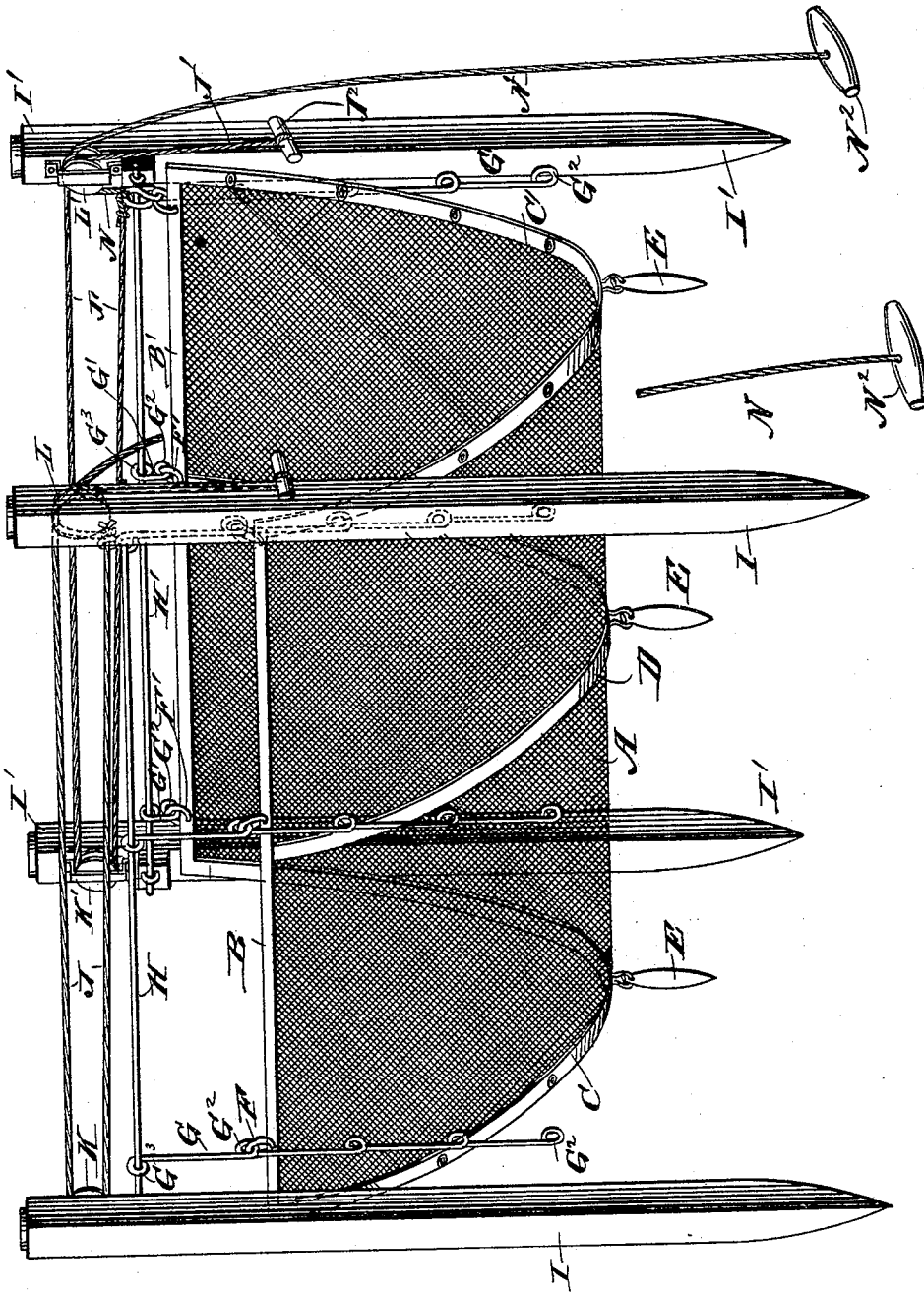


(No Model.)

R. ELLIOTT.
FLOAT GOLD COLLECTING DEVICE.

No. 461,743.

Patented Oct. 20, 1891.



WITNESSES:

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ROBERT ELLIOTT, OF PAULLINA, IOWA.

FLOAT-GOLD-COLLECTING DEVICE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 461,743, dated October 20, 1891.

Application filed June 16, 1891. Serial No. 396,478. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ROBERT ELLIOTT, of Paullina, in the county of O'Brien and State of Iowa, have invented a new and Improved
5 Float-Gold-Collecting Device, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description.

The object of the invention is to provide a new and improved device for collecting and
10 saving floating or scale gold in rivers or streams which is simple and durable in construction, very effective in operation, and easily manipulated.

The invention consists in certain parts and details and combinations of the same, as will
15 be hereinafter fully described, and then pointed out in the claims.

Reference is to be had to the accompanying drawing, forming a part of this specification,
20 in which the figure is a perspective view of the improvement.

