No. 872,052. PATENTED NOV. 26, 1907.

W. B. CHITTENDEN.

LANTERN HOLDER.

APPLICATION FILED MAR. 23, 1907.

Fig. 1.

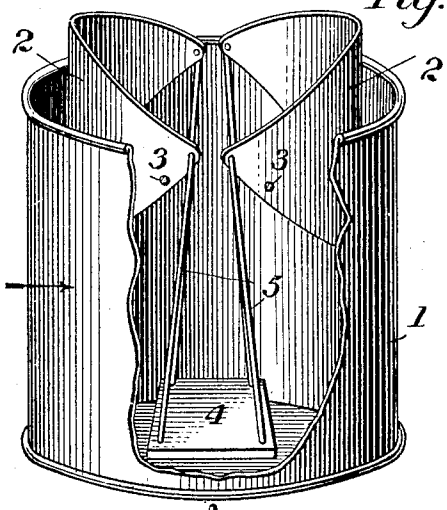


Fig. 2.

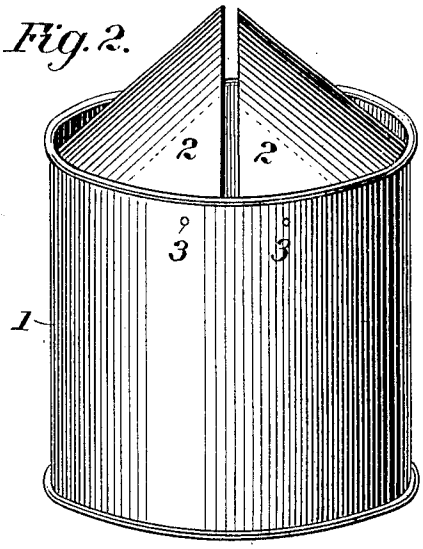


Fig. 3.

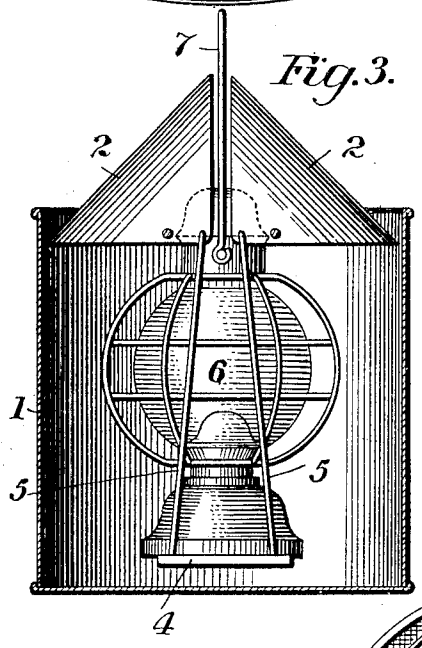


Fig. 4.

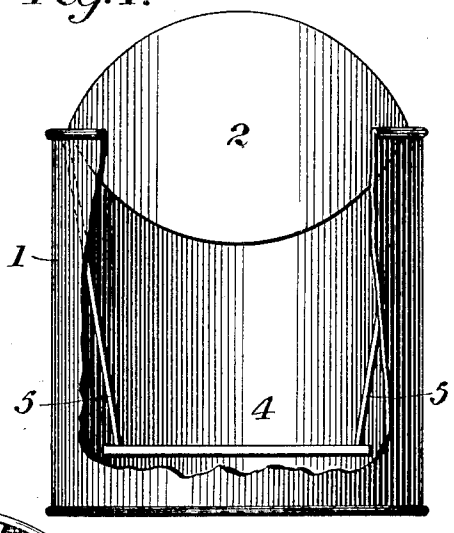
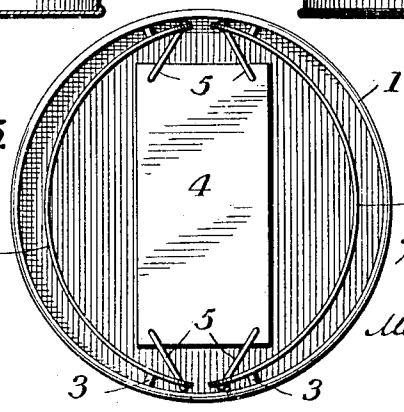


Fig. 5.



Witnesses

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LANTERN-HOLDER.

No. 872,052. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Nov. 26, 1907.

Application filed March 23, 1907. Serial No. 364,198.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WARD B. CHITTENDEN, a citizen of the United States, residing at Mankato, in the county of Blue Earth and State of Minnesota, have invented new and useful Improvements in Lantern-Holders, of which the following is a specification.

My present invention relates to lantern holders especially designed for use by conductors and brakemen on freight and other trains, although it will be found useful in other connections.

