No. 692,686. Patented Feb. 4, 1902.

E. B. LYDICK.

VIBRATING SIGN.

(Application filed May 9, 1901.)

(No Model.) 2 Sheets—Sheet 1.

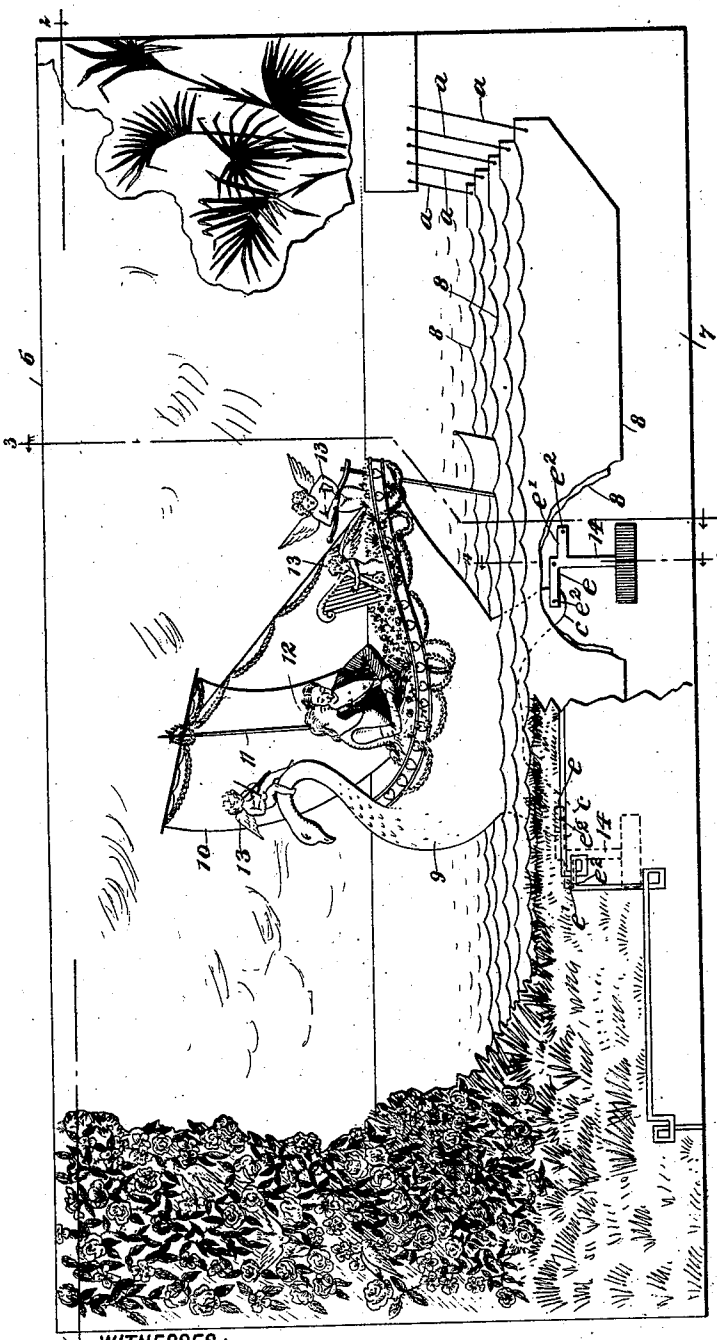

Fig. 1

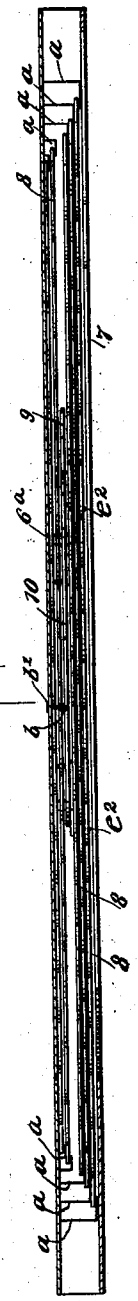

Fig. 2

WITNESSES:

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BY Munn & Co.

ATTORNEYS

THE NORRIS PETERS CO., PHOTO-LITHO., WASHINGTON, D. C.

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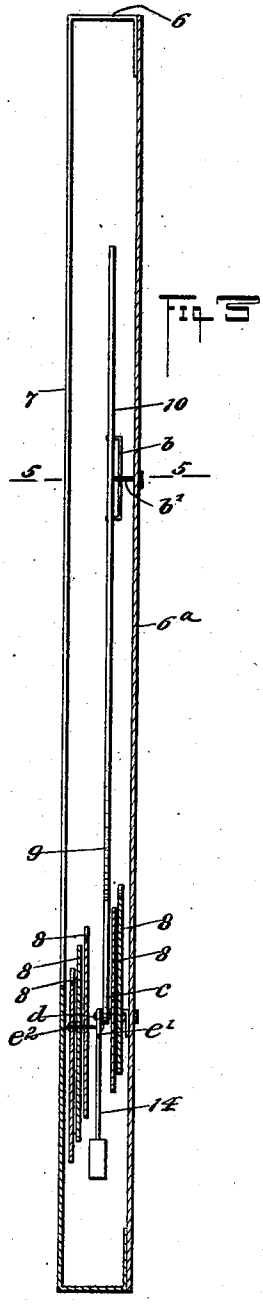

