

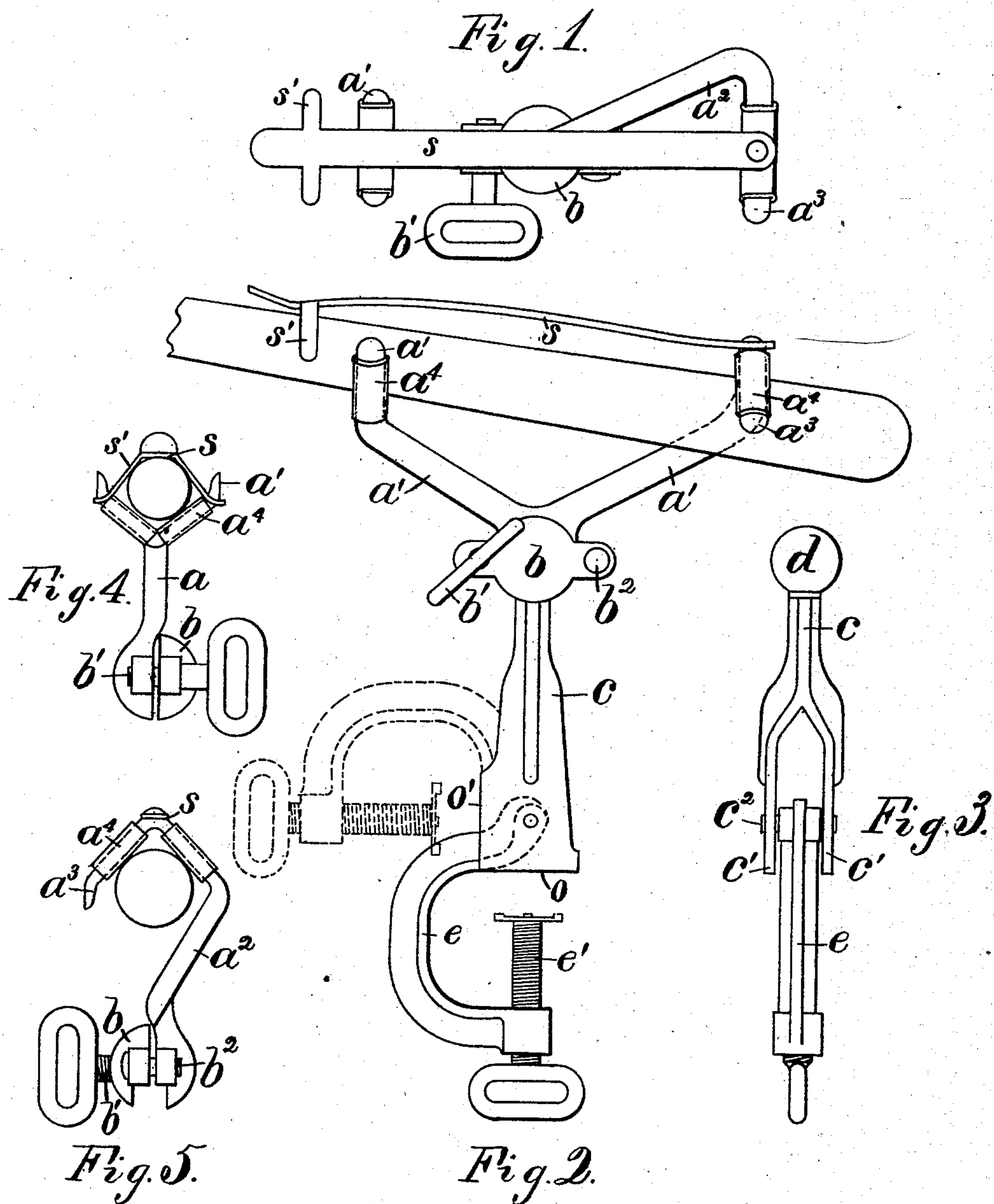
(No Model.)

A. F. & W. MEISSELBACH.

FISHING ROD HOLDER.