The improved float-gold-collecting device is provided with a sieve or seine A, made of
25 bolting-cloth or other suitable material and stretched transversely through the water in a river or stream, the upstream end B being somewhat lower than the downstream side B', so that the water readily floats or passes into and through the sieve, the higher end B', however, preventing passage of floating gold,
30 which latter is thus collected in the sieve. The ends C and C' are open, pointing to the banks of the river or stream. The sides B and B', as well as the ends C C', are lined with suitable material, a strip or strips D being fastened to the sieve between the ends C
35 and C', so as to prevent the sieve from being torn. On the lower part of the ends and the center strips are secured weights E, so that the sieve hangs in bag-like fashion in the water of the river or stream. It is understood
40 that the meshes of the sieve are sufficiently close to retain the float-gold carried down by the water in the river. On the sides B B' are secured a series of links F F', respectively
45 adapted to hook onto the hooks G², formed on sets of rods G G', each provided at its upper end with an eye G³, engaging a transversely-extending bar or rod H or H', respectively supported on sets of posts I I', respectively fastened into the ground on the banks

of the river or stream. It is understood that two of the posts of the sets of posts I and I' are on one side of the stream or river, while the other posts are on the opposite side. 55

The sides B and B' are connected at one end of the sieve with the ropes J and J', respectively extending transversely and passing over pulleys K K', journaled on the posts at one side of the river, as plainly shown in
60 Fig. 1, the ropes then passing again back to the other side and over pulleys L and L', journaled in bearings on the other side of the river. The ends of the ropes J and J' then hang downward on the posts and carry handles J² for conveniently pulling on the said
65 ropes. A second set of ropes N and N' is fastened to the sides B and B' of the sieve close to the fastening ends of the ropes J and J', this set of ropes N and N' passing over the
70 pulleys L and L', which are made double for this purpose and hang down on the posts on one side of the river.

When the device is in position, as shown in the drawing, the sieve extends transversely
75 through the water in the river or stream with the upstream side B lower than the downstream side B', so that the float or scale gold passing down the river is caught by the sieve and retained therein. When the sieve has
80 been retained in the water for some time and the operator desires to remove the collected gold, he then pulls on the handles J² of the ropes J and J', so that the end C' of the sieve is drawn transversely to the opposite end, so
85 as to form the sieve into a bag, which can be removed by the operator by unhooking the links F and F' from the hooks G² of the rods G and G'. The bag can then be washed out, so as to obtain the float-gold. When this has
90 been accomplished, the sieve is again hooked by the links F F' onto the respective hooks of the rods G G', and then the operator pulls on the handles N² of the ropes N and N', so that the end C' of the bag is again drawn
95 across the river to stretch the sieve through the water to the former position, as shown and described.

It is understood that when the operator draws the sieve into a bagged position by pulling
100 on the ropes J J', as previously described, the other set of ropes N and N' are carried

along with this end of the sieve to be in position for pulling the sieve back to its original position after the sieve has been cleaned of the gold collected therein.

- 5 The sides B B' are adjusted vertically on the rods G G', according to the depth of the water in the river or stream. The ends C C' are provided with eyes for conveniently attaching a second sieve or seine A, if desired, and in case the width of the river necessitates an extension.

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

- 15 1. A float-gold-collecting device for streams, provided with a sieve crossing the stream and formed of suitable flexible fabric, the downstream longitudinal edge of the sieve being uppermost, substantially as set forth.
- 20 2. A float-gold-collecting device for streams, provided with a sieve crossing the stream and formed of flexible fabric, the longitudinal edges of which are uppermost to form a trough-like structure and the upstream edge being the lower of the two, substantially as set forth.
- 25 3. A float-gold-collecting device provided with a flexible suspended sieve extending transversely across the water in a stream or river, the ends of the sieve being open, the upstream side being lower than the downstream side, and weights hung on the bottom of the sieve to retain the same in position, substantially as shown and described.
- 30 4. In a float-gold-collecting device, the combination, with a sieve extending transversely across the water in a stream or river, of means, substantially as described, for supporting the sides of the said sieve, and means for drawing one end of the sieve toward the other, and vice versa, substantially as shown and described.
- 35 5. In a float-gold-collecting device, the combination, with sets of posts set at opposite sides of a stream or river and carrying guide-rods, of rods fitted to slide on the said guide-rods, and a sieve adapted to be hooked on its ends to the said sliding rod, substantially as shown and described.
- 40 6. In a float-gold-collecting device, the combination, with sets of posts arranged on opposite sides of a stream or river and carrying transversely-extending guide-rods, of rods fitted to slide on the said guide-rods and provided with hooks, a sieve extending transversely across the water in the stream or river, and links held on the sides of the said sieve and adapted to be hooked onto the hooks of the sliding rods, substantially as shown and described.
- 45 7. In a float-gold-collecting device, the combination, with sets of posts arranged on opposite sides of a stream or river and carrying transversely-extending guide-rods, of rods fitted to slide on the said guide-rods and provided with hooks, a sieve extending transversely across the water in the stream or river, links held on the sides of the said sieve and adapted to be hooked onto the hooks of the sliding rods, and weights held on the lower ends of the said sieve to retain the same in position, substantially as shown and described.
- 50 8. In a float-gold-collecting device, the combination, with sets of posts set at opposite sides of a stream or river and carrying guide-rods, of rods fitted to slide on the said guide-rods, a sieve adapted to be hooked on its ends to the said sliding rods, and a set of ropes connected with one end of the said sieve and passing over pulleys on the said posts to open the said sieve, substantially as shown and described.
- 55 9. In a float-gold-collecting device, the combination, with sets of posts set at opposite sides of a stream or river and carrying guide-rods, of rods fitted to slide on the said guide-rods, a sieve adapted to be hooked on its ends to the said sliding rods, a set of ropes connected with one end of the said sieve and passing over pulleys on the said posts to open the said sieve, and a second set of ropes also connected with the end of the sieve and passing over one set of pulleys to close the said sieve, substantially as shown and described.
- 60

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Witnesses:

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