(No Model.)

A. B. QUINAN.

SINKER FOR FISHING OR OTHER LINES.

No. 565,030. Patented Aug. 4, 1896.

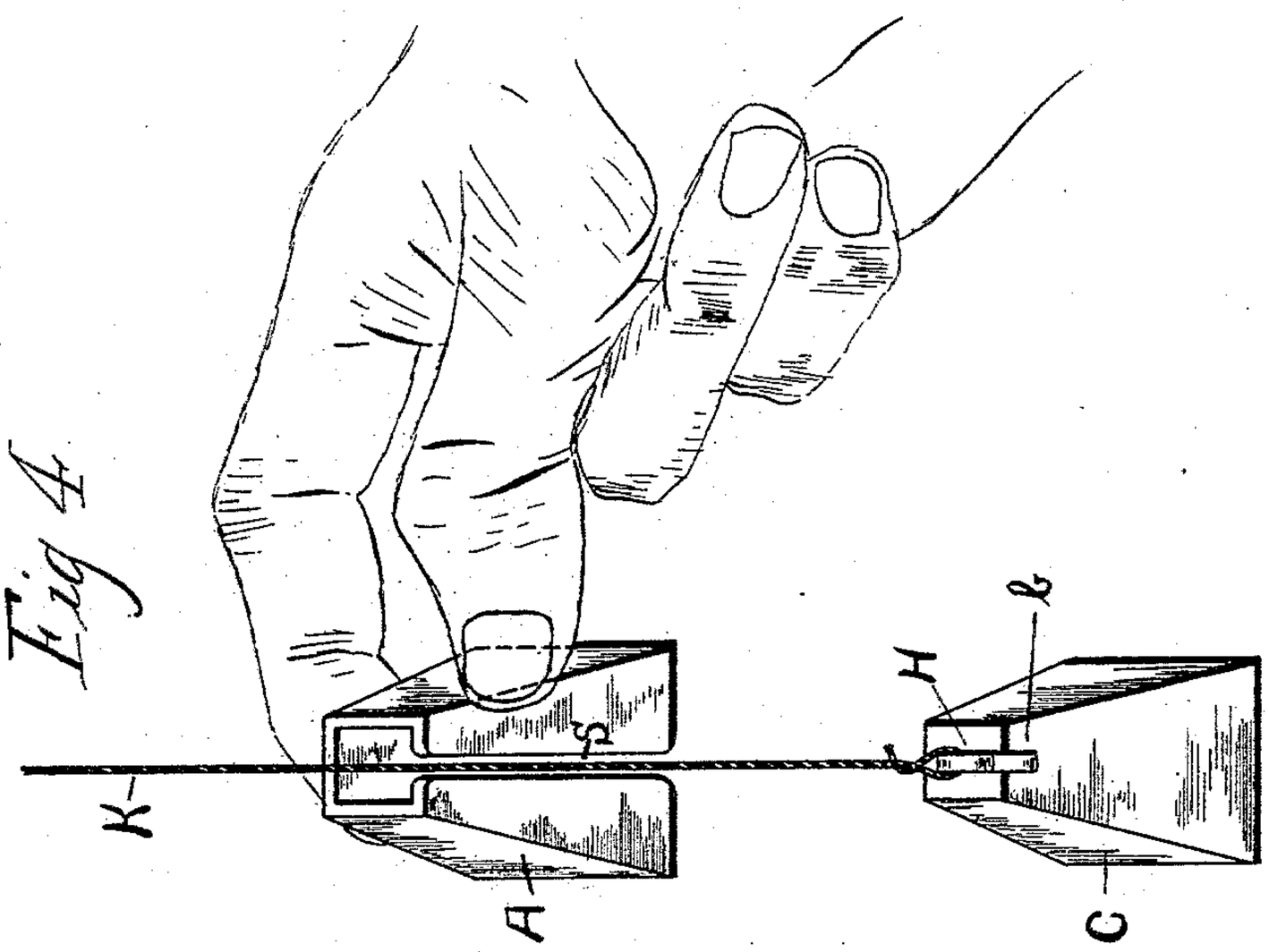

Fig. 4

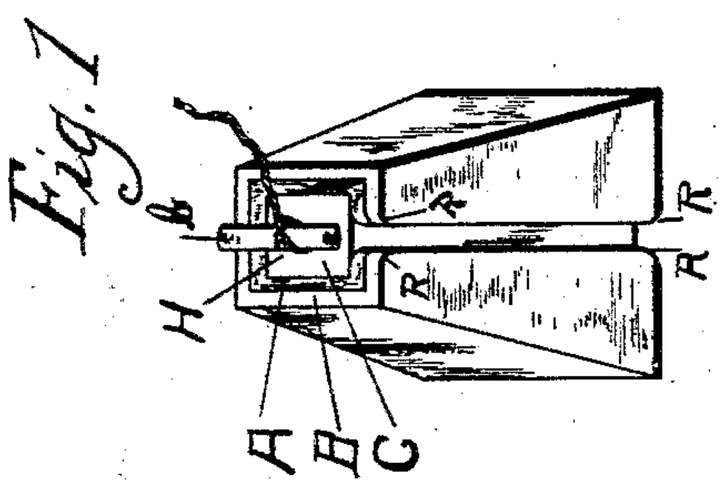

Fig. 1

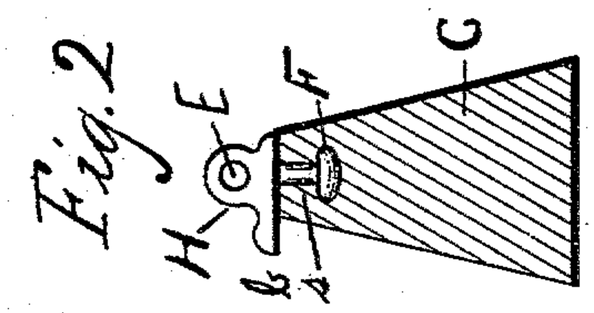

Fig. 2

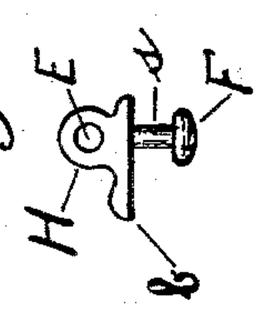

Fig. 3

WITNESSES:
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ALLEN B. QUINAN, OF BALTIMORE, MARYLAND.

SINKER FOR FISHING OR OTHER LINES.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 565,030, dated August 4, 1896.

Application filed September 14, 1895. Serial No. 562,494. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ALLEN B. QUINAN, a citizen of the United States, residing at Baltimore, in the State of Maryland, have invented a new and useful Sinker for Fishing-Tackle or Sounding-Lines, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to improvements in sinkers in which the weight of the sinker may be increased or diminished to suit the varying conditions of currents and tides without detaching the line from the sinker. I attain this object by the mechanism illustrated in the accompanying drawings, in which similar letters of reference indicate like parts.

Figure 1 is a perspective view of the sinker with its segments superimposed upon it and locked; Fig. 2, a sectional elevation of the sinker with eyepiece and without segments; Fig. 3, the eyepiece, and Fig. 4 a view showing how the weight of the sinker may be increased or diminished without removal of the line.

The entire sinker is shown in Fig. 1 as consisting of a central sinker C and several superimposed hollow segments, as A and B, each of which segments is slotted from top to bottom, the slots S being enlarged at their upper and lower ends by the rounding off of the edges of the segments A and B at the angles R.

The sinker C is solid excepting the cavity in its upper portion containing the lower parts of the eyepiece H. This eyepiece H has an eyelet E for the line, and projects horizontally on the upper surface of the sinker C in the form of an arm or beak *b*, the thickness of which is less than the width of the slot S of a segment A or B. The eyepiece H is revoluble, being extended downward into the sinker C as a cylindrical neck *s*, which is enlarged at its end into the form of a button F, thus preventing the slipping of the eyepiece H from the sinker C.

When it is desired to increase the weight of the sinker C, the line K is passed sidewise, as in Fig. 4, through the slot S and into the hollow segment A, which is then passed downward over and upon the sinker C, the slot S receiving the projection or beak *b*. Another and larger hollow segment B may be fitted upon the superimposed segment A in the same manner.

To lock the superimposed segments A and B, the eyepiece H is revolved till its beak *b* rests upon the upper edges of the segments A and B. In Fig. 1 the beak *b* is represented as having been given a half-turn so as to be carried the greatest distance possible from the slot S.

