

(No Model.)

2 Sheets—Sheet 1.

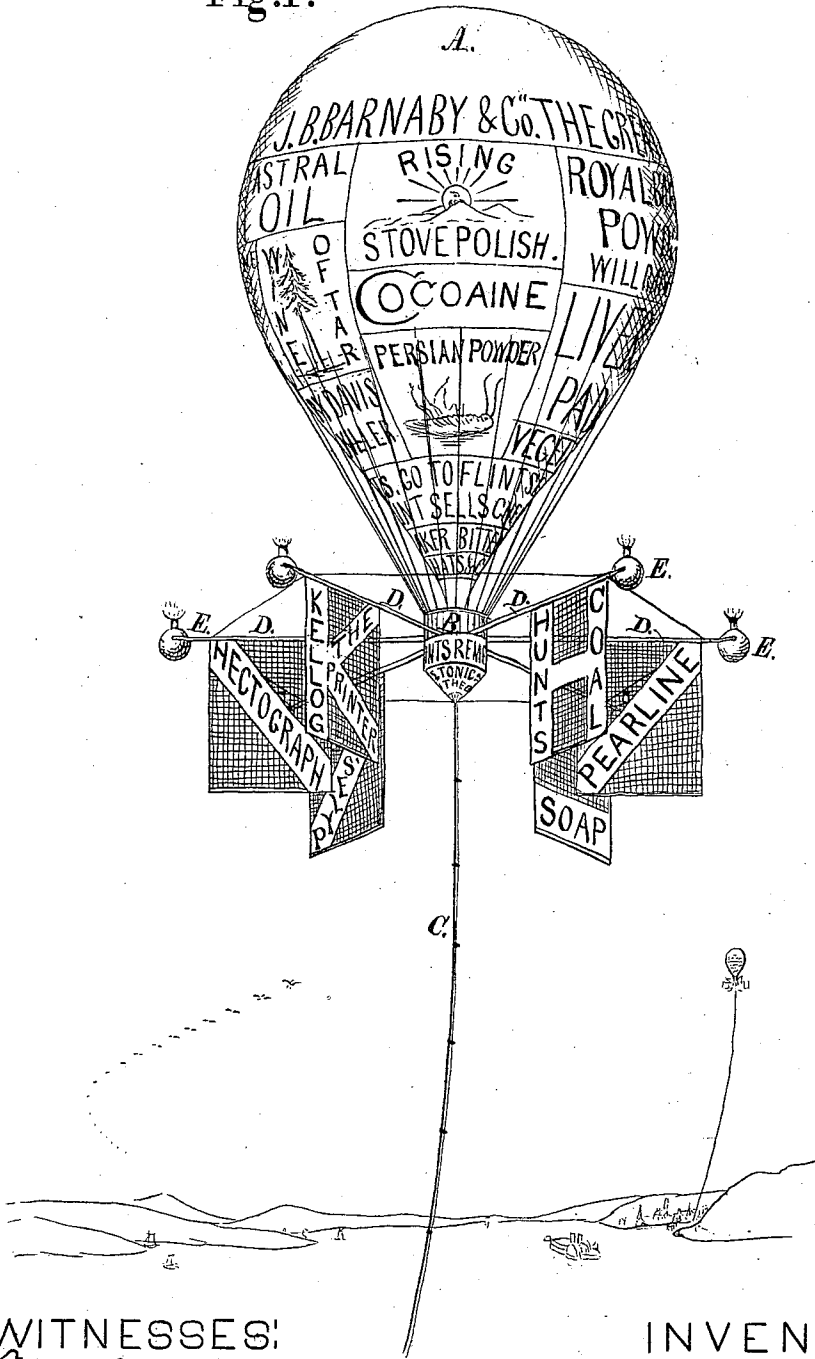
H. T. SISSON.

Balloon for Advertising.

No. 242,483.

Patented June 7, 1881.

Fig. 1.