No. 388,433.

Patented Aug. 28, 1888.



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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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## FISHING-ROD HOLDER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 388,433, dated August 28, 1888.

Application filed May 5, 1888. Serial No. 272,963. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that we, AUGUST F. MEISSELBACH and WILLIAM MEISSELBACH, both citizens of the United States, residing at Newark, Essex county, New Jersey, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Fishing-Rod Holders, fully described and represented in the following specification and the accompanying drawings, forming a part of the same.

The object of this invention is to provide a simple construction for a fishing-rod holder to support the rod adjustably in any desired position, and which is adapted to be attached to the seat or gunwale of a boat, or to any other suitable object, and also to provide a holder from which the fishing-rod may be quickly detached when desired.

The invention consists, partly, in the combination, with a standard and rod-carrier, of a joint of particular construction for connecting the same; partly in a special construction for the device for fastening the holder upon a suitable support; partly in a particular means for holding the rod within the carrier, and in other details of construction.

In the annexed drawings, Figure 1 is a plan of the holder; Fig. 2, a side view of the same with the handle of a fishing-rod held therein. Fig. 3 is an end view of the fastening or clamping device and standard. Fig. 4 is an elevation of the front end of the rod-carrier, and Fig. 5 a similar view of the rear end of the same.

The carrier consists of two arms joined together at their inner ends, the arm  $a$  having an upwardly-projecting fork,  $a'$ , at its outer end, and the arm  $a^2$  having a fork,  $a^3$ , projecting downwardly from its outer end, the arm  $a^2$  being bent laterally to avoid interference with the fishing-rod handle. Such carrier is provided at the junction of the arms  $a$  with a split socket,  $b$ , formed with one half integral with the same and the other half consisting of a removable cap secured to the latter. Both halves of the socket are provided with ears at each side of the same, and a screw or rivet,  $b^2$ , is inserted through the said ears on one side, and a clamp-screw,  $b'$ , provided with a thumb-piece, is inserted through the ears at the other side of the socket to clamp the two halves together.

$c$  is a standard having at its upper end a ball,  $d$ , upon which the split socket is clamped by means of the screws  $b'$   $b^2$ . In practice, after inserting the screw  $b^2$  through the ears  $r$ , we adjust the pressure of the socket upon the ball  $d$  entirely by means of the thumb-screw  $b'$ , which requires a very slight movement in order to perform its function, as the leverage through which it acts is very small, and consequently the spring of the metal forming the ears is inappreciable. The standard is forked at its lower end, and between the forks  $c'$  is pivoted at  $c^2$  the clamp-yoke  $e$ , provided with a clamp-screw,  $e'$ . Seats  $o$  and  $o'$  are formed upon the lower edge and one side of each of the forks  $c'$  of the standard. The clamp yoke and screw, in conjunction with the seats  $o$   $o'$ , form the fastening device of the holder.

To prevent the rod from springing out of the holder, which action might be caused by catching the fishing-line so as to bend the rod considerably and the sudden release of the same, a leaf spring,  $s$ , is pivoted at one end upon the top of the fork  $a^3$ , and a fork,  $s'$ , formed on its free end. The fork  $s'$  is shown herein formed integral with the spring  $s$ . When the rod is in position in the holder, the spring is swung around, so as to lie directly over the same, to press it downward against the fork  $a'$  and prevent its displacement.

To prevent the chafing of the handle of the fishing-rod, the forks  $a'$  and  $a^3$  are preferably covered with rubber tubing  $a^4$ , or other suitable material.

It is immaterial to our invention what means is employed for fastening the standard upon a suitable support, instead of that shown herein, since the essential feature of the invention is the combination, with the standard and carrier, of a ball-and-socket joint constructed as above described for connecting the same.

It is evident from the above description that the seat  $o'$  may be omitted without departing from our invention, although the exact construction shown herein for such device is preferable, since the holder may by its use be clamped upon a vertical support, as shown in Fig. 2 in dotted lines, as well as to a horizontal support.

