

(Model.)

C. S. DE WITT.

PRICE AND INVENTORY CHECK.

No. 384,237.

Patented June 12, 1888.

Fig. 1.

Fig. 1. A detailed view of the Price and Inventory Check form. It features a header section with a circular logo containing the letter 'H'. Below the logo, the text 'Placed on Sale' is followed by the number '18'. The main body of the form is divided into two columns: 'Price' and 'Stock Number'. The 'Price' column is further subdivided into 'D' (Price) and 'G' (Price). The 'Stock Number' column is subdivided into 'E' (Stock Number) and 'F' (Price). The form includes a section for 'A. F. Chapman & Co.' and 'Department B.'. A large number '2' is written in the 'Price' column. A vertical line of text on the right side of the form reads: 'These goods sold by me at price fixed, and cash received therefor.' The form is labeled with letters A through H.

Fig. 2.



Fig. 3.

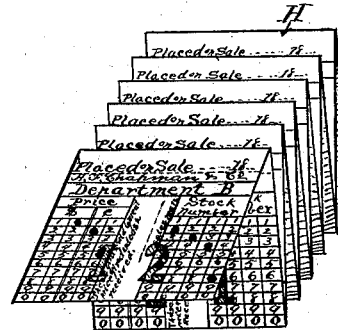


Fig. 4.

Fig. 4. A detailed view of the Price and Inventory Check form, showing the 'Received cash for the goods as indicated by price number punched from this check.' section. It includes a section for 'CREDITED in Stock Book' and a section for 'H. F. Barlow.' The form is labeled with letters J through L.

Fig. 5.

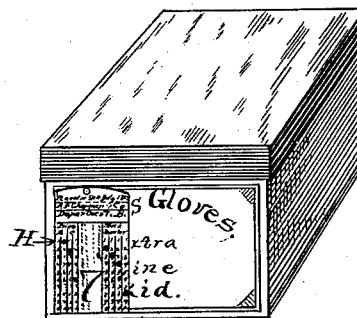


Fig. 6.

Fig. 6. A detailed view of the Price and Inventory Check form, showing the 'Placed on Sale' section and the 'A. F. Chapman & Co.' and 'Department B.' sections. It includes a section for 'Price' and 'Stock Number'. The form is labeled with letters M through P.

Witnesses,

John H. Hutchins.
Mr. J. Hutchins.

Inventor.

Caleb S. De Witt.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

CALEB S. DE WITT, OF LOCKPORT, ILLINOIS.

PRICE AND INVENTORY CHECK.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 384,237, dated June 12, 1888.

Application filed December 7, 1885. Serial No. 184,915. (Model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, CALEB S. DE WITT, a citizen of the United States of America, residing at Lockport, in the county of Will and State of Illinois, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Price and Inventory Checks, of which the following is a specification, reference being had therein to the accompanying drawings.

This invention relates to certain improvements in checks to be used by merchants, their salesmen, and cashiers, to indicate the price and stock number of goods, and enables merchants to keep a daily or semi-daily inventory of stock sold and stock on hand, and to locate a sale, or an error, or a misdemeanor in any department of their store, which invention is fully set forth and explained in the following specification and claims, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, which form a part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 is a face view of one of a set of checks designed to be attached to a box or package of goods, the checks corresponding in number to the articles for sale in the box or package. Fig. 2 is an edge view of a set of checks such as are shown in Fig. 1. Fig. 3 is a perspective view showing a series of said checks arranged in a continuous folded strip or band and designed to be attached to boxes or packages of goods or to loose and bulky articles. Fig. 4 is a plan view of the back of one of the checks shown in Figs. 1, 2, and 3 after it has been detached from its set with the goods it represented and has passed the hands of the salesman and cashier and has been credited in the stock-book or ledger. Fig. 5 is a perspective view of a box or package of goods having a set of said checks attached thereto, showing the manner of their attachment. Fig. 6 is a face view of two duplicate checks such as are shown in Fig. 1, the duplicate being designed to go with the purchased goods.

