G. COSGROVE.

SELF-DETACHING HOOKS FOR BOATS.

No. 184,701. Patented Nov. 28, 1876.

Fig. 1.

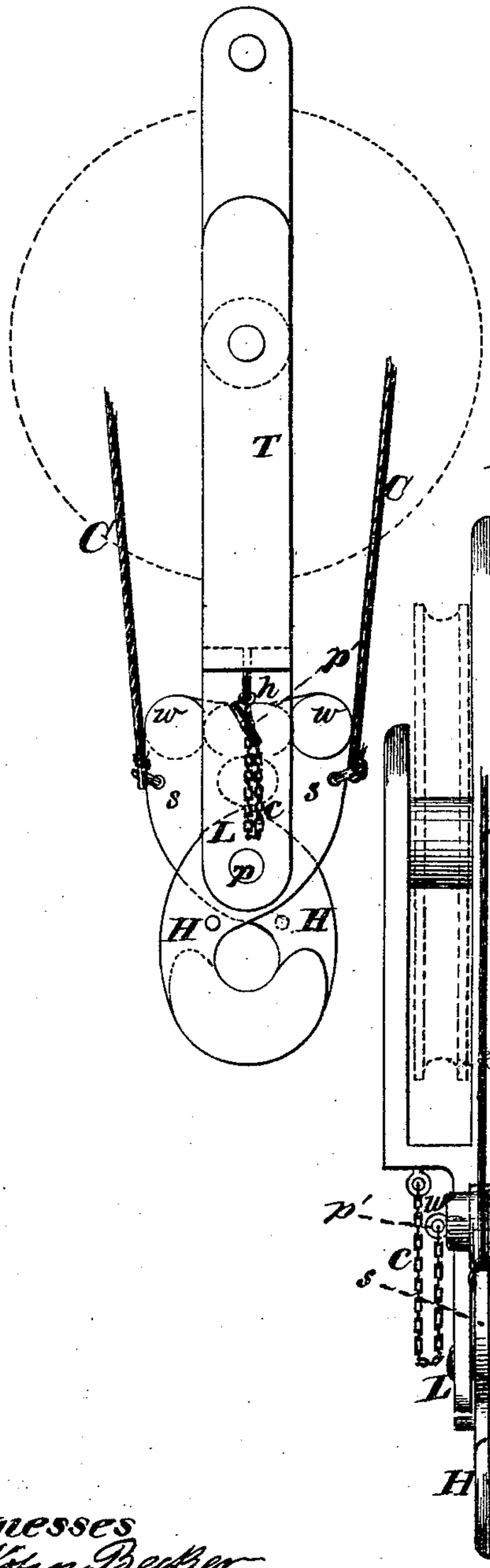

Fig. 2.

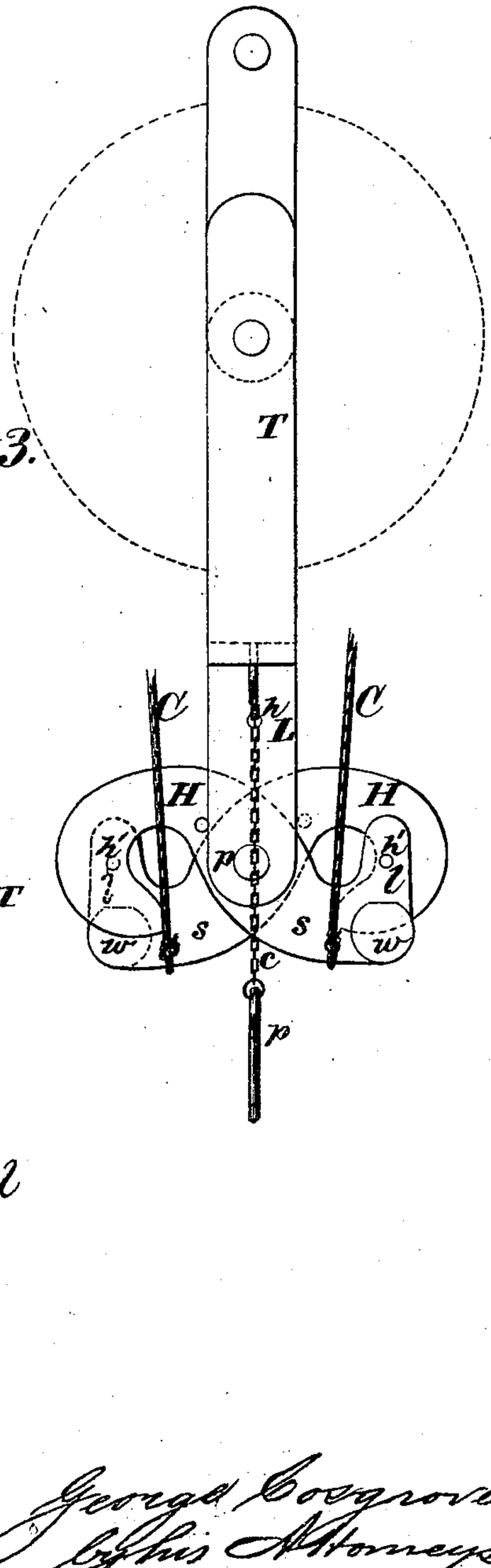

Fig. 3.

