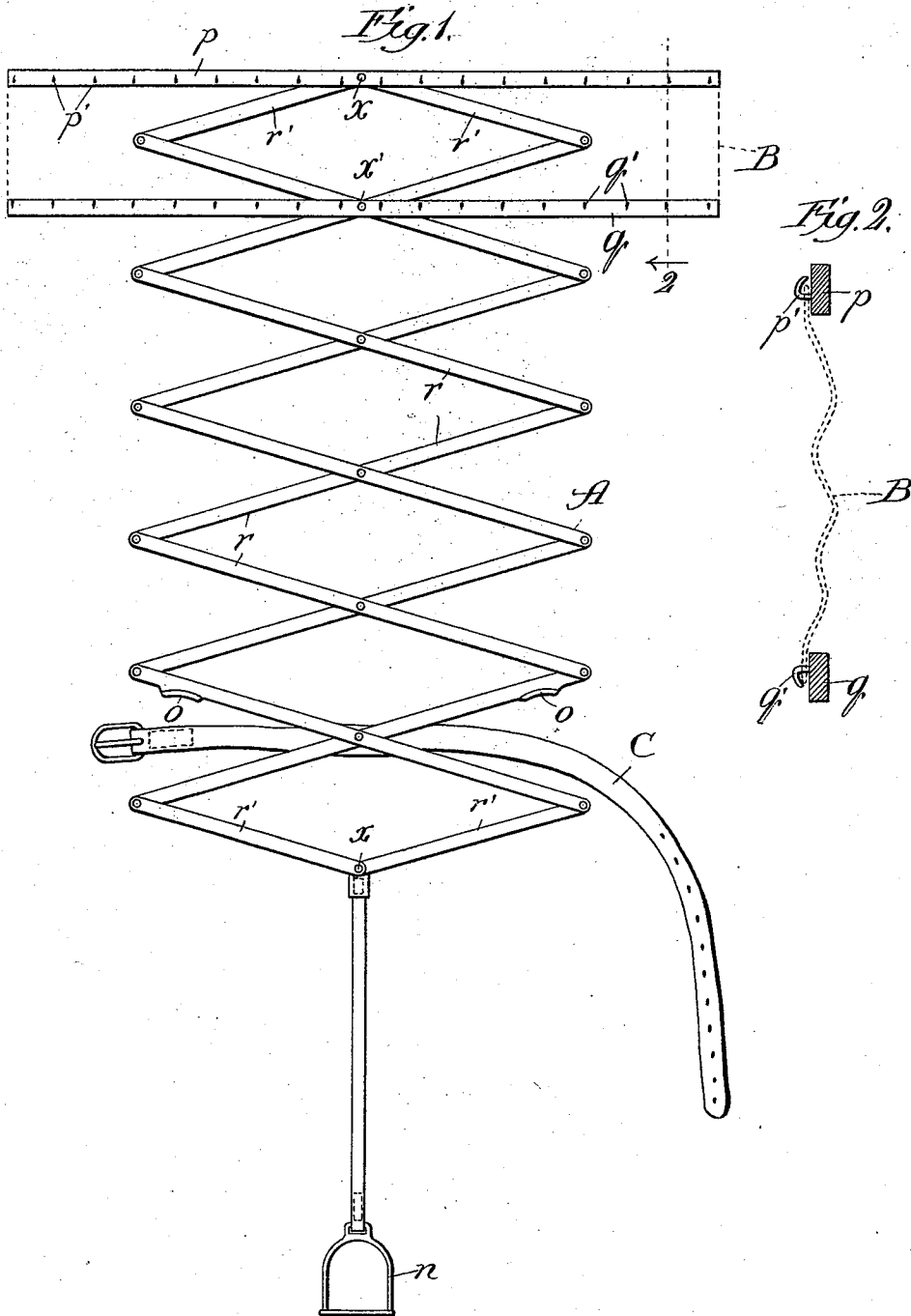


(No Model.)

W. C. MORRISON.
ADVERTISING SIGN DEVICE.

No. 528,256.

Patented Oct. 30, 1894.



Witnesses:
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WARREN C. MORRISON, OF CHICAGO, ILLINOIS.

ADVERTISING-SIGN DEVICE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 528,256, dated October 30, 1894.

