G. Jury,

Operating Oyster Tongs.

No. 44,634. Patented Oct. 11, 1864.

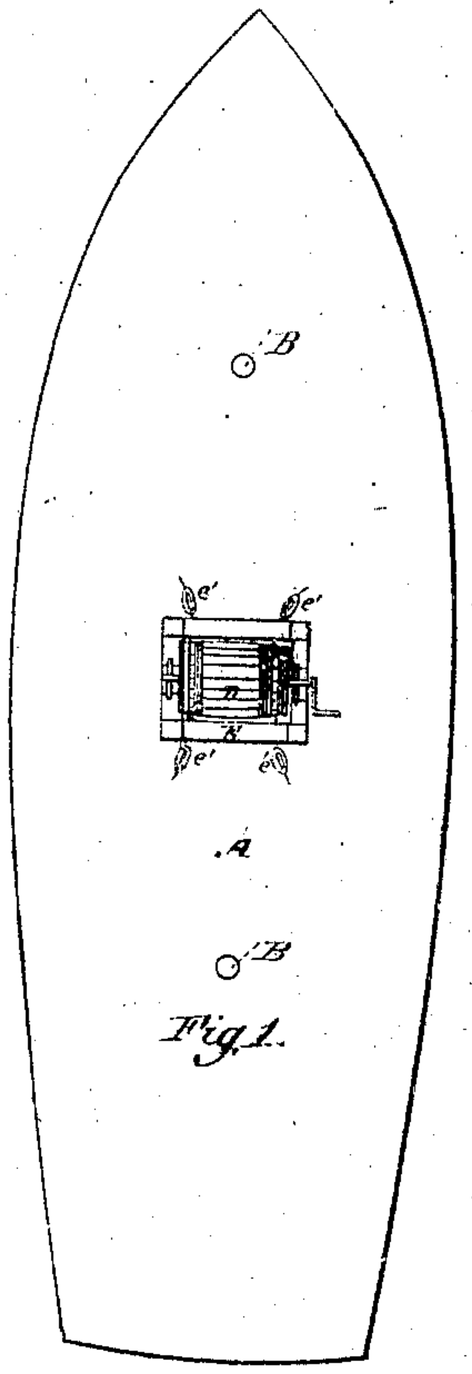

Fig. 1.

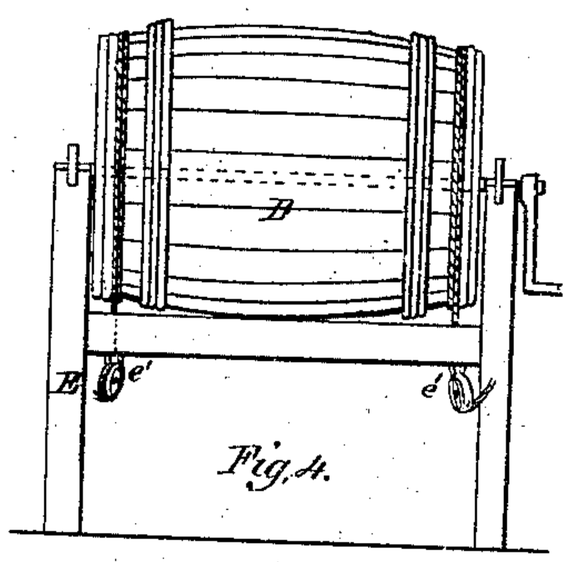

Fig. 4.

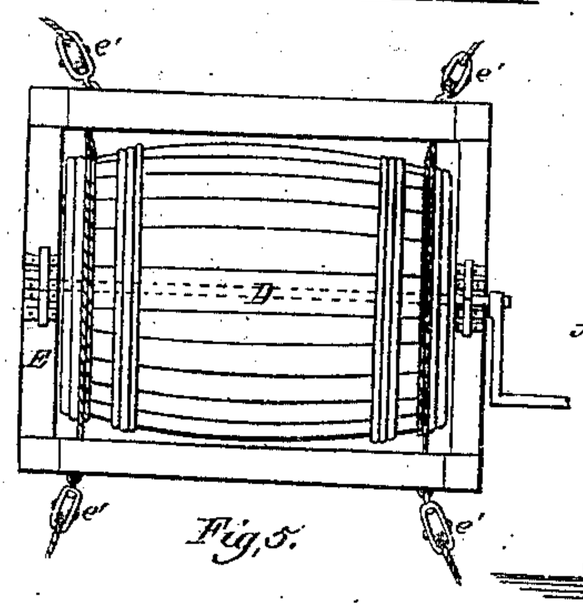

Fig. 5.

