

R. M. PEARSON & W. LETZIG.

SIGN.

APPLICATION FILED MAY 25, 1904.

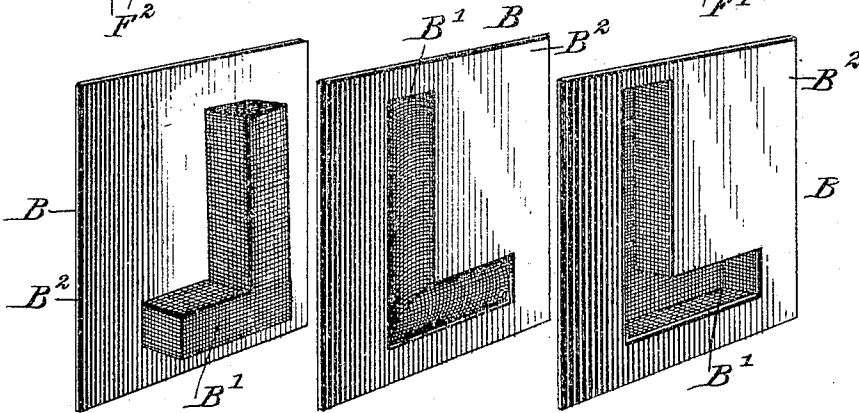
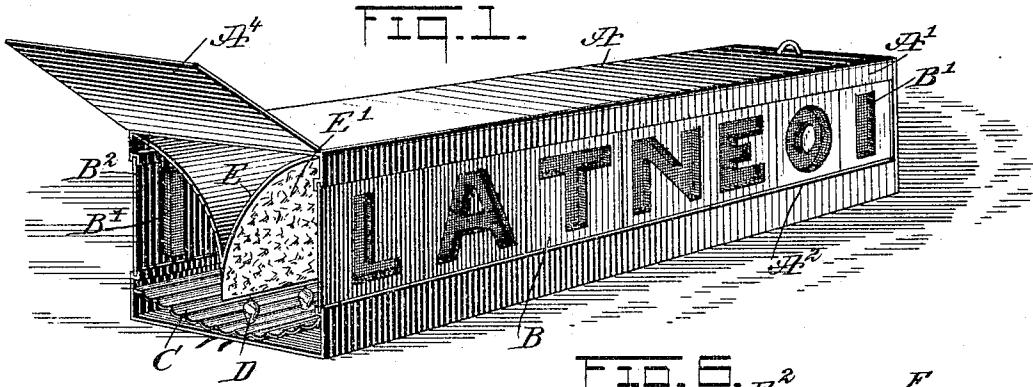


FIG. 3.

FIG. 4.

FIG. 5.

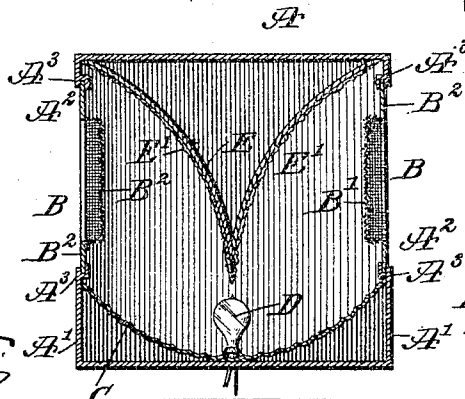


FIG. 2.

WITNESSES:

W. B. ...
Henry ...

INVENTORS
 Raleigh M. Pearson
 William Letzig

BY *W. M. ...*
 ATTORNEY

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

RALEIGH M. PEARSON AND WILLIAM LETZIG, OF LITTLE ROCK,
ARKANSAS.

SIGN.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 784,344, dated March 7, 1905.

Application filed May 25, 1904. Serial No. 209,708.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that we, RALEIGH M. PEARSON and WILLIAM LETZIG, citizens of the United States, and residents of Little Rock, in the county of Pulaski and State of Arkansas, have invented a new and Improved Sign, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description.

The object of the invention is to provide a new and improved sign which is very attractive both in the day-time and at night, the sign-letters being wholly illuminated and readable on both sides of the sign and illuminated by the same source of light at a comparatively little expense.

The invention consists of novel features and parts and combinations of the same, as will be more fully described hereinafter and then pointed out in the claims.

A practical embodiment of the invention is represented in the accompanying drawings, forming a part of this specification, in which similar characters of reference indicate corresponding parts in all the views.

Figure 1 is a perspective view of a sign having removable and interchangeable letters, one end cover of the sign being shown raised. Fig. 2 is an enlarged transverse section of the same. Fig. 3 is a rear perspective view of one of the sign-letters. Fig. 4 is a front view of a modified form of the same. Fig. 5 is a front perspective view of the letter shown in Fig. 3, and Fig. 6 is a side elevation of a sign having fixed sign-letters.

The casing A, of sheet metal or other suitable material, is preferably made rectangular in cross-section and is provided on its sides A' with cut-out portions A² for the reception of removable and interchangeable sign-letters B, mounted to slide in suitable guideways A³, formed on the top and bottom walls of the cut-out portions of the sides A', as plainly shown in Fig. 2. One or both ends A⁴ of the casing A are adapted to be either removed or swung into an uppermost position, as indicated in Fig. 1, to allow of sliding the sign-letters B from the open end of the casing in position on the sides A' and along the guideways A³ in their regular order and according to the name or phrase to be displayed.