To diminish the weight of the sinker when a hollow segment is superimposed and locked, it is only necessary to revolve the eyepiece H till its beak *b* stands over the upper end of the slot S, and then push the segment on the line K. The slot receives the beak *b*, and when the segment is on the line the latter is passed outwardly and sidewise through the slot S.

The segments A and B are of the same height, and when superimposed have their lower edges on a level with the lower surface of the part C. Their upper edges fall either in the same plane as or a lower plane than the upper surface of the part C.

I do not confine myself to the particular form of sinker shown in the drawings. Frustums of cones and similar shapes may be used. Some advantage may be derived from compressing laterally the upper portion of the sinker, so that its upper surface will be approximately elliptical, which will permit a shortening of the beak *b*, it being then turned in locking so as to be at right angles to the major axis.

The advantages of a combination-sinker of the above description are obvious. Not only does the complete sinker retain its original height, thus keeping the fish-hooks at the same distance from the sinker and bottom of the water, but the point of attachment of the line to the sinker does not change its relative position and allows the same "feel" to the fisherman as in an ordinary sinker of equal weight.

In the normal (upright) position each additional weight is kept securely in place by the part upon which it is superimposed. When inverted or much inclined, the beak *b* prevents any segment from falling off. Each added segment covers those already placed on, and protects them from strain or accidental blows.

As the slots of the segments when superimposed fall in line one above the other, all,

or any number, may be removed at the same time by pushing upward against their lower edges, (which are in the same horizontal plane,) or by inverting the sinker and guiding them to the line with the hand. The rounding off of the edges at the angles R permits the easy reception of the beak *b* without abrasion of the edges of the segments.

The slots S form at their lower ends a hole or recess into which earth will be forced when the sinker is used as a sounder, and thus show the character of the bottom.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent of the United States, is—

A sinker for fishing-lines or sounding-lines, consisting of the pyramidal weight C, provided with a revoluble beaked eyepiece H in the manner and for the purpose specified, and the pyramidal sections, A and B, having the registering slots S to receive the line and beak *b;* the section A fitting telescopically over the weight C, and the section B fitting telescopically over the section A, substantially as described.

In testimony whereof I have signed this specification in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

ALLEN B. QUINAN.

Witnesses:

THOS. A. BILLINGSLEY,

WM. H. H. STEVENSON.