

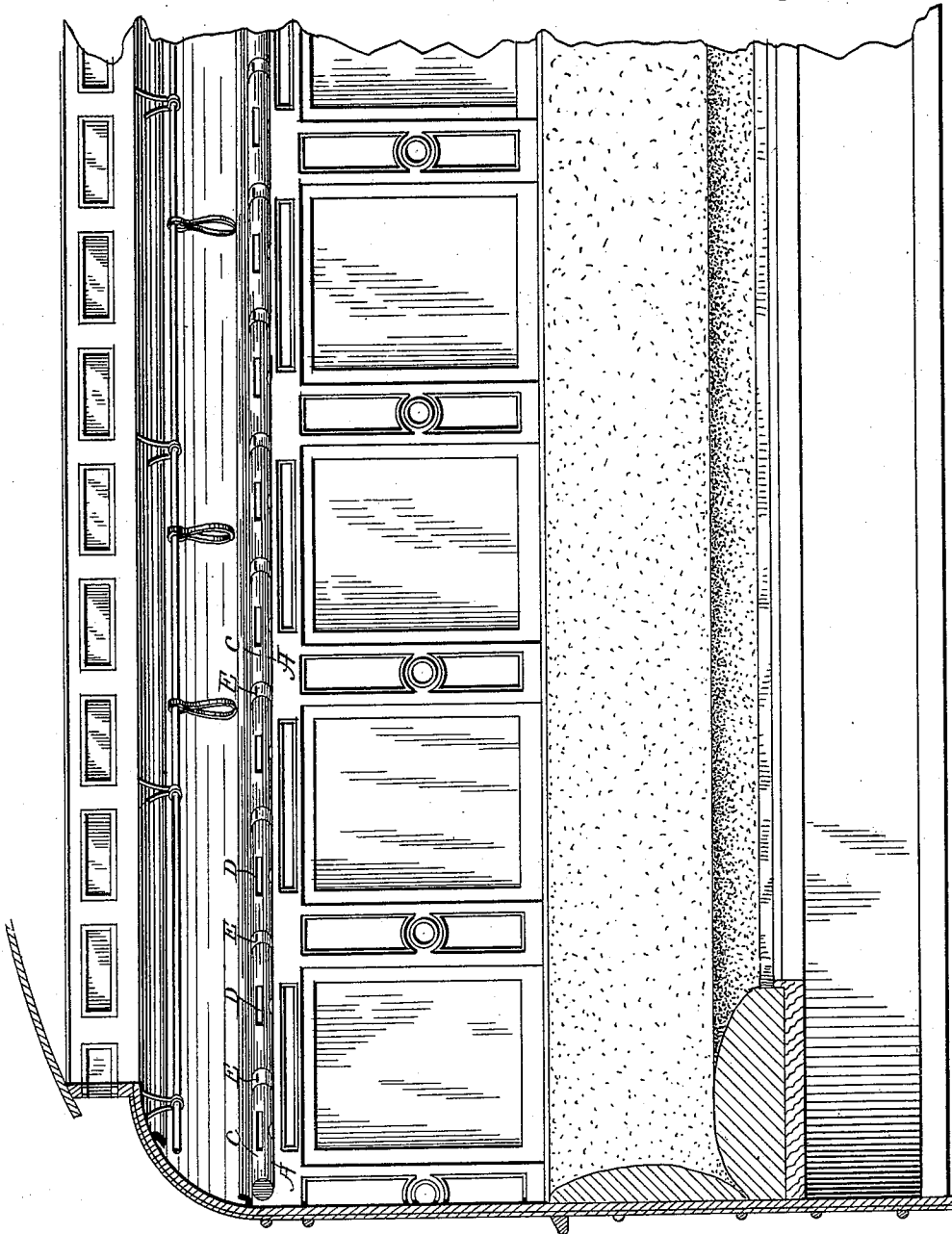
(No Model.)

2 Sheets—Sheet 1.

W. A. FERREE.
COIN CONTROLLED VENDING MACHINE.

No. 567,128.

Patented Sept. 8, 1896.



WITNESSES:

Arthur J. Hinder
W. D. Neill.

Fig. 1.

INVENTOR

William Appleton Ferree

BY

Andrew Wilson

ATTORNEY

(No Model.)