Application filed March 13, 1894. Serial No. 503,484. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WARREN C. MORRISON, a citizen of the United States, residing at Chicago, in the county of Cook and State of Illinois, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Advertising-Sign Devices, of which the following is a specification.

The object of my invention is to provide an advertising-sign device of a construction which shall particularly adapt it for use as a medium for itinerant street-advertising purposes by performing its function of attracting attention in a manner tending to startle.

To this end I provide a readily extensible and contractible sign-support in the form of a lazy-tongs carrying at one end a suitable sign and adapted to be conveniently carried by the itinerant operator to enable him readily to shoot the sign suddenly upward—say twenty or thirty feet—by distending the lazy-tongs, and as readily and quickly to lower it.

Referring to the accompanying drawings—Figure 1 shows my improved device in all its details with the lazy-tongs partly distended toward displaying the sign in its elevated position; and Fig. 2 is a section taken at the line 2 in Fig. 1 and viewed in the direction of the arrow, to represent the flexible construction of the sign and the manner of securing it, against collapsing or distortion, when in elevated position, by the wind.

A is a lazy-tongs of ordinary or any suitable construction, and shown as involving intermediate pairs of bars *r* crossed at their centers and pivoted together where they cross, the bars of the several pairs being also pivotally connected end to end; and to the ends of the last pair of the bars *r*, at each end of the lazy-tongs, are pivoted the half-bars *r'*, which are also pivotally connected at *x*, at their meeting ends, where they reach to the longitudinal center of the lazy-tongs.

To the upper pivot *x* I fasten, at its center, a bar *p* having a series of hooks *p'* along its lower edge; and to the pivot *x'*, directly below the upper pivot *x*, I fasten, at its center, a similar bar *q* having a series of hooks *q'* along its upper edge. These bars *p* and *q* afford a support for a sign B of canvas or

other suitable flexible material, which should be provided with eyes along its edges to engage the hooks on the supporting bars.

To the central pivot of the lowermost pair of the bars *r* I fasten a belt C adapted to be strapped about the waist of a person whereby the device may be supported to be carried about conveniently; and on these bars, above the belt, and on the lower edges thereof near their ends, I provide a pair of handles *o*, which should conform, more or less, to the shape of the hands in gripping them. From the lowermost pivot *x* I also, by preference, suspend a stirrup *n*.

With the device secured about the waist of an itinerant carrier thereof, it may be conveniently actuated, by pressing upward on the handles *o*, and, if desired, assisting the operation by downward pressure of the foot in the stirrup *n*, to suddenly distend the lazy-tongs and thereby raise, in a startling manner, the sign B to a high point of elevation, to which attention will be attracted by the operation. The sign may be easily held in its elevated position as long as desired, when, by releasing the hold on the handles, the lazy-tongs will collapse by gravity (or it may be assisted by the operator) and lower the sign, the flexible structure of which adapts it to fold or collapse and thus avoid obstructing complete collapse of the lazy-tongs.

What I claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. A portable street advertising-sign device comprising in combination, a lazy-tongs provided with means for carrying it on the person of an itinerant bearer of the device, and an advertising sign supported on the lazy-tongs to be raised and lowered by distending and collapsing said lazy-tongs, substantially as described.

2. A portable street advertising-sign device comprising, in combination, a lazy-tongs carrying at one end an advertising-sign to be raised and lowered by distending and collapsing said lazy-tongs, a belt to which the lazy-tongs is fastened near its lower end and adapted to encircle the waist of an itinerant bearer of the device, and handles *o*, in position conveniently accessible to the hands of

said bearer, on the under sides of bars *r*, substantially as described.

3. A portable street advertising-sign device comprising, in combination, a lazy-tongs A
5 carrying at one end an advertising sign B to be raised and lowered by distending and collapsing said lazy-tongs, a belt C to which the lazy-tongs is fastened near its lower end and adapted to encircle the waist of an itinerant

bearer of the device, handles *o*, in position 10 conveniently accessible to the hands of said bearer, on the under sides of bars *r*, and a stirrup *n* suspended from the lower end of the lazy-tongs, substantially as described.

WARREN C. MORRISON.

In presence of—

M. J. FROST,

W. N. WILLIAMS.