Each sign-letter B is composed in part of wire-netting B' and in part of a plate B² of sheet metal or like material, the plate being formed with an opening corresponding to the shape of the letter to be represented and the wire-netting being attached to the side walls of the said opening and raised and rectangular, as shown in Figs. 3 and 5, or curved, as shown in Fig. 4, so that the rays of light can penetrate through the meshes in the wire-netting, but are prevented from penetrating through the opaque plate B².

In the bottom of the casing A is arranged a longitudinally-extending reflector C, preferably made concave and corrugated in a longitudinal direction, as plainly indicated in Fig. 1, and on the top of the said reflector C and along the middle thereof is arranged a row of lamps to form a source of light D, preferably in the shape of electric lamps, if electricity is available, but candles or any other source of light may be employed. A V-shaped partition E extends lengthwise in the casing, the apex of the partition being directly above the source of light D and spaced from the reflector C, while the side arms are curved from the apex upwardly and outwardly to terminate at the upper corners of the casing, as plainly indicated in Figs. 1 and 2. The outer faces E' of the partition E are covered with tin-foil or are silvered, the faces being irregularly shaped, so as to present something similar to what is known as "rock-face."

By the arrangement described the rays of light from the source of light D strongly illuminate the faces E', as well as the top face of the reflector C, so that the said faces form an illuminated background for the sign-letters, and consequently the wire-netting B' gives the letter an appearance of a solid illuminated letter in the night, and during the day-time when the source of light is extinguished the sign-letter has a solid appearance, owing to the fact that the wire-netting is raised from the plate B², as previously described and illustrated in Figs. 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5.

It is understood that the lamps forming the source of light D are not visible through the meshes of the wire-netting, but the rays of light are strongly reflected from the reflector

C, so as to highly illuminate the irregular reflecting-face E', which forms the illuminated background for the sign-letters, and hence it requires but a comparatively weak source of light to render the sign effective at a low expense.

The side of the casing illustrated in Fig. 6 is formed of a rectangular frame F, covered by a wire-netting F', on which are secured sheet-metal or similar solid letters F², which appear solid during the day-time and highly illuminated during the night, when the lamps forming the source of light D are in action, as the illuminated background formed by the reflecting-faces E' brings the letters in great contrast on the wire-netting F'.

The sign can be cheaply manufactured and by having the removable letters can be readily changed at the will of the user, according to the name or phrase to be displayed by the sign.

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

1. A sign comprising a casing having sign-letters in its side and made partly of wire-netting and partly of solid, non-perforate material, a concave reflector in the bottom of the casing, a source of light within the casing and extending lengthwise on the top of the said reflector along the middle thereof, and a curved reflecting-face extending upwardly and outwardly from the source of light to the upper side corner of the casing.

2. A sign comprising a casing having a longitudinal guideway in its side, interchangeable sign-letters removably held in the guideway, each sign-letter consisting of a sheet having an opening corresponding to the shape of the letter, and a wire-netting attached to the sheet at the walls of the opening, the netting being raised.

3. A sign comprising a casing having a longitudinal guideway in its side, interchangeable sign-letters removably held in the guideway, each sign-letter consisting of a sheet having an opening corresponding to the shape of the letter, a wire-netting attached to the sheet at the walls of the opening, the netting being raised and extended inwardly, and an illuminated reflecting background within the casing for the said sign-letters.

4. A sign comprising a casing having lon-

gitudinal guideways in its side, interchangeable sign-letters removably held in the guideways, each letter consisting of a sheet having an opening corresponding to the shape of the letter, a wire-netting attached to the sheet at the walls of the opening, the netting being raised and extended inwardly, a reflector in the bottom of the said casing, a source of light within the casing and extending lengthwise on the top of the said reflector along the middle thereof and a partition curved upwardly and outwardly from the source of light, to connect with the upper side corner of the casing, the front face of the said partition being of reflecting material, irregularly shaped and arranged.

5. A sign-letter consisting of a sheet having an opening corresponding to the shape of the letter, and a wire-netting attached to the sheet at the walls of the opening, the netting being raised.

6. A sign-letter consisting of a sheet having an opening corresponding to the shape of the letter, and a wire-netting attached to the sheet at the walls of the opening, the netting being raised on the inside of the sheet, so as to project from the rear face of the plate.

7. A sign comprising a casing having sign-letters in its side, a concave reflector in the bottom of the casing, and a curved reflecting-surface in rear of the letters.

8. A sign, comprising a casing having sign-letters in opposing sides, a concave reflector in the bottom of the casing, and a V-shaped reflecting-surface having upwardly and outwardly curved sides, and arranged lengthwise in the casing.

9. A sign, comprising a casing having longitudinal guideways in opposing sides, sign-letters removably held in the guideways, a concave reflector in the bottom of the casing, a V-shaped reflecting-surface having upwardly and outwardly curved sides and arranged lengthwise in the casing.

In testimony whereof we have signed our names to this specification in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

RALEIGH M. PEARSON.
WILLIAM LETZIG.

Witnesses:

H. D. PARKER,
J. L. REID.