By pivoting the clamp-yoke at the lower end of the standard  $c$ , the clamp-screw will as-



sume a position perpendicular to the lower surface of the support upon which the holder is to be clamped, while the seats  $o$  and  $o'$  will naturally assume the position that will give the largest bearing therefor upon the said support when the device is operated. It is therefore immaterial whether the support to which the holder is applied have a regular form, as in the case of the seat of a boat, or an irregular form, as the limb of a tree. In either case the holder can be clamped firmly thereto.

When the device is in use, the rod is placed in the forks  $a' a^3$  and the spring  $s$  brought to bear upon the same. The ball-and-socket joint being then loosened by means of the thumb-screw  $b'$ , the rod and the carrier are permitted to be revolved or inclined in any direction, and thus brought into the desired position.

It will be noticed by reference to Fig. 2 that the fork  $s'$  on the spring bears upon the rod at a point somewhat beyond the fork  $a'$ , and thus its tendency is to press the same downward upon the fork  $a'$  and upward within the fork  $a^3$ .

By the use of the special arrangement of the arms of the carrier shown herein the rod may be disengaged from the holder very quickly, when desired, as it is exposed at all parts except within the narrow forks  $a' a^3$ .

The forks  $a'$ ,  $a^3$ , and  $s'$  are shaped like the letter V, so as to form an accurate bearing for a rod of any size.

We are aware that it is not essentially new to form a split socket adapted to be clamped upon a ball fitted thereto upon a stand requiring to be adjusted at different angles, as such construction is shown in United States Patent No. 180,881; but our construction differs from the latter in having one half of the socket integral with the carrier and applying a cap thereto, and in providing both parts of the socket with ears diametrically opposite each other, so that when clamped thereto by means of the screws passing through such ears there will be a positive pressure upon the ball, and not a yielding pressure, such as would be caused by clamping the two parts of the socket together only on one side, as in the construction shown in the above-mentioned patent.

Having thus described our invention, what we claim herein is—

1. In a fishing-rod holder, the combination, with the standard provided with a fastening device at its lower end and a ball at its upper end formed integral therewith, of a carrier provided with arms for supporting the fishing-rod, and a split socket at the junction of such arms, one half of the said socket being formed integral with the carrier, and the other half consisting of a removable cap secured thereto by means of ears  $r$  upon both halves of the split socket, and screws  $b'$  and  $b^2$ , substantially as shown and described.

2. In a fishing-rod holder, the combination, with a standard forked at its lower end and provided with a seat,  $o$ , of a clamp-yoke pivoted thereto and provided with a clamp-screw, as and for the purpose set forth.

3. In a fishing-rod holder, the combination, with the standard  $c$ , forked at its lower end and having seats  $o o'$  thereon, of the clamp-yoke  $e$ , pivoted thereto and provided with the clamp-screw  $e'$ , substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

4. In a fishing-rod holder, the combination, with the carrier having arms  $a a^2$ , provided, respectively, with forks  $a'$  and  $a^3$ , of a standard connected to such carrier by means of a ball-and-socket joint constructed as described, and a fastening device upon the base of the standard, as and for the purpose set forth.

5. In a fishing-rod holder, the combination, with the carrier having arms  $a a^2$ , provided, respectively, with forks  $a' a^3$ , having a covering,  $a^4$ , as described, of a standard connected to such carrier by means of a ball-and-socket joint constructed as described, and a fastening device upon the base of the standard, as and for the purpose set forth.

6. In a fishing-rod holder, the combination, with the carrier having arms  $a a^2$ , provided, respectively, with forks  $a' a^3$ , of a leaf-spring,  $s$ , pivoted at one end upon the fork  $a^3$ , and having a fork,  $s'$ , secured to its other end, as and for the purpose set forth.

In testimony whereof we have hereunto set our hands in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

AUGUST F. MEISSELBACH.  
WILLIAM MEISSELBACH.

Witnesses:

H. J. MILLER,  
F. C. FISCHER.