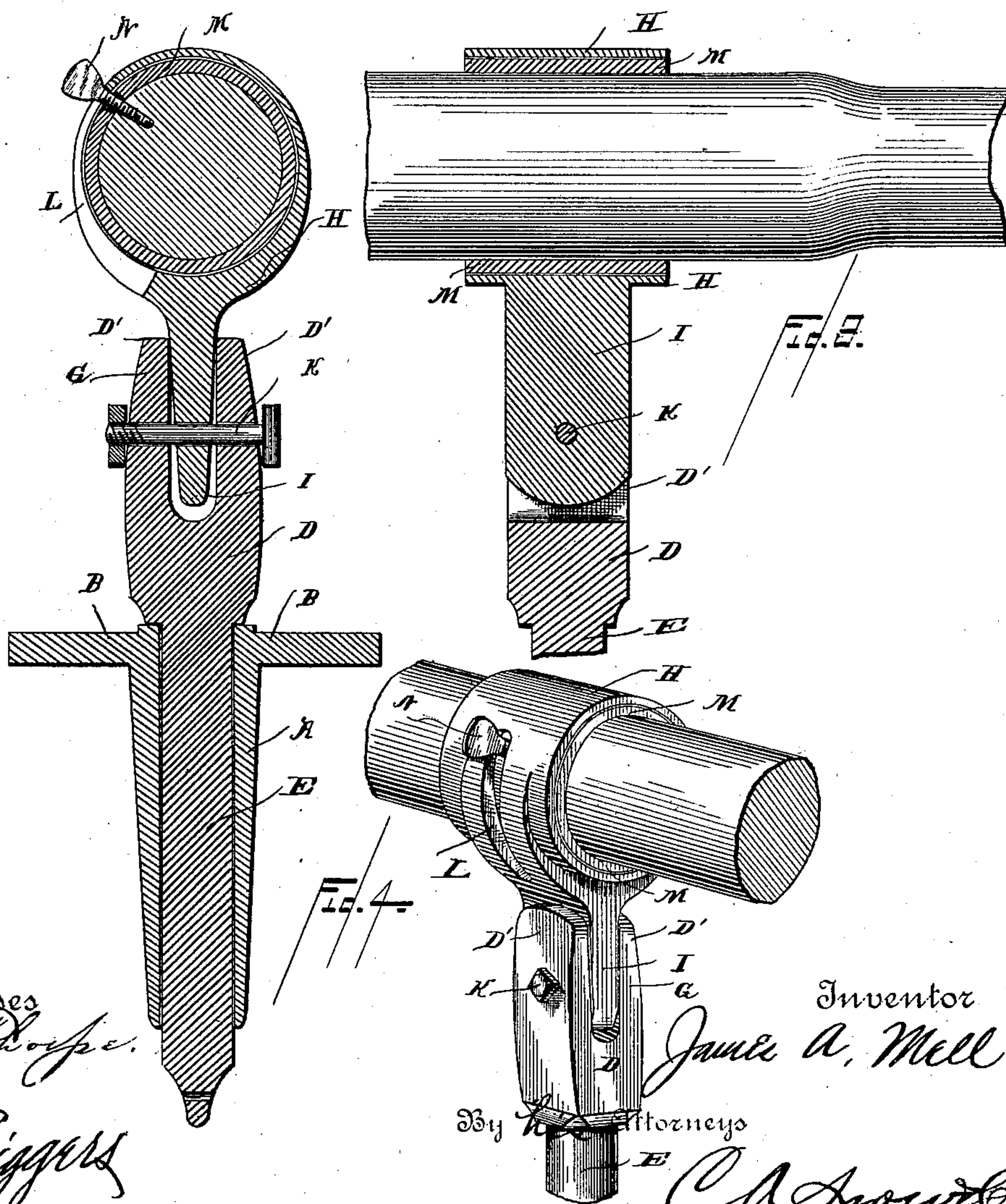
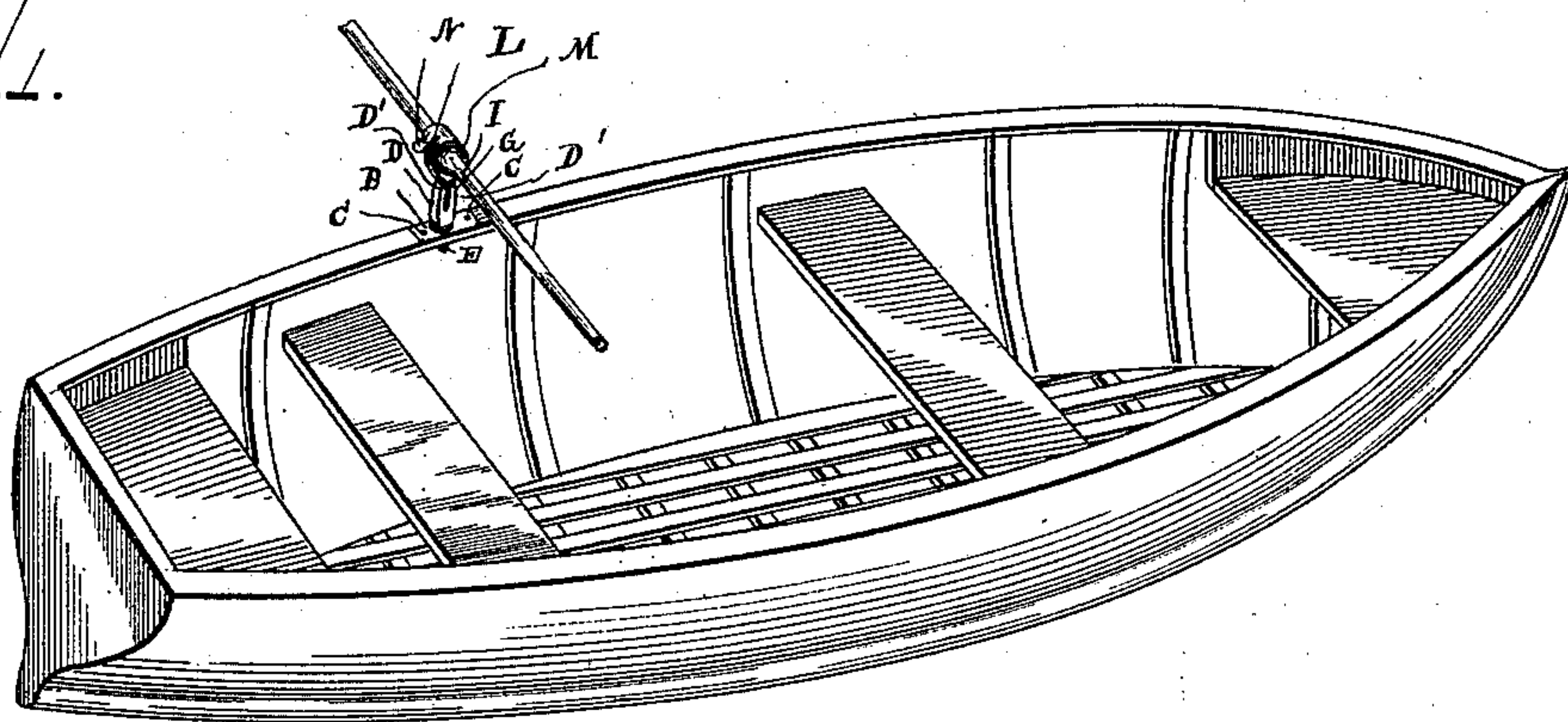


