(No Model.)

J. SNOWMAN.

ROWLOCK.

No. 287,971. Patented Nov. 6, 1883.

Fig 1

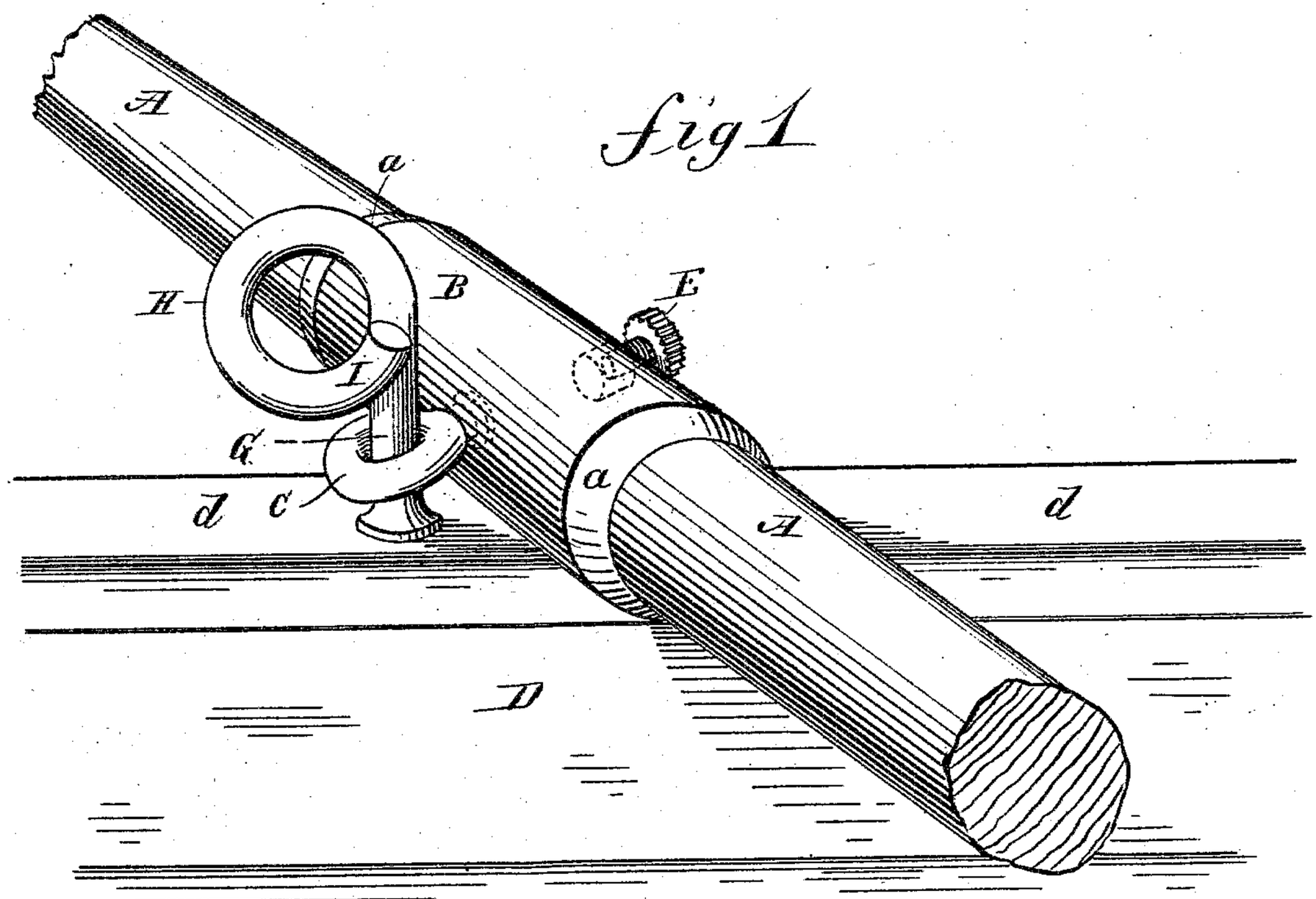
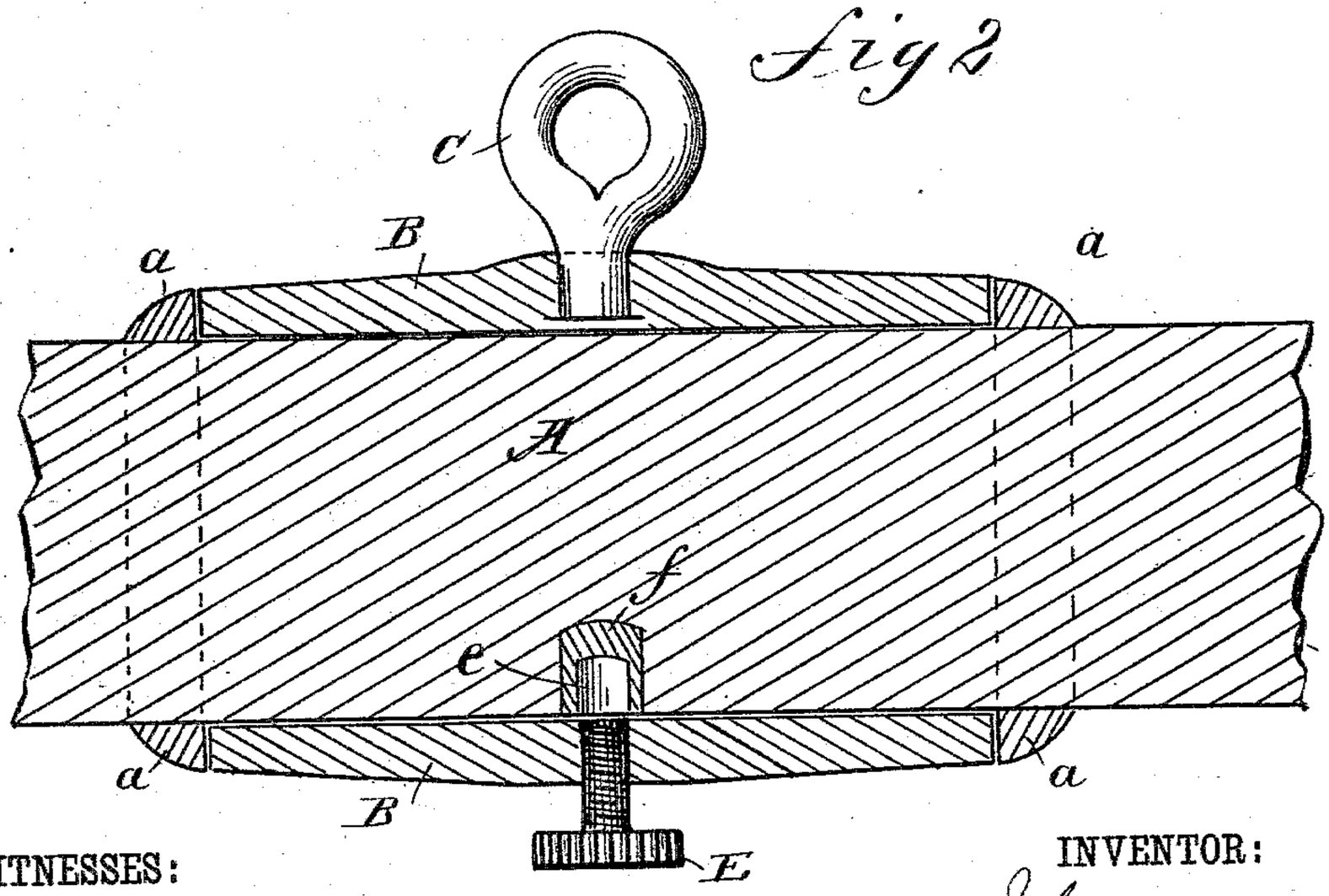