FIG 3

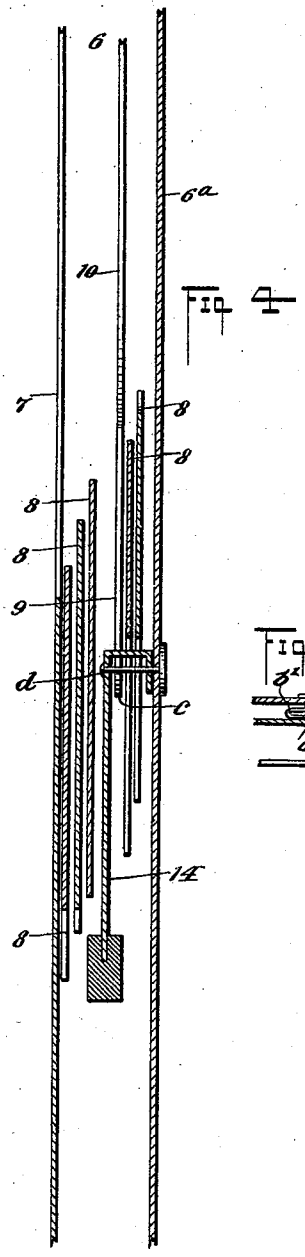

FIG 4

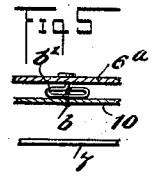

FIG 5

WITNESSES:

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ERNEST BOULANGER LYDICK, OF PITTSBURG, PENNSYLVANIA.

VIBRATING SIGN.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 692,686, dated February 4, 1902.

Application filed May 9, 1901. Serial No. 59,407. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ERNEST BOULANGER LYDICK, a citizen of the United States, and a resident of Pittsburg, in the county of Allegheny and State of Pennsylvania, have invented new and useful Improvements in Vibrating Signs, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description.

This invention relates to signs that have portions of the same rendered movable to draw the attention of persons to the sign and induce reading of the advertisement it exhibits.

The object of my invention is to provide a sign of the character indicated which is of novel and inexpensive construction, so devised as to render the sign very attractive, and well adapted to induce a general inspection of the same by the public.

The invention consists in the novel construction and combination of parts, as is hereinafter described, and defined in the appended claims.

Reference is to be had to the accompanying drawings, forming a part of this specification, in which similar characters of reference indicate corresponding parts in all the figures.

Figure 1 is a front view of the sign broken away to show some of the operative details. Fig. 2 is a sectional plan view substantially on the line 2 2 in Fig. 1. Fig. 3 is an enlarged transverse sectional view substantially on the line 3 3 in Fig. 1. Fig. 4 is an enlarged transverse sectional view substantially on the line 4 4 in Fig. 1, and Fig. 5 is a partly-sectional and fragmentary plan view substantially on the line 5 5 in Fig. 3.

The improved sign is more particularly intended for the display of advertisements in street-cars, elevated railroad cars, or in passenger-coaches, and it may be here explained that any printed or painted advertising matter that is to be placed thereon, as well as the ornamental configuration of parts shown as one design for embellishment of the sign, may be changed if there is no material departure from the novel details of construction.

In the drawings, 6 represents an oblong box-like structure forming the border-frame of the sign and may be constructed of wood or other available material. The front wall 7 of the frame 6 is cut away to give a proscenium effect, which is enhanced by floral and fern-like decorations located at each side thereof, and in a space intervening said sides there are exposed illusory details that embody features of the invention and, as shown in Fig. 1, represent flowing waves of a stream of water and a swan-like boat sailing on the water, the foreground, which is a portion of the front wall 7 of the frame 6, representing a grassy bank of the stream.

It is a feature of the improvement to so construct the working parts of the sign that waves of water will be simulated by a plurality of strips of material 8, which are scalloped upon their upper edges and painted on their exposed sides, so as to imitate as closely as possible the appearance of a body of water undulating in wave form. The strips of thin material 8 are suspended at each end from transverse projections on the frame 6 by means of wire-link rods *a*, as shown, for one end of each strip at the right side of the frame in Fig. 1. The link rods *a* have such a loose connection at their ends with the frame and ends of the wave-strips 8 as to suitably space the wave-strips apart and permit them to receive limited lateral and vertical movement, as will hereinafter be further described.

A flat piece of rigid material shaped edgewise to represent a swan-shaped boat 9 and a swelling sail 10, supported on a mast 11, the boat holding a seated male and female figure 12 and cherubs 13, is held at or near the center of the opening in the front wall 7, so as to appear floating on the water, by a loose connection of the sail with the rear wall 6^a of the frame 6.

