

(No Model.)

E. J. DAVY.
CENTER BOARD FOR VESSELS.

No. 390,070.

Patented Sept. 25, 1888.

Fig. 1.

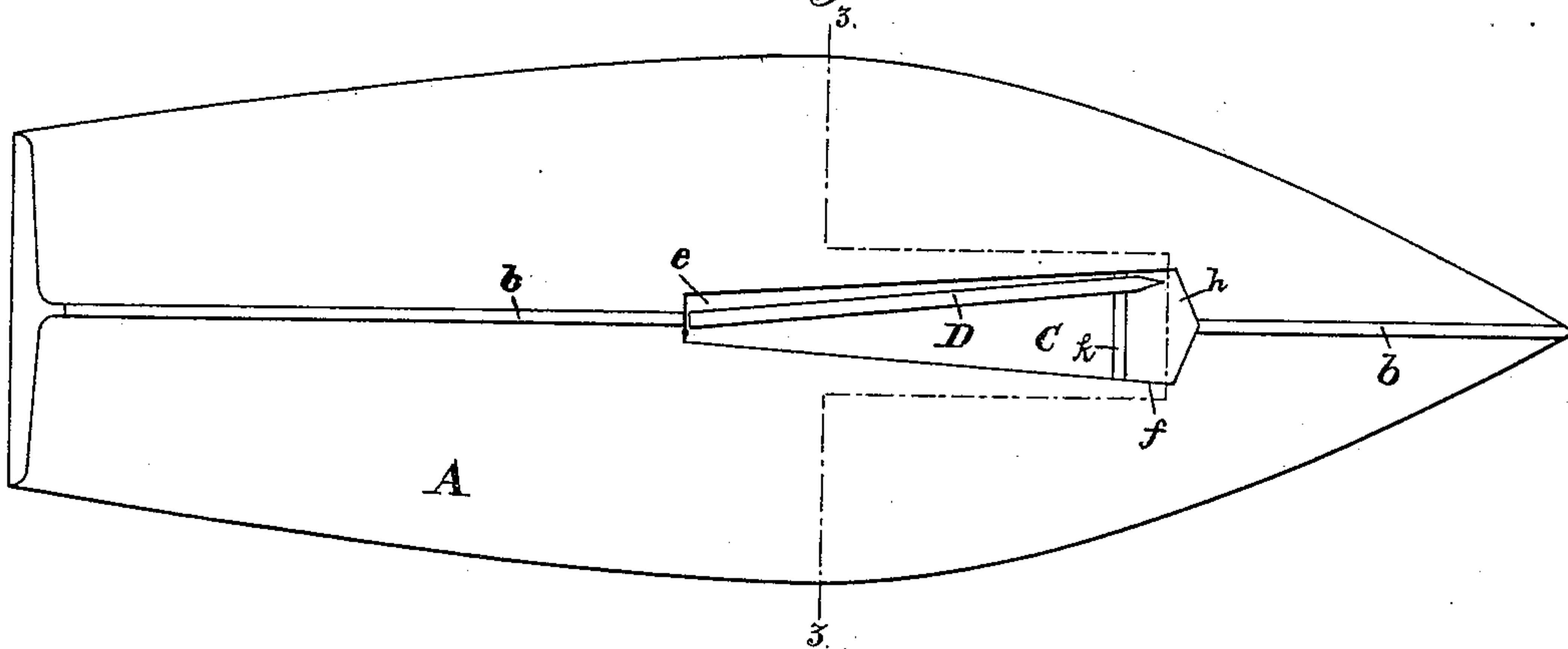


Fig. 2.

