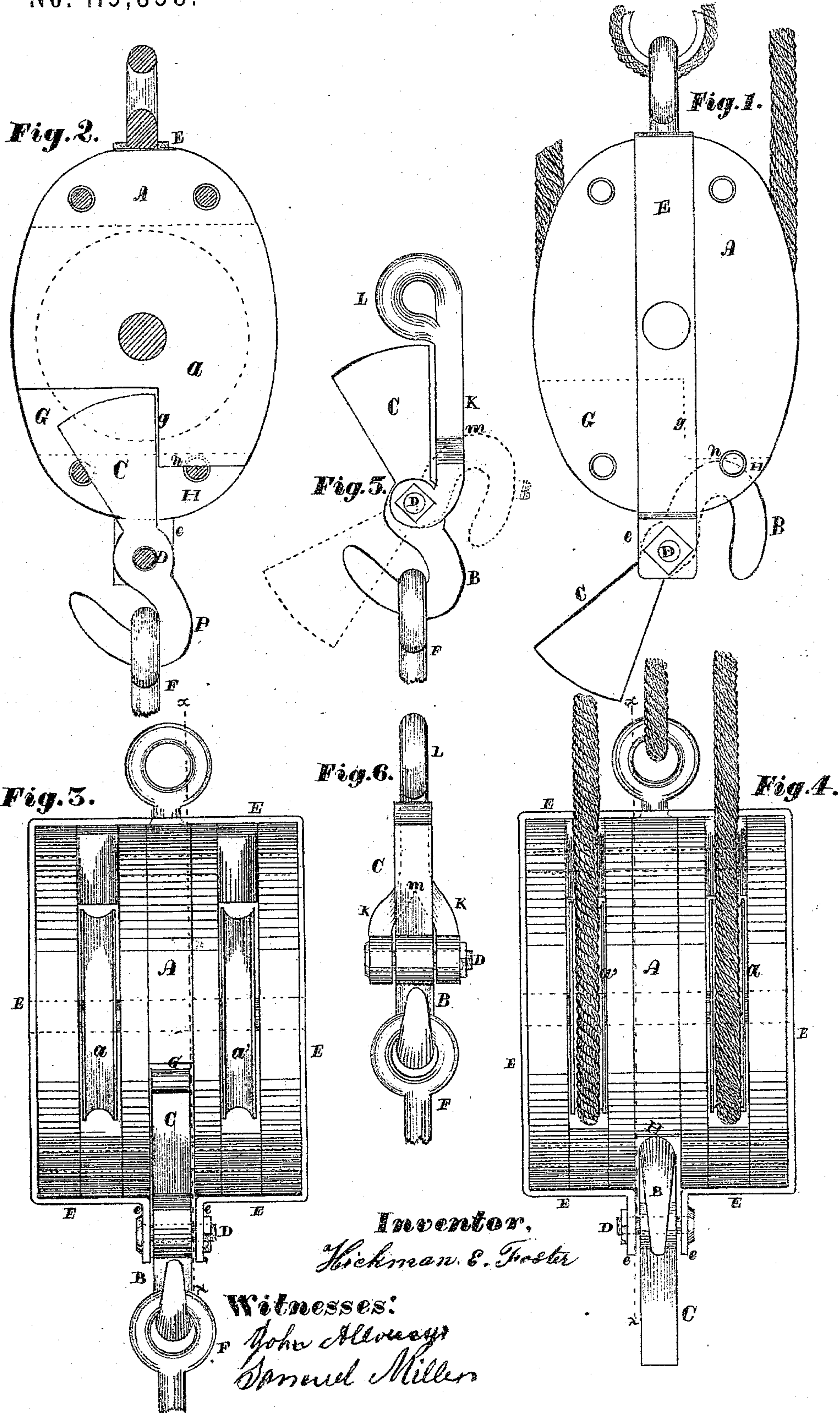


H. E. FOSTER.

Improvement in Boat Detaching Apparatus.

No. 115,838.

Patented June 13, 1871.



Inventor,  
Hickman E. Foster

Witnesses:  
John Althouse  
Samuel Miller



# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

HICKMAN E. FOSTER, OF DECATUR, ILLINOIS.

## IMPROVEMENT IN BOAT-DETACHING APPARATUS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 115,838, dated June 13, 1871.

I, HICKMAN E. FOSTER, of Decatur, in the county of Macon and State of Illinois, have invented certain Improvements in Boat Self-Detaching Apparatus, of which the following is a specification:

### *Nature and Objects of the Invention.*

The first part of my invention relates to the use of a self-detaching hook, to be used in a block for the purpose of lowering a boat from a vessel. As the boat reaches the water and the ropes in the block are slacked the hook detaches itself from the eye-bolt on the boat. The second part of my invention relates to the use of the self-detaching hook in a clevis, said clevis being formed so as to be attached to any block, rope, or chain.

### *Description of the Accompanying Drawing.*

Figure 1 is a side view of a block embodying my invention. Fig. 2 is a sectional view of the same taken through the lines *xx* in Figs. 3 and 4. Fig. 3 is a front view of Fig. 1. Fig. 4 is a rear view of Fig. 1. Fig. 5 is a side view of the clevis embodying my invention. Fig. 6 is a front view of Fig. 5.

### *General Description.*

A is the block, in which are the pulleys *a a'*. B is the hook, which is weighted, as shown at C. This hook is pivoted on the bolt D passing through the strap E, as shown at *e e*, the strap passing around the block. When there is any weight upon the hook, it is held perpendicular,

as shown in Figs. 2 and 3. When the boat reaches the water, the ropes being slack, the hook falls back and out of the eye-bolt F, which is fastened to the bow and stern of the boat, the weight being heavier than the hook. G is a slot in the front part of the block, in which slot the weight C passes when the hook is attached to any weight, the shape of the slot at *g* preventing the hook from turning over. H is a slot in the rear part of the block, in which passes the hook B, the hook striking against the slot, as shown at *h*.

This block and self-detaching hook can be used for other purposes besides the lowering of boats.

In Figs. 5 and 6 is shown the application of the weighted hook in a clevis, K, an eye, L, being on the end of the clevis, by which it can be attached to a rope, chain, or block, the clevis being so arranged as to prevent the hook from turning clear around, as shown at *m*.

I do not, broadly, claim the weighted hook.

### *Claim.*

I claim as my invention—

The slots G H and stops *g h*, in combination with the block A and weighted hook B, the whole arranged and operating substantially as described.

HICKMAN E. FOSTER.

Witnesses:

JOHN ALLOWAYS,  
SAMUEL MILLER.