

W. N. BELL.
SHIP LOCATOR AND RAISER.
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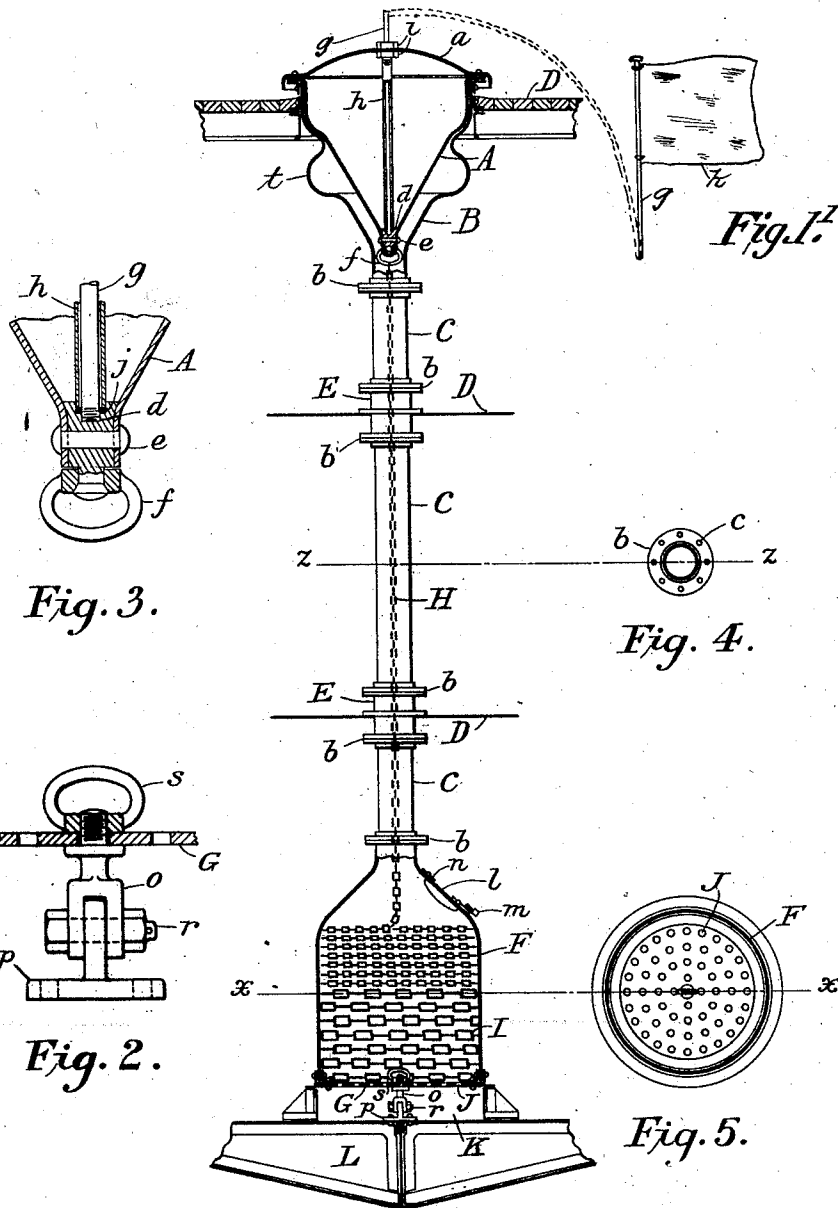


Fig. 3.

Fig. 4.

Fig. 2.

Fig. 5.

Fig. 1

Witnesses.

Chas. H. Trinkle, Jr.

R. M. Moran

Inventor.

William Napoleon Bell

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLIAM NAPOLEON BELL, OF NORFOLK, VIRGINIA.

SHIP LOCATOR AND RAISER.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM NAPOLEON BELL, a citizen of Norfolk, county of Norfolk, State of Virginia, United States of America, have invented a Ship Locator and Raiser, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to ship locators and raisers, and has for its object to form an attachment for ships whereby upon the ship sinking a buoy rises to the surface of the water and has attached thereto a cord or chain connected with a chain or cable held in a suitable receptacle in the ship and attached to the ship. The buoy has attached thereto a signal flag. Thus upon the buoy being sighted or discovered the chain or cable attached to the sunken ship or vessel may be drawn upward in order to raise the vessel.

