

Steering Apps.

Patented Aug 10. 1848.

Fig. 3.

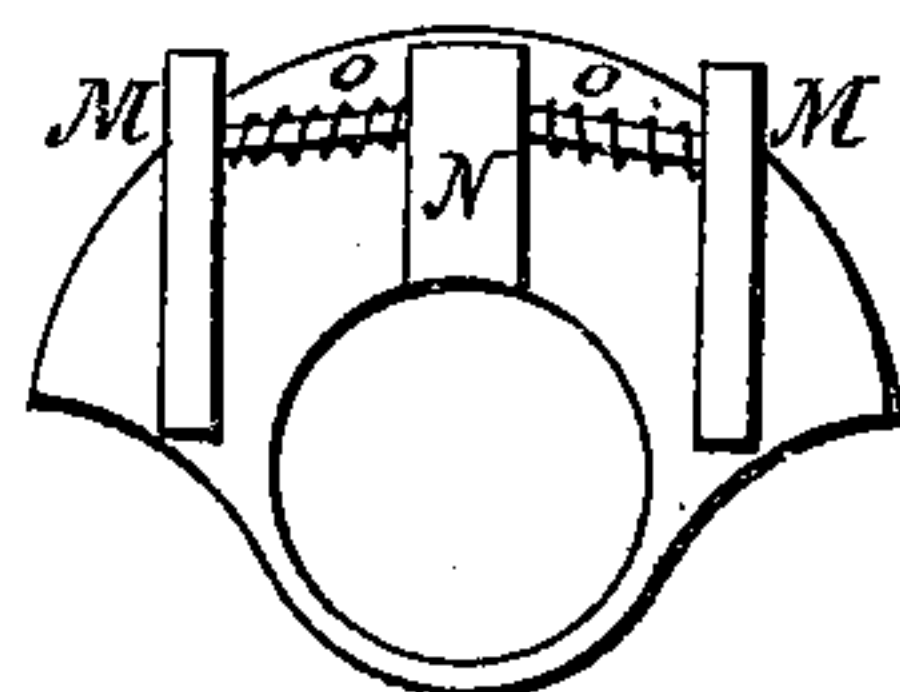


Fig. 2.



UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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SPRING-CLUTCH APPLIED TO A RUDDER-HEAD.

Specification of Letters Patent No. 5,700, dated August 10, 1848.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, EZEKIEL O. P. ANDREWS, of Boston, in the county of Suffolk and State of Massachusetts, have invented a
5 new and Improved Apparatus for Steering Vessels; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full and exact description of the construction and operation of the same, reference being had to the annexed draw-
10 ings, making part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 is a perspective view, Fig. 2 a horizontal section of the clutch at the helm-post, and Fig. 3 is an inverted section showing a substitute for the clutch.
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A steering wheel A of ordinary construction, is mounted on the forward end of a longitudinal horizontal shaft B, which is supported by two posts C D, which rise from
20 a platform, floor, or vessel's deck; and near the rear, or aft end of the shaft is mounted a large gear-wheel E, the teeth of which take to those of a pinion F, which is mounted on the end of a transverse horizontal shaft; and
25 on the center of this shaft is a revolving screw G, the thread of which take to the teeth of a gear sector H, which is mounted on the head of a vertical shaft or helm-post I. This gear sector is not firmly attached
30 to the helm-post, but is connected thereto by a peculiar clutch, represented in Fig. 2, in which J is a center pivot or round tenon which ascends through the gear sector; the section K K K K is attached to the sector,
35 but the sections L L L L are elevated tenons, or prominent parts of the helm-post. Be-

tween the tenons L and the wings K curved steel springs are adjusted, and prevent the tenons from impinging directly upon the wings, and relieves each from violent con- 40
cussions. Instead of this arrangement, I shall sometimes construct the gear-sector with two cleats on the underside, as represented M M, Fig. 3, and with a tiller-beam N firmly attached to the helm-post, and ex- 45
tending between the cleats. The cleats are connected to each other by a curved iron rod which pass freely through the beam, and is inclosed by two helical springs O O, which connect the beam to the cleats. When this 50
apparatus is applied to sailing vessels, the rudder post of the vessel constitutes the helm-post of the machine, or is attached thereto; but when it is used for steering steam vessels, a rope P P is attached to the 55
helm-post, passing around the same, and thence through the blocks r r to the rear head (or after head) s, of the rudder T; or the rope (or chain) may be conducted through any number of blocks, in any posi- 60
tion required, to conduct the same to the rudder.

What I claim as my invention, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

The spring clutch represented in Fig. 2 65
as applied for the purpose of relieving the sector and other parts of the apparatus from sudden and violent concussions or strains.

EZEKIEL O. P. ANDREWS.

Witnesses:

RUFUS PORTER,
STEPHEN T. PORTER.