

(No Model.)

H. A. DERAISMES.

BAGGAGE CHECK.

No. 370,455.

Patented Sept. 27, 1887.

Fig. 1.

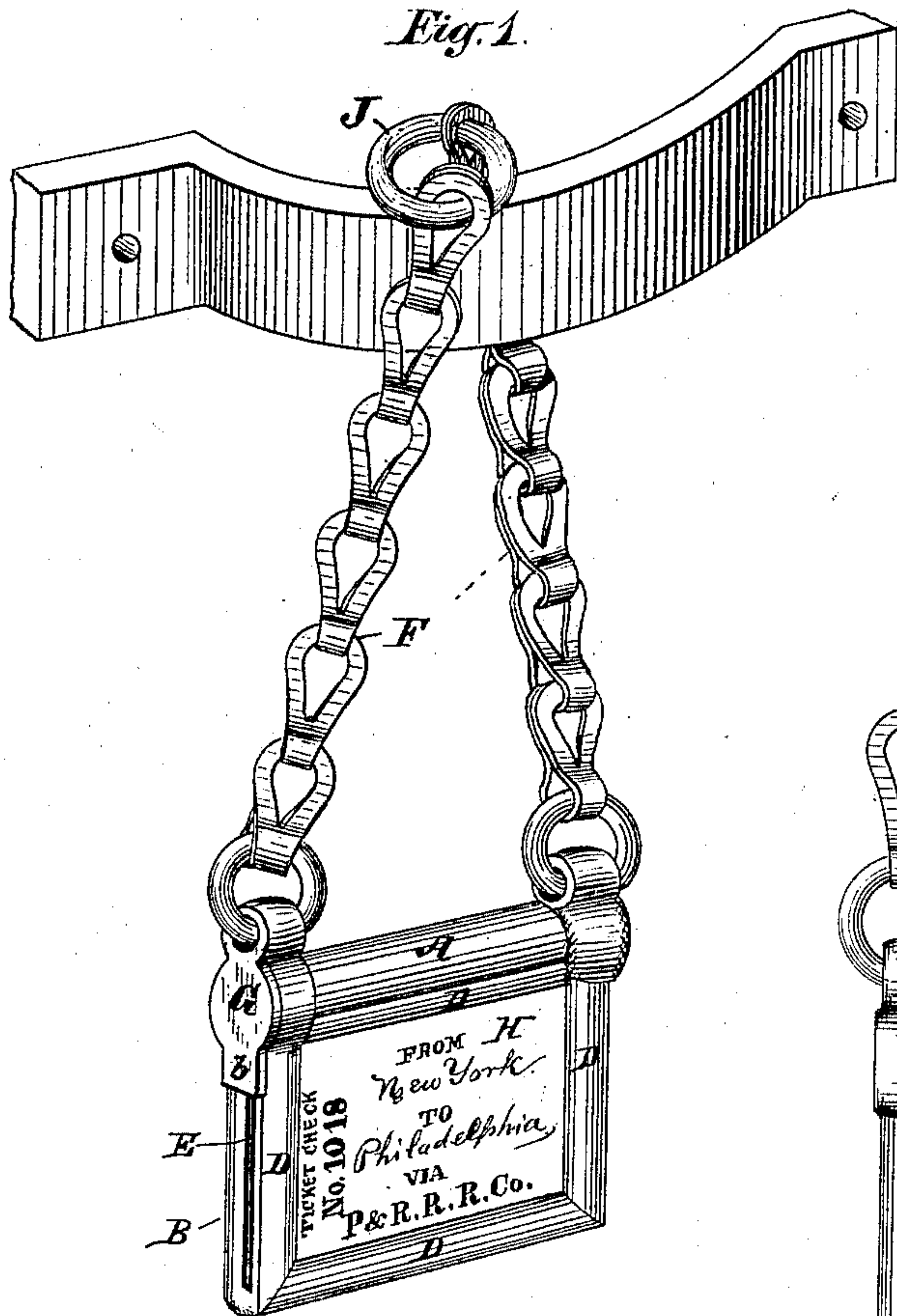


Fig. 2.