Referring to the drawings, looking at Fig. 1, H represents a check designed to be put up in sets, as shown in Figs. 2 and 3. The face of said checks is divided in sections. Section A is for the date at which the goods to which the check attaches was placed on sale; section B, the name of the proprietor; section C, the character representing the department to which

the goods belong. D is the section having the word "Price" marked therein, section E having the words "Stock number" therein, section F having the "\$" sign therein, section G having the letter "¢," standing for "cents," therein, section I having the voucher of the salesman therein. Under the section F, containing the \$ sign, are arranged two columns of figures each numbering from the top downward from 1 to 0, said figures representing dollars, two similar columns of figures under section G having the ¢ sign, and represent cents. Four similar columns stand under section E and represent the stock-number when punched or marked.

These checks are numbered in consecutive order to correspond with and represent the number of articles in a box or package or the number of yards in piece goods, check No. 1 being the last one of the set and the last to be removed, and representing the last article in a box or package or yard in a piece of goods.

The check-number is exposed, always showing the number of articles remaining in the box or package or yards in a piece, thus being an inventory of the goods remaining unsold, and the check-number credited on the stock-book being an inventory of the goods sold. For example, and referring to Fig. 5, the check-number exposed being 7 shows that there are yet remaining in the box seven pairs of gloves, and—supposing there had been twelve pairs in the box—shows that five pairs have been removed and sold. For convenience in removing a check, the set is perforated, as shown at P, Fig. 1, near the top.

When a set of checks is attached to a box or package of goods, the price of each article is indicated by punch-marks in the dollar and cents columns, and the stock-number is indicated by punch-marks in the stock-number columns, as shown in Figs. 1, 3, and 5, all the checks being punched at once through the same numbers. For example, and looking at Fig. 1, the punch-mark under the dollar-sign is through 1 in the second column and under the cent-sign through 2 of the first column and 5 of the second column, showing the price of one article or pair of articles in the box to be one dollar and twenty-five cents. The stock-number is indicated by punch-marks through 2 of

the first column, 3 of the second column, 4 of the third column, and 8 of the fourth column, showing the stock-number to be 2,348.

The set of checks shown in Figs. 1, 2, and 3 having been punched and attached to a box or package of goods, as shown in Fig. 5, the manner of their use is as follows: When a sale is made and the purchaser pays the cash, the salesman detaches from the set the check representing the article sold. The salesman then stamps his signature in section I, making his voucher for the price of the article sold. The check and cash then accompany the goods to the cashier, where proper change is made, if necessary, and the goods and change returned to the salesman, to be delivered to the purchaser. The cashier then stamps his voucher with a dating-stamp upon the back of said check, as shown at K in Fig. 4, under the wording shown at J in said figure. He then passes the check through a slit into a locked box, from whence it is taken and used as a voucher to balance the cash of the said cashier by another employé or the proprietor, and credited in the stock-book or ledger, said check holding the cashier responsible for the price of the article which each check represented until settlement is made. After the said check has been credited in the stock-book, the person having done so indicates the same by a dating-stamp mark, as shown at L in Fig. 4, on the back of the check, and the check is then stamped and filed away for future reference. The last number of the check credited

in the stock-book readily indicates and is an inventory of the number of articles sold, and the uncredited number shown by the stock-book indicates and is an inventory of the goods on hand, so that each time these checks are credited a complete inventory of the stock sold and also on hand is made, and said crediting may be done daily or semi-daily, if desired.

This check may, if desired, be used with piece or roll goods, and attached thereto in any desired manner to adapt it for that purpose.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent is as follows, to wit:

1. A set or series of checks or tickets having the letters and figures marked thereon in the manner substantially as set forth, and numbered in consecutive order to represent the quantity of goods or articles in the box or package to which they attach, substantially as and for the purpose specified.

2. A set or series of checks or tickets having consecutive inventory numbers for constantly showing the quantity of goods sold from the package to which they attach, and also to represent at any time the quantity of goods remaining unsold in the package to which said checks or tickets are attached, substantially as set forth.

CALEB S. DE WITT.

Witnesses:

WM. J. HUTCHINS,

THOS. H. HUTCHINS.