2 Sheets—Sheet 2.

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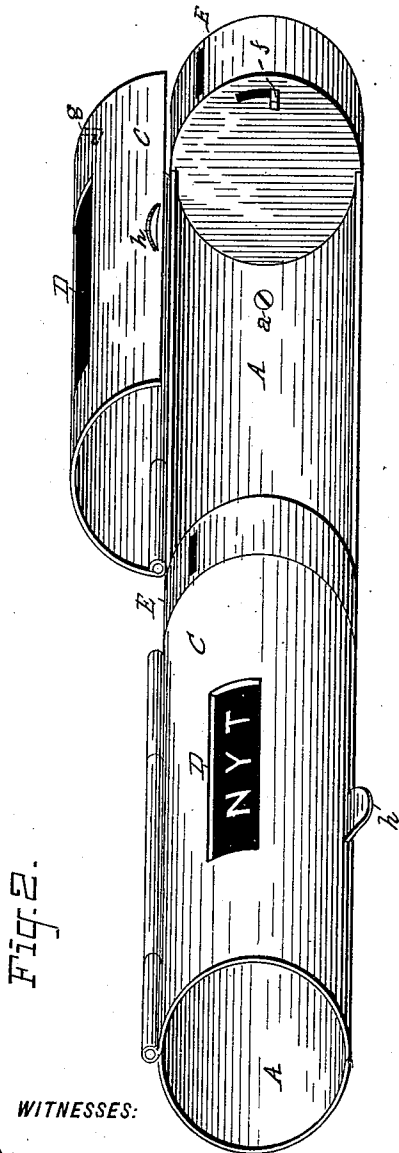


Fig. 2.

WITNESSES:

Robert J. Hinder
W. H. Healey

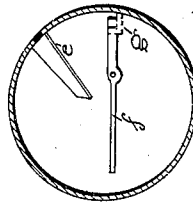


Fig. 3.

INVENTOR

William Appleton Ferree

BY

Andrew Wilson

ATTORNEY

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLIAM APPLETON FERREE, OF BROOKLYN, NEW YORK, ASSIGNOR TO
SAMUEL P. FERREE, OF SAME PLACE.

COIN-CONTROLLED VENDING-MACHINE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 567,128, dated September 8, 1896.

Application filed March 9, 1895. Renewed August 4, 1896. Serial No. 601,675. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM APPLETON FERREE, of Brooklyn, Kings county, New York, have invented certain new and useful
5 Improvements in Coin-Controlled Vending-Machines, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to that class of vending-machines which is intended for the sale
10 of articles of such a character that they are not readily delivered one at a time from a receptacle containing a number of the articles, and which, also, being more bulky than most
15 articles which have been heretofore vended from such machines, would require reservoirs of considerable size to contain any considerable number.

My invention is to vend such articles as newspapers, and to place the vending-machines in positions in public conveyances and elsewhere where the space which can be occupied is limited, and the machine must be small and compact. To accomplish this, I form a series of receptacles of sufficient size to hold
25 one article each, and for each receptacle I provide separate coin-controlled locking mechanism, so that each receptacle is emptied at a single operation of the locking mechanism, and that locking mechanism will not be required to act again till the vending-compartment has been refilled.

In the drawings, Figure 1 is a view of a series of my improved vending-machines, showing the same applied in a railway-car.
35 Fig. 2 is a view of two of the compartments, each with its lock, the first being closed, the second opened; and Fig. 3 is a cross-sectional view showing the locking mechanism.

Similar letters of reference designate similar parts in all the figures.

A is the body or framework of the case, which is made of sheet metal or other suitable material, and has, preferably, a semicylindrical form. This is attached to the framework of the car above the windows and just below the curved advertising-racks commonly used, where it is both convenient for access, occupies space not otherwise valuable, and by the attractiveness of its appearance and shape adds to the appearance of the car.
50 I prefer to make the cases of polished brass