Witnesses
John Becker.
Fred. Haynes

George Cosgrove
by his Attorneys
Brown & Allen

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

GEORGE COSGROVE, OF BROOKLYN, NEW YORK.

IMPROVEMENT IN SELF-DETACHING HOOKS FOR BOATS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **184,701**, dated November 28, 1876; application filed May 13, 1876.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, GEORGE COSGROVE, of Brooklyn, in the county of Kings and State of New York, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Self-Detaching Hooks for Boat-Tackles and other purposes; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description of the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawing, which forms part of this specification.

My invention has for its object to supply much simpler self-detaching hooks than those heretofore used, and such as may be made by any blacksmith of ordinary skill, and which will act with certainty and hold a suspended weight securely.

The invention is more specially designed for boat-tackle, but is applicable to many other useful purposes.

The invention consists in a tackle-block frame, constructed with downwardly-projecting lugs, between which are pivoted a pair of sister-hooks having weighted shanks and lugs, for the purpose which will be hereinafter described.

The invention also consists of other features of a novel construction, which will be hereinafter described, and specifically pointed out in the claims.

Figure 1 in the accompanying drawing is a side view of my self-detaching hooks, the hooks being closed in the position for supporting a boat or weight. Fig. 2 is also a side view, with the hooks opened by the action of the weighted shanks. Fig. 3 is an edgewise view of the hooks, the same being closed.

In each of the figures the attachment of the hooks to a tackle-block is also shown.

T represents the frame of a tackle or pulley block, from which the lugs L extend downward, the sister-hooks H being pivoted at *p* to said lugs. The said hooks are preferably of such a form, when used for boat-tackle, that, when closed, as shown in Fig. 1, they inclose a nearly-circular space for the reception of a ring; but this form may be varied for different purposes.

Each hook has a shank, *s*, extending beyond the pivot *p*, and each of the said shanks is loaded or weighted by a weight, *w*, and each of said shanks has, moreover, a lug, *l*, the said lugs overlapping each other when the hooks are closed, as shown in Figs. 1 and 2.

When the hooks H are closed and the lugs *l* are overlapped, a pin, *p'*, may be inserted through the holes *h* in the lugs L, and the holes *h'* in the lugs *l* of the hooks H, which pin keeps and locks the hooks in the closed position, as shown in Fig. 3. The pin *p'* is, for convenience, attached to the frame T of the tackle-block by a lanyard, *c*. To the shanks *s* of the hooks *h* are attached the ropes or cords C, which, when drawn taut, close and keep closed the said hooks.

The operation of my invention is as follows: When the boat or other weight is to be raised, the hooks are lowered by the tackle and clasped into the ring or eyebolt of said boat or weight, and the ropes C close and keep the hooks closed when drawn taut, or the pin *p'* is placed in the holes *h h'*. The boat or other weight is then securely held by the hooks. But the hooks constructed as shown in the drawing will not of themselves unclasp after the suspension of the boat or other weight while the same is suspended, even if the ropes C are not kept drawn taut, or if the pin *p'* be not placed in the holes *h h'*, owing to the conformation of said hooks. The said ropes and pin, however, afford additional security against the unclasping of said hooks by any accidental extraneous cause.

When it is desired to release the hooks, as after a boat has been lowered away, the pin *p'* is taken out and the ropes C slackened. Then, as soon as the boat is sustained by the water, a slight further lowering of the tackle-block frame T allows the weights *w* on the shanks *s* of the hooks to fall and unclasp the hooks, as shown in Fig. 2.

1 claim—

1. The tackle-block frame T, having the downwardly-projecting lugs L, in combination with the two sister-hooks H, pivoted together

within said lugs L, and having weighted shanks *s* and lugs *l*, substantially as and for the object specified.

2. The tackle-block frame T, having the downwardly-projecting lugs L, provided with apertures *h*, the sister-hooks H, pivoted together in said lugs L, and having weighted shanks *s* and lugs *l*, provided with openings *h'*, in combination with the pin *p'*, adapted to enter the openings *h* and *h'* for retaining the hooks in a locked position, substantially as shown and described.

GEORGE COSGROVE.

Witnesses:
FRED. HAYNES,
B. W. HOFFMAN.