MOVABLE PLATFORM FOR THE STERN END OF CAR FLOATS.
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Fig. 1.

Fig. 4.

Inventor:
John M. Cherry
To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOHN M. CHERRY, a citizen of the United States, residing at Westfield, in the county of Union and State of New Jersey, have invented a new and useful Improvement in a Movable Platform for the Sterne End of Car-Floats, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates broadly to gang planks, and more particularly to a movable platform for the end of car floats.

The principal object of the present invention is to dispense with the fixed platforms or planks ordinarily connecting the car float with the dock, wharf or the like, and to substitute a movable platform so mounted that it can be adjusted to various heights as conditions may require.

Still another object of the present invention is to provide a car float with a movable platform as described, and to protect the entire platform by a roof, one end of which is pivotally supported and connected to the movable platform so that the two may be moved in unison to maintain at all times the proper distance between the platform and the roof.

Still another object of the invention is to provide a counterbalancing mechanism for a platform and roof of this type so that the same may be easily adjusted as required. These and other objects, together with attendant advantages will be obvious as the invention becomes better understood by reference to the specification, and drawings forming a part thereof, throughout the several views of which like characters of reference have been used to indicate like parts.

Referring to the drawings,—

Fig. 1 is a side elevation of a portion of a car float equipped with my improved platforms.

Fig. 2 is an end elevation of the construction shown in Fig. 1.

Fig. 3 is a plan view showing the pivotal mountings of my improved platforms.

Fig. 4 is a diagrammatic view showing the method of attaching the parts to the car float.

It has heretofore been customary to equip car floats with stationary platforms over which the material carried by the cars was unloaded. These platforms have been objectionable for the reason that due to changes in the tidal condition of the waters in which the car float is operating, the plat-
counter-balanced by means of cables 20 secured to the platform and passing over the pulleys 11, their opposite ends being secured to counter-weights 21 slidably between the uprights 8 which form guides therefor. By reason of this construction it will be apparent that the platform may be readily raised or lowered as conditions may require by simply manipulating the hand chain 19.

For protecting the merchandise and stevedores during loading and unloading operations, the roof 5 is provided with hinged portions 22 overlying the movable platform and connected thereto by links 24 so as to have a movement in unison with the platform. The entire construction may be braced in any desired manner by suitable braces 25. In some instances I have found it desirable to provide notches or sockets 26 in the platform 6 to receive the hooks ordinarily formed on the lower surfaces of small bridges or gang planks. Such bridges or gang planks when used constitute a continuation of the platform while in any position, so that the goods may be easily unloaded from the float.

While I have described the preferred form of my invention, it will be obvious that changes may be made in the mechanical construction thereof without departing from the scope of the appended claims.

What I claim is—

1. A car float having a loading and unloading platform formed thereon so as to extend in substantially the plane of the car floors on the float, a movable platform secured thereto adjacent the doorway of the end car on the float, means for counter-balancing the weight of said movable platform, and means for adjusting said movable platform at will.

2. A car float having a loading and unloading platform formed thereon and overlying the floor so as to lie in substantially the plane of the floors of the cars on the float, a movable platform secured thereto, and means for adjusting said movable platform.

3. A car float having a loading and unloading platform formed thereon, a movable platform secured thereto, means for adjusting said movable platform, and an adjustable covering section for protecting said movable platform in all of its different adjusted positions.

4. A car float having a loading and unloading platform formed thereon and extending longitudinally thereof, a roof protecting said platform, a movable platform secured to said first-mentioned platform, a hinged roof section, and means for adjusting said platform and roof section simultaneously.

5. A car float having a loading and unloading platform formed thereon and extending longitudinally thereof, a roof protecting said platform, a movable platform secured to said first-mentioned platform, a hinged roof section, means connecting said movable platform and said roof section to cause the same to move in unison, means for moving the same, and means for counter-balancing the weight thereof.

JOHN M. CHERRY.

Witnesses:
CHARLES E. HENDRICKSON, Jr.
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