W. H. McMillan.

Oar.

No. 42,389. Patented Apr. 19, 1864.

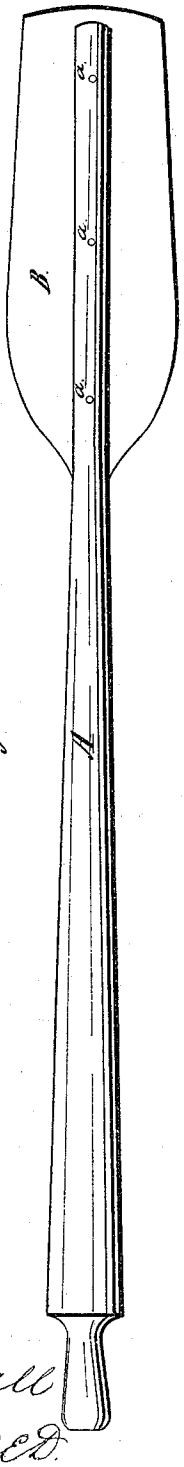


Fig: 1.

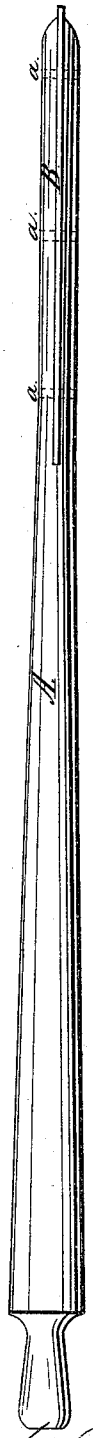


Fig: 2.

Witnesses.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

W. H. McMILLAN, OF NEW YORK, N. Y.

IMPROVED STEEL-BLADED OAR.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **42,389**, dated April 19, 1864.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, W. H. McMILLAN, of the city, county, and State of New York, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Oars; and I do 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, in which—

Figure 1 represents a front elevation of my invention. Fig. 2 is a side elevation of the same.

Similar letters of reference in both views indicate corresponding parts.

This invention consists in an oar having a metallic blade attached to a wooden handle either by rivets, clasps, sockets, or in any other desirable manner, so that a strong and durable blade is obtained which is not liable to split or crack, and, furthermore, the manufacture of the oar is cheapened and simplified.

To enable those skilled in the art to fully understand and construct my invention, I will proceed to describe it.

A represents the handle of my oar, which is made of wood in the usual form and shape. The outer end of this handle is split open and provided with a kerf to receive the blade B. This blade is stamped or cut out of sheet-iron, steel, copper, or any other suitable metal, in the proper form and secured in the kerf by means of rivets *a*, and, together with these rivets, clasps might be employed to embrace that portion of the handle extending over the blade and prevent it from splitting, or the blade might be made with a suitable socket to receive the end of the handle, which in this ase would require no splitting and would be secured to the blade in the same manner as a handle to a shovel, hoe, or other similar implement.

By using sheet metal for the blade of oars said oars are rendered much more durable than oars of the ordinary construction with wooden blades. Such wooden blades are liable to split or break whenever they come in contact with any hard substance floating in the water, or when they strike the ground or some object and the oar loses its effect and must be replaced by a new one. The wooden blade cannot be repaired; if once broken, the whole oar is useless. My metallic blades are not liable to these difficulties. When they strike some hard substance, they may bend, but they would not break, and they can be readily straightened out in case they should bend; but if it should happen that from some cause the blade should be irreparably injured, it can easily be removed and replaced by another without throwing away the handle, and with a trifling expense the oar is as good as new.

I am aware that propellers of various forms have before been made with metallic blades applied to wooden shafts; but

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

As a new article of manufacture, the oar herein described, consisting of a wooden handle, A, and metal blade B, when the said parts are constructed and combined as and for the purpose herein specified.

W. H. McMILLAN.

Witnesses:

M. M. LIVINGSTON,

J. W. COOMBS.