

Patented Dec. 19, 1899.

(Application filed Aug. 3, 1898.)

[illegible]

Witnesses

E. F. Stewart.

[Handwritten signature]

By *W. S.* Attorneys,

George A. Hinkle Inventor

C. Snow & Co.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

GEORGE A. HINKLE, OF MOUNT HOPE, KANSAS, ASSIGNOR OF ONE-HALF
TO E. E. BLECKLEY, OF WICHITA, KANSAS.

RAILWAY-TICKET.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 639,572, dated December 19, 1899.

Application filed August 3, 1898. Serial No. 687,618. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, GEORGE A. HINKLE, a citizen of the United States, residing at Mount Hope, in the county of Sedgwick and State of Kansas, have invented a new and useful Railway-Ticket, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to railway-tickets, designed especially for use in connection with round-trip passages for which the tickets are generally sold at a reduced rate, the purchaser signing an attached contract in which he agrees that if his ticket is presented for passage by any other party than himself it will be void and also agrees to present the ticket at the ticket-office at the point of destination.

The object of my invention is to provide in connection with the ticket a sealed identifying-table, consisting of a fold formed in the body portion of the ticket and sealed to prevent access thereto without mutilating the ticket and designed to prevent not only the changing of the description or means of identification, but to prevent the second purchaser of a return-ticket from securing the description or becoming aware of the name or general appearance of the original purchaser.

In carrying out my invention I provide the ticket at a suitable point, as at the lower end of the body portion thereof and above any detachable coupons which may form a part of the complete ticket, with a descriptive table or other matter adapted to be stamped by the selling agent to indicate the sex, the general size and height, the complexion, &c., of the original purchaser and adapted to be signed by such purchaser, and also to provide the ticket at suitable points above and below such table or scale of identification with crease-lines, upon which the ticket may be folded to inclose and conceal such description, the folded or doubled portion being sealed, as by eyelets or the equivalent therefor, and also to provide the ticket at suitable points intersecting the crease-lines with lines of separation, consisting of perforations or the equivalents thereof, whereby the sealing devices may be detached to give access to the description when manipulated in the proper way and presumably by the proper officer.

Further objects and advantages of this invention will appear in the following description, and the novel features thereof will be particularly pointed out in the appended claim.

In the drawings, Figure 1 is a face view of a ticket constructed in accordance with my invention, showing the parts after the completion of the selling operation. Fig. 2 is a similar view of the ticket as seen after the seals have been broken to expose the identification-card. Fig. 3 is a sectional view through the pocket formed by the doubling or folding of the ticket. Fig. 4 is a plan view of a slightly modified construction wherein only two of the corners formed by the fold or double are secured.

Similar numerals of reference indicate corresponding parts in all the figures of the drawings.

The ticket 1, of which the general construction may be as in the ordinary practice, is provided at spaced points with crease-lines 2 and 3, which may be suitably indicated and between which is arranged a card adapted to be stamped to indicate the general description of the purchaser of the original ticket. After the selling agent has properly indicated the description the ticket is doubled upon the crease-line 2 and then folded to arrange said crease-line 2 to occupy a position upon the crease-line 3, thereby forming a fold or pocket 4, of which the inner surface is stamped, printed, or inscribed, as above indicated, to describe the purchaser. The fold is preserved by the use of sealing devices, such as eyelets 5, and around one or more of the eyelets may be arranged a segmental line of separation 6, consisting of perforations or the equivalent thereof. The inner surface of the fold is completely concealed, and the markings thereon cannot be seen except by loosening one or more of the edges of the fold, and this can be accomplished only by mutilating the ticket or by tearing off the corners, and thereby detaching the sealing devices upon the lines of separation. After the detachable coupons of a return-ticket have been used and the ticket has been stamped at the destination office it should be the duty of the first conductor on the return trip to ascertain whether

the person offering the ticket is the original purchaser, and in order to determine this point the sealing devices should be detached upon the lines of separation by doubling the
5 lower portion of the ticket upwardly upon the crease-line 3 and grasping the corners thus formed between the thumb and forefinger and twisting the corners to tear the paper upon the lines of separation.
10 Any suitable terms of contract may be indicated upon the face of a ticket for signature by the purchaser of the original ticket, by whom it may be agreed that the ticket shall become void in case of mutilation of that
15 portion of the ticket wherein the means of identification are concealed. I have deemed it unnecessary to indicate specifically such terms of contract upon the ticket illustrated, the essential feature of my invention being
20 embodied in a foldable ticket doubled upon itself at an intermediate point to inclose and conceal a portion of the face of the ticket whereon identification means are indicated and sealing devices for securing the fold and
25 adapted to be detached with facility by the proper officer.

It will be understood, however, that various changes in the form, proportion, and the minor details of construction may be resorted to without departing from the spirit or sacrificing any of the advantages of this invention. 30

Having described my invention, what I claim is—

The herein-described railway-ticket having an intermediate portion doubled upon itself
35 to form parallel opposite overlapping side folds and an intermediate fold, of which the inner surfaces are adapted to receive the signature and description of a purchaser, eyelets extending through and engaging all of said
40 folds at their corners, and perforated lines of separation formed in the ticket around and adjacent to a plurality of the eyelets and extending to adjacent edges of the ticket, substantially as specified. 45

In testimony that I claim the foregoing as my own I have hereto affixed my signature in the presence of two witnesses.

GEORGE A. HINKLE.

Witnesses:

R. E. PIERCE,
A. E. YORK.