(No Model.)

J. A. MELL.
OAR LOCK.

No. 360,895.

Patented Apr. 12, 1887.



Witnesses
Geo. Hooper.

E. G. Siggers

Inventor

James A. Mell

By *W. H. Snow* Attorneys

C. A. Snow

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JAMES A. MELL, OF MOLINE, ASSIGNOR OF ONE-HALF TO F. W. BATES, OF
GRAND RAPIDS, MICHIGAN.

OAR-LOCK.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 360,895, dated April 12, 1887.

Application filed November 6, 1886. Serial No. 218,166. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JAMES A. MELL, a citizen of the United States, residing at Moline, in the county of Allegan and State of Michigan, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Oar-Locks, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to an improvement in oar-locks; and it consists in the peculiar construction and combination of devices that will be more fully set forth hereinafter, and particularly pointed out in the claim.

In the drawings, Figure 1 is a perspective view of an oar-lock embodying my improvements, showing an oar attached thereto. Fig. 2 is a vertical sectional view of the same. Fig. 3 is a similar view, taken on the line *xx* of Fig. 2. Fig. 4 is an enlarged detail perspective view of the lock and part of an oar.

A represents a vertical hollow cylindrical standard or socket, which is provided at its upper end with a plate, B, in the extremities of which are countersunk openings C. This plate is mortised in the gunwale of the boat, and is secured therein by screws which pass through the openings C.

D represents a pivotal head, which is provided with a depending spindle, E, that passes through the hollow standard or socket A, and thereby swivels the head to the bolt. In the lower end of the spindle E is made an opening, F, through which a ring or pin is passed, which prevents the head from becoming accidentally unshipped from the socket.

H represents an annular socket, which is provided on its lower side with a depending lug, I, that enters the space between the vertical ears D' on the bifurcated upper end of the head G. A transverse bolt, K, passes through aligned openings which are made in the ears and lug, thereby pivoting the annular socket to the upper end of the swiveled head. In the rear side of the annular socket is made a slot, L.

M represents an annular collar or band, which is secured on the oar at a suitable distance from the inner end thereof. The exterior

diameter of the band or collar is slightly less than the interior diameter of the annular socket, so that the said collar may be inserted in the said socket, and is free to turn therein.

N represents a thumb-screw, which is inserted through the slot L and engages a threaded opening made in the collar M. The inner end of the thumb-screw enters one side of the oar, so as to prevent the latter from slipping longitudinally in the collar. As the thumb-screw passes through the slot L it will be understood that it also effectually prevents the collar M from being accidentally withdrawn from the end of the socket H.

The collar M prevents the oar from being worn by contact with the annular socket and the slot in the latter, and the thumb-screw which passes through the said slot and enters the oar permits the oar to be turned through a quarter of a circle, so that the oar may be feathered when recovering from a stroke. As the head B, to which the socket is pivoted, is swiveled to the gunwale of the boat, the oar may be moved through as long a stroke as may be desired. In the event that the oarsman should relax his grasp of the oar from any cause, the oar will be trailed alongside the boat and will not be lost.

Having thus described my invention, I claim—

In combination with the swiveled head D, having the vertical ears D', the annular socket H, provided with a depending lug, I, fitting between the ears D', the pivot-bolt K, connecting the ears and lug, the slot L in the socket H, the collar M, fitted on the oar and working in the annular socket H, and the screw N, as set forth.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing as my own I have hereto affixed my signature in presence of two witnesses.

JAMES A. MELL.

Witnesses:

FRANK W. BATES,
HARLAN P. NEVINS.