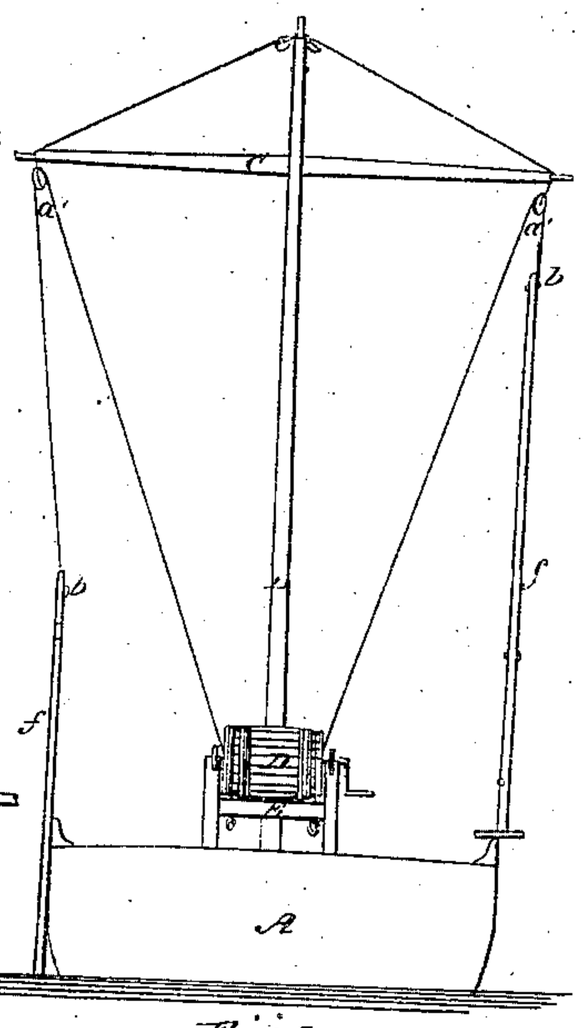

Fig. 2.

