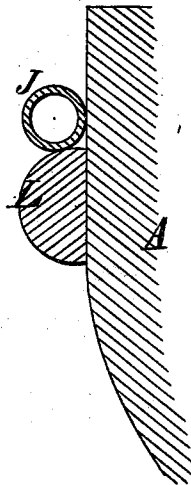


R. R. WILKINSON.
FENDERS FOR LIFE BOATS.

No. 176,723.

Patented April 25, 1876.



WITNESSES

Robert Everett
E. H. Bates

INVENTOR.

Reuben R. Wilkinson.
Chipman. Howards.
Gilmore. Smith.

ATTORNEYS

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

REUBEN R. WILKINSON, OF GROTON, CONNECTICUT.

IMPROVEMENT IN FENDERS FOR LIFE-BOATS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **176,723**, dated April 25, 1876; application filed April 8, 1876.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, REUBEN R. WILKINSON, of Groton, in the county of New London and State of Connecticut, have invented a new and valuable Improvement in Life-Boats; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description of the construction and operation of the same, reference being had to the annexed drawings, making a part of this specification, and to the letters and figures of reference marked thereon.

The figure of the drawing is a representation of a partial sectional view of a life-boat, showing my improvement attached thereto.

My invention has relation to life-boats; and it consists in the construction and arrangement of the parts, as hereinafter more fully described, and pointed out in the claim.

In the annexed drawings, A designates the hull of a life-boat, which may be constructed of any suitable material, and provided with water-tight compartments. L L designate guards, which may be made of some yielding material, for the purpose of preventing injury

to the air-floats and hull should it strike a rock. Above these guards are floats J J, which are tubular and made air-tight, so that they can be blown up by means of tubes, or in any other convenient manner, whenever desired.

It will be observed that the guard L, surrounding the hull, supports and protects the air-floats J from injury, and at the same time serves as a fender for the hull.

What I claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

The combination of the hull A, provided with the guard L, and the air-float J, the guard serving the threefold purposes of a fender, support for the air-floats, and protector for the same, as described.

In testimony that I claim the above I have hereunto subscribed my name in the presence of two witnesses.

REUBEN R. WILKINSON.

Witnesses:

LEONARD MALLORY,
J. A. RATHBUN.