No. 742,490. PATENTED OCT. 27, 1903.

C. M. PRAY.

OAR LOCK.

APPLICATION FILED JAN. 5, 1903.

NO MODEL.

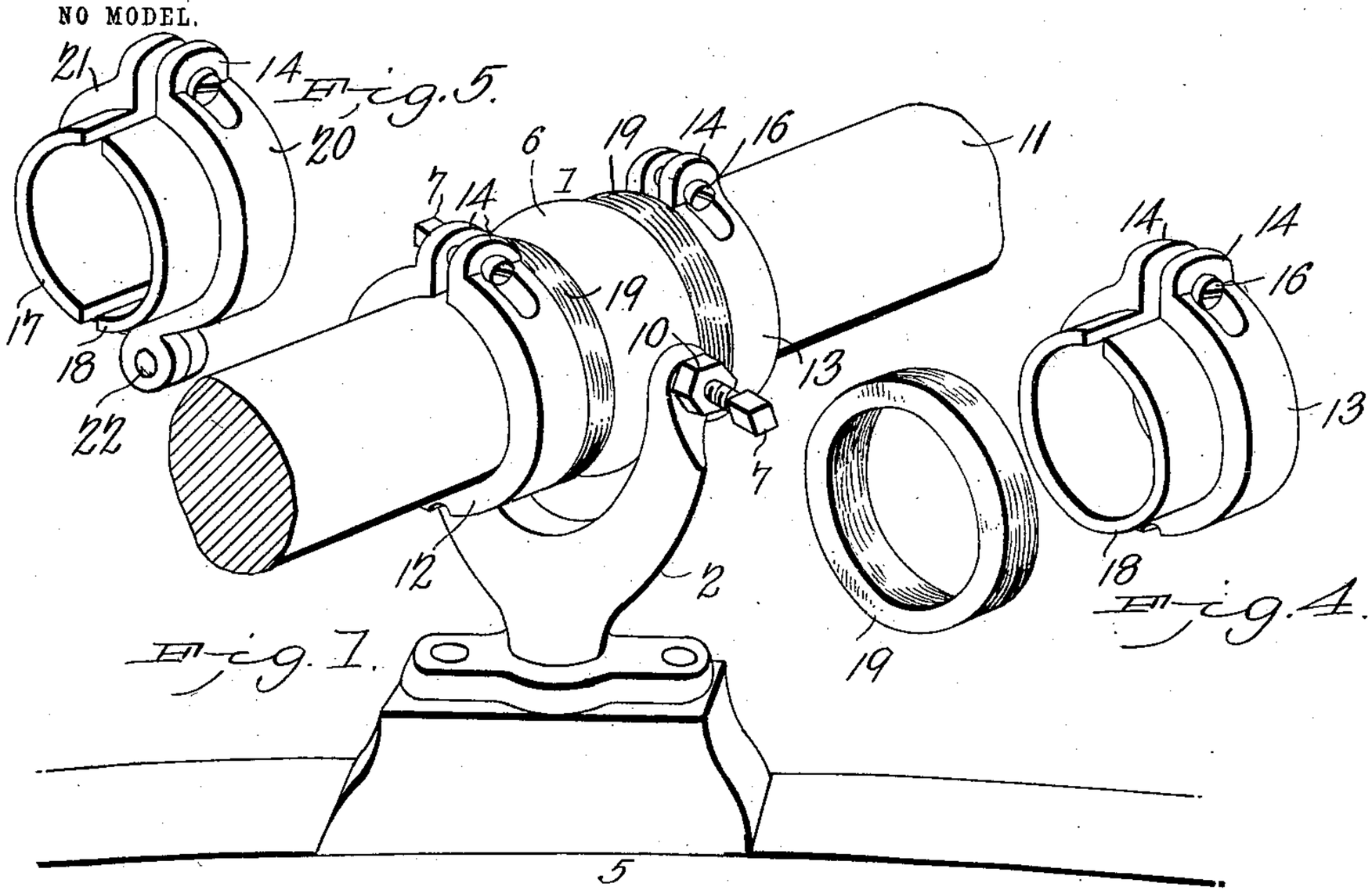

Fig. 1.

