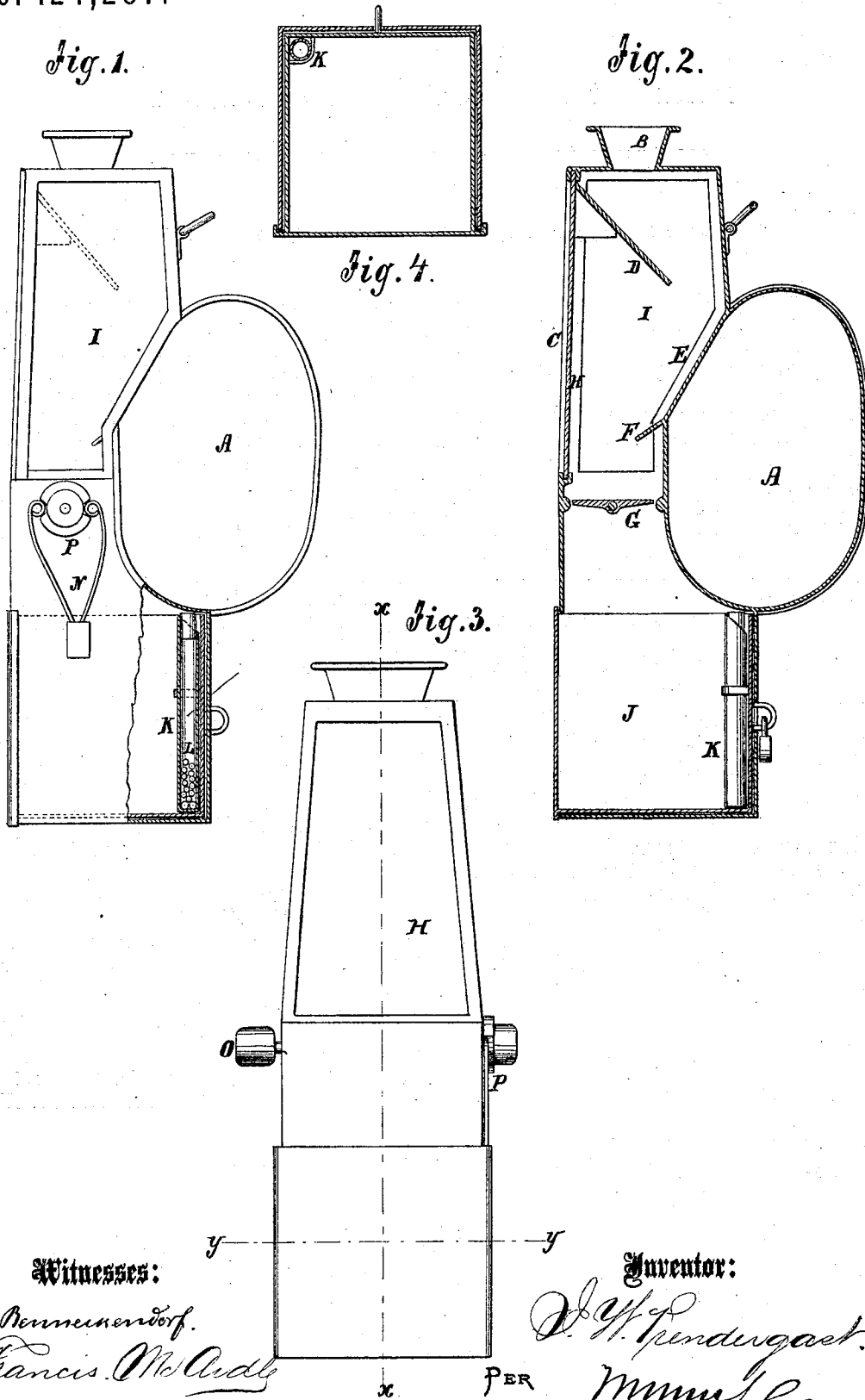


J. W. PRENDERGAST.

Improvement in Portable Fare Boxes.

No. 124,287.

Patented March 5, 1872.



Witnesses:

A. Remmenhoff.
Francis McAuley

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JAMES W. PRENDERGAST, OF NEW YORK, N. Y.

IMPROVEMENT IN PORTABLE FARE-BOXES.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 124,287, dated March 5, 1872.

Specification describing certain Improvements in Conductors' Portable Fare-Box, invented by JAMES W. PRENDERGAST, of New York city, in the county and State of New York.

The invention consists in an improvement upon fare-boxes, as hereinafter fully described and subsequently pointed out in the claim.

In the accompanying drawing, Figure 1 is a side view of the box, partly in section. Fig. 2 is a vertical section of Fig. 3 on the line *x x*. Fig. 3 is a view showing the front of the box. Fig. 4 is a horizontal section of Fig. 3 taken on the line *y y*.

Similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts.

This box is designed to be supported on the arm or in the hand of the conductor, and to be carried from passenger to passenger throughout the car. It is also intended that each passenger shall deposit his or her own fare, and that the conductor, while he is enabled to make the change, is not allowed to handle the fare.

A is the arm-hole. B is the hood, into which the passengers drop their fare. This hood is placed upon the top or near the top of the box C. The fare drops from the hood B onto the slide D, from which it slides on the inclined surface E of the arm-hole side of the box, and from the apron F to the revolving plate G, where it is stopped. H is a plate of glass, forming the upper part of the front of the box. The two sides I I of this part of the box are also of glass. While the fare rests on the plate G it is exposed to the view of both passengers and conductor. When the conductor sees that the proper or required fare has been deposited by the passenger, he turns the plate and drops

the fare into the cash-receptacle or bottom portion of the box J. This part J is closed and locked at the office before the box is given to the conductor, and is kept locked or locked and sealed until the box is returned to the office for making the returns. In one corner or in some other part of this cash-receptacle J, or in some other part of the box, I place a small vial or tube, K, filled or partially filled with shot L. This tube is open at the top, so that if the fare-box is inverted the shot will escape from the tube by their own gravity. Now, the box would never be inverted or turned over except in an attempt to tamper with it for gaining access to the cash by allowing the latter to slide from the box. The plate G is held in a horizontal position by means of the double spring N. The shaft or pivots of this plate project through the sides of the box, with a knob, O, on one end for turning the plate, and a flange, P, on the other end, in which are two cavities which receive the ends of the double spring. These cavities are so arranged that the spring engages with them when the plate stands horizontal. When a little force is applied to the knob O, the springs are forced from their cavities and bear against the edge of the flange.

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

A fare-box, provided with shot-tube K, as and for the purpose set forth.

The above specification of my invention signed by me this 25th day of September, 1871.

JAMES W. PRENDERGAST.

Witnesses:

GEO. W. MABEE,
T. B. MOSHER.