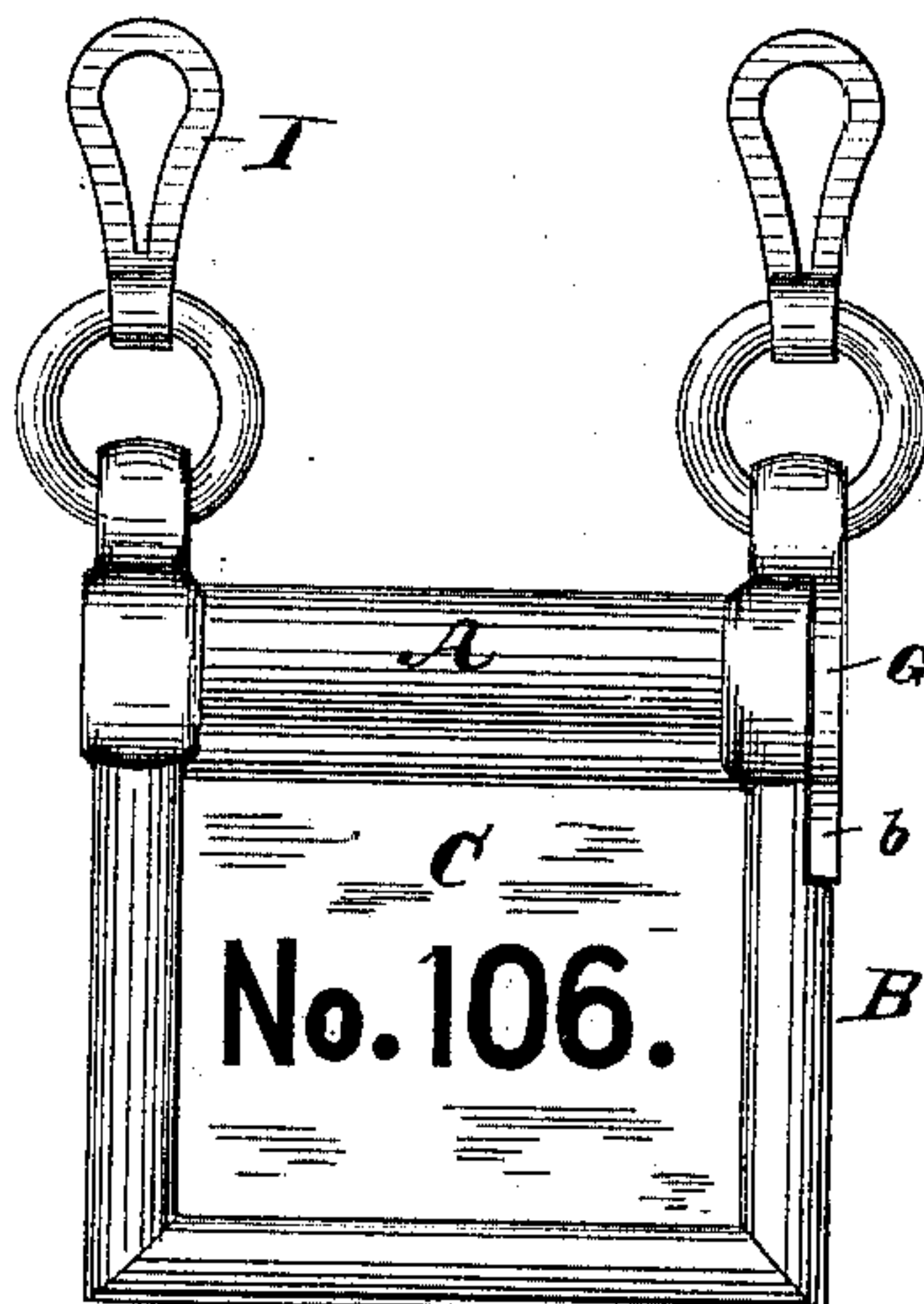


Fig. 3.

