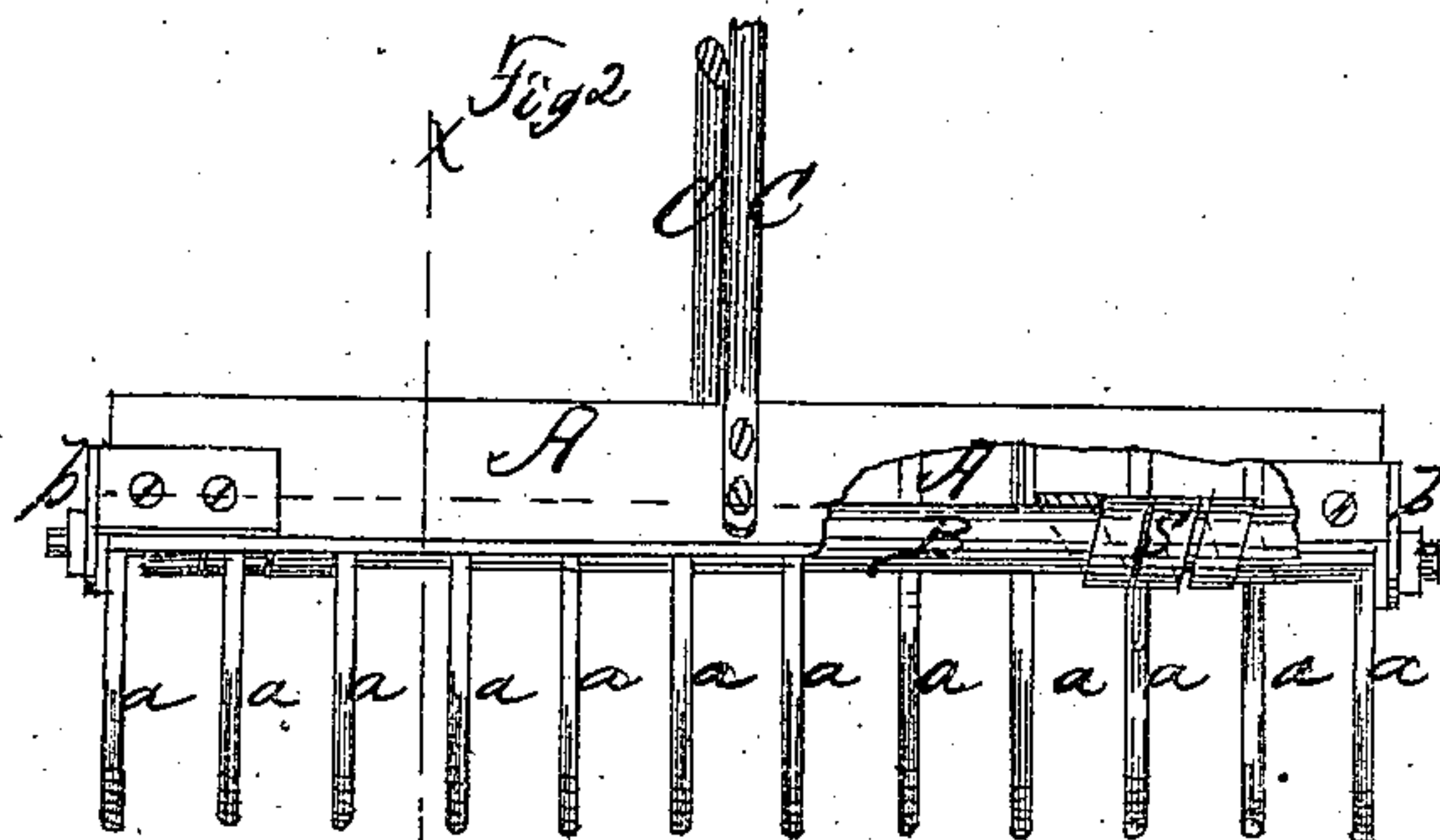
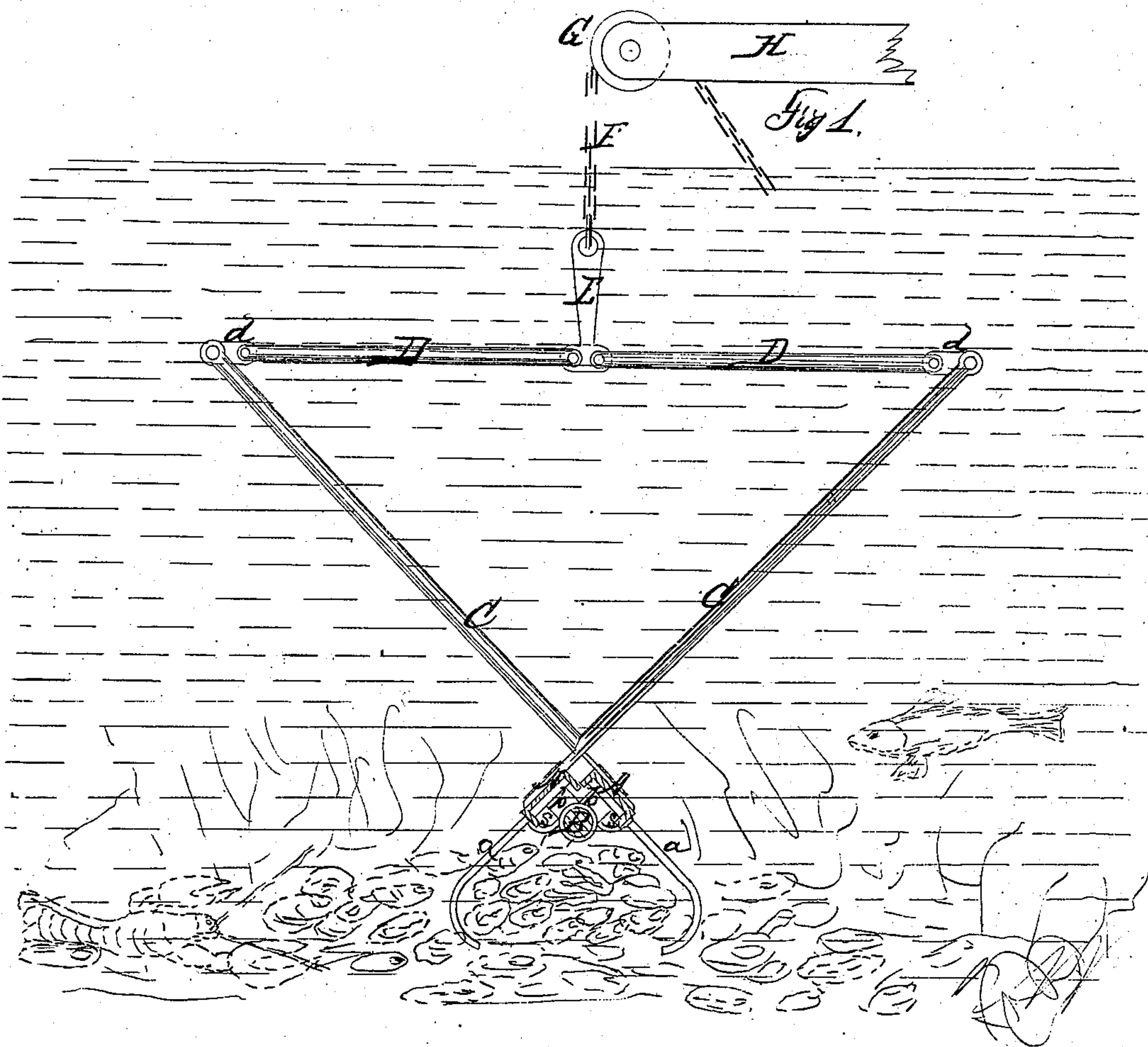