WITNESSES:

Wm. L. Coff
Joseph A. Miller

INVENTOR:

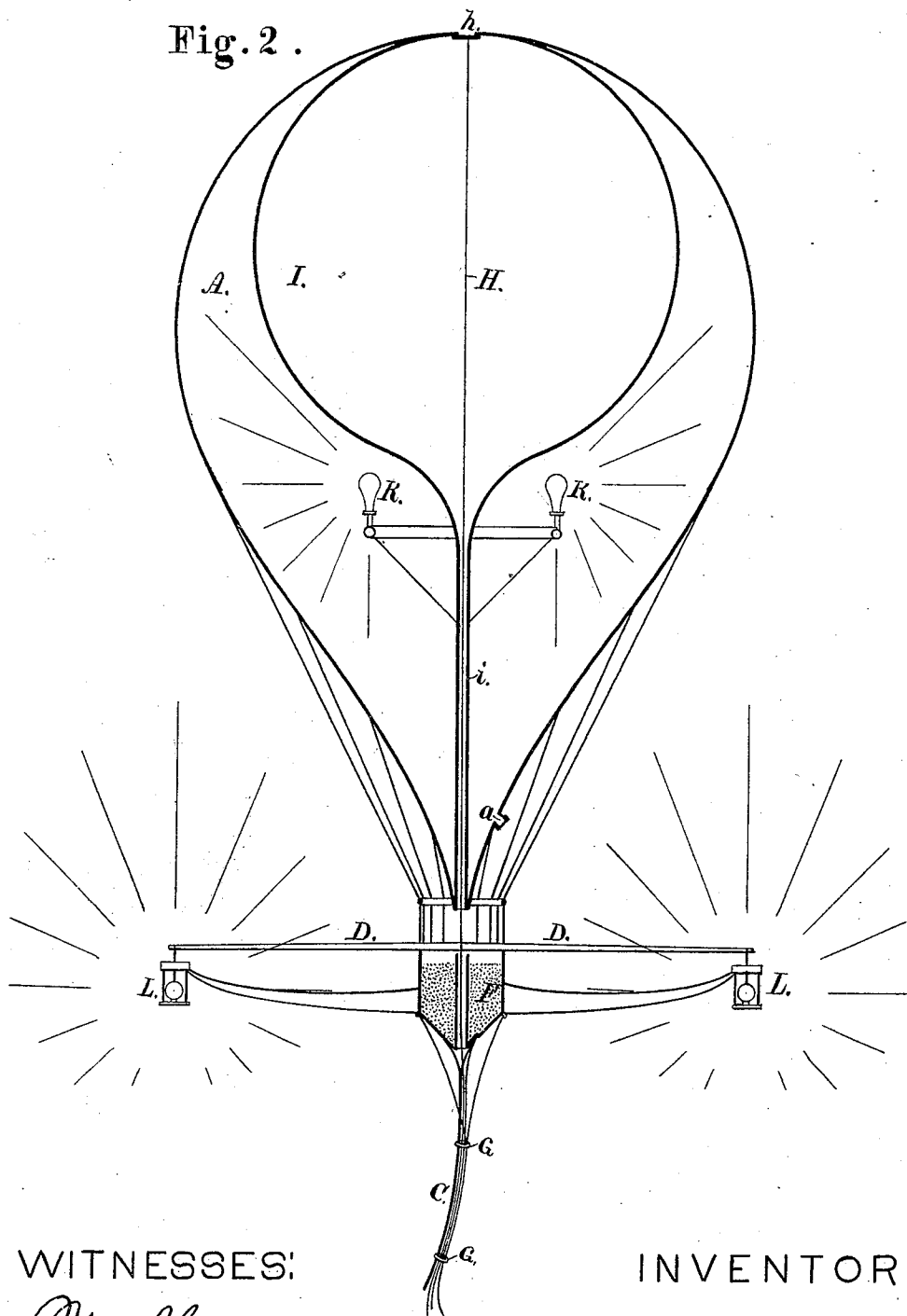
Henry T. Sisson
by Joseph A. Miller
att'y

(No Model.)

2 Sheets—Sheet 2.

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Balloon for Advertising.
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Fig. 2 .



WITNESSES:

Wm. L. Cook
Jas. A. Miller

INVENTOR

Henry T. Sisson
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

HENRY T. SISSON, OF LITTLE COMPTON, RHODE ISLAND.

BALLOON FOR ADVERTISING.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 242,483, dated June 7, 1881.

Application filed December 24, 1880. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, HENRY T. SISSON, of Little Compton, county of Newport, and State of Rhode Island, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Balloons for Advertising; and I hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description of the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, forming part of this specification.

This invention has reference to aerostatic balloons, or machines supported by air or gas above the earth, but connected with the earth; and it consists of certain arrangements of parts, more particularly described in the ensuing specification, and combination thereof, which will be fully set forth in the claims.

