

No. 660,003.

Patented Oct. 16, 1900.

J. R. CAVANAGH & S. A. TOWNSEND.

IDENTIFICATION TICKET.

(Application filed Feb. 26, 1900.)

(No Model.)

MERCANTILE GUIDE & BUREAU CO., Inc.			
General Offices Indianapolis, Ind.			
No 1095117			
Albany N.Y. Atlanta Ga. Baltimore Md. Birmingham Ala. Boston Mass. Buffalo N.Y. Chicago Ill. Cincinnati O. City of Mexico. Cleveland O. Dayton O. Denver Col.	The Mercantile Guide & Bureau Co. General Offices, Indianapolis, Ind.	Identification Ticket.	1095117
Des Moines Ia. Detroit Mich. Grand Rapids Indianapolis Kansas City. London, Eng. Louisville Ky. Memphis		Express Freight.	
		If package to which this ticket is attached goes astray, or is refused, please notify the Company named below, at nearest point shown on margin of this ticket, always quoting this number.	
		Milwaukee Montreal Newark N.J. New Orleans New York Omaha Neb. Philadelphia Pittsburg, Pa. Portland Ore. Providence R.I. Richmond Va. St. Louis. St. Paul. San Francisco. Washington Winnipeg.	

Witnesses

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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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## IDENTIFICATION TICKET.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 660,003, dated October 16, 1900.

Application filed February 26, 1900. Serial No. 6,597. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that we, JOSEPH R. CAVANAGH and SAMUEL A. TOWNSEND, citizens of the United States, residing at Indianapolis, in the county of Marion and State of Indiana, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Identification-Tickets, of which the following is a specification, reference being had therein to the accompanying drawing.

Our invention relates to a ticket designed for use upon packages sent by express or freight as a means of identification of the sender of the package in case the latter goes astray or is refused acceptance by the person to whom it was consigned.

It is well known that through loss or mutilation of addresses, mistakes in shipment, and other causes thousands of express and freight packages annually go astray and are undelivered, and it was with the view of preventing the loss of such packages and returning the same to the senders that the present invention was designed.

The invention consists of an identification-ticket having the characteristics hereinafter described, and defined in the appended claim.

The accompanying drawing, which forms a part of this specification, shows an identification-ticket embodying our invention.

The reference-numeral 1 designates the ticket, and 2 a coupon attached thereto. This coupon is separated from the ticket by a line of perforations 3, making the ticket readily detachable. The coupon 2 bears the name and address of the firm or company issuing the tickets, as "Mercantile Guide and Bureau Co.," and a number, as "No. 1,095,117." The ticket 1 is divided by vertical lines into five separate columns, (designated, respectively, by the reference-numerals 4, 5, 6, 7, and 8.) The central column 4 contains a number corresponding to the number on the coupon 2. On one side of such number are the words "Identification-ticket," and at the opposite side thereof are the words "Express" and "Freight." In the column 5, adjoining the central column, are printed the name and address of the company, corresponding to those on the coupon, and in the column 6 is a direction to return the package in case it goes astray to the name and address given in the column 5. The columns 7 and 8 contain in

alphabetical order lists of towns where the issuing firm or company has offices.

The utility of the ticket as thus described will be readily understood from the following explanation: The firm or company named on both the coupon and ticket issues to its subscribers any desired number of these tickets, the numbers of the tickets furnished to each subscriber being registered in the offices of the issuing firm or company. We will assume that John Doe procures from the company one hundred tickets bearing the numbers "1" to "100." When he sends a package by either freight or express, he writes the name of the consignee upon the stub of the ticket, and then detaches the ticket and pastes it upon the package. If for any reason the package goes astray or is refused acceptance by the consignee, the freight or express agent or other person into whose hands it falls will notify the company named upon the ticket at the nearest office indicated upon the ticket, giving the number of the ticket. Upon receipt of such notice the company by reference to its books finds out that the ticket bearing the number given was issued to John Doe, who is immediately notified. By reference to his stub John Doe can ascertain at once to whom the package bearing the given number was consigned, and the recovery of the package follows.

We claim—

An identification-ticket for use by shippers, comprising two parts only, a ticket proper and a coupon, each bearing the same number, the ticket and coupon each containing the name of the party issuing the ticket, the ticket only containing a list of the places where the issuing party may be found, and directions for notifying said party in case of necessity by reference to the number appearing on the ticket, the coupon to be retained by the shipper and the ticket to be affixed to the goods shipped, substantially as described.

In testimony whereof we affix our signatures in presence of two witnesses.

JOSEPH R. CAVANAGH.  
SAMUEL A. TOWNSEND.

Witnesses:

H. E. SHEPARD,  
L. O. INGERSOLL.