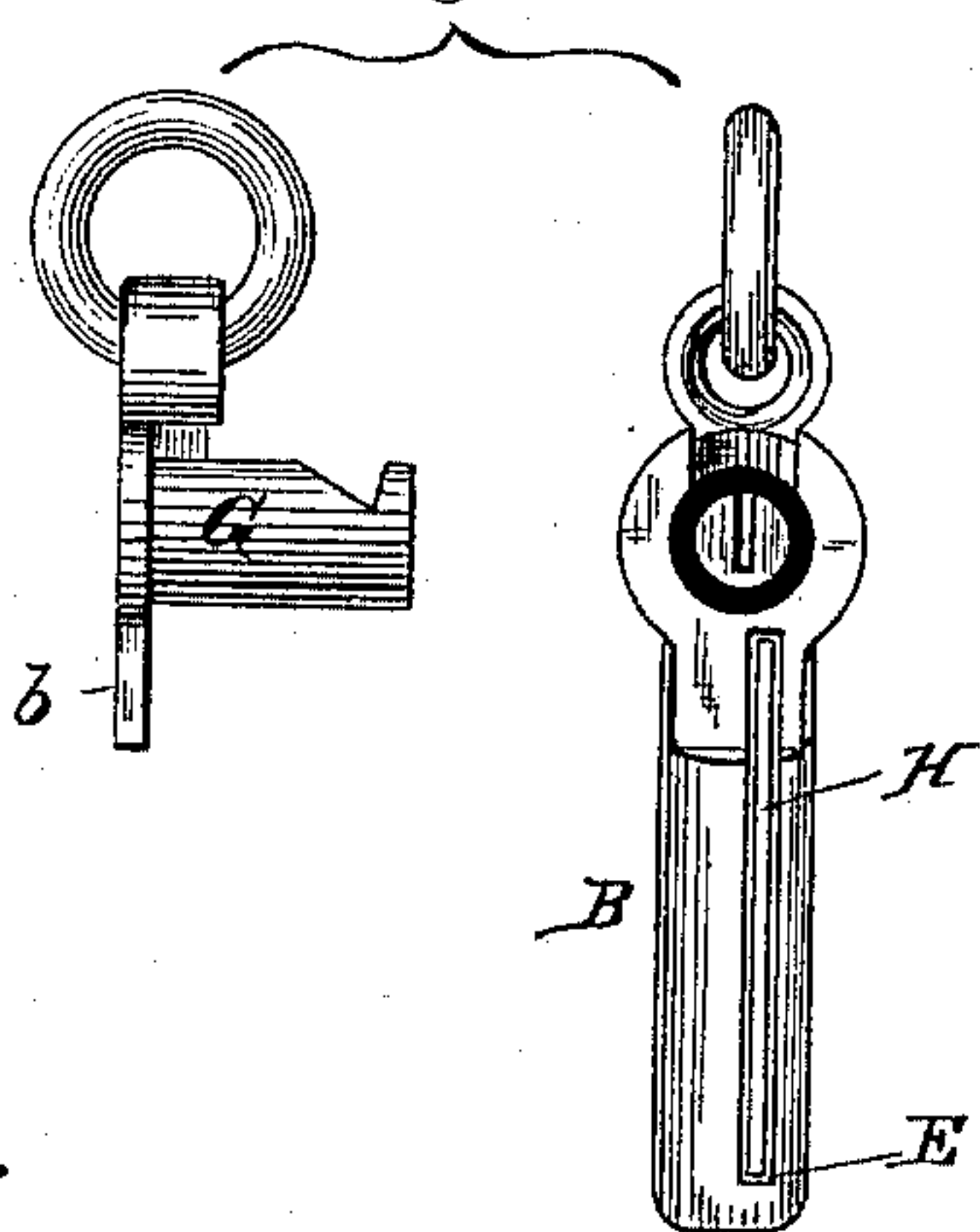
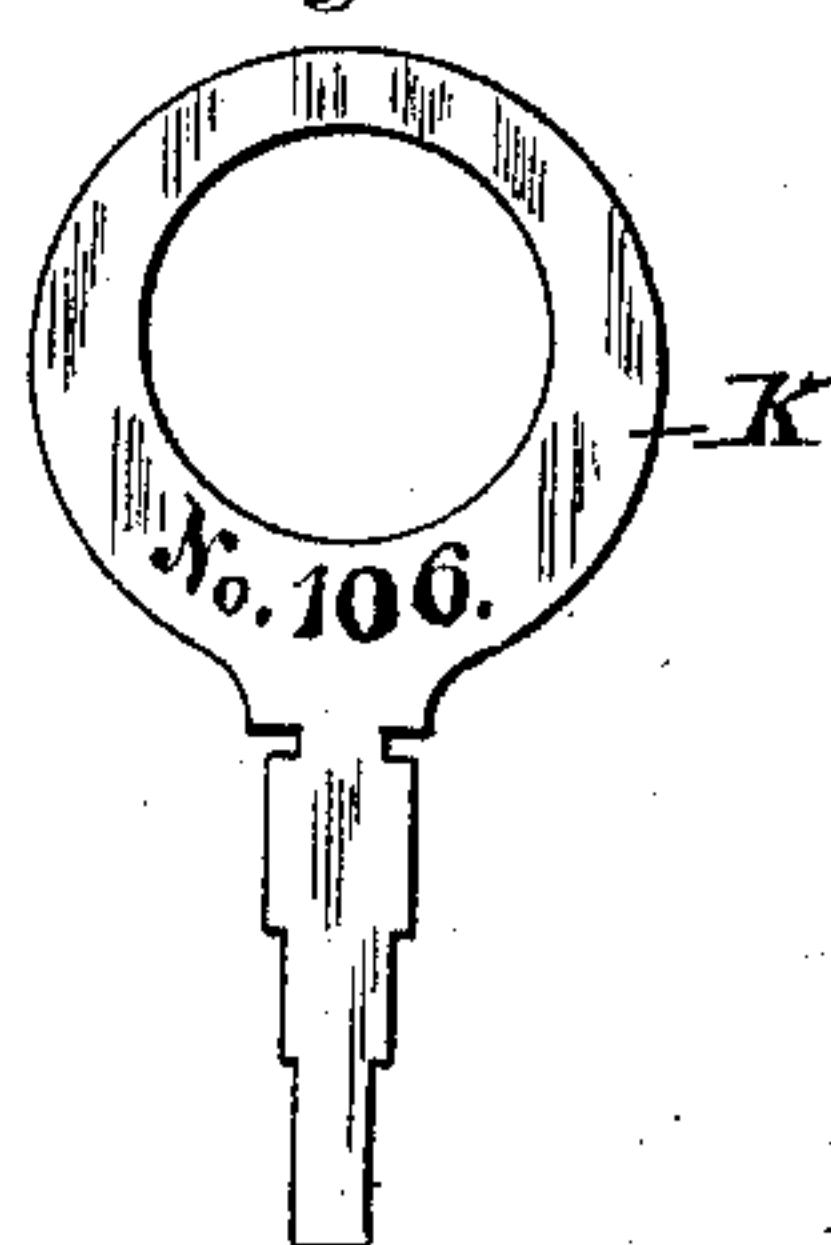


