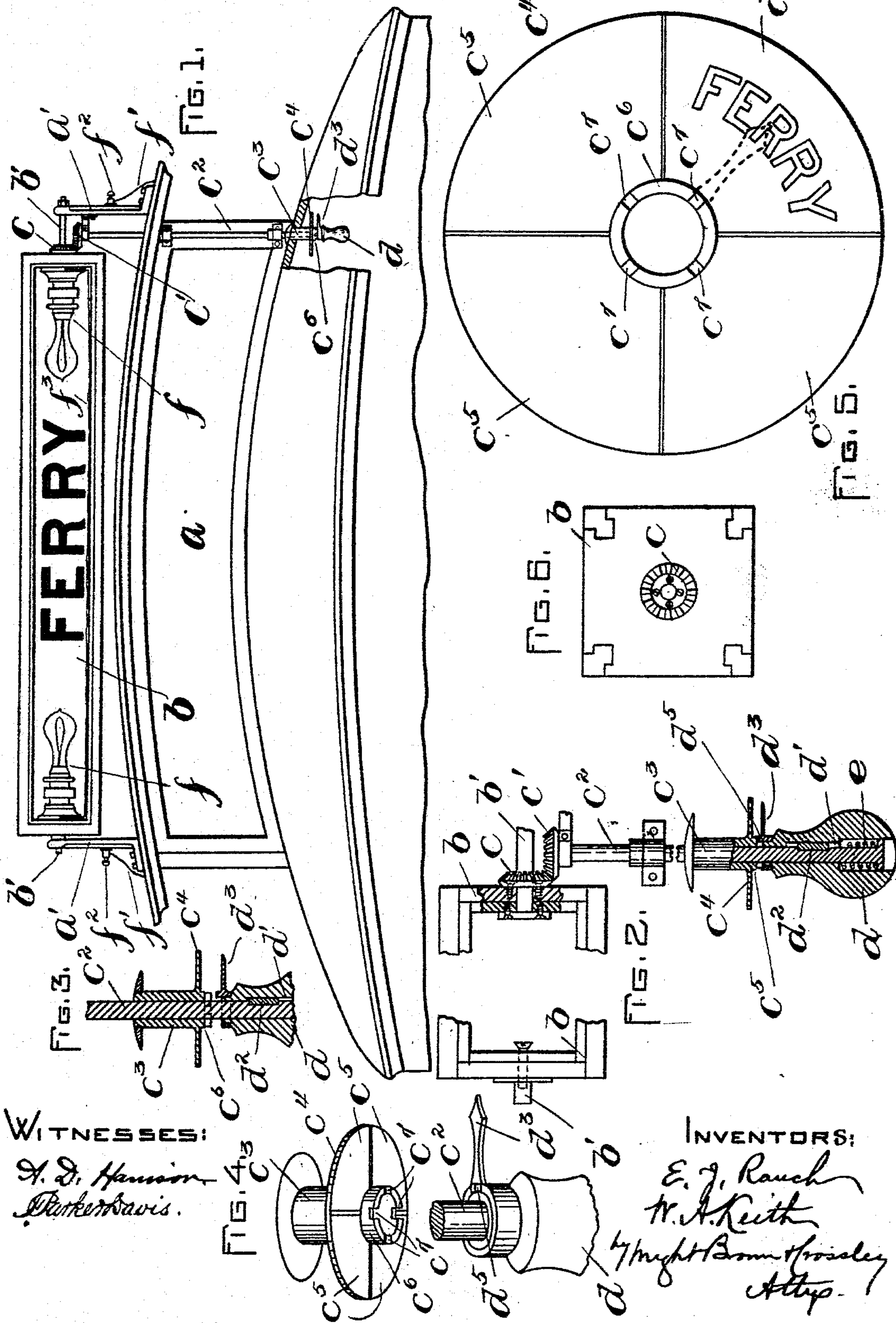


(No Model.)

E. J. RAUCH & W. A. KEITH.
STREET CAR SIGN.

No. 515,967.

Patented Mar. 6, 1894.



THE NATIONAL LITHOGRAPHING COMPANY,
WASHINGTON, D. C.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

EDGAR J. RAUCH AND WILFRED A. KEITH, OF BROCKTON, MASSACHUSETTS.

STREET-CAR SIGN.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 515,967, dated March 6, 1894.

Application filed April 20, 1893. Serial No. 471,199. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that we, EDGAR J. RAUCH and WILFRED A. KEITH, both of Campello, Brockton, in the county of Plymouth and State of Massachusetts, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Street-Car Signs, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to an improvement in sign apparatus for street-cars, the object being to combine with a rotatable sign on the exterior of a car, means whereby said sign may be operated from the interior of the car, and an indicator whereby the position of the sign may be determined without going outside the car.

With these objects in view, the invention consists in certain novel features of construction and arrangements of parts, which will be described hereinafter and pointed out in the claims.

The accompanying drawings illustrate a construction by which the invention may be carried out.