Figure 1 is a view of a balloon floating high above the earth, but connected with the same by the anchor-rope. The surface of the balloon is covered with advertisements, and nets, on which advertisements are secured, are shown suspended from the same. Lamps or torches are placed on yards or rods extending from the gallery under the balloon, by which the balloon can be lighted up at night, and the advertisements can be readily seen after dark. Fig. 2 is a sectional view of the balloon, in which a small balloon is placed to hold a light gas, and the outer balloon is provided with an inlet, so that the same can be inflated with air under pressure, so as to extend the surface of the balloon on which the advertisements are displayed. A valve-rope for allowing the gas to escape is shown, also a rope for allowing ballast to escape, and wires for connecting electric lamps within or supported outside the balloon with a generator of electricity. All these wires and ropes are connected with and supported by the anchor-rope by which the balloon is secured.

In the drawings, A represents a balloon on the surface of which advertisements are painted, printed, or marked.

B is the gallery, suspended below the balloon by means of cords, in the usual manner.

C is the anchor-rope by means of which the balloon is secured to the earth.

D D are yards or rods, from which banners, made, preferably, of netting, on which advertisements are secured, are suspended.

E E are lamps, hung in gimbals and used to

illuminate the balloon, so that the advertisements can be readily seen at night.

F is a reservoir containing ballast, provided with a valve which is operated by a cord, line, or wire secured to the anchor-rope C in running-eyes G G. The line, cord, or wire H, extending to the gas-relief valve h, is also secured to the anchor-rope C by the eyes G G, and when it is desired to lower the balloon gas may be let out by this valve and the valve controlled from the ground. When, on the contrary, the balloon settles, the valve in the ballast-reservoir F may also be operated from the ground and sufficient ballast discharged to lighten the balloon and allow it to ascend. All these operations can be performed on the earth, and no person is required to be in the balloon or rise with the same. As therefore only the balloon and its appurtenances are to be floated, a small quantity of gas is required to allow the same to float in the air. To descend the balloon so as to show off the advertisements to the best advantage, the balloon may be filled with air after or before the gas is admitted, and for this purpose the balloon is provided with a separate air-inlet, a, which can be readily closed when the balloon is inflated.

A small balloon, I, may be placed in the balloon A and provided with a non-collapsible tube, i, extending down through the larger balloon A, so that the small balloon I may be readily charged with gas and the larger balloon filled with air of sufficient pressure to extend the same.

The material of the balloon may be made nearly transparent, and the electric lights K K may be placed in the balloon even when the same is filled with gas. As these lamps are made on the principle of incandescent carbon, placed in air-tight glass globes, the gas cannot be ignited by the same. A fine effect is thus produced, showing an illuminated balloon covered with advertisements floating in mid-air. The electric lights may also be supported by the yards or rods D D, and these lights may be made on the electric-arc principle, as is shown at L L in Fig. 2.

The wires for conveying the electric current from the earth to the lamps K and L are secured to the anchor-rope; or they may form

part of the anchor-rope and be made to branch off to the different lamps above the connection of the anchor-rope with the balloon or any part of the same.

5 Not only can, by means of this aerostatic machine, the advertisements be displayed so as to be plainly visible both day and night, but by placing electric lights of sufficient power a large part of a city, town, or country can
10 be illuminated, and in time of war such a balloon can be provided with one or more powerful electric lights placed in suitable reflectors, and a fort, the enemy's camp, or other places
15 may be illuminated by throwing the light on the same, and such light can be instantly produced at the moment required, and as instantly extinguished, so that the enemy will have little opportunity to estimate the location of
20 the balloon. The currents may be instantly turned on or off on the earth, or they may be so controlled by a person in the balloon; but the electricity is generated on the earth, and the generator and power required are all on
25 terra firma, so that but little gas is required to float the balloon and appurtenances.

Having thus described my invention, I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent—

1. The combination, substantially as before set forth, of the interior balloon, inflated with gas, and the exterior balloon, filled with air 30 under pressure.

2. The combination, with the balloon A and the anchor-rope C, of the ballast-reservoir F, provided with a valve and a rope or line supported by the anchor-rope and arranged to 35 open the valve and discharge ballast, from the earth, while the balloon is floating in the air, as described.

3. The combination, with the balloon A, of the balloon H, provided with the non-collapsible tube *i*, as and for the purpose described. 40

4. The combination, with a balloon, of hermetically-sealed electric lights operated by incandescence when placed within the balloon and connected with an electric generator, as 45 described.

HENRY T. SISSON.

Witnesses:

CHAS. C. ARMSTRONG,
CHARLES G. A. PETERSON.