Fig 2



WITNESSES:

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JOHN SNOWMAN, OF WELD, MAINE.

ROWLOCK.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 287,971, dated November 6, 1883.

Application filed April 20, 1883. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOHN SNOWMAN, of Weld, in the county of Franklin and State of Maine, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Rowlocks, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description.

My invention relates to rowlock devices for supporting oars on the gunwale of a boat; and the invention consists of a collar or sleeve to receive the body of the oar within it, and having an eye for connection to the thole-pin, and a screw or equivalent device adapted to pass into a socket or aperture of the oar, for locking the oar against rotation in the sleeve or releasing the oar to rotate axially and freely in the sleeve for "feathering" the oar on the return stroke, the oar being fitted with fixed collars to prevent its lengthwise movement through the sleeve.

The invention includes, also, a novel construction of the thole-pin in open-eye form, to facilitate the adjustment of the eye of the oar-sleeve to the thole-pin and prevent displacement of the oar therefrom when in use, all as hereinafter fully described and claimed.

Reference is to be had to the accompanying drawings, forming a part of this specification, in which similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts in both the figures.

Figure 1 represents in perspective view my improvements fitted to the oar and boat, and Fig. 2 is a longitudinal sectional elevation of an oar in part and its connected sleeve.

On an oar, A, of any approved style or size, I fit loosely the collar or sleeve B between stops *a*, which may be in the ring form shown, or may consist of any suitable pins or other detents fixed to the oar at the ends of the sleeve B, to prevent endwise movement of the oar through the sleeve, while permitting the free axial rotation of the oar in the sleeve.

C is an eye or eyebolt formed on or fitted rigidly in the sleeve B, for engaging any suitable thole-pin fitted to the gunwale *d* of a boat, D; and E is a screw fitted by its threads into a tapped hole, preferably in the center of the length of the sleeve B, and adapted to enter an aperture of the oar A, or the aperture *e* of a metallic socket-piece, *f*, set in the oar, for its better protection from wear by the inserted end of the screw.

With the screw E turned back and free from the oar A, as in Fig. 2, the oar may be freely turned axially in the sleeve B for feathering on the return-stroke, and with the stop *a* removed from either end of the sleeve the oar may also have limited lengthwise movement through the sleeve; but I prefer to use both end stops, *a*, for axial movement of the oar only when the screw E is disengaged from the oar; and with the end of the screw inserted in the aperture *e* or in the oar the oar will be locked against axial movement in the sleeve. The oar A may thus be released from or locked to the sleeve B at will, to accommodate it to the experience or preference of the rower.

My improved thole-pin device consists of a pin or stud, G, provided with a screw to enter the gunwale *d* of the boat, or with a foot-plate, to be secured by separate screws to the top of the gunwale, the pin having its upper portion bent spirally in the vertical plane to form an open eye, H, with the end I of the pin at suitable distance from either side of its body G to permit passing the eye C of sleeve B over the point I to the working position for the oar, as in Fig. 1, which may easily and quickly be done, and when the oar is so adjusted it will be held secure against displacement from the thole-pin by any ordinary use of the oar.

Any approved form of spring-pressed sliding bolt may be substituted for the locking-screw E, if desired.

It is evident that my improved rowlock devices are simple in construction and may easily be applied to any size or style of row-boats or oars, and that any broken parts may readily be replaced, and that the facilities afforded for locking or releasing the oar to and from the sleeve and the secure attachment of the sleeve and oar to the thole-pin make the improvement both effective and desirable in use.

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

1. A rowlock constructed substantially as herein shown and described, and consisting of a sleeve held loosely on the oar, and carrying a screw or equivalent device for locking the sleeve to the oar, and an eye for engaging the thole-pin by passage over and through the open eye or loop-head of the thole-pin, as set forth.

2. The combination, with an oar provided

with a sleeve in which the oar is free to rotate, said sleeve having an eye to engage a thole-pin, and means, substantially as described, to keep the oar from slipping endwise through the sleeve, of an adjustable locking-pin in the sleeve, whereby the oar may be secured to its sleeve at any desired feathering angle, or be left free to be feathered at will, as described.

3. The combination, with an oar provided with a sleeve in which the oar is free to rotate, said sleeve having an eye to engage a thole-pin, and means, substantially as described, to keep the oar from slipping endwise through the sleeve, of a metallic socket fixed in the oar and an adjustable locking-pin in the sleeve, registering with said socket, whereby the oar may be feathered at will at each stroke, or it may be fixed in its sleeve at a given angle of feathering, as shown and described.

4. The thole-pin of a rowlock, having the spiral end and straight body described, for the purpose specified.

JOHN SNOWMAN.

Witnesses:
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