Fig. 4.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

HIPPOLITE A. DERAISMES, OF ELIZABETH, NEW JERSEY.

BAGGAGE-CHECK.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 370,455, dated September 27, 1887.

Application filed August 14, 1886. Serial No. 210,905. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, HIPPOLITE A. DERAISMES, of Elizabeth, in the county of Union and State of New Jersey, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Baggage-Checks, of which the following is a specification.

The present invention relates to improvements upon the baggage-checks described in Letters Patent No. 193,441, granted me July 24, 1877, in which the check was provided with a lock permanently attached thereto, and by which it could be locked to the baggage, and could be released therefrom only by the use of the unlocking-key, which was to be in the possession of the passenger or his agent. Such checks, by reason of their permanent or inseparable connection with their locks, are very limited in their use. The inscription upon such checks, which furnishes the instructions or directions for the disposition of the baggage, cannot practically be changed. To illustrate: one of these lock-checks marked "New York to Washington" is available only for attachment to baggage to be transported from New York to Washington. It cannot even be utilized on the return-trip, but must be returned as so much merchandise. The same is true of any direction given by the inscription on the checks—that is, the check is available for the special use indicated by the inscription, and for no other use.

It is the object of my present invention to provide a locking baggage-check which, while it shall insure equal protection and identification as the check above referred to, shall, in addition, have a general application or capacity for use upon articles of baggage, whether the same are to be transported in either direction or to any stations, distant or intermediate, along a route of travel, or are to be kept on deposit to be delivered to their owners upon certain terms or conditions named on the check.

