

E. NIEHOFF.

KITE.

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1,103,817.

Patented July 14, 1914.

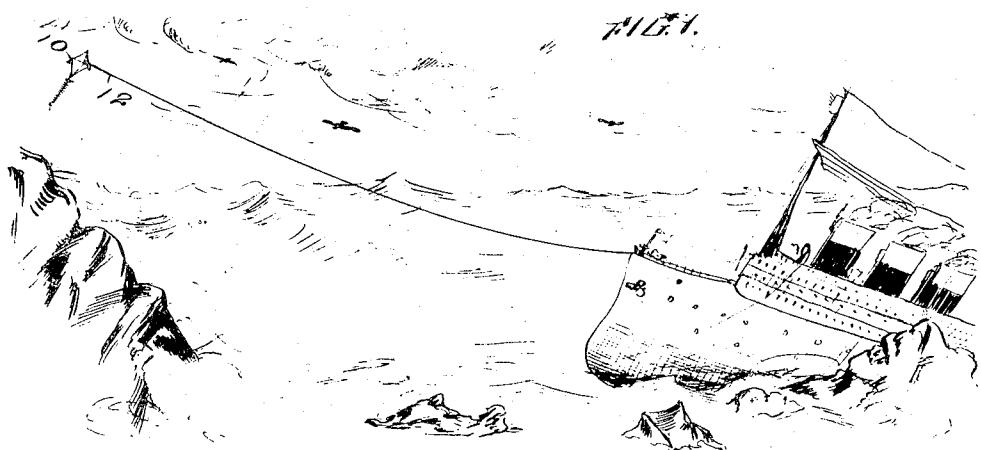


FIG. 2.

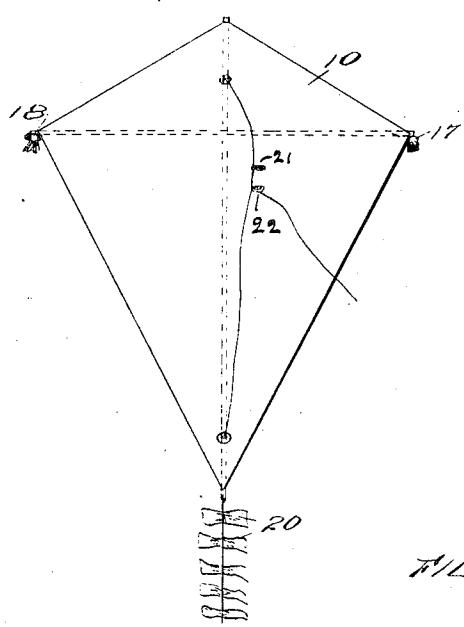


FIG. 3.

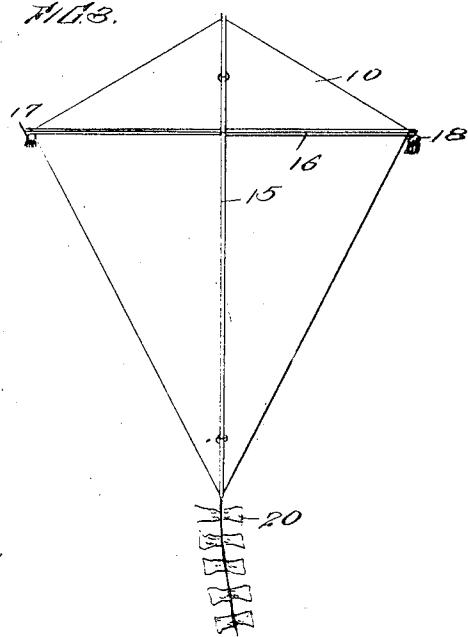
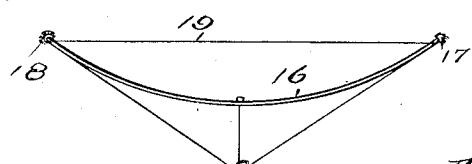


FIG. 4.



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Witnesses

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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KITE.

1,103,817.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ERNEST NIEHOFF, a citizen of the United States, residing at Roanoke, in the county of Roanoke and State of Virginia, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Kites; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same.

This invention relates to kites especially designed for use in signaling. The device may be used for signaling from ship-board to land, from one ship to another, or under any similar circumstances.

The object is to provide a device which may be flown in the usual manner, but which will descend by the proper manipulation of the cord attached to the kite, the descent being governed by weights carried by opposite sides of the frame, these weights being of unequal size in order that the kite may be carried not directly in the course of the wind, but to one side or the other of such course according to circumstances and according to the position of the ship signaling.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is a view of a kite in flight from the deck of the ship; Figs. 2 and 3 are views of the kite in elevation showing weights of different sizes carried by opposite sides of the frame; Fig. 4 is a view of the kite in horizontal section.

The kite proper may be of the usual or any preferred construction and is indicated in the drawings by 10, the cord connected with the kite being designated 12. The upright member of the frame is shown at 15 and the horizontal member at 16. At each end of the horizontal member a weighted tassel is attached, the smaller tassel being marked 17 and the larger 18, and the tail of the kite is shown at 20.

The operation of the device is as follows: When it is desired to signal, the cord is properly secured and the kite is played in

the usual manner and the cord allowed to pay out until the operator is satisfied that the kite is flying over the point at which it is desired to give the signal. The cord is then firmly held and the kite immediately proceeds to rise as high as possible and to veer to the right or left of the exact course of the wind according to the weights or tassels secured to either side of the frame. When the kite reaches the highest point, it will suddenly turn over and drop to the ground or to the deck of another ship if it be flying over a ship. It will, of course, be understood that the difference in the weights on the opposite sides of the frame depends upon the distance which the kite must veer from the direct course of the wind in order to reach the point desired. If it is desired to send the kite in the direct course of the wind, the weighted tassels may be left off or may be of equal weight in order that the device shall not veer in the manner described. The ends of member 16 are connected by a cord 19 for causing member 16 to bend and the kite to take more wind. The cord 12 is fastened near the top and bottom of the kite, and if the latter is to fly some distance, the cord is connected at 21 instead of 22, which will cause the device to rise to a greater height.

What I claim is:

1. In a kite, a frame, a weight carried by one side of the frame, and a second weight of different size carried by the opposite side of the frame.
2. In a kite, a frame comprising an upright member and a cross bar, a sheet of material mounted on said frame, and weights carried by the ends of the cross bar, said weights being of unequal size.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature in presence of two witnesses.

ERNEST NIEHOFF.

Witnesses:

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