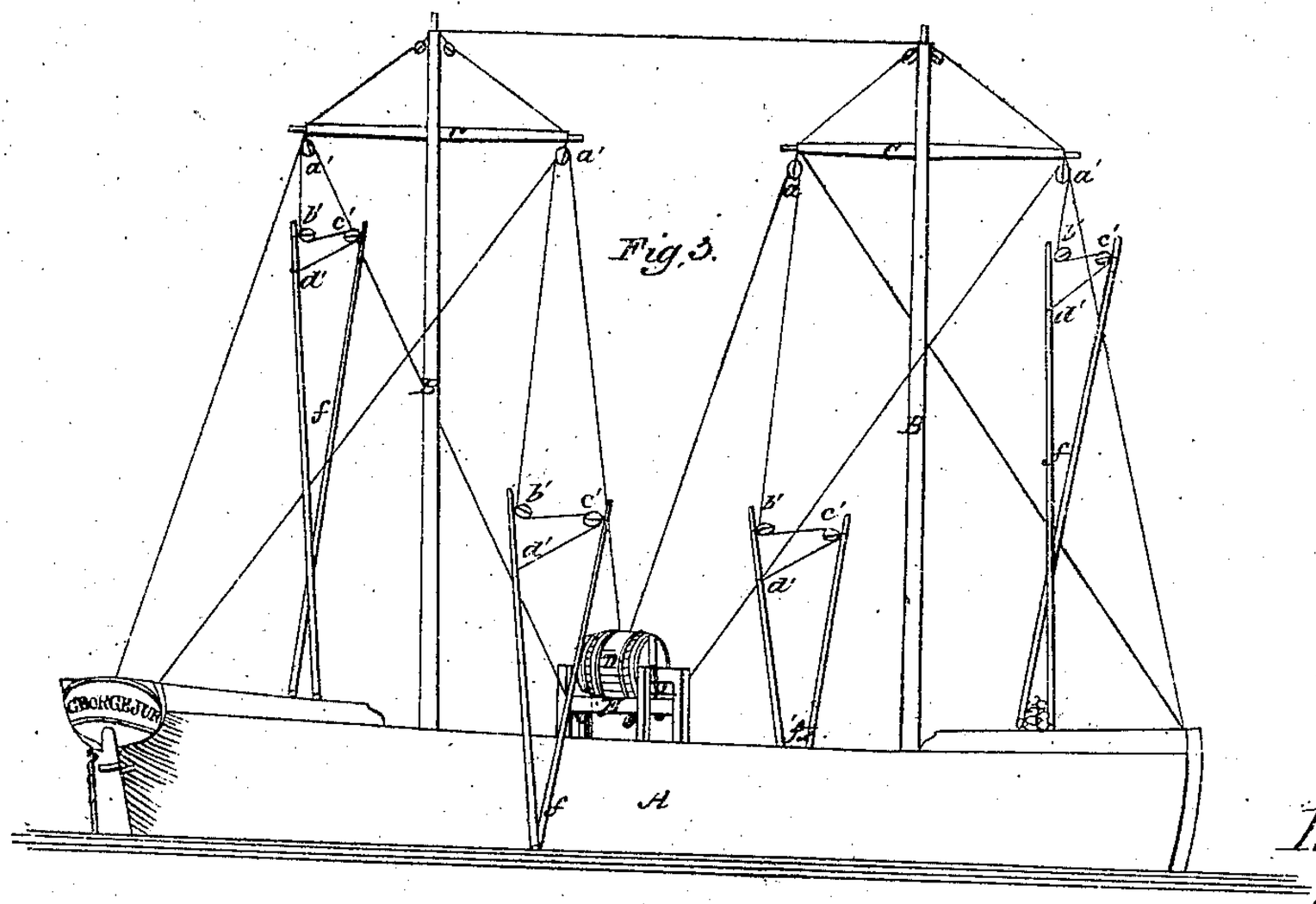

Fig. 3.

Inventor.

George Jury.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

GEORGE JURY, OF BALTIMORE, MARYLAND.

IMPROVEMENT IN WORKING OYSTER-TONGS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **44,634**, dated October 11, 1864.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, GEORGE JURY, of the city of Baltimore, in the State of Maryland, have invented a new and Improved Mode of Catching Oysters by Tongs or Rakes; 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 using four or more pair of oyster tongs or rakes, one on each side of the foremast and one on each side of the mainmast of a schooner or other vessel operated by three boys (for four pair and six boys for eight pair) by means of cords and blocks attached to the yard-arms and to the frame surrounding a strong barrel (as a drum or pulley) situated midway between the masts and operated upon by a crank attached to the axle of said barrel, whereby two pair of tongs ascend while two pair descend, thus keeping up a continuous elevation and depression of said tongs or rakes from the bottom to the deck.

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

I construct my vessel A, Figures 1, 2, and 3, in the usual way, with two or more masts, B, according to the number of rakes to be employed. The masts are supplied with yards C C, about eighteen inches on each end longer than the breadth of beam. Said yards are supplied with proper lifts and braces or guys running aft from the main-yard and forward from the fore-yard to keep them steady. On each yard-arm is secured a single block, *a'*.

At the center of the deck, between the two masts B B, I erect a suitable frame, E, secured to the deck, upon the end rails of which are attached friction-rollers for the support of a shaft, said rail being about thirty inches from the deck. Said shaft runs through the middle of a strong barrel, D, and, resting upon said friction-rollers, is used to operate the hoisting of four or more pairs of oyster-tongs. On each side rail of said frame E, near the ends of the barrel, is a single block, *e'*, attached by means of a staple and standing at an angle toward the yard-arm. Around said barrel D, between the end hoops and the next, a cord is passed with a round turn, passing each end through blocks *e'*, and, leading up through blocks *a'* on its corresponding yard-arm, descends, and, passing through blocks *b'* on one end of the rake-handle *f*, crosses over and passes through blocks *c'* at the end of the opposite handle, and thence back to the first-named handle. The whip end is secured about a foot below block *b'*. The same arrangement is made on the other side of the barrel, the cord being made tight. On one end of the barrel a shaft is attached a crank or handle. Upon applying power to said crank the revolution of the barrel draws one pair of rakes up, at the same time presses the handles together and closes the tongs, while the other pair of rakes descend, and as the cords are loosened the tongs open, ready to take hold at the bottom. Thus while one boy is operating the crank the other two boys attend, one on each side the vessel, to empty the tongs as they ascend.

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

The method above described of combining a common strong barrel as an elevator with cords and blocks to several pairs of rakes, operating and geared as above described, for the purpose of raking oysters with but few hands.

GEORGE JURY.

Witnesses:

JOS. MORRIS,

M. S. ROBBINS.