Figure 1 shows an end view of the top portion of a street-car provided with our improved apparatus, a portion of the car being broken away to better disclose the construction. Fig. 2 shows a detail view of the sign apparatus, parts being broken away and parts being shown in section. Fig. 3 shows a sectional view of parts appearing in Fig. 2, illustrating a different adjustment of such parts. Fig. 4 shows a perspective view of these same parts. Fig. 5 shows a plan view of a dial. Fig. 6 shows an end view of the rotatable sign.

The same letters of reference indicate the same parts in all the figures.

In the drawings: the letter *a* designates the top portion of a street-car, on which are erected standards *a'*. A polygonal sign *b*, having transparent sides, is mounted, by means of trunnions *b'*, in the standards *a'*. The sides of the sign are suitably inscribed with names of destinations of the car. A bevel-gear *c* is fastened to one end of the sign, and meshes with a similar gear *c'* on the upper end of a vertical spindle *c²*, which extends through suitable bearings to the inside of the car. A sleeve *c³* is fastened in the roof of the car, and carries a dial on its lower end, in the form of a flat circular disk *c⁴*, whose under face is di-

vided into a number of spaces *c⁵*, corresponding with the number of sides of the rotatable sign, and these spaces are inscribed to correspond with the inscriptions on the sign. For instance, as illustrated in the drawings, the word "Ferry" appears on one side of the sign, and the same word appears in one of the spaces of the dial. The spindle *c²* extends through the sleeve *c³*, and an annulus *c⁶* is formed at the middle of the dial, and is provided with a series of notches *c⁷*, one for each space *c⁵*. A handle *d* is fitted on the spindle *c²* where it projects below the dial *c⁴*, and the connection between the handle and spindle is such that said handle may slide upon the spindle; but, when turned, will move the spindle with it. As here shown, the handle is feathered on the spindle in a well-known way, the handle being provided with a spline-groove *d'*, and the spline with a feather *d²* engaging said groove. The handle carries an index-finger *d³*, projecting over the dial *c⁴*, and a tooth *d⁵* projects at the inner end of the index-finger for engagement with the notches *c⁷*. A spiral spring *e* occupies a recess in the handle *d*, and bears at one end on said handle, and at the other end against a head formed on the spindle *c²*, whereby said spring presses the handle toward the dial *c⁴*, so that, when the tooth *d⁵* is brought into alignment with any one of the notches *c⁷*, it will be projected into the same, and the handle will be locked to the dial.

The operation is as follows: When it is desired to change the sign, the handle *d* is drawn down sufficiently to disengage its tooth from the annulus *c⁶*, and the handle is then turned until the index finger *d³* stands over the inscription on the dial corresponding with that which it is desired the rotatable sign shall display. The handle is released, and the tooth *d⁵* is projected into the notch at the space containing such inscription. The turning of the handle *d* has rotated the sign *b*, through the spindle *c²* and gears *c'* and *c*, so that the said sign stands at the desired adjustment. Incandescent lamps *f* are fastened within the sign *b*, at each end of the same, and, as said sign is rotatable, the electrical connections are made through the spindles *b'*, wires *f'* being carried to binding-posts *f²*

on the standards a' . A wire f^3 , within the sign, connects the two lamps. By this means, the sign may be illuminated at night.

It is evident the constructions here shown may be varied without departing from the spirit and scope of the invention, and it is to be understood that we are not limited to such constructions.

Having thus described our invention, what we claim as new, and desire to claim by Letters Patent, is—

1. A sign apparatus for street-cars comprising in its construction a rotatable sign on the exterior of the car and bearing inscriptions on its sides, a dial fastened on the interior of the car and correspondingly inscribed, a rotary handle supported at the center of the dial and rotatively connected with the sign, and means for locking said handle in different positions it may occupy with respect to the dial.

2. A sign apparatus for street-cars, comprising in its construction a rotatable sign on the exterior of the car and bearing inscriptions on its sides, a dial on the interior of the car correspondingly inscribed, a spindle in gear with the rotatable sign and extending through the center of the dial, a handle adapted to

slide on the spindle and carrying an index-finger, and means for locking and unlocking the handle at different positions, by longitudinal movement of the same on the spindle substantially as described.

3. A sign apparatus for street-cars, comprising in its construction a rotatable sign on the exterior of the car and bearing inscriptions on its sides, a dial on the interior of the car correspondingly inscribed and having an annulus at the center with notches corresponding in number with the inscriptions, a spindle in gear with the rotatable sign and extending through the annulus of the dial, a handle feathered on the spindle and carrying an index-finger and a tooth adapted to engage the notches of the annulus, and a spring pressing the handle toward the annulus.

In testimony whereof we have signed our names to this specification, in the presence of two subscribing witnesses, this 17th day of April, A. D. 1893.

EDGAR J. RAUCH.
WILFRED A. KEITH.

Witnesses:

HORACE BROWN,
F. PARKER DAVIS.