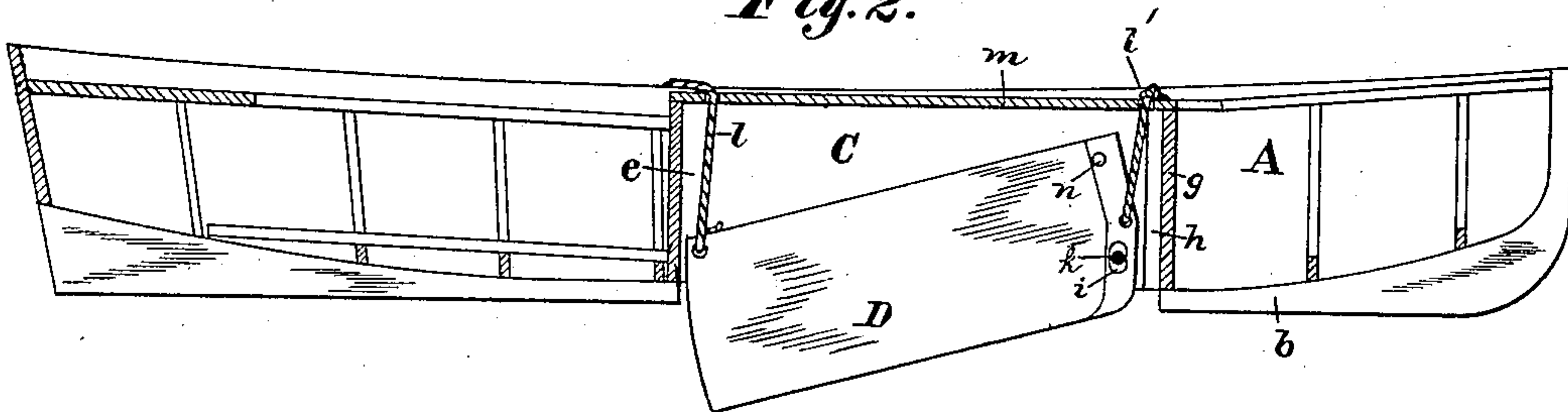


Fig. 3.

