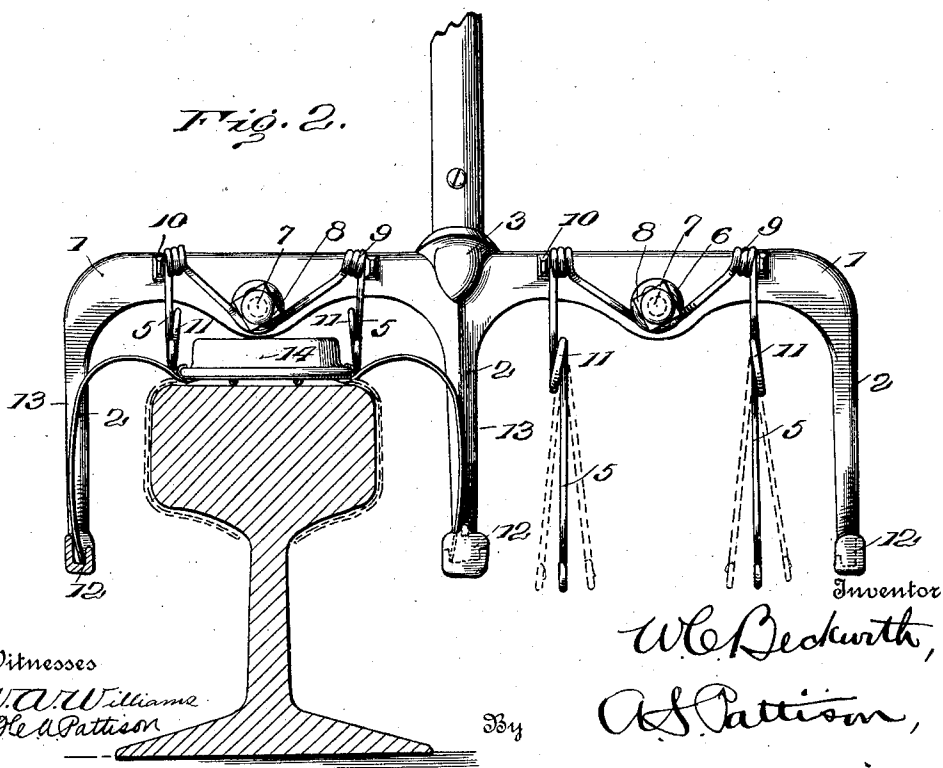
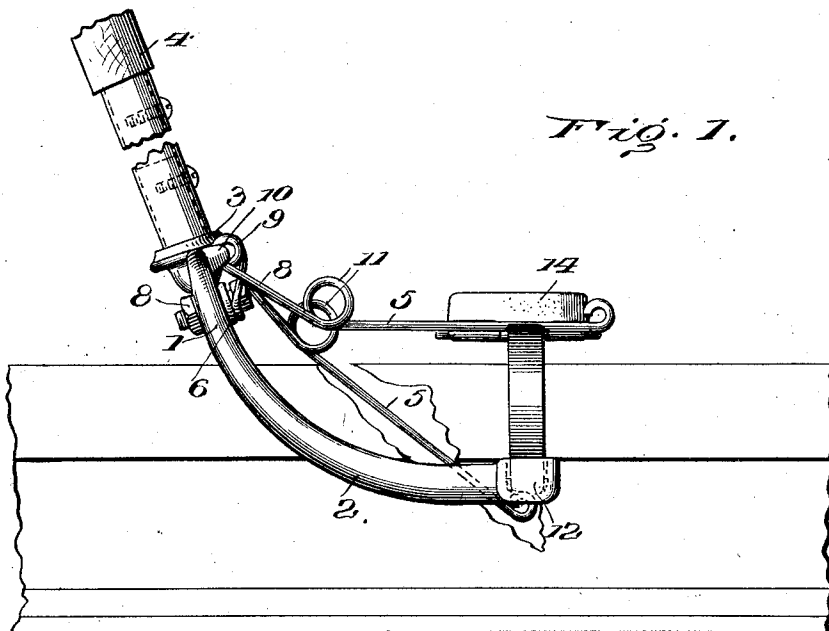


W. C. BECKWITH.
RAILWAY TORPEDO PLACER.
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1,058,532.

Patented Apr. 8, 1913.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WALTER C. BECKWITH, OF FOSTORIA, OHIO.

RAILWAY-TORPEDO PLACER.

1,058,532.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Apr. 8, 1913.

Application filed May 23, 1912. Serial No. 699,220.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WALTER C. BECKWITH, a citizen of the United States, residing at Fostoria, in the county of Seneca and State of Ohio, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Railway-Torpedo Placers, of which the following is a specification, reference being had therein to the accompanying drawing.

