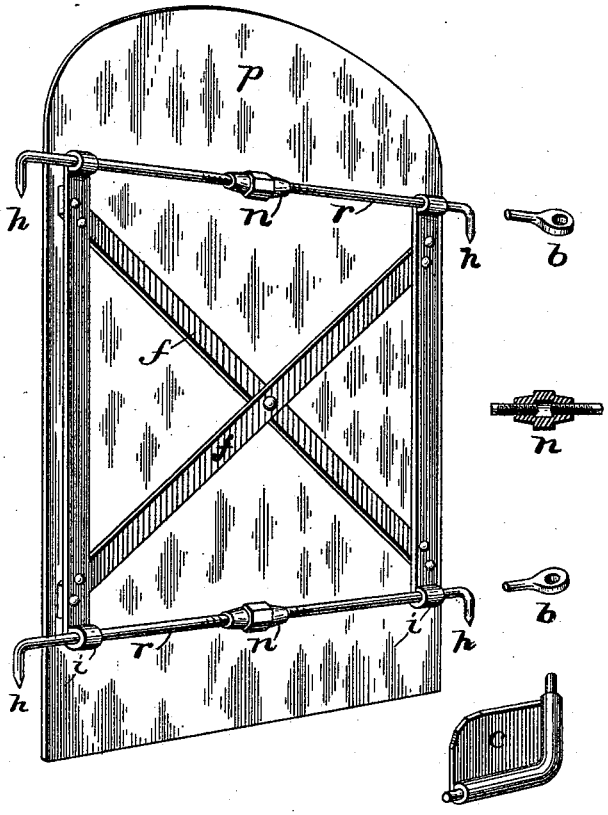
(No Model.)

L. R. GODWIN.

ADJUSTABLE GATE FOR STREET CARS.

No. 524,040. Patented Aug. 7, 1894.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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ADJUSTABLE GATE FOR STREET-CARS.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 524,040, dated August 7, 1894.

Application filed March 5, 1894. Serial No. 502,414. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, LORENZO RUSSELL GODWIN, a citizen of the United States, residing at Memphis, in the county of Shelby and State of Tennessee, have invented a new and useful Gate for Street-Cars, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to improvements in street railway cars, and particularly to improvements in the gates which are detachably mounted on the platforms thereof to prevent passengers from getting off the cars at the points where the gates are located, and it consists in an improved gate for car platforms which is so formed as to be capable of adjustment to fit different sizes of gateways, the construction and arrangement of the parts of which will be hereinafter fully described and particularly pointed out in the claims.

In the construction and use of street railway cars, it has been found that the distance between the dashboard and the side of the car varies somewhat, not only with different cars, but at different ends and sides of the same car; and that after a street car has been in use for a little time, the natural settling of the car, and the strain put upon the dashboards by the action of the brakes and by the leaning of the passengers against them, causes the distance between the dashboard and the car body to vary still more widely. As it is between the dash board and the car body that the gates are placed for the purpose of protection of the passengers, and as it is desired to use a uniform size of gate, and to replace old gates as they get broken or worn out with new ones of the same size and character, this variation of the space between the car body and the dashboard gives rise to much annoyance and trouble.

The chief object of my invention is to provide a platform gate which can be adjusted to different widths of gateways, and thus can not only be changed from end to end and side to side of a car, but also can be changed from one car to another.

A further object of my invention is to provide a gate which will prevent the sagging of the dashboard on account of the strains to which it is subjected.

I accomplish the objects of my invention by the use of a strongly braced frame work of approximately the width of the gateway for which the gate is designed, and by extending the side arms which project from the side of the frame, and are formed to permit the attachment of the gate to the sides of the gateway, across the entire width of the frame, dividing them in the middle and connecting the parts by means of a turnbuckle nut. In this manner these arms may be adjusted to any width of gateway. The gate proper I form with a solid face, and bolt it to the frame.

My invention is fully represented in the drawing accompanying and forming a part of this application, which is a perspective view of a gate constructed in accordance with my invention, looking from the rear.

Referring to the drawing, *f* represents the wrought iron gate frame. As shown it is formed with two side bars and two diagonal cross bars, strongly bolted together. The ends of the side bars are curled over to form eyes *i*, through which pass the adjustable rods *r*. The ends of the rods *r* are either turned down to form hooks *h*, so as to drop into eyes provided for their reception in the dashboard of the car, or the ends may be formed with eyes as shown at *d*, in which case hooks or pins may be provided on the dashboard for the eyes to drop over. It is immaterial which construction is used. The rods extend across the entire width of the frame work, and are divided in the center, the two parts being connected together by the turnbuckle nuts *n*. If it is desired to provide adjustment for only one side of the frame, one of the ends of the rod *r* may be fastened firmly in its eye *i*, and the other end passes through its eye sufficiently loosely to permit of its being moved out and in. Preferably, however, both ends of the rod will be made adjustable. Extending as these rods do across the frame work they form a strong brace to hold the dashboard in position, and transfer the strain from the gate itself to the said arms.

To the frame thus described is securely bolted the sheet iron plate *p*, which is of thin metal and may be stiffened if desired by turning the edge over, and running a wire rod

around it, as shown at *c*, which illustrates a detached corner of the plate so constructed. This plate affords a convenient means for displaying advertisements, which may be painted or otherwise placed upon them. The plate will usually be bent outward in the middle, and thus permit the turnbuckle nut *n* to be freely turned, but if necessary, a hole may be cut in said plate to permit of such movement. The plate is separate from the frame to which it is attached, and may be easily removed for the purpose of any repairs which may be required.

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

1. In a gate for car platforms, the combination with a suitable framework, and a solid plate secured thereto, of arms capable of rigid adjustment extending from the sides of the gate, whereby the gate may be immovably attached to different widths of gateways.

2. In a gate for car platforms, the combination with the frame *f*, having the eyes *i* formed thereon, of the rods *r* extending across said frame and passing through said eyes, and the turnbuckle nuts *n*, whereby the length of said rods may be adjusted, substantially as described.

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