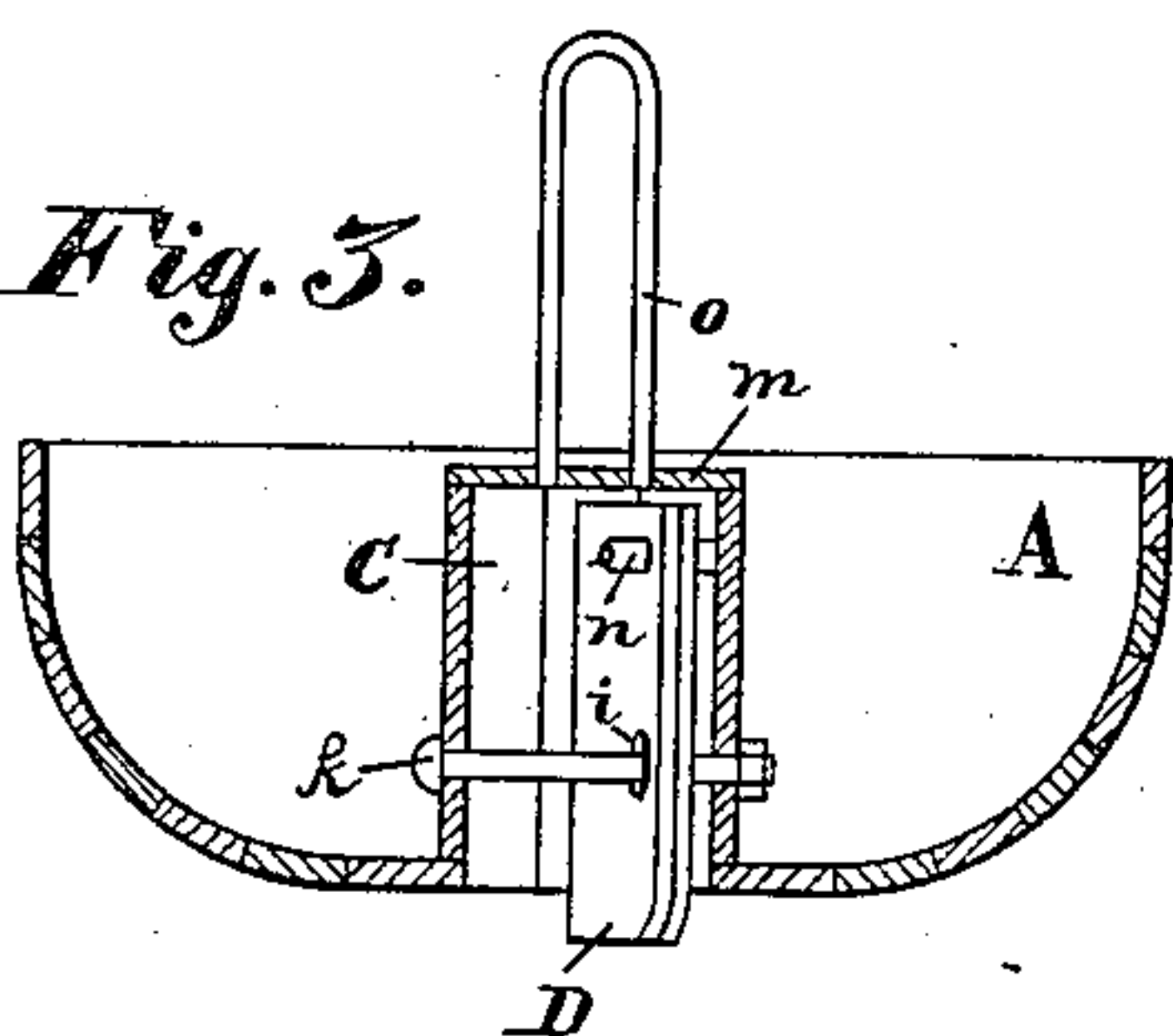
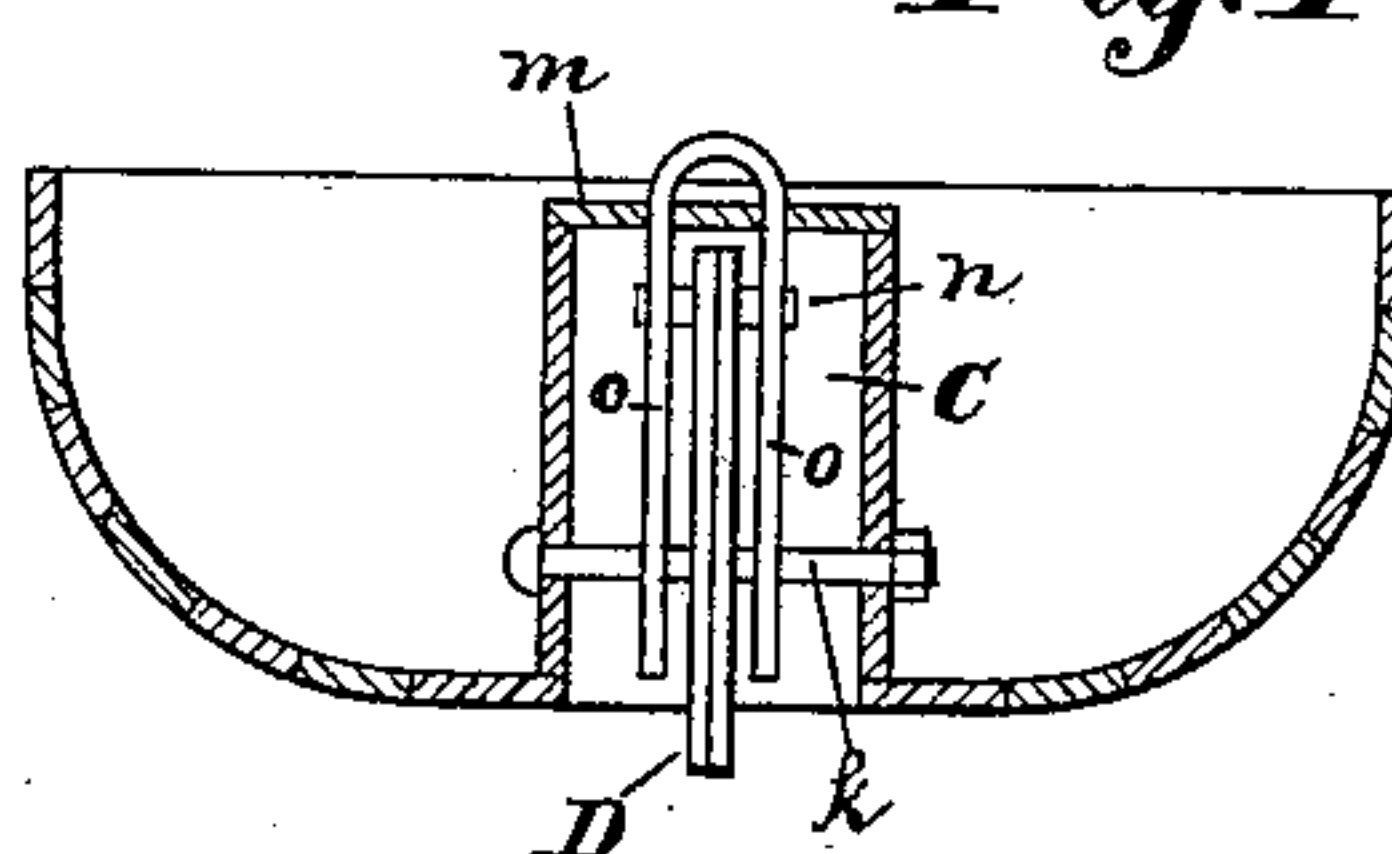


