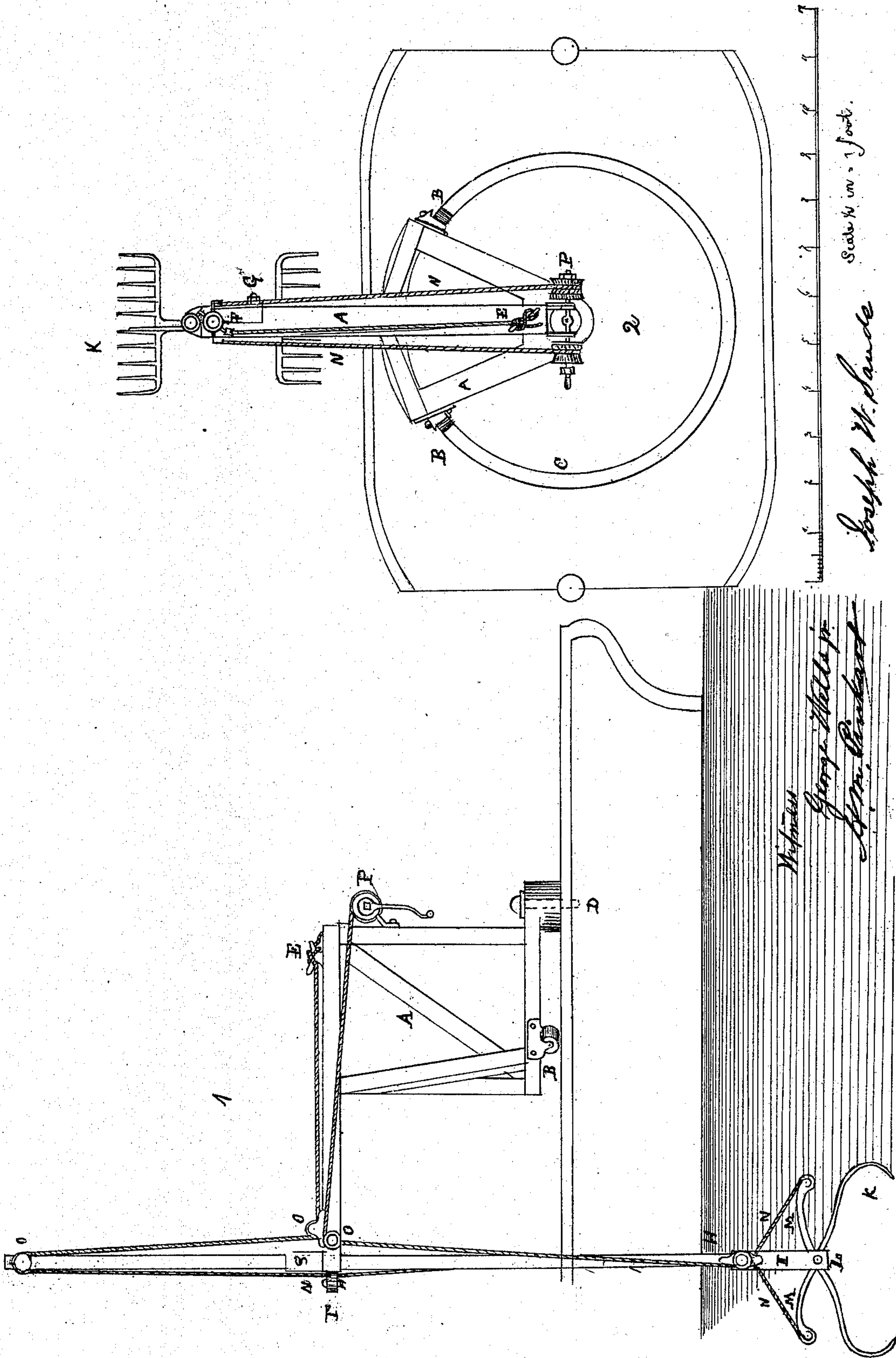


J. W. SANDS.
OYSTER TONGS.

No. 105,495.

Patented July 19, 1870



United States Patent Office.

JOSEPH W. SANDS, OF ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND.

Letters Patent No. 105,495, dated July 19, 1870.

IMPROVEMENT IN OYSTER-TONGS.

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

I, JOSEPH W. SANDS, of Annapolis, in the county of Anne Arundel, State of Maryland, have invented certain Improvements in Grappling-Tongs for Catching Oysters, of which the following is a specification.

My invention consists in an improved hinge-socket, through which a pole or shaft of the tongs works, for the purpose of dredging or fishing oysters, &c., and the means for operating the same, as herein shown and described.

Figure 1 is a side elevation of the grappling-tongs, with the crane and frame-work on which it stands.

Figure 2 is a front view of the same.

General Description.

A is the frame of the crane, constructed of hard wood.

B are the iron rollers upon which the frame of the crane turns on the iron track C, which is secured to the deck.

D is the pin or bolt by which the frame is secured to the deck.

P is the windlass, secured to the back post of the crane.

H is the pole or shaft to which the tongs are attached.

I is the iron socket in which the lower end of the pole fits, and which, near its upper end, has attached two pulleys, O O, secured by an iron rivet to the opposite sides of the socket, and passing through the shaft.

M M are the arms of the tongs, the weight of which, being greater than the tongs K K, throw them open as they descend to the oyster-bed.

L is the pivot at the bottom of the iron socket, which holds the tongs in place, and on which they work.

N N are the ropes attached to the arms of the tongs M M, passing through the pulleys O O to the windlass P, by winding on which the tongs are made to close and grapple the oysters, and the winding, being continued, lifts the tongs to a proper elevation to be turned by the crane over the deck. By slacking the windlass the contents of the tongs are discharged on deck.

The upper rope N N is permanently secured to an eye-bolt on the extreme end of the crane, passing through sheave O, on the top of pole H, thence downward through the pulley O, along the top of the crane, to the cleat E, around which one turn is taken, for the purpose of holding the tongs upon the bottom during the process of grappling the oysters.

F F is the iron hinge on the end of the crane, through which the pole or shaft works.

g g are semicircles of iron fastened to the hinge F, for the purpose of keeping the pole steady during the operation of grappling.

G is the bolt passing through the two parts of the hinge F, holding them securely together, which, removed, opens the hinge, in order that the pole and attachments may be removed when not in use.

Claim.

I claim as my invention—

The hinge-socket F Q, through which the pole H of the tongs K K works, for the purpose of operating the same, and for unshipping the pole H, when not in use.

JOSEPH W. SANDS.

Witnesses:

DAVID S. CAPRON,
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