10 This invention relates to improvements in railway torpedo placers, which is especially designed to be used from a train in motion, the object of which is to provide a safe, convenient, inexpensive and always reliable torpedo-holder and placer.

15 The primary object of my invention is to so construct the device that the spring retaining means engages the spring clip of the torpedo and not the torpedo itself, thereby avoiding all danger of exploding the torpedo when placing the same on the rail.

20 Another object of my invention is to so construct the spring retaining means that it will fit torpedoes of all shapes, sizes and constructions, whether fiber, paper or metal.

25 In the accompanying drawings: Figure 1 is a side elevation of the present improvement showing my device about to place a torpedo on the rail. Fig. 2 is a front elevation showing one side of my device holding and placing a torpedo and the other side empty.

30 My present invention relates to that form of torpedo placers or adjusters for holding and placing a spring clip torpedo on the rail while the train is in motion, by holding the spring clip in an open position to receive the tread of the rail, and to release the spring clip and thus permit it to grasp the rail and be held thereto in position to be exploded by a passing train.

35 Referring now to the drawings, a suitable frame 1 is provided, and this frame has three downwardly and forwardly extending arms 2, the said arms forming two yokes as clearly shown in Fig. 2. At a central point in the frame 1 a suitable socket 3 is provided to hold a handle 4. The forward curve of the arms 2 enables the operator to more easily adjust the torpedo over the rail in placing the same.

40 5 are U-shaped torpedo retaining springs, the downwardly extending arms of which are parallel to the arms 2 of the frame 1. These springs have centrally located loops

6 through which bolts 7 pass clamping the springs to the frame 1 by means of nuts 8. The springs 5 have coils 9 engaging lugs 10 on the frame 1 to hold the said springs in the position shown in Figs. 1 and 2. The coils 9 held in close engagement with the lugs 10 allow the ends of the arms 2 to be movable sidewise, (as shown in dotted lines Fig. 2) without changing the upper position of the springs. In order to give additional spring tension to the arms of the spring 5, the loops 11 are provided. The U-shaped springs 5 are adapted to be sprung sidewise, as shown in dotted lines in the empty side of my device as shown in Fig. 2, in order to fit any size and shape of torpedo, of the spring clip variety that may be desired. The downwardly extending arms of the U-shaped springs fit in the bend of the spring clip close to the torpedo and hence are kept in place and are prevented from slipping sidewise.

12 are recesses cast in the extremities of the portions 2 of the frame 1, to hold the ends of the spring clip 13 of a torpedo 14 as shown in Fig. 2.

45 In operation the torpedo is placed in the device as shown, and it is released and permitted to grasp the rail by a downward pressure on the placer. The torpedo 14 is placed between the downwardly extending arms of the U-shaped spring 5, one arm on each side of the torpedo, engaging the spring clip where the clip joins the torpedo. The spring 5 is then sprung upwardly until the arms of the spring clip 13 can be inserted into the recess 12 which then holds the torpedo in the position as shown in Fig. 2. The downward pressure on the handle 4 causes the torpedo 14 to engage the top of the rail, and to cause the spring 5 to retract or move upward, and this retracting movement of the spring which holds the torpedo permits the ends of the spring clip 13 to come out of engagement with the shoulders or recesses 12 and thus releases them and allows them to instantly grasp the rail.

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

1. A railway torpedo placer, comprising a member arranged to hold and place a torpedo, springs carried by said member adapted to engage the spring clip of the torpedo, and exerting a downward pressure there-

upon, the said springs flexible longitudinally the said clip.

2. A railway torpedo placer, comprising a member arranged to hold and place a torpedo, springs carried by said member adapted to engage the spring clip of the torpedo and adjacent thereto, and exerting a downward pressure thereupon, said springs adapted to slide transverse the said spring clip.

3. A railway torpedo placer comprising a member arranged to hold and place a torpedo, springs carried by the said member engaging the spring clip of the torpedo on each side thereof and adjacent thereto, said springs both flexible longitudinally of the

clip and adapted to slide transverse the said clip for the purposes described.

4. A railway torpedo placer, comprising a member arranged to hold and place a torpedo, a U-shaped spring carried by said member, said spring having forwardly extending arms adapted to engage the spring clip of the torpedo and adjacent thereto, and exerting a downward pressure thereupon, for the purpose described.

In testimony whereof I hereunto affix my signature in the presence of two witnesses.

WALTER C. BECKWITH.

Witnesses:

ELMER C. HEIL,
C. B. BROWN.

Copies of this patent may be obtained for five cents each, by addressing the "Commissioner of Patents, Washington, D. C."