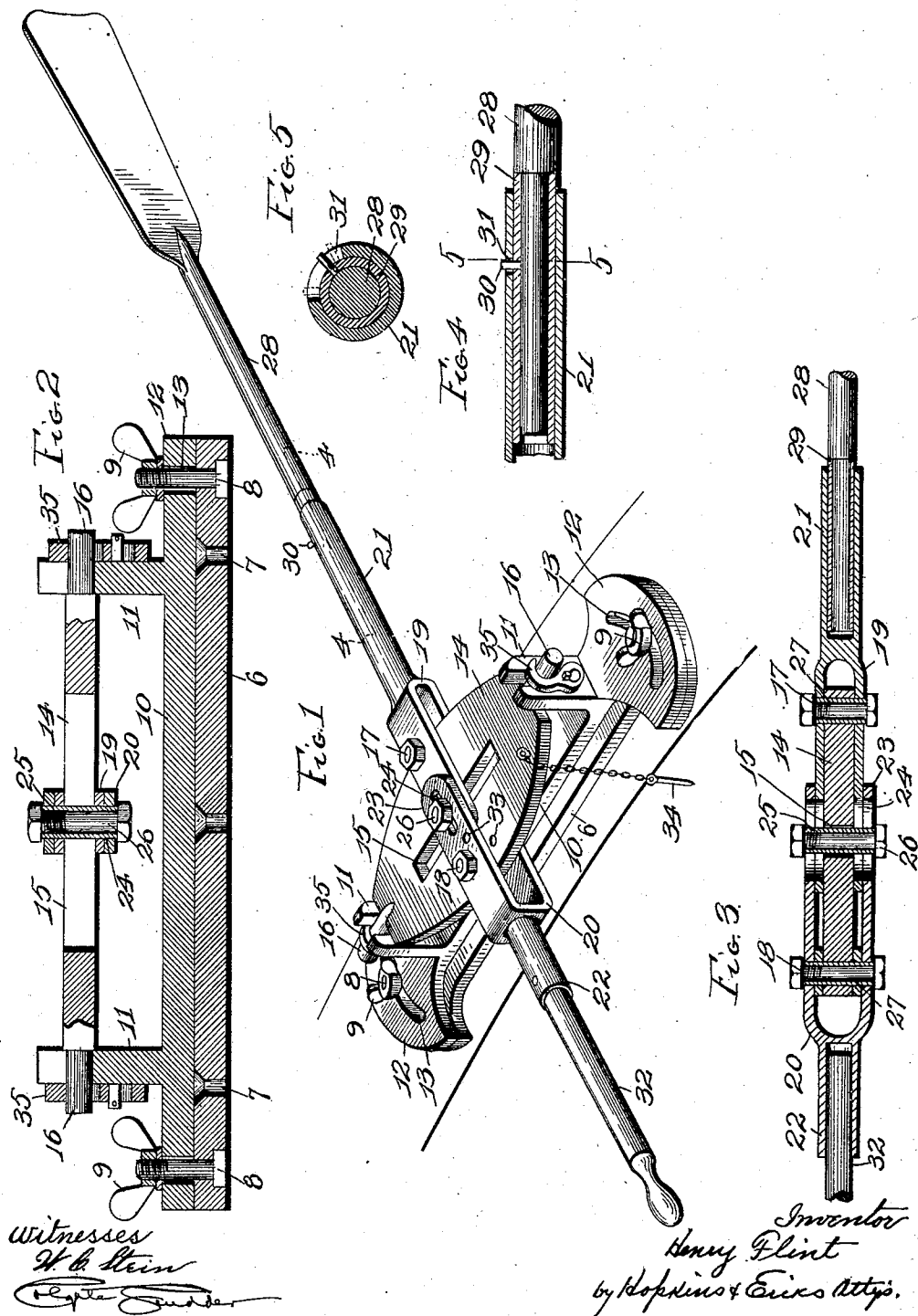


No. 874,317.

PATENTED DEC. 17, 1907.

H. FLINT.
BOW FACING OAR.
APPLICATION FILED FEB. 26, 1907.



UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

HENRY FLINT, OF ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI.

BOW-FACING OAR.

No. 874,317.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Dec. 17, 1907.

Application filed February 26, 1907. Serial No. 359,497.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, HENRY FLINT, a citizen of the United States, and resident of St. Louis, Missouri, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Bow - Facing Oars, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to an improvement in bow-facing oars, and consists of the novel arrangement, construction and combination of parts as will be fully hereinafter described and claimed.

The object of my invention is to construct an oar whereby the boat may be propelled in a forward movement by the same arm movement and position of the oarsman as used in rowing a boat with a common set of oars.

A further object of my invention is to construct an oar composed of two sections so fulcrumed as to operate the paddle of the oar in the same movement with the arm of the oarsman.

A still further object of my invention is to construct an oar composed of two sections and suitably fulcrumed so that during the operation the blade or paddle portion of the oar will automatically feather itself during the movement of the oar.

