

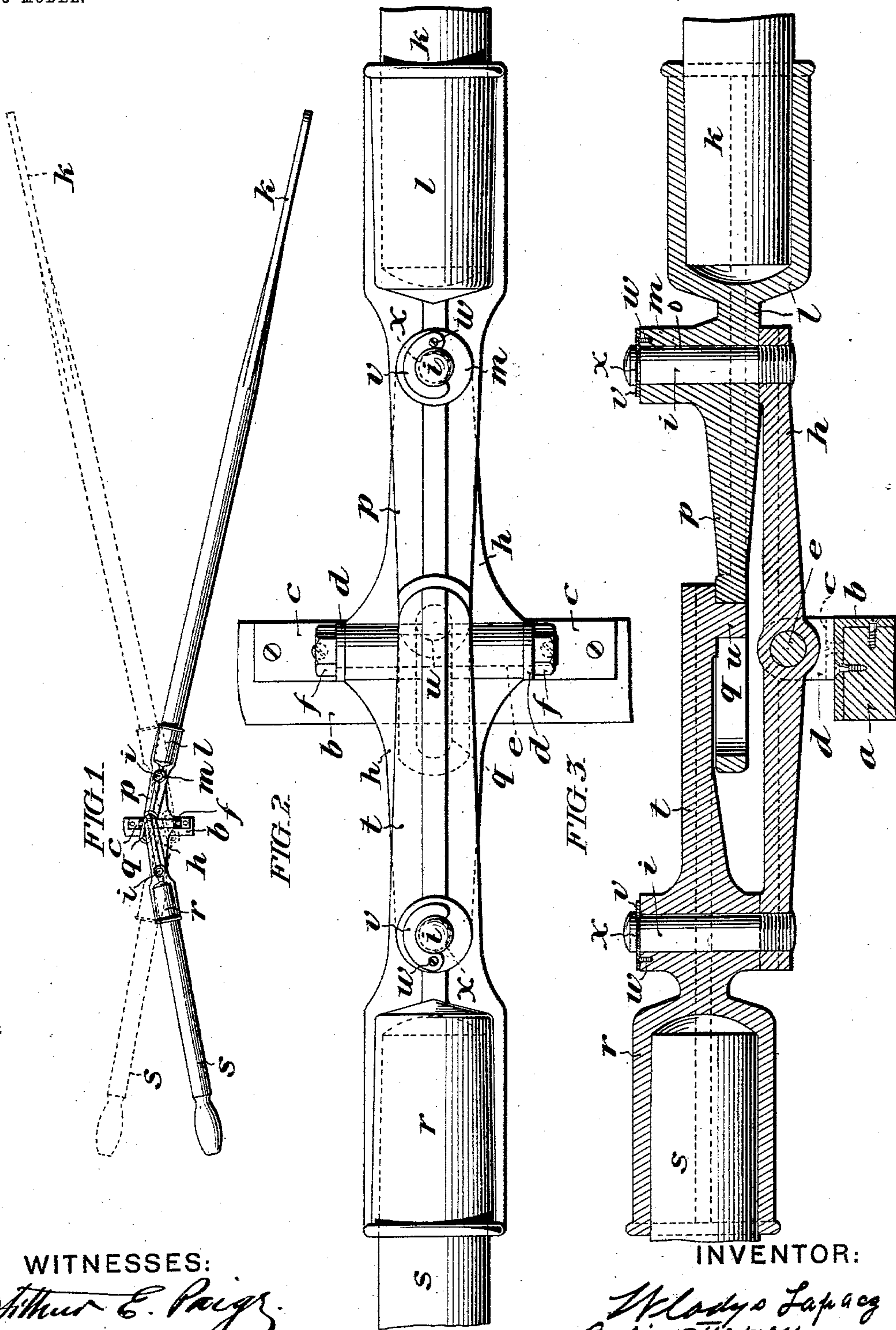
No. 745,504.

PATENTED DEC. 1, 1903.

W. LAPACZ.  
BOW FACING OAR.

APPLICATION FILED JULY 14, 1903.

NO MODEL.



WITNESSES:

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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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## BOW-FACING OAR.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 745,504, dated December 1, 1903.

Application filed July 14, 1903. Serial No. 165,425. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, WLADYS LAPACZ, a citizen of the United States, residing in the city and county of Philadelphia, State of Pennsylvania, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Bow-Facing Oars, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to an improvement in bow-facing oars, and it has for its object to provide means to enable an oarsman to operate the oar, and at the same time face in the direction in which the boat is moving; just the reverse of what is the case in an oar and oar-lock of ordinary construction.

In the accompanying drawings forming a part of this specification,—Figure 1 is a top plan view of an oar and oar-lock embodying my invention; Figure 2 is an enlarged plan view showing a portion of the oar and oar-lock embodying my invention, and Figure 3 is a longitudinal sectional view.

