

(No Model.)

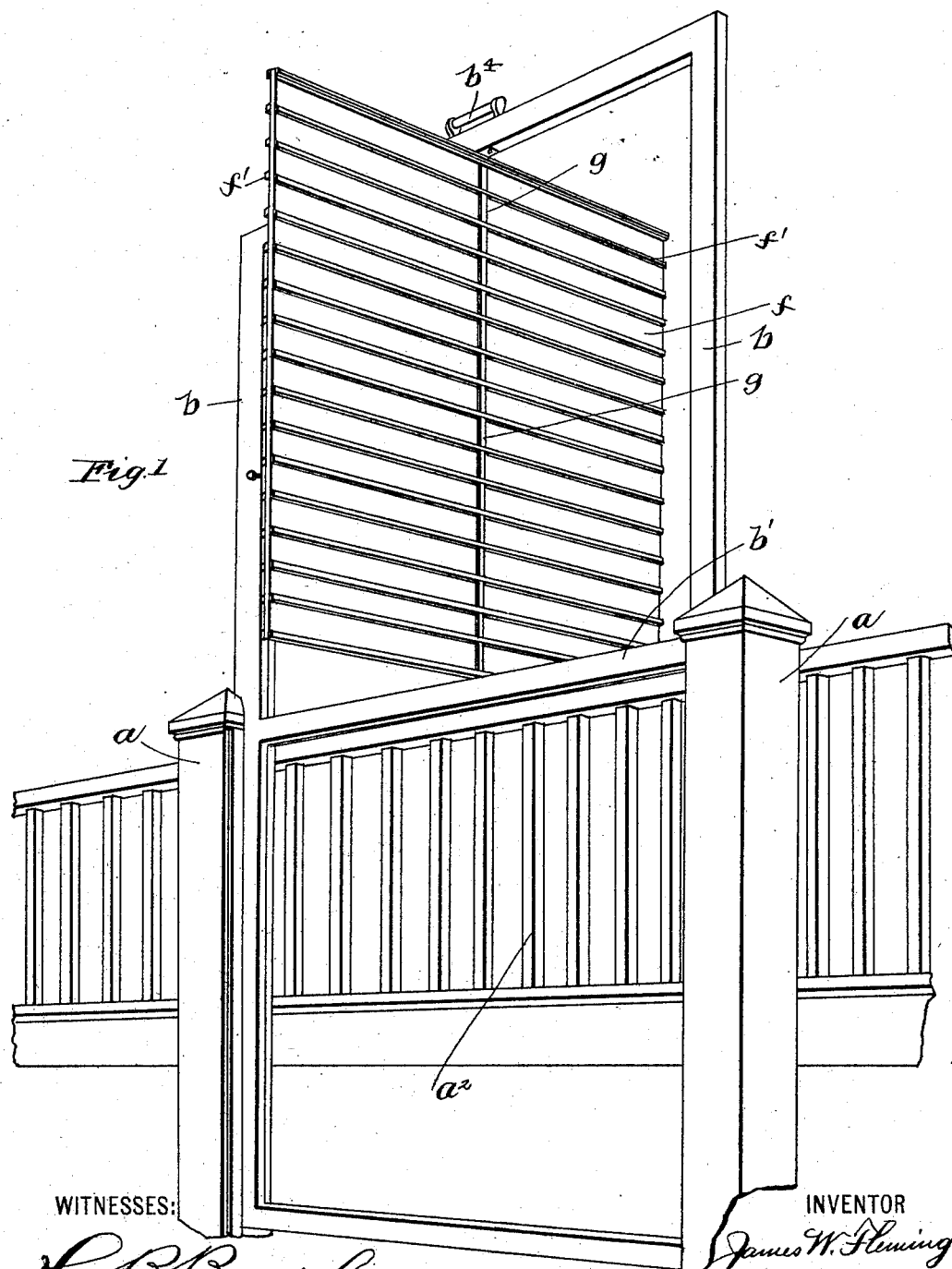
J. W. FLEMING.

2 Sheets—Sheet 1.

RACE BULLETIN AND DISPLAYING DEVICE.

No. 522,980.

Patented July 17, 1894.



WITNESSES:

H. B. Bradshaw  
A. L. Phelps

INVENTOR

James W. Fleming

BY

Staley & Shepherd  
ATTORNEYS.

(No Model.)