or nickel-plated metal, thus securing the effect of a bright molding above the windows of the cars. From the necessities of this location and the character of the merchandise
55 it is necessary to economize space by making the cases and locks of as small a diameter as possible, and this restriction of the interior of the locks would tend in ordinary cases where the machines are placed upon stationary supports to cause difficulty in operating
60 the locks, because of the tendency of coins to stick or catch in passing through the guideways and mechanism of locks, which are so restricted in the possible vertical fall of the
65 coins. In Fig. 3 it will be noticed that after the coin has tipped the lever *f* there will be a tendency for it to retain the lever raised by the coin resting with its edge upon the
70 bottom of the case, while its side lies upon the end of the lever; but this and similar tendencies of the coins to sticks or clog will be overcome by the movement and jarring of
75 the car in which the cases are borne, which will cause the coins to follow their proper course until they land in the bottom of the case. Thus by affixing the cases to the interior
80 of street-railway cars and similar conveyances I am enabled to utilize the movements thereof to facilitate the operation of the locks, whereby I save space which would otherwise
85 be necessary for the accumulation of momentum by the coin and for the free clearance of the parts of the locks.

The frame A is attached to the woodwork
85 by screws *a a*, and may be supported by suitable brackets at proper intervals. To the upper edge of this frame A, I hang lids C C C, which, when closed, form with the
90 frame a tube-like compartment. These lids C are provided with apertures D D, which serve the purpose of disclosing whether the compartment is full or empty. These apertures may be glazed, if desired, and a suitable
95 sign, as "Full" or "Empty," may be arranged to automatically display itself behind the opening at the proper time.

Each lid C is kept closed by a coin-controlled lock E, wherein a coin passing down the guideway *e* trips a catch-lever *f* and
100 throws the end of it which projects through the lock-case *i* out of a hook *g* on the lid C,

allowing the lid to be raised by the catch *h*. The contents of the case are then removed by the purchaser and the lid is allowed to fall back in place. The coin falls down in the lock-case *E* and can be removed through any suitable locked opening in its bottom. The particular receptacle and its lock have then performed their function until a new article is placed in the case and the lid again closed and fastened. I thus secure a continuous series of receptacles or cases, each of which is independent of all the others in its operation, but all supported in the same framework. Different articles may be placed in the different compartments, whereby a large variety of articles may be displayed for sale in a very small space.

These machines being placed in public conveyances, such as railway and street cars, can be inspected and replenished at very frequent intervals as the cars reach the depots or termini of the roads, and thus, though a large number of separate compartments are in use, they can be cared for at slight cost, as compared with the expense of visiting and replenishing any considerable number of machines placed in stationary positions at different points.

It would be impracticable to place a machine containing a bulky reservoir of articles in the position intended for my cases. A great disadvantage of the reservoir system is that the entire contents of the reservoir must be sold or removed before a new article can be reached. In the case of newspapers this is very objectionable. In cities particularly the successive editions of the newspapers must be offered for sale as soon as issued, and this can readily be done with my system by filling the empty cases at regular points on the roads with the fresh editions of the papers. Thus there can be offered for sale, at one and the same time, a large number of papers of various issues and editions and at

various prices, as the locks of the different cases can be set to operate upon the deposit of a different coin or coins in each.

It is obvious that the details of the form and construction of the cases and locks can be varied without departing from the spirit of my invention. I prefer the cylindrical form of case and the division into compartments and locks and coin-receptacles, as shown.

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

1. The combination of a semitubular back frame, a plurality of tubular lock-cases the side walls of which form a series of partitions which divide said back frame into a plurality of compartments, a plurality of lids, one for each compartment, and coin-controlled mechanism within each lock-case for locking a lid, adapted to be released by a coin or coins, to permit the movement of a lid, whereby access is permitted to any of the compartments independent of the others.

2. The combination of a semitubular back frame, a plurality of lock-cases of restricted diameter in proportion to the coins used, the side walls of which cases form a series of partitions which divide said back frame into a plurality of compartments, a plurality of semitubular lids one for each compartment, and coin-controlled mechanism within each lock-case for locking a lid adapted to be released by a coin or coins to permit the movement of a lid for access to any one of the compartments independent of the others, the plurality of cases being adapted for application to the interior of a car or other vehicle whereby the motion of the vehicle is utilized to overcome the tendency of the coins to stick or clog in the restricted lock-cases.

WM. APPLETON FERREE.

Witnesses:

HERBERT J. HINDES,
WM. B. NEILLEY.