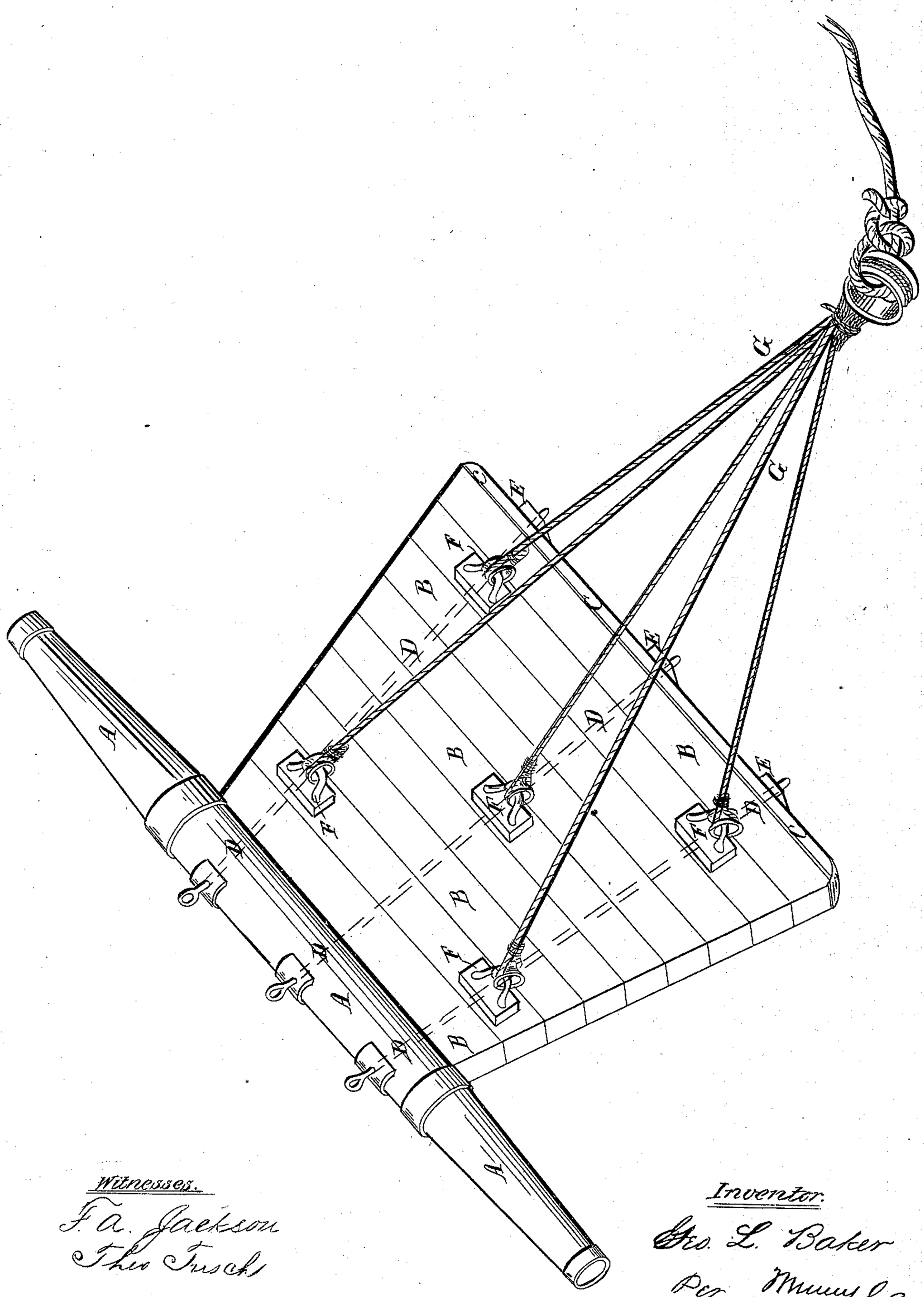
G. L. Baker,

Marine Diag.

No. 61,983. Patented Feb. 12. 1867



Witnesses.

F. A. Jackson

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GEORGE L. BAKER, OF ASTORIA, NEW YORK.

Letters Patent No. 61,983, *dated February* 12, 1867.

IMPROVED FLOATING ANCHOR.

The Schedule referred to in these Letters Patent and making part of the same.

TO ALL WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

Be it known that I, GEORGE L. BAKER, of Astoria, in the county of Queens, and State of New York, have invented a new and improved Floating Anchor for keeping a vessel's head to the wind; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description thereof, which will enable others skilled in the art to make and use the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawing, forming part of this specification.

The figure is a perspective view of my improved apparatus, showing in red lines the bridle to which the cable is attached that connects it to the vessel.

My invention has for its object to furnish an improved apparatus by means of which a vessel that has lost her rudder, or become otherwise disabled or unmanageable in a gale of wind, may be held with her head to the wind, and thus prevented from getting into the trough of the sea and foundering; and it consists in bolting planks and an iron weight to a spar or cylinder in such a manner that the floating anchor may be kept in a vertical position in the water, the whole being constructed, arranged, and connected to the vessel in the manner hereinafter more fully described.

A is a spar, about twenty-five feet long. B are planks, from eight to ten feet long, one foot wide, and four inches thick; and C is an iron weight or bar, of sufficient size to hold the apparatus vertical in the water. The iron weight or bar C and planks B are secured to each other and to the spar A by three or more bolts, D, passing through them, and secured in place by nuts, E, so that the apparatus can be readily taken apart for convenient storage on board the vessel, and easily and quickly put together when required for use. F are eye-bolts or staples firmly attached to the planks B, to which are attached the ends of the ropes that form the bridle G. The ends of these ropes may be secured to the eye-bolts F by metallic rings or thimbles to prevent their chafing, or they may be secured by sister-hooks. This latter construction I prefer, as it enables the bridle to be detached for storage. The bridle G terminates in a thimble for convenience in attaching the cable, by means of which the floating anchor may be connected to the vessel. This cable may be of any desired length, and its end should be secured to the bow of the vessel. If desired or necessary a chain cable may be used to connect the floating anchor to the vessel, but in this case the spar A should be replaced by an air and water-tight hollow cylinder, so as to increase the buoyancy of the floating anchor that it may sustain the weight of the said chain cable. To the upper side of the spar or cylinder A may be attached eye-bolts, rings, or shackles, or eyes may be formed upon the upper ends of the bolts D, as shown in the drawing, for convenience in lowering the apparatus into the water, and hoisting it on board the vessel.

In using the apparatus, the spar, planks, and iron weight are arranged and bolted together, the bridle and cable arranged and secured to the bow of the vessel, and the apparatus lowered into the water. The action of the wind upon the vessel, and the resistance of the water upon the floating anchor, compel the vessel to take a position with her head to the wind, and keep her in that position.

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

The combination of the spar A, detachable planks B, weight C, and bolts D, when constructed and arranged as herein set forth and for the purpose specified.

The above specification of my invention signed by me this 11th day of December, 1866.

GEORGE L. BAKER.

Witnesses:

WM. F. MCNAMARA,

JAMES T. GRAHAM.