This invention is embodied essentially in a tubular member or pipe extending from the upper deck of the vessel to the bottom thereof having a buoy pocket or socket on the upper end thereof and a chain or cable receptacle on the lower end thereof, and within the said receptacle is arranged a chain or cable sufficiently strong to sustain the weight of the ship and which has one end thereof secured to the bottom of the ship and the other end thereof is secured to a smaller chain or cable which extends up through the said pipe and is attached to a buoy held normally within the pocket or socket at the upper end of the said pipe, whereby upon the ship sinking, the buoy rises to the surface of the water thus pulling with it the smaller chain or cable and permitting the larger chain or cable to be drawn upward to raise the ship. The buoy has attached thereto, as above stated, a signal flag which serves as a means for locating the sunken ship or vessel.

The invention is illustrated in the accompanying drawings, in which similar reference characters indicate similar parts, and in which—

Figure 1 is an elevation of the attachment, parts broken away and the signal flag being shown as broken off. Fig. 1' is an elevation of the signal flag. Fig. 2 is a detail view of the connection between the raising chain and the bottom of the ship. Fig. 3 is a detail in section of the bottom of the buoy. Fig. 4 is an end view of one of the pipe

sections. Fig. 5 is a section on the line X—X of Fig. 1, the chain being removed.

Referring specifically to the drawings, the three decks of the vessel are designated D, the lower decks being indicated diagrammatically by a single line, and the bottom of the vessel is designated at L. The pipe or tubular member C extends through the lower decks of the vessel terminating at its ends adjacent the upper deck and the bottom of the vessel. At the upper end of the said pipe is secured the buoy pocket or socket B which is of an inverted conical shape and has an annular swell *t* and at the lower end of the said pipe is attached the receptacle or container F which has a perforated bottom G. A bracket *p* is secured to the bottom of the ship below the perforated bottom G and to the said bracket is pivoted a bracket O which extends through the center of the said bottom. A comparatively large chain I is arranged within the receptacle F and has one end thereof secured to the bracket O within the bottom G, while a smaller chain or cable H is secured to the other end thereof and extends up the pipe C. A buoy A which is in the form of an inverted conical shell normally rests within the pocket B and to the lower end of which is attached the upper end of the chain H, the said buoy being provided with a swivel joint *f*. On the upper side of the said buoy is secured a staff *g* having a signal flag *k* on the upper end thereof, which may be suitably colored to attract attention. The bottom of the ship or vessel is spaced from the receptacle F thus forming a passage K below receptacle F and establishing a communication from the upper deck to the bottom of the vessel permitting the water to rise into the pipe C. Upon the ship sinking the water rising in the pipe C through the perforated bottom G enters the lower end of the pocket B and also enters the annular swell *t* forming a "water cushion" therein which causes the buoy to rise from the pocket and rise to the surface of the water drawing the chain H with it. The signal flag mounted on the buoy thus serves as a means for locating the sunken vessel whereupon the chain H may be taken up to bring the large chain I to the surface for the purpose of raising the sunken vessel.

What is claimed as new is:—

1. In combination with a ship, a pipe

extending from the upper deck to the bottom thereof, a conical shaped buoy pocket secured to the upper end of the said pipe and having an annular swell, a receptacle
5 secured to the lower end of the said pipe, a perforated bottom for the said receptacle, the bottom of the ship being spaced from the receptacle, a raising chain secured to the bottom of the vessel and arranged with-
10 in the said receptacle, a smaller chain secured to the said chain and extending up the said pipe, an inverted conical shaped buoy fitting in the said pocket and attached to the
15 upper end of the said smaller chain, whereby upon the ship sinking, the buoy is made to rise to the surface carrying with it the smaller chain.

2. In combination with a ship, a pipe extending from the upper deck to the bottom
20 thereof, a buoy pocket secured to the upper end of the said pipe, a receptacle secured to the lower end of the said pipe, a perforated bottom for the said receptacle, the bottom of the ship being spaced from the
25 receptacle, a bracket secured to the bottom;

a bracket pivoted to the said bracket and extending through the center of the said bottom, a raising chain secured to the latter bracket and arranged within the said receptacle, a smaller chain secured to the said
30 chain and extending up the said pipe, and a buoy arranged within the said pocket and attached to the upper end of the said smaller chain, whereby upon the ship sinking, the buoy rises to the surface carrying with it
35 the smaller chain.

3. In combination with a ship, a pipe extending from the upper deck to the bottom and communicating with the bottom of the vessel, a conical shaped pocket secured to
40 the upper end thereof and having an annular swell, an inverted conical shaped buoy fitting within the said pocket, and a chain attached to the lower end of the said buoy and extending down the said pipe.

WILLIAM NAPOLEON BELL.

Witnesses:

GEO. W. SWOPE,

CHAS. H. NEAKLE, Jr.