The means for connecting the sail and boat with the rear wall 6^a of the box-like frame 6 is shown in Figs. 3 and 5 and consists of a flat loop-piece or staple *b*, held with its elongated loop portion upright on the rear face of the sail 10 at a point nearer the upper than the lower edge of the sail. A substantially similar-shaped staple or looped head-piece *b'* is engaged with the looped head portion of the staple *b* transversely thereof, and a boat-like projection from the looped head-piece *b'* is secured in the rear wall 6^a of the frame 6. It will be seen that by means of the described loose connection of the sail 10 with the rear wall 6^a of the frame 6 the sail and boat may

be given vertical and lateral vibratory movements by proper means, and thus simulate the rolling and pitching of a light boat on the waves of a body of water.

At two points, respectively below the bow and stern of the boat 9 and from the bottom of the boat, two similar arms *c* are downwardly extended, as shown in Fig. 1. From the rear wall 6^a of the frame 6 a bracket-arm *d* projects forwardly near the lower end of each arm *c*, and upon each arm *d* at its forward end a pendulum-lever 14 is pivoted near its upper end, these similar levers each having a weighted lower end. Each pendulum-lever 14 has two arms *e* and *e'* projected, respectively, toward the left and right sides of the frame 6, the arms *e'* being farther below the pivot-supports of the levers than are the arms *e*. A pivot-finger e^2 is laterally projected from each arm *e* and *e'* toward the front and rear sides of the frame 6, and said pivot-fingers pass loosely through alined perforations in the wave-strips 8 and the arm *c* of the boat or object 9, (see Figs. 1 and 3,) so that endwise or lateral swaying movement of the frame 6 will correspondingly swing the pendulum-levers 14, that in turn will actuate the boat 9 and wave-strips 8, thereby giving to the waves a limited lateral and longitudinal rocking action and giving a similar movement to the boat.

Obviously any desired advertising matter may be placed on the front of the boat, the foreground of the proscenium, and the rear wall of the frame, so as to be conspicuously displayed, and the movements of the waves, as well as the figures thereon, will serve to attract the attention of persons to the advertisement or inscription on the sign.

Changes may be made in the design of the central figure that appears as a boat, so as to represent one or more persons in bathing instead of occupying a boat, or other figures may be represented, they receiving motion in a like manner, so as to give them a life-like appearance. Hence I do not wish to confine the invention to the representation of a boat containing one or more persons who are rocked by the waves of the water floating the boat.

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

1. In a sign, the combination with a frame, and a pendulum hung thereon, of an object mounted for sliding movement in two directions at approximately right angles to each other and means for loosely connecting the object with the pendulum so as to cause the object to be actuated when the pendulum swings.

2. In a sign, the combination with a suitable support, of a series of wave-strips, means for supporting the wave-strips for movement, a movable object across which the strips extend, and a pendulum-lever connected loosely with the wave-strips and the object so as to give action to the object and wave-strips when said lever is swung.

3. In a sign, the combination with a suitable support, of a series of wave-strips, loose connections between the ends of said strips and the support, a movable object across which the strips extend, and a pivoted pendulum-lever having arms thereon, said arms being pivoted upon the object and the wave-strips, so as to adapt the swinging movement of the pendulum to actuate the wave-strips and object.

4. In a sign, the combination with a box-like frame, and a plurality of wave-strips hung by their ends at the ends of the frame, of an object pivoted on the rear wall of the frame and having an arm extended down therefrom, and a weighted pendulum-lever pivoted upon the frame by its upper end, said lever having lateral projections pivoted upon the object and upon the wave-strips.

5. In a sign, the combination with a box-like frame, a plurality of wave-strips scalloped on their upper edges to simulate waves, and suspending link rods loosely engaging the ends of the strips and corresponding ends of the frame, of a ship having a set sail, a looped connection for the sail on the rear wall of the frame, and a pendulum-lever pivoted on a projection from the rear wall of the frame, said lever having two arms that are loosely connected with the lower portion of the ship and also with the wave-strips.

6. The combination of a series of strips overlapping at their upper edges, arranged in different positions from front to rear and having end supports, an actuating device, and connections between the said device and the strips at points intermediate the ends of the strips.

7. The combination of a series of strips overlapping at their upper edges and having end supports, an object adjacent to said strips and mounted for movement, an actuating device, and connections between the strips and the actuating device and between the said object and the actuating device.

8. The combination with an object mounted for movement, of pendulums, and a connection between the pendulums and the object at different points on the object.

9. The combination with an object mounted for movement, of pendulums, connections between the pendulums and the object at different points on the object, a series of strips, and connections between the strips and the pendulum.

In testimony whereof I have signed my name to this specification in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

ERNEST BOULANGER LYDICK.

Witnesses:

JAMES HAMILTON,

JEANNETTE DE LOWRY.