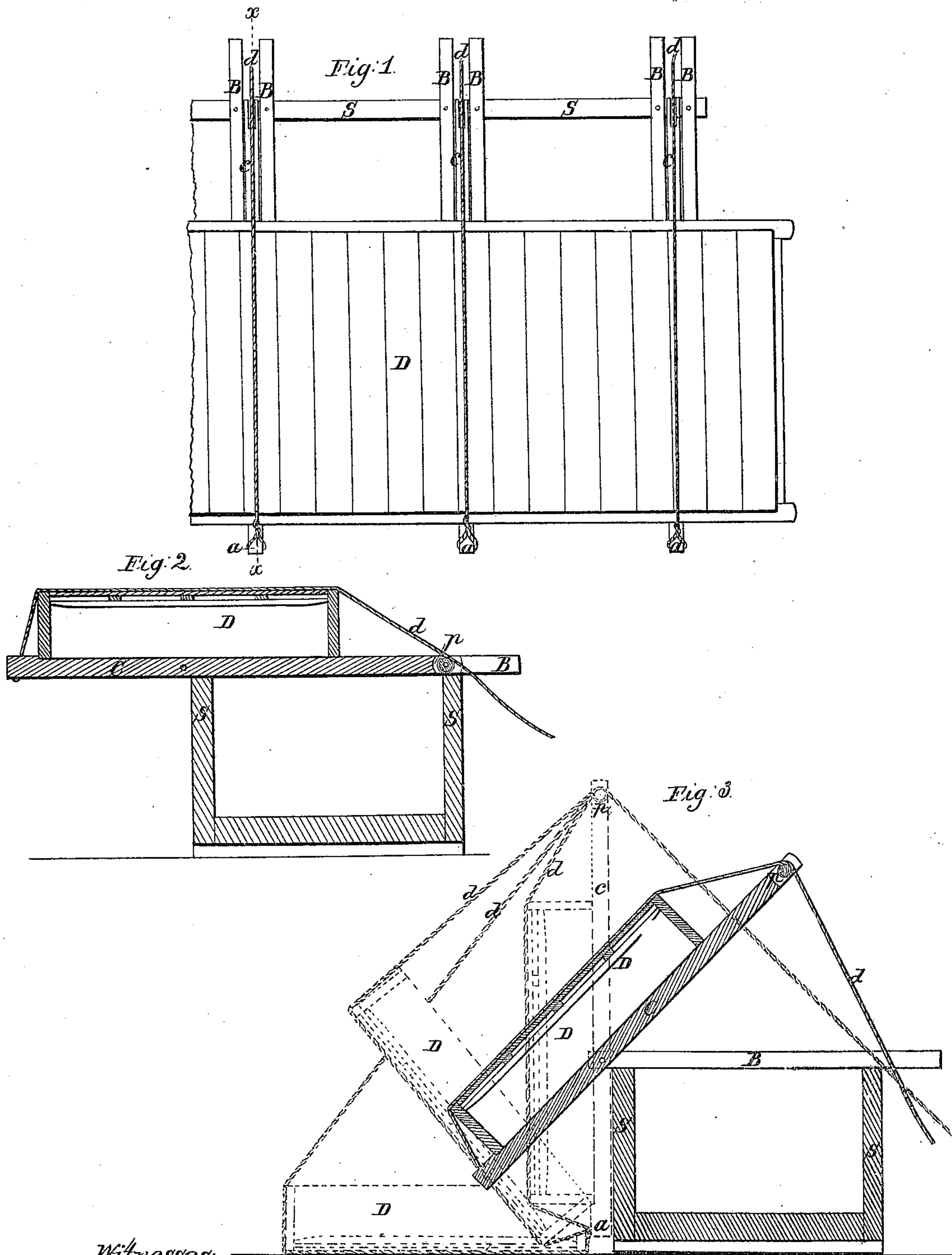


*J. & E. Davis.*

*Gangway.*

*Nº 26,168.*

*Patented Nov. 22, 1859.*



*Witnesses;*  
*Joseph East*  
*Elias Apnan.*

*John Davis*  
*Inventors;*  
*Ebenezer Davis*

# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOHN DAVIS AND EBENEZER DAVIS, OF MATILDAVILLE, PENNSYLVANIA.

## LAUNCHING FLAT-BOATS.

Specification of Letters Patent No. 26,168, dated November 22, 1859.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that we, JOHN DAVIS and EBENEZER DAVIS, of Matildaville, in the county of Clarion and State of Pennsylvania, have invented a new and useful Improvement in the Mode of Launching Flat-Boats; and we do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description of the construction and operation of the same, reference being had to the annexed drawing, forming a part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 is a top view of the staging with the boat on it. Fig. 2 is vertical section on line *x, x*, showing the boat in position to be lowered. Fig. 3 is a view showing the position of the boat during the different stages of launching.

Similar characters of reference in the several figures denote the same part.

The nature of the invention consists in constructing a fixed staging on which the boat is built, with its top beams arranged in pairs, and between them are hinged beams, projecting the side of the staging, having shoulders on the projecting ends, and on the other end pulleys, also ropes attached the shoulder ends, and passing across the boat into the pulleys on the other end of beams, so as to allow the gradual descent of boat from the staging in launching it, as will be set forth.

In the drawing S is the staging, B, B, the top beam, *c*, the hinged beams between them, having on their projecting end the shoulders *a*, and at the other ends the pulleys *p*.

D, is the boat, and *d* the rope going across the boat from shoulders *a*, to the pulleys *p*.

When the boat is ready to launch, it is pushed to the end of the projecting beams *c*, against the shoulders *a*. These beams being hinged between the top beams B, can be easily turned in a vertical position, the boat being held in position against the shoulders *a*, and by ropes *d*, and after the boat has reached a vertical position, it is held entirely by the ropes, and by means of the ropes over the pulleys *p*, is gradually lowered on the rollers or the water, as shown by the red marking in Fig. 3.

We claim—

The combination of the hinged, projecting beams *c*, with the shoulders *a*, pulleys *p* and ropes *d*, substantially as and for the purpose herein set forth, when used in connection with the permanent staging S.

In testimony whereof we have hereunto signed our names before two subscribing witnesses.

JOHN DAVIS.  
EBENEZER DAVIS.

Witnesses:

WILLIAM BOSTAPH,  
HENRY FULMER.