In the drawings, *a* designates the gunwale of a row boat, the upper edge of which is covered with a suitable angle iron *b*. *c* designates plates secured to the said angle iron. Formed upon the inner ends of the said plates *c* are lugs or ears *d*, which are vertical to the said plates *c*, and also vertical to the upper edge of the gunwale of the boat. The lugs or ears *d* may be supported in any other suitable manner upon the sides of the boat,—for instance, they may be formed upon the opposite ends of a single plate secured to the said angle iron as is obvious. Supported upon the said ears *d* is a rod *e* arranged longitudinally of the gunwale of the boat, the said rod being secured in position in the ears by means of nuts *f*. *h* designates a support, pivotally mounted upon the said rod *e*, and *i* designates pins upon the respective ends of the said pivotal support *h*. *k* designates the blade portion of an oar, and *l* designates a socket piece mounted upon the inner end of the said blade portion; and the said socket piece is provided with a boss *m* through which a perforation *o* extends for the reception of the pin *i* upon the outer end of the support *h*.

It will be noted that the blade portion *k* of the oar is pivotally supported upon the said pin *i*. The inner end of the socket piece *l* is provided with an extension *p* provided with an elongated slot *q*, the purpose of which will

be hereinafter explained. *r* designates a socket member or head secured upon the outer end of a handle portion *s* of the oar, the said socket member *r* being pivoted to the pin *i* upon the inner end of the supporting member *h* in the manner described with respect to the socket member *l*. The socket member *r* is provided with an extension *t*, the outer end of which is provided with a projection *u* upon its underneath side and at its extreme outer end, the said projection being adapted to engage within the slot *q* formed upon the inner end of the extension *p*.

The handle and blade portions of the oar are secured upon the pins *i* by means of catches *v* which are pivotally secured to the respective portions of the oar by means of the screws *w*. Normally, the catches are in engagement with the grooves *x* in the upper ends of the pins. When it is desired to remove the oar the catches are swung out of engagement with the grooves *x*, after which the two portions of the oar may be disengaged from the said pins *i*.

Upon examination of the figures of the drawings, and especially Figure 1, it will be seen that the portions *k* and *s* move in the same direction, that is to say, as the handle portion *s* is moved forward to the position indicated in dotted lines in Figure 1, the blade portion *k* will also move forward to the position indicated by dotted lines in the same figure; and a reverse movement from the dotted line position will bring the portions *k* and *s* to the position indicated in full lines in the same figure.

By reason of the fact that the portions *k* and *s* of the oar are mounted upon the pivotal support *h*, the blade of the said portion *k* can be readily dropped into and elevated out of the water in the operation of rowing. It will also be seen that an oarsman can sit in a boat facing the direction in which the boat is moving and readily operate the oar to propel the boat forward.

I wish it to be understood that various changes may be made in the details of construction without departing from the spirit of my invention.

Having thus described my invention, I claim—

1. In an oar-lock, in combination, a support



pivotally mounted upon the gunwale of the boat and provided with pins upon its opposite ends, and an oar consisting of a handle portion and a blade portion, the said portions being  
 5 pivotally and detachably mounted upon the said pins and being provided with extensions which are pivotally connected, and hooks pivoted respectively to the handle and blade portions of the said oar and adapted to en-  
 10 gage the said pins to secure the oar upon the said pins.

2. In an oar-lock, in combination, a pivotal support provided with pins upon its opposite ends, an oar detachably secured to said sup-  
 15 port, the said oar comprising a blade portion, the inner end of which is pivotally supported upon one of the said pins and which is provided with an extension having an elongated slot therein and a handle portion the outer  
 20 end of which is pivotally mounted upon the other of said pins and which is provided with an extension having a projection upon its inner end adapted to engage the said elongated slot, and hooks pivoted to the said oar and  
 25 adapted to engage the said pins to secure the oar upon the said support.

3. In an oar-lock, in combination, plates hav-  
 ing ears at their inner ends secured to the up-  
 per edge of the gunwale of the boat, a rod  
 supported by said ears, a support pivotally  
 mounted upon said rod, pins secured to the  
 opposite ends of said support, an oar detach-  
 ably secured to the said support, the said oar  
 comprising a blade portion which is pivot-  
 ally secured to the outer one of said pins 35  
 and is provided with a slotted extension, and  
 a handle portion pivotally secured to the in-  
 ner one of said pins and provided with an ex-  
 tension having a projection upon its inner  
 end which is adapted to engage the slot in 40  
 the said slotted extension, and hooks pivoted  
 to the said oar and adapted to engage the  
 said pins to secure the oar upon the said sup-  
 port.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing as  
 my invention I have hereunto signed my  
 name this 2d day of July, A. D. 1903. 45

WLADYS LAPACZ.

In presence of—

THOS. K. LANCASTER,  
 LAURA KLEINFELDER.