Fig. 4.

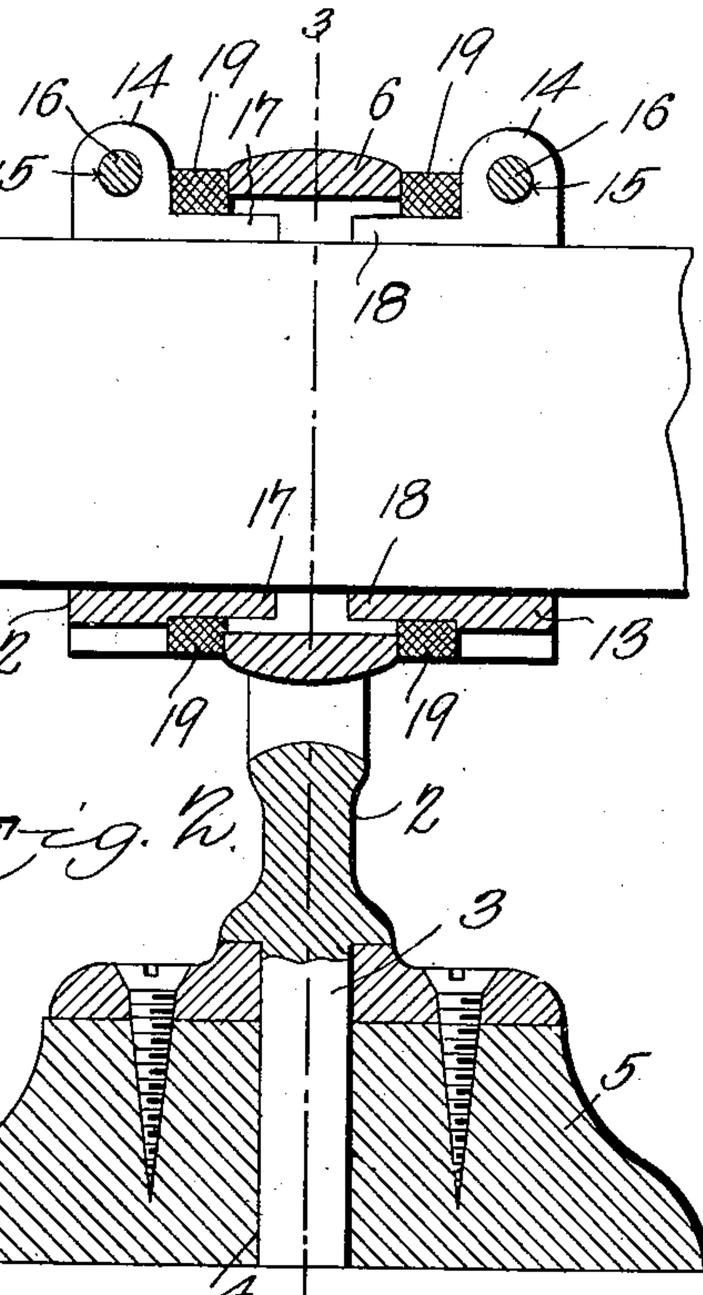

Fig. 2.