The invention consists, in general terms, of improvements in methods, hereinafter fully described and claimed, of protecting baggage by the use of locking baggage-checks composed of two parts—a locking mechanism and a check or direction part—constructed to be locked to each other and to articles of baggage in such manner that the marks and direc-

tions shall be in sight, and when unlocked the checks or direction parts can be readily removed from the locking mechanism and others be substituted therefor; also, in the combination of an attaching-chain of special construction with a locking baggage-check, as hereinafter described and claimed.

Means for carrying out my invention are illustrated in the accompanying drawings.

Figure 1 is a perspective view of a locking baggage-check locked to a piece of baggage. Fig. 2 is a rear view of the same. Fig. 3 is an end view of the locking baggage-check with the locking-slide withdrawn, and showing the opening for inserting and removing the checks. Fig. 4 is the unlocking-key.

In the drawings, A represents a case inclosing a locking mechanism. B is a receptacle or holder for the check, formed so that a check can be easily attached to and removed from the lock, and when attached to the lock for use its face, carrying the directions, will be in sight. The receptacle or holder may be conveniently formed by casting it in the same piece with the case A. Its back may consist of a single plate, C, which will prevent the check from removal in that direction. The front or face side is provided with an opening to afford a view of the face of the check carrying the desired directions. This opening is conveniently formed by casting a frame or border, D, raised up from the back plate, C, preferably about the thickness of the check to be used, so that the check when in place will be between the back plate, C, and the border D, which will cover and hold down the edges of the check, while its center will be exposed to view. One end of this receptacle is provided with an opening or slit, E, while the other end is closed, so that the check can be inserted and removed only through the opening E. A chain, F, is securely attached by one of its ends to the lock-case, while its opposite or free end is provided with a locking-connection.

G is a slide constructed to be inserted into the end of the lock-case and to engage with the catch of the lock, and is thereby held in place till released by the use of the key. A part, b, of the outer end of the slide when locked in place overlaps the opening E and the end of

the check, and thereby locks the check in its receptacle or holder.

K is the unlocking-key.

It is important that a baggage-check, when
5 attached for use, should be in such position
that its directions can be read with as little in-
convenience as possible. It is accordingly de-
sirable that the check, when attached to a
trunk, should hang with its face outward and
10 nearly parallel with the end of the trunk. This
can be effected by making the chain F of links
I, flattened at one of their ends, and the flat-
tened ends arranged to point in the same di-
rection from the opposite ends of the chain to-
15 ward its middle part, where the flattened ends
are attached to a ring, J. The chain made up
of links constructed and arranged as above de-
scribed and joined to the central ring will
cause the check, when properly attached to the
20 handle of a trunk, to normally take and retain
the desired position. The ring J also serves
as a convenient means by which the lock can
be hung up when not in use.

H is a check or ticket of proper size and
25 shape to be inserted and locked in the recep-
tacle or holder in such manner that it cannot
be removed without unlocking.

The checks may be of any suitable material—
as thin metal, thick paper, or card-board—
30 upon which the desired directions can be en-
graved, printed, or written.

In practice the checks are preferably made
of card-board or similar material suitable to
be written upon with a pen or pencil, whereby
35 any desired direction can readily be placed
upon the check. When used upon baggage
to be transported from one point to another,
the name or initials of the carrying company
should preferably be printed on the checks, to
40 show, in case of loss of such baggage, the name
of the company undertaking its transporta-
tion.

The practical application of my universal
locking baggage-check is briefly described as
45 follows: When it is desired to check a piece of
baggage at one point to insure its safe delivery
at another, or to check baggage or other arti-
cles to effect any special disposition of the
same, the desired directions are written or
50 otherwise marked upon the face of the check,
which is placed in its receptacle or holder and
locked to the lock and to the article of bag-
gage, so that the check cannot be removed
from the baggage without the use of the lock-
55 key, which is temporarily in the custody of
the owner of the baggage, and is to be pre-
sented at some other place or time as means of
the identification and redemption. If the key
is the only means in the custody of the owner
60 of the baggage for its identification, it must of
course be marked with numbers or some char-
acters corresponding with those on the check
or lock. The owner may be provided with a
redeeming-check, which shall be a duplicate
65 of or shall by some marks upon it be identi-
fied with the removable check locked to the
lock and baggage, and this redeeming-check

