections by having lines drawn between them, each section designating a station or stopping-place upon the line by having the name of such station printed thereon, or by figures or characters of any desired form.

In issuing these tickets it is designed to have the conductor or other person detach from the body of the ticket the name or number of the station at which the passenger embarks and the one to which he is bound, leaving them connected together by the margin or otherwise, in such a manner as to identify them with each other; or he may detach all the coupons

which represent the stations between these points and retain such coupons attached to the margin, and return them to the office from which he received the tickets originally, and which at the time were charged to him. It will be seen that the coupons thus returned will indicate the exact amount of money which has been received, and consequently the amount which should be returned to the office, and with which the agent is to be credited in the settlement of his account.

Another and an incidental advantage which is due to my invention consists in enabling the company or person to ascertain at the expiration of the year or month the exact number of miles which each way passenger has traveled upon his or their line.

To facilitate the removal of the coupons the conductor or collector should be provided with a punch or cutting instrument similar to those now in use for punching tickets, the only change being necessary consisting of a change in the form of the cutting-edge, which is to be such as will adapt it to the form of the coupon to be removed.

It will be seen that, as a consequence of the adoption of my method of preventing peculations, such operations are effectually prevented, for, by requiring the collector to issue a ticket to each passenger, he can only make his account good at the office by returning the coupon necessary to show how far each passenger traveled upon each ticket, and consequently how much he is indebted to the company on account thereof.

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

The arrangement of a ticket and its coupons so that the coupons may be detached in the manner described, to prevent peculations, as set forth.

WM. E. PRALL.

Witnesses:

JOHN S. HOLLINGSHEAD,
JOHN S. HOLLINGSHEAD, Jr.