2 Sheets—Sheet 2.

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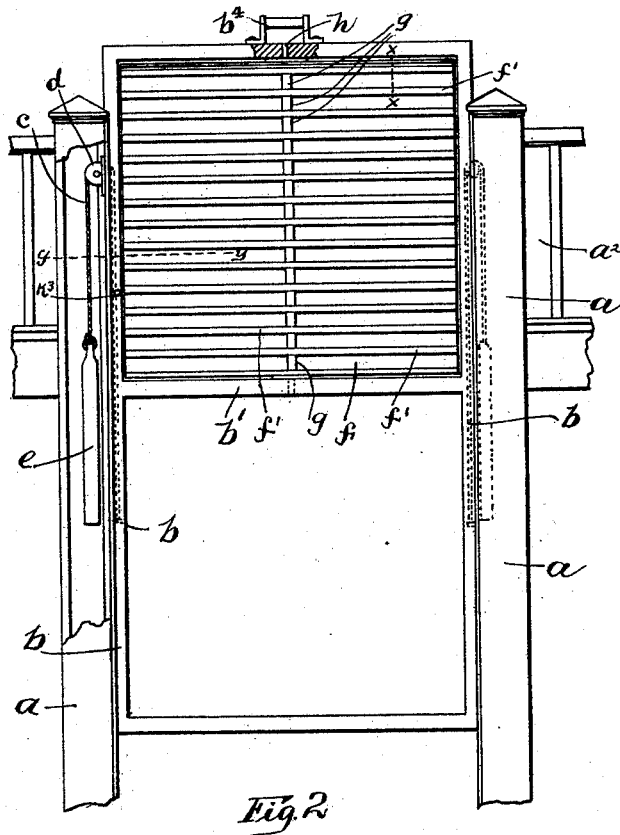


Fig. 2

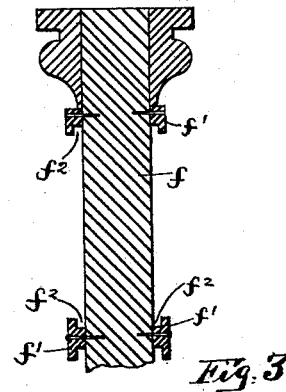


Fig. 3

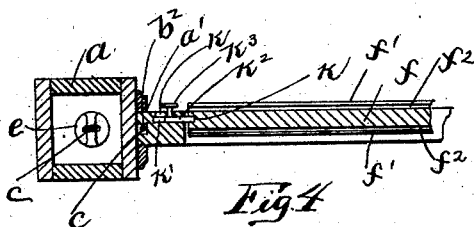


Fig. 4

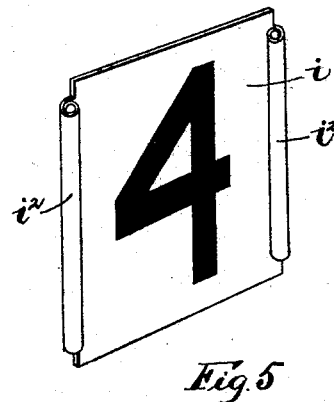


Fig. 5

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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JAMES W. FLEMING, OF COLUMBUS, OHIO.

## RACE-BULLETIN AND DISPLAYING DEVICE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 522,980, dated July 17, 1894.

Application filed April 28, 1894. Serial No. 509,309. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, JAMES W. FLEMING, a citizen of the United States, residing at Columbus, in the county of Franklin and State of Ohio, have invented a certain new and useful Improvement in Race-Bulletins and Displaying Devices, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to the improvement of race track bulletins, and the objects of my invention are to provide a reversible and adjustable bulletin-board of this class of improved construction and arrangement; to combine said device with the framework of a judges' stand or similar structure and to produce other improvements in details of construction which will be more fully pointed out hereinafter. These objects I accomplish in the manner illustrated in the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a view in perspective of a portion of a judges' stand, showing my improved race bulletin connected therewith. Fig. 2 is a front elevation of the same showing one of the frame posts broken away for the sake of clearness. Fig. 3 is an enlarged sectional view of a portion of the bulletin or race board taken on line *xx* of Fig. 2. Fig. 4 is an enlarged sectional view on line *yy* of Fig. 2 and Fig. 5 is a detail view in perspective of one of the display plates.

Similar letters refer to similar parts throughout the several views.

*a* represents two vertical and hollow frame posts of a stand or structure such as is ordinarily employed as a judges' stand at race tracks and *a*<sup>2</sup> represents the usual platform railing of such a stand. On the inner side of each of these posts is provided a vertical guide way *a'* within which project and are adapted to slide the vertical side pieces of a rectangular frame *b*, said frame being provided at the center of its width with a cross piece *b'*. As shown in Fig. 4 of the drawings and as indicated at *b*<sup>2</sup>, the vertical side pieces of the frame *b* are provided with the usual longitudinal window frame grooves and in the lower ends of said grooves are secured the lower ends of weight cords *c*. Each of these weight cords extends upward within the frame groove to a point in the upper portion thereof from which point they lead outward passing

through an opening in the inner side of the adjacent post *a* and over a pulley *d* journaled in said post. The downwardly extending portion of each of the cords *c* which is within one of the posts is made to support, as shown in Figs. 2 and 4 of the drawings, a weight *e* said weights being adapted to counterbalance the weight of the bulletin frame with which the cords are connected.