# A. Barrett. Oyster - Rake.

N<sup>o</sup> 76697

Patented Apr. 14, 1868.



Witnesses

Solon C. Heyman.  
Chas. A. Pettit

Inventor.

Asa Barrett  
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Attorneys

# United States Patent Office.

ASA BARRETT, OF BALTIMORE, MARYLAND, ASSIGNOR TO HIMSELF AND  
MILTON D. METTEE, OF SAME PLACE.

*Letters Patent No. 76,697, dated April 14, 1868.*

## OYSTER-RAKE.

*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, ASA BARRETT, of the city and county of Baltimore, and State of Maryland, have invented a new and improved Oyster-Rake; and I 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 drawings, making a part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 is a perspective view.

Figure 2 is a side elevation, a portion of one of the rake-heads being broken away, to show the interior.

This invention is a simple and easily-operated device, by which oysters can be fished up from great depths.

In the drawings, A A represent two rake-heads, hinged together along their upper edge, and provided with teeth *a a*, of the form, and arranged in the manner shown in the drawings. B is a heavy bar, extending between the heads A A, being supported by ears *b b*, at either end of the rake.

The object of the bar is to furnish sufficient weight to overcome the force of the spring S, which is coiled around the bar, or applied in any other suitable manner, and so attached to the heads, on either side of it, as to press their lower edges apart, and open the rake, when not counteracted by the weighted bar.

C C are two crossed rods or bars, extending upwards from the two rake-heads, and united at their top by means of two rods D D, hinged to them, and a link, E, which connects the two rods D D, as shown in fig. 1.

From the link E, a chain or cord, F, extends up to the vessel, passing over a pulley, G, in the yard-arm, or in a crane, H. The rods D and C may be connected by a knuckle-joint, *d d*, if desired, so that they can be compactly folded together.

The operation of this device is as follows: When lowered upon the oyster-bed, the force of the springs *s s* and the weight of the arms C C cause the teeth to spread apart, assuming the position shown in fig. 1. But when, by means of the cord or chain, the link E is drawn up, the upper ends of the arms are drawn together, closing the teeth together, and intercepting the oysters between them. The weight of the bar B draws down so heavily as to bring the teeth closely together, their ends interlocking, so that none of the oysters can escape.

The device can be lowered to any depth where it is possible to find oysters, operating just as easily and perfectly in deep soundings as where the water is shoal. It is cheap, simple in construction, and but little liable to get out of repair.

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

The instrument above described, consisting of the rake-heads A A, teeth *a a*, spring S, and weight B, in combination with the crossed rods or arms C C, and the connecting-rods D D, and link E, substantially as and for the purpose specified.

ASA BARRETT.

Witnesses:

T. B. GAITHER,

J. M. SNOWDEN.