would furnish the desired identification, and
in such case the key may or may not carry
identifying-marks. In practice, however, it 70
is desirable that every key shall be identified
with its lock to prevent confusion of keys and
locks, and this may conveniently be done by
conspicuously placing corresponding numbers
on each, as shown in Figs. 2 and 4 of the draw- 75
ings. This, in case the owner is also provided
with a check corresponding or identified with
the removable check secured to the lock, will
furnish, in connection with each check, two-
fold means of identification, or a double check, 80
and would constitute an application in the
same check of the invention of my said Pat-
ent No. 193,441, and my present invention,
inasmuch as the lock itself, by reason of num-
bers or other marks permanently attached 85
thereto and corresponding with those on the
key, is a locking baggage-check, and at the
same time, by reason of its capacity to receive
supplemental checks or tickets which can be
locked in place and removed by the use of the 90
key as desired, and others with different di-
rections be substituted, it is a locking bag-
gage-check of universal application.

It is evident that if the identification is ef-
fected solely by corresponding marks perma- 95
nently attached to the lock and to the key the
removable check or ticket can be utilized
solely for the purpose of carrying directions
relating to the disposition of the baggage, or
any desired instructions relating thereto. 100

I do not desire to limit my invention to any
special construction of lock, nor to any special
means of locking the removable check or ticket
to the article of baggage, the main and distin-
guishing feature of my invention consisting in 105
making the check or ticket separable from the
lock, so that an interchange or substitution of
checks carrying different directions or instruc-
tions relating to the baggage can be readily
made, and at the same time the lock and the 110
check be locked together and locked to the bag-
gage, thus forming a locking baggage-check of
universal application, affording all the protec-
tion and security of a check permanently at-
tached to a lock. 115

I am aware that it has heretofore been pro-
posed to attach to a piece of baggage a direc-
tion card or label bearing the name and ad-
dress of the owner of the baggage by means of
a lock which, when locked, would at the same 120
time secure such card or label in a connected
frame; but such use of private labels or direc-
tion-cards is not analogous to the business of
baggage-checking as practiced by common car-
riers. Such labels are in no sense "checks," 125
as the term is understood in said business, and
could not be utilized for the purpose for which
checks are used. A check, in the sense in
which the term is used in the specification, is
a device capable of being attached to a piece 130
of baggage and carrying upon it or used in
connection with some identifying-marks adopt-
ed by the carrier, and the substantial dupli-
cate of which is given to the owner to enable

him to prove his ownership. The mere name and residence of the owner placed on a private label or card and attached by him to a piece of baggage is not an indication of the destination of such baggage which will govern the agents of the common carrier in whose custody it is temporarily placed, nor is such inscription an identifying-mark which a common carrier would adopt or recognize for the purpose of checking baggage placed in his charge. In no sense would it constitute a check as that term is understood in the business world.

I claim—

1. The herein-described method of protecting baggage, which consists in providing two checks or pieces identified with each other by corresponding numbers or marks, securing one of such checks, with said numbers or marks in view, to the baggage by a locking device which is capable of being unlocked only by its key, and which, when unlocked, simultaneously detaches the locking device from the baggage and releases the check from the locking device, giving the other check into the custody of the owner of the baggage, surrendering the baggage thus checked upon presentation of the check thus given the owner, and removing from the locking device the check contained therein, thus preparing the locking device to receive a different check and to serve upon a

different route or destination, substantially as set forth.

2. The improvement herein described in methods of protecting baggage, which consists in attaching to the baggage, by means of a locking mechanism capable of being unlocked only by its key, a check permanently secured to such locking mechanism and carrying identifying-marks in sight, giving to the owner of the baggage marks corresponding therewith, providing a direction-piece, locking the direction-piece to the locking mechanism simultaneously with the locking of the latter to the baggage, the direction-piece being secured to the locking mechanism only so long as the latter is locked, but removable therefrom for the purpose of substituting a different direction-piece when the lock is unlocked.

3. In combination with a baggage locking check, a chain composed of links flattened at one of their ends, the flattened ends being arranged to point from the opposite ends of the chain toward its middle part, and a ring located near such middle part, to which the flattened ends of the adjacent links are attached, substantially as and for the purpose described.

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Witnesses:

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