As indicated in the drawings, that portion of the frame *b* which is above the cross piece *b'* is provided with a filling board or plate *f*. This board or plate *f* is pivotally supported in said frame by having end pivot pins *h* at the centers of its width, which are journaled, as shown, in suitable sockets in the cross piece *b'* and upper end cross frame pieces of the frame *b*. On each side or face of said plate *f* are provided parallel longitudinal guide cleats *f'* which are arranged in pairs at desirable intervals one from the other. These cleats, as shown, are of substantially a T-shape in cross section and are so secured to the plate *f* as to result in the formation of channels or grooves *f*<sup>2</sup> between the projecting or flanged outer portions thereof and the face of said plate. The cleats are preferably intersected at the centers of their lengths by vertical division pieces *g* which serve to divide the spaces between the cleats into equidistant lengths.

*i* represents one of the detachable number or letter display plates which I employ. Each of these plates is preferably formed of a substantially rectangular metal piece which is provided on its vertical edges with an inwardly and outwardly rolled portion *i*<sup>2</sup>, the latter having its terminations respectively below and above the upper and lower ends of the plate. It is evident that these display plates or strips may be made of any desired length for the purpose of printing names, letters or numbers thereon.

In one face of one of the side frame pieces of the frame *b* I provide an elongated recess or slot *k* which communicates with a bolt way or socket *k'* formed in said frame piece from the inner face thereof. In this socket is adapted to slide a horizontal bolt *k*<sup>2</sup> which is provided with a finger piece *k*<sup>3</sup>, the latter projecting through the recess *k*. The end of this bolt is adapted to be made to engage, as

shown, with a socket  $k^4$  in the adjoining side of the bulletin-board  $f$  when the latter is swung into its normal or closed position.

In order to utilize my invention the frame  $b$  which is provided with a suitable top handle  $b^4$ , is readily elevated until the board or plate  $f$  is above the stand railing  $a^2$  after which by disengaging the bolt  $k^2$  from said board the latter may be reversed or swung at any desired or convenient angle for use. This being accomplished a clerk of the course or other employé of the judges' stand may readily fill the spaces between the guide cleats  $f''$ , which are to the left of the central division pieces  $g$ , with cards or display plates bearing the names of the horses entered for a race. Those spaces which are between the cleats  $f''$  to the right of the central division pieces and which are in alignment with the spaces on the opposite side of said division pieces, may be employed to receive the number plates  $i$ , the upper and lower ends of said number plates sliding in the grooves  $f^2$ . These plates may contain numbers indicating the starting positions of the horses in the race, the results of the heats, the order of the awards of purses, &c. The upper spaces of the board may be utilized to contain display plates bearing suitable headings.

Owing to the fact that the rolls  $i^2$  are formed on the vertical edges of the display plates, said rolls will operate to form stops which will abut one against the other when two or more of said plates are arranged in one display space, thus preventing any tendency of said plates passing or overlapping each other. As a further means of preventing confusion and presenting the numbers clearly and separately to the eye of the observer, I preferably produce on the outer face of each of the rolls  $i^2$

of said display plates a painted vertical line which will operate to partition said numbers.

It is evident that when the board is not elevated for the purpose of affixing thereto the desired display plates, the same may be lowered to such position as to clear the upper portion of the judges' stand and it is also evident that both sides of the board being of like construction, the clerk may be arranging the names and positions of the horses on the rear side of the board while the front side displaying information relating to the race at hand, is clearly shown to the eyes of the observers in front of the stand.

Below the cross piece  $b'$  of the frame  $b$ , said frame may if desired be filled in with any desirable advertising matter.

It will be observed that by the construction and arrangement herein shown and described, a simple, convenient and reliable device is provided by means of which such information as it is desirable to post on a race bulletin-board may be readily arranged.

Having now fully described my invention, what I claim, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

In a race displaying board the combination with the frame posts  $a$ , a sliding frame  $b$  adjustably supported therein, a pivoted display board in said frame, and parallel guide cleats secured as described on said display board, of letter or number plates  $i$  having rolled side extensions as described, said number plates being detachably retained by said cleats against said board, substantially as and for the purpose specified.

JAMES W. FLEMING.

In presence of—

C. C. SHEPHERD,  
J. R. CHEETHAM.