Sheet 1. 2 Sheets.

# A. C. Bouk.

## Rafting.

No. 36,764 Patented Oct. 28, 1862.

Fig. 1

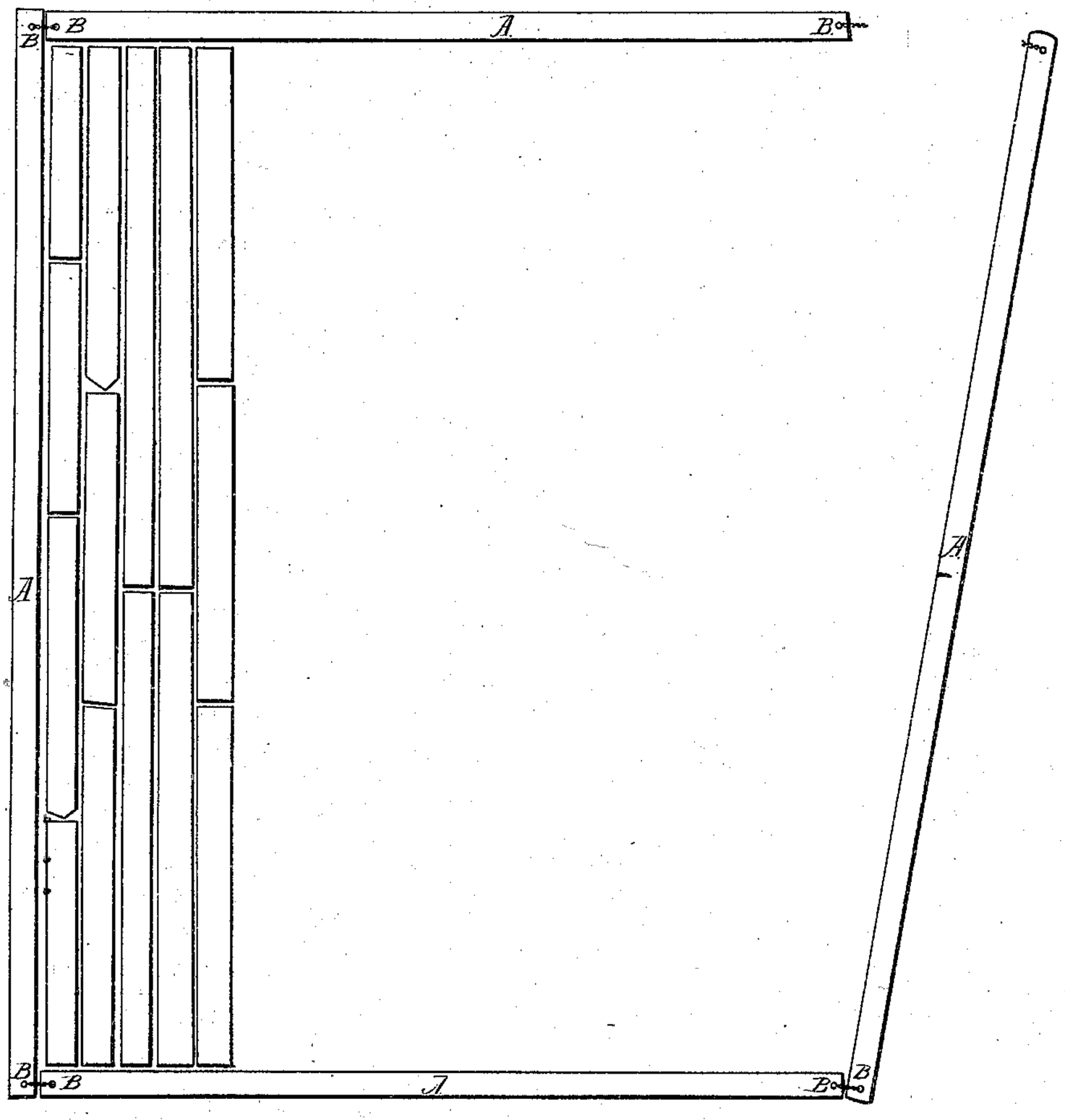
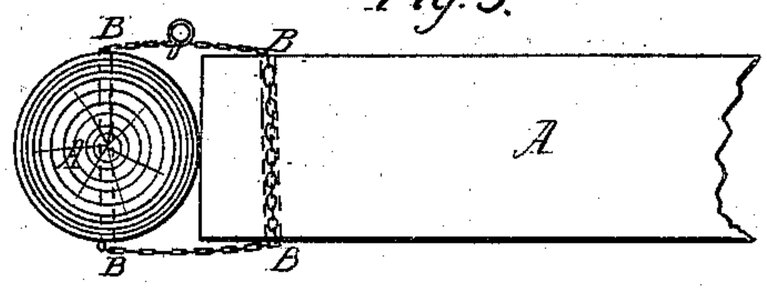



Fig. 3.