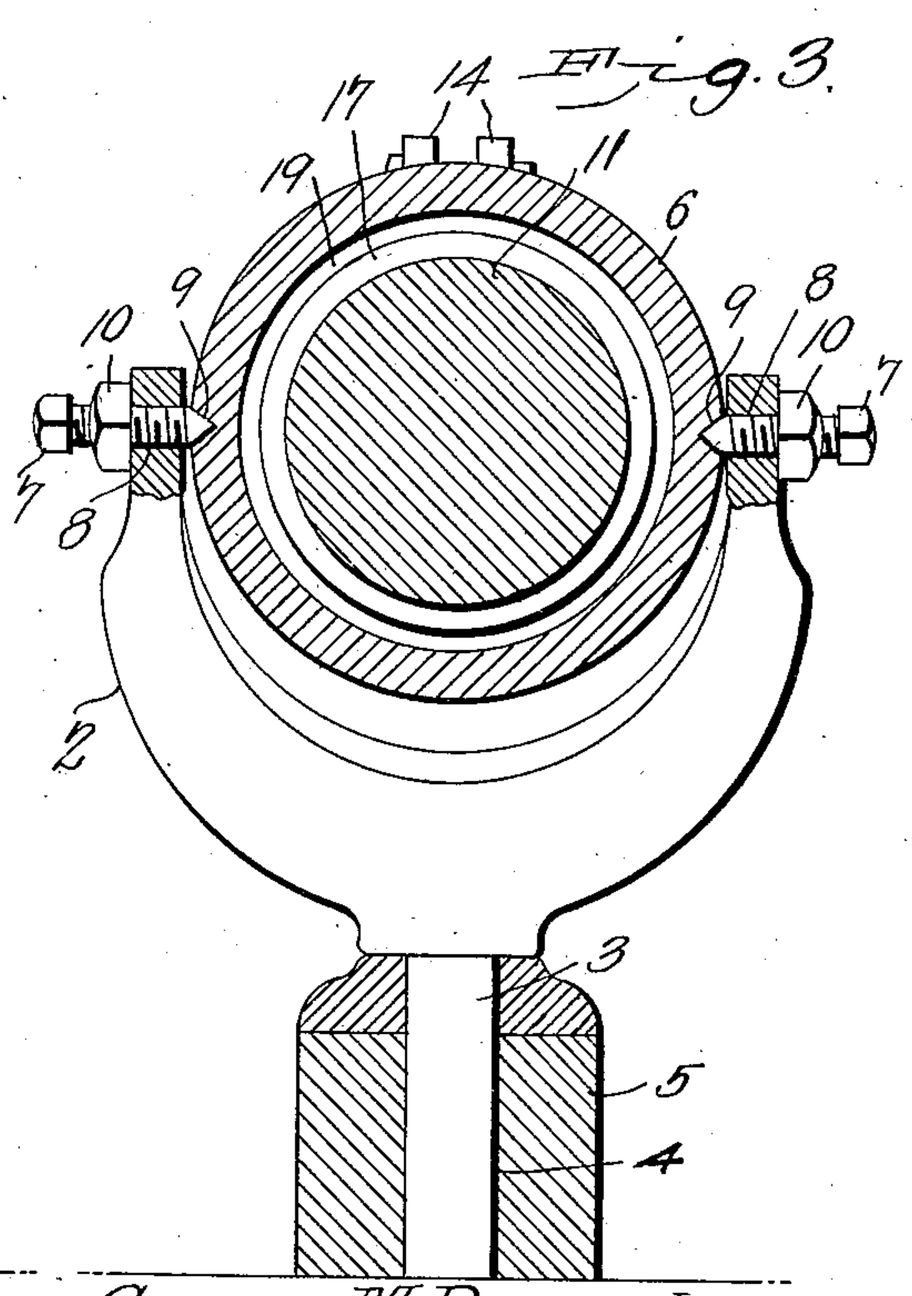

Fig. 3.

Witnesses
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No. 742,490. Patented October 27, 1903.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

CYRUS M. PRAY, OF BELGRADE LAKES, MAINE.

OAR-LOCK.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 742,490, dated October 27, 1903.

Application filed January 5, 1903. Serial No. 137,822. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, CYRUS M. PRAY, a citizen of the United States, residing at Belgrade Lakes, in the county of Kennebec and State of Maine, have invented a new and useful Oar-Lock, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to an improved oar-lock, and has for its object to provide a simple inexpensive device of this character, the relative disposition of the several parts being such as to allow the oar-lock to turn and permit the feathering movement of the oar when rowing and which also allows the oar to be used for sculling and steering the boat.

A further object of the invention is to produce a lock having a universal movement, thereby permitting the oars to be dipped into and lifted from the water in a vertical line and swept in horizontal lines and also permits the oars to be shipped and unshipped with ease and despatch.

A still further object is to reinforce the oar at the point of direct strain by means of an expansible ring or collar which forms a bearing for the oar, allowing it to turn freely in the lock, reducing the friction to a minimum, and preventing the oar from becoming worn and breaking, which is often the case with oars used in the present locks.

