

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

CHARLES MASCART, OF PARIS, FRANCE.

CAB-FARE INDICATOR.

No. 872,188.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Nov. 26, 1907.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, CHARLES MASCART, engineer, citizen of the French Republic, residing at Paris, France, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Apparatus for Use with Cabs or Like Vehicles for Indicating to the Occupant the Sum to be Paid, of which the following is a specification.

This invention has for its object to provide efficient indicators for indicating the fares due for the hire of cabs, or like vehicles, with means indicating the supplements to be paid.

I will describe my invention with reference to the accompanying drawing which illustrates in section an apparatus for indicating the supplements to be paid.

The operation of the device indicating the supplements can be effected through the flag, or other device, for showing whether the vehicle is engaged or disengaged. On the shaft 1 of a drum 2 carrying the markings of the supplements is keyed a ratchet-wheel 3 having any suitable number of teeth engaging a pawl 4 pivoted at 5 at one end of a double-armed lever 6 centered to the casing at 7. The said pawl 4 is provided with an inclined projection 8 which, by bearing on a fixed stud 9, when the pawl 4 is lowered, causes the said pawl to be disengaged from the ratchet wheel 6. A spring 10 is provided tending to rotate the indicating drum in the direction, say of the hands of a clock, this tendency to rotation being, however, arrested by a detent 11 arranged at the end of a bell-crank lever 12 pivoted to the casing at 13. Springs 14 and 15 are provided to tend to keep the pawl 4 and detent 11 in engagement with the ratchet wheel, while another spring 16 tends to return the lever 6 carrying the operating pawl to its operating position. This lever is operated by cams 17 and 18 keyed on the spindle 19 of the flag, or other device, 20 showing whether the vehicle is engaged or disengaged.

The operation of the device is as follows: Let it be assumed that the apparatus is at rest. In such position the cam 17 bearing on the arm 21 of the lever 6 moves the said arm 21 to engage with the bell crank 12. The action of the cam 17 upon the arm 21 and bell crank 12 shifts the pawl 4 from engagement with the ratchet and also moves the detent 11 out of engagement with the

ratchet. The drum 2 is then released, so under the action of the spring 10 the drum is shifted to a position until the stud 22 bears against a projection 23 on the casing; the drum 2 is then in its "zero" position. By operating the device which indicates whether the vehicle is engaged or disengaged, to a position to indicate that the vehicle is engaged, the shifting of such device being in a direction opposite to that in which it moves when the said device indicates that the vehicle is disengaged, will move the cam 17 from engagement with the arm 21, which releases the lever 12 and lever 6, and the action of the springs 15 and 16 will cause the respective detent 11 to engage the ratchet and the pawl 4 to engage the ratchet. If the device for indicating whether the vehicle is engaged or disengaged is shifted farther in the direction in which it is shifted to indicate that the vehicle is engaged, the cam 18 will engage the arm 21 and shift the lever 6, thereby moving the pawl 4 upwardly and imparting an impulse to the ratchet wheel. This operation will be repeated the necessary number of times corresponding to the sum to be indicated. The indications on the drum are simultaneously seen through the openings 27, 28 and 29 provided in three sides 24, 25 and 26 of the casing.

What I claim is—

The combination of a drum provided with means to indicate the amount of fare paid, a ratchet wheel fixed to said drum, a spring for imparting movement to the drum when the ratchet wheel is released, a lever provided with a detent adapted to engage the ratchet wheel to prevent the rotation thereof in one direction, a pawl engaging said ratchet and adapted to prevent the rotation thereof in the same direction and further adapted to impart an impulse to the ratchet wheel in an opposite direction, a lever carrying said pawl and having an upwardly-extending arm adapted to be moved into engagement with the lever carrying the detent, thereby shifting said detent out of engagement with the ratchet wheel and further shifting the pawl out of engagement with the ratchet wheel, a pair of cam members, one of said members adapted to engage said arm for moving it into engagement with that lever which is provided with a detent, and the other of

said members adapted to engage said arm
for lowering it, thereby shifting said pawl
to impart an impulse to the ratchet wheel,
and means for retaining the detent and pawl
5 in engagement with the ratchet wheel when
said cam members are out of engagement
with said arm.

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

CHARLES MASCART.

Witnesses:

MAA DE RIRAUD,
PIERRE LEISSE.