Witnesses:

James W. Bouk
M. H. Tyrrell

Inventor:

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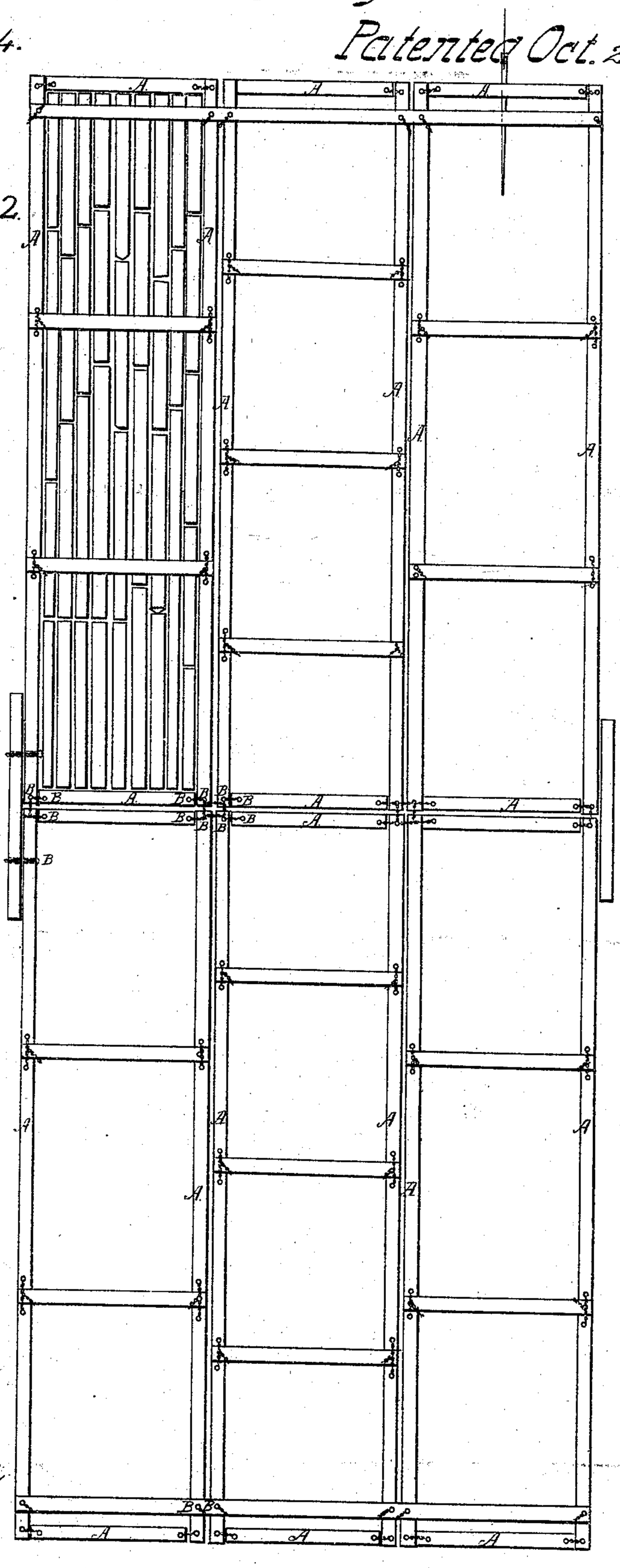
Sheet 2. 2 Sheets.

## Rafting.

No. 36,764. Patented Oct. 28, 1862.

Fig. 2.




Witnesses:
James H. Bouk
M. H. Tyrrell

Inventor:
A. C. Bouk

# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

NELSON C. BOUK, OF CLINTON, IOWA.

## IMPROVED MODE OF RAFTING LOGS AND TIMBER.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **36,764**, dated October 28, 1862.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, NELSON C. BOUK, of Clinton, in the county of Clinton and State of Iowa, have invented a new and Improved Mode of Rafting Logs and Timber; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full and exact description thereof, reference being had to the accompanying drawings and to the letters of reference marked thereon.

The nature of my invention consists in connecting the several logs or pieces of timber together so as to form a raft by means of long timbers chained together at the ends in the form of a parallelogram, which parallelogram or boom incloses the logs or timbers to be rafted, which will avoid the loss or damage to logs or timbers caused by boring holes, as is in the mode of rafting now used, and enable the raft to pass over snags and other obstructions without stopping the raft, or allow the raft to be easily removed from the obstruction by floating the raft away in sections easily handled.

To enable others skilled in the art to make and use my invention, I will proceed to describe its construction and operation.

I take four logs or timbers, A A A A, Figure 1, of the lengths which I desire the sides of my boom to be, and, near each end of the logs or timbers, bore a hole of sufficient diameter to admit a chain of requisite strength, usually a hole two and a half inches in diameter, which will allow a chain of five-eighths iron to pass through freely. I then place three of the logs or timbers in the form of three sides of a parallelogram, as in Fig. 1. Then pass through the holes B B B B, Fig. 1, chains having a ring at one end, through which the links of the chain may freely pass, and, connecting the ends of the chain, fasten with a lock or by driving a wooden pin into the holes through which the chain passes. Having completed three sides of the boom, as in Fig. 1, I float the logs or timbers to be rafted to their places inside the boom, placing the logs or timbers lengthwise the boom, so that the logs or timbers shall float end on or lengthwise the current of the stream where the raft is designed to float. Having filled the boom as above, I bring the fourth log of the boom to its place, thus completing the parallelogram, as in Fig. 2, and chain it as above mentioned. Thus a section of the raft is formed, Fig. 2.

In rafting spars or other very long timber in the same boom with shorter logs or timber I strengthen the boom and connect the shorter timbers which form the parallelogram by placing across the top of boom, after the same is filled, a stay of lighter timber, which is chained to the boom-timbers in the same manner as the boom-timbers are chained together. Sections thus constructed are combined until the raft assumes any desired proportions, by connecting the contiguous sides of several sections with chains, in the same manner as in constructing a single section, and by chaining across each end of the entire raft the oar-block or head-block on which the oars swing.

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

The application of booms to rafting logs and timber in any waters, so as to save the timber rafted from loss, either by boring every log or by obstructions, like bars and snags, thus securing the timber rafted, and transporting the same without diminishing either quality or quantity.

N. C. BOUK.

Witnesses:
JAMES ZINTON,
TH. J. FLOURNOY.