The invention consists in the construction and novel combination and arrangement of parts hereinafter fully described, illustrated in the accompanying drawings, and pointed out in the claims hereto appended.

In the drawings, Figure 1 is a perspective view of the oar-lock, showing a portion of the gunwale to which it is attached. Fig. 2 is a longitudinal section of the lock. Fig. 3 is a transverse section on the line 3 3 of Fig. 2. Fig. 4 is a detail view of the expansible ring or collar and washer, and Fig. 5 is a perspective view showing a modified form of collar.

Similar numerals of reference indicate corresponding parts in all the figures of the drawings.

The oar-lock 1 consists of a pair of forked arms 2, having a pin 3, swiveled in an opening 4 in the gunwale 5 of a boat. A ring 6 is pivoted between the ends of the forked arms 2 by means of threaded bolts or trunnions 7, which engage the interior threads of openings 8, formed in the ends of the forked arms. The ends of the bolts 7 are cone-shaped and fit in diametrically-opposed depressions or sockets 9 in the ring 6, being adjustable and held in the proper position by means of lock-nuts 10. The ring 6 is free to oscillate upon its bolts or trunnions 7, and secured to the loom of the oar 11 are two expansible clamping rings or collars 12 and 13, which lie one on either side of the ring 6. The clamping-rings 12 and 13 are each provided with upwardly-extending ears or lugs 14, having threaded openings 15, through which passes a screw 16, which clamps the ends of the rings together and secures them in their proper position on the oar. The pivoted ring 6 is made sufficiently large to accommodate the inwardly-extending annular flanges 17 and 18, formed on the rings or collars 12 and 13, which project a short distance within the ring 6 and form a bearing for the oar, the oar and its rings turning freely in the ring 6 and permitting feathering when rowing.

Washers 19, formed of leather, rubber, or other suitable material, rest on the flanges 17 and 18, being interposed between the collars 12 and 13 and the ring 6 and taking up any strain or sudden jar incident to rowing.

From the foregoing description it will be seen that an oar mounted in an oar-lock as shown is capable of a universal movement and may also be freely turned, affording the rower the greatest command over the oar and permitting it to be feathered or used for sculling or steering, in all cases being noiseless in its action.

By having the expansible collars the oars can be adjusted outboard to any distance to suit the rower, while the inwardly-projecting flanges form a bearing and efficiently reinforce the oar at the point of direct strain, preventing friction and materially lengthening the life of the oar, there being no wear whatever on the oar proper.

In Fig. 5 I have shown a modified form of clamping ring or collar. In this case the ring is formed in two sections 20 and 21, pivoted together by means of a pin 22.

Various changes in form, proportion, and minor details of construction may be resorted

to without departing from the principle or sacrificing any of the advantages of this invention.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim is—

1. In an oar-lock the combination with a swivel-fork, of a removable ring pivoted within the fork, a pair of expansible rings or collars adapted to clamp an oar and disposed one on each side of the ring, inwardly-extending flanges formed on the collars and projecting within the ring, the inner ends of the collars being free to expand and contract within the ring, adjustable trunnions carried by the fork, washers interposed between the collars and the ring, and means for clamping the collars to an oar.

2. In an oar-lock, the combination with a swivel-fork, of a ring pivoted within the fork, a pair of expansible rings or collars adapted to clamp an oar and disposed one on each side of the ring, inwardly-extending annular flanges formed on the collars and projecting within the ring, the inner ends of the collars being free to expand and contract within the ring, outwardly-extending ears formed integral with the collars, screws passing through said ears and adapted to clamp the collars to an oar, and washers interposed between the collars and the ring.

3. In an oar-lock, the combination with a swivel-fork, of a ring, a pair of adjustable cone-shaped threaded trunnions carried by the fork, there being corresponding bearings formed in the ring adapted to receive the trunnions, locking-nuts on the trunnions, a a pair of expansible rings or collars disposed one on each side of the ring, inwardly-extending flanges formed on the collars and projecting within the ring, the inner ends of the collars being free to expand and contract within the ring and means for clamping the collars to an oar.

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

CYRUS M. PRAY.

Witnesses:

GREENLEEF HERSOM,

C. H. KELLEY.