In handling freight trains where a caboose is attached to the end of each train, the trainmen find it necessary to have the cupola of the caboose dark at night in order to enable them to keep a close watch ahead, and they also find it necessary to keep their lanterns lighted and ready for any emergency. To serve these purposes I have designed a novel and simple construction of lantern holder in the form of a receptacle designed to receive the lighted lantern and having a cover or closure that is automatically moved to closed position when the lantern is inserted therein and is automatically opened when the lantern is withdrawn from the receptacle.

Briefly and generally stated the invention comprises a receptacle designed to receive a lantern of ordinary construction, said receptacle having a suitable closure and a lantern support or platform within the receptacle having a suitable connection with the closure, the construction and arrangement of parts being such that when the lantern is placed upon the support or platform within the receptacle the closure will be moved to closed position in order to retain the light-rays and when removed the closure will be moved to open position ready to again receive the lantern.

Further the invention comprises the novel features of construction and arrangement of parts hereinafter described in detail and then set forth in the appended claims.

In the annexed drawings which are illustrative of one form of the invention,—Figure 1, is a perspective view of a lantern holder constructed in accordance with this invention, a part of the side thereof being broken away to show the lantern support. Fig. 2 is a perspective view showing the closure in closed position. Fig. 3 is a central vertical section of the holder, showing the lantern in position upon its support. Fig. 4 is a side elevation of the device looking in the direction of the arrow Fig. 1. Fig. 5 is a top plan view of the holder with the closure in open position.

Referring to the drawing the reference numeral 1, designates a receptacle shown as circular in cross-section, although I do not wish to be understood as limiting myself to any particular shape, the showing here being only by way of example. The receptacle 1, has a closed bottom and an open top as will be seen.

A suitable cover or closure is provided for the receptacle and in the arrangement shown this consists of two opposed arched sections 2, 2 pivotally connected at 3, to opposite sides of the receptacle and adapted to swing from open to closed position on said pivots as clearly shown in Figs. 1 and 2 of the drawings.

Located within the receptacle 1, is a lantern support or platform comprising a plate 4, having separate rod or other connections 5, with the two cover or closure sections 2, 2, the rods being connected to the said sections at points outside but adjacent the pivots 3. The length of the rods 5 is such that the platform or lantern support 4, will be normally elevated above the bottom of the receptacle when the closure sections are swung to open position as illustrated in Fig. 1. The combined weight of the platform 4 and rods 5, is slightly less than the weight of the two closure sections 2, 2, or insufficient of themselves to cause these sections to turn on their pivots 3, to closed position.

The apparatus is used as follows: Assuming the cover sections to be in open position as shown in Fig. 1, if a lantern 6, is placed upon the platform or support within the receptacle, the weight thereof will lower the platform and through the rods 5, cause the cover sections to turn on their pivots 3, and draw said sections to closed position as clearly shown in Fig. 4. Thus it will be seen that the act of placing the lantern within the receptacle causes the cover to be brought to closed position in order to close in the light rays.

It will be noted by referring to Figs. 2 and 4, that when in closed position the adjacent edges of the cover sections are slightly separated. This is to enable the handle 7 of the lantern to project up through the space between the cover sections in ready reach of the

trainmen, it being understood that the said handle will be maintained in an upright position by the sections. When it is desired to withdraw the lantern from within the receptacle it is only necessary to grasp the handle and lift the same, whereupon the top of the lantern will strike the underside of the two cover sections and swing them to open position, at the same time elevating the platform or support 4, in position ready to again receive the lantern.

While I have herein shown and described one form of cover or closure for the receptacle, I do not wish to be understood as limiting myself to this form as I am aware that other arrangements may be employed in connection with a lantern support or platform without departing from the spirit of the invention as expressed in the appended claims.

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

1. In a lantern holder, a receptacle having an open top, a closure therefor, a horizontal support within the receptacle, and a connection between the support and closure.

2. In a lantern holder, a receptacle having an open top, a closure therefor, and means operable upon the insertion of an object within the receptacle for moving the closure to closed position.

3. In a lantern holder, a receptacle having an open top, a pivoted closure therefor, a horizontal support within the receptacle, and a connection between said support and closure.

4. In a lantern holder, a receptacle having an open top, a pivoted closure therefor, and means operable upon the insertion of an object within the receptacle for swinging the closure upon its pivots to closed position.

5. In a lantern holder, a receptacle open at its upper end, a two-part closure therefor, a horizontal support within the receptacle, and connecting means between the support and the two parts of the closure said support acting to hold the closure normally open.

6. In a device of the character described, a receptacle, a closure therefor comprising two arched sections each pivotally connected to the receptacle and adapted to swing from open to closed position, a lantern support within the receptacle, and suitable connections between the said support and closure sections.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand in presence of two subscribing witnesses.

WARD B. CHITTENDEN.

Witnesses:
HARRY KIFFE,
W. R. GEDDES.