Referring to the drawings—Figure 1 is a perspective view of my complete invention, shown in position upon the gunwale of the boat. Fig. 2 is a central, vertical, sectional view. Fig. 3 is a central, cross-sectional view through the oar members with the supporting plate removed. Fig. 4 is a detail sectional view of a portion of the oar and oar-socket taken on the line 4—4 of Fig. 1. Fig. 5 is a cross-sectional view of the same taken on the line 5—5 of Fig. 4.

In the construction of my invention, I provide a base-plate 6 which is arranged to be rigidly attached to the gunwale of a boat by means of screws or the like passing through the openings 7. In each end of the base-plate I provide a projecting bolt 8 on the threaded portion of which is placed a thumb-nut 9. Upon the base-plate I adjustably mount a supporting-plate 10, which acts as an oar-socket and is provided with a pair of upwardly projecting slotted members 11. The said plate is provided with curvilinear projecting ends 12 in which are located curvilinear slots 13, and through said slots project the bolts 8 whereby said supporting

plate may be adjustably held in position by the tightening of the thumb-nuts 9.

Within the slotted projecting members 11 is swingingly mounted a plate 14 which has a central elongated slot 15 and a pair of projecting trunnions 16. Upon said plate are pivotally connected by means of bolts 17 and 18 a pair of bifurcated arms 19 and 20, each of which being provided with sockets 21 and 22. The ends 23 of the bifurcated arms are provided with slots 24 and said ends are arranged to overlap one another and through the slots 24 and the slot 15 in the plate 14 is passed a sleeve 25 through which is passed a bolt 26 whereby the said slotted arms are held together. The said bifurcated arms are pivotally held in position upon the plate 14 by the bolts 17 and 18 and around said bolts are also placed sleeves 27 to relieve friction while the said arms are being manipulated.

In the socket 21 is inserted one end of the oar 28 and in order to prevent unnecessary friction, I place upon the oar 28 a sleeve 29, and in said sleeve I insert a pin 30, the said pin projecting through the slot 31 formed in the socket 21, and the object of which is to permit sufficient movement to the oar in order that the blade or paddle portion of the oar may feather itself while idly passing over the water.

In the socket 22 I insert a handle 32 by which motion is imparted to the oar mechanism. In the bifurcated arm 20 and in the plate 14 I provide holes 33 in which may be inserted a pin 34, the object of this is to retain both sections of the oar in rigid alignment when it is desired to remove the same, together with the plate from the oar socket.

The plate 14 is held in position within the slots of the projecting members 11 by means of the hooks 35 and said hooks are arranged to be readily swung out of contact with the trunnions 16 when desired.

The operation of my invention is as follows: The device is placed in position upon the gunwale of a boat as shown in Fig. 1, and can be readily adjusted to accommodate the oarsman by means of the thumb-nuts 9 and the slotted ends 12, and by such adjustment a desired angle can be obtained to regulate the movement of the blade section of the oar, so that a proper rowing result may be obtained. The oarsman is seated in the boat facing the bow, and by pulling upon the

handle 32 of each of the oars, the blade section of the oar is brought in contact with the water and moves in the same direction as the handle section. The proper tilting of the oar to limit the movement of the blade within the water is permitted by the tilting of the plate 14, and by the backward movement of the blade section and by the arrangement of the slot 31 in the socket 21, the blade, when contacting with the water on its idle motion, will automatically feather itself and immediately upon again being thrust into the water to propel the boat, the force of the water will again straighten the blade.

By this construction, the oarsman can row the boat in a forward movement by a pulling action upon the oar handles and at all times facing the movement of the boat.

Having fully described my invention, what I claim is:

1. A bow-facing oar composed of two sections, a slotted tilting plate, each section pivoted on a line central to the slot and so fulcrumed as to move both sections in the same direction, so that a boat can be propelled in the facing direction of the oarsman by a pulling motion, substantially as specified.

2. A device of the class described comprising a plate tiltingly mounted in an oar socket, hooks for retaining the same in position, a pair of arms fulcrumed upon said plate, their ends adjustably connected together, each of said arms provided with

sockets, in the socket of one of said arms is placed a paddle section, in the socket of the other arm is placed a handle whereby motion may be imparted to the paddle section and operated in the same direction as the handle section, the socket containing the paddle section provided with a slot for permitting lateral movement to the paddle and means for adjusting the entire mechanism upon the gunwale of a boat, substantially as specified.

3. A device of the class described comprising a slotted supporting plate adjustably mounted upon the gunwale of a boat, a tilting plate supported by the supporting plate, a pair of bifurcated arms pivotally connected to the plate, the ends of said arms provided with elongated slots, the tilting plate provided with an elongated slot through which is passed a sleeve and bolt whereby the ends of the arms are connected, a paddle connected to one of said arms and a handle to the other of said arms, and means for retaining both of said arms in rigid position when desiring to remove the same from the supporting plate, substantially as specified.

In testimony whereof, I have signed my name to this specification, in presence of two subscribing witnesses.

HENRY FLINT.

Witnesses:

ALFRED A. EICKS,
WALTER C. STEIN.