Fig. 4.



WITNESSES:

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CENTER-BOARD FOR VESSELS.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 390,070, dated September 25, 1888.

Application filed March 29, 1888. Serial No. 268,750. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, EDMUND J. DAVY, a citizen of the United States, residing at Manokin, in the county of Somerset and State of Maryland, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Center-Boards for Vessels, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to the construction and arrangement of center boards for sailing-vessels, the object being to provide a construction that will obviate leeward movement when the vessel is under sail.

The invention is illustrated in the accompanying drawings, in which Figure 1 is a bottom or inverted plan of the boat. Fig. 2 is a longitudinal section of the same. Fig. 3 is a cross-section of the vessel on the line 3 3, Fig. 1. Fig. 4 is a cross section on the same line, showing the center-board retained on a line with the keel by the inverted-U-shaped bar.

The letter A designates the boat, *b* its keel, and C the well which opens through the bottom and wherein the center-board D is pivoted. The well is narrow at its after end, *e*, and broad at its forward end, *f*. The two longitudinal sides of the well are oblique with respect to the line of the keel *b*. The front post, *g*, of the well has on its rear side a vertical groove, *h*, which is to prevent backwater.

The center-board D has at its forward pivoted end a vertical slot, *i*, for the pivot-bolt *k*. This allows the center-board to be raised and lowered, and also affords it more freedom to play or move sidewise. The center-board is suspended by two ropes, *l l'*, one at each end, which are secured to a board, *m*, on top of the well. The rope *l* at the free end of the center-board has been used before in this class of center-boards; but the rope *l'* at the pivoted end is believed to be new, and in combination with the vertical slot *i* for the pivot-bolt serves to relieve the latter of the weight of the board, and by avoiding or lessening the friction between the said board and bolt enables the pivoted end of the board to be easily moved from one side of the well to the other.

The center-board may have blocks *n* attached on each side near the top. These come in contact with the side of the well and serve to prevent the board from leaning as much as it would do without them.

By shifting the forward end of the center-board D sidewise, the well C being broad to admit of this movement, the said board will be oblique to the keel-line, and the vessel can be made to run much closer to the wind. In other words, when the vessel is moving on a tack, the center-board, being set oblique—that is, to the windward side—will counteract the tendency of the wind to force the vessel to the leeward, and thus the vessel will hold better on her course.

The center-board may be placed directly fore and aft on a line with the keel *b*. To retain it in this position, two pendent parallel bars, *o*, are employed. These bars are united at the top, and the two comprise an inverted-U-shaped bar. This U-shaped bar *o* hangs from the top board, *m*, and the two pendent ends take astride of the center-board, as shown in Fig. 4, and retain it in the center position.

It will be understood the proportion or size of the parts are matters of judgment, and may be determined by the boat-builder.

The center-board is sharp-pointed, or thinner at forward end than at after end.

Having described my invention, I claim—

A sailing-vessel having a center-board well the front portion of which is provided with a vertical groove, *h*, at its rear face, and a sliding U-shaped bar detachably secured to the top board, *m*, and astride the center-board to retain the same in a vertical position.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature in the presence of two witnesses.

EDMUND J. DAVY.

Witnesses:

GEO. E. BALLARD,
MARY W. FLETCHER.