P. DROCAR.

FLOATING RAFT.

APPLICATION FILED SEPT. 21, 1917.

1,265,631. Patented May 7, 1918.

Fig. 1.

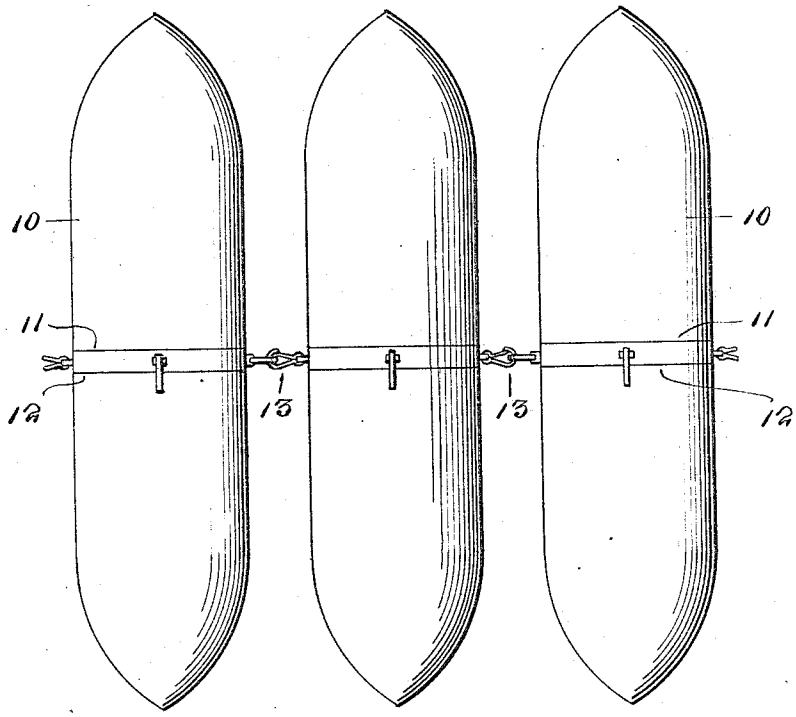
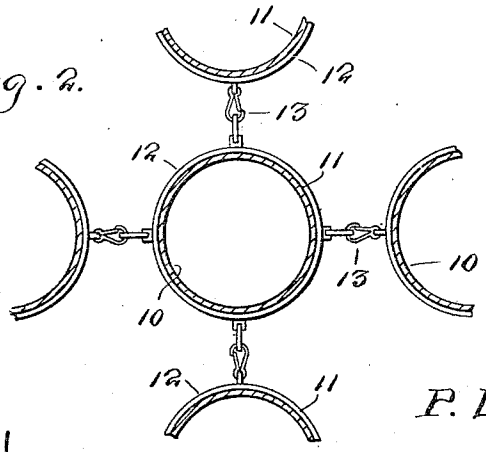


Fig. 2.



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PAUL DROCAR, OF TARRS, PENNSYLVANIA.

FLOATING RAFT.

1,265,631. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented May 7, 1918.

Application filed September 21, 1917. Serial No. 192,557.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, PAUL DROCAR, a citizen of the United States, residing at Tarrs, in the county of Westmoreland and State of Pennsylvania, have invented new and useful Improvements in Floating Rafts, of which the following is a specification.

This invention comprehends the provision of means to assist in raising sunken vessels, or to maintain damaged vessels afloat for an appreciable length of time, the invention consisting essentially of a plurality of floats or rafts which may be coupled together to obtain the desired buoyancy.

The nature and advantages of the invention will be more apparent when the following detail description is taken in consideration with the accompanying drawing, the invention residing in the construction, combination and arrangement of parts as claimed.

In the drawing forming part of this specification like numerals of reference indicate similar parts in the several views and wherein:—

Figure 1 is a view showing a number of floats or rafts coupled together.

Fig. 2 is a detail view of one of the floats or rafts.

It is my purpose to provide a number of buoyant bodies, such as indicated at 10, and while the bodies may be constructed from any suitable material, they are preferably hollow in the nature of a tank or the like, and preferably designed to provide pointed extremities. Each body at a point midway of its length is provided with an annular groove 11 in which is seated an annulus 12, the latter being capable of rotation within the groove. Carried by the annulus at diametrically opposite points, is a plurality of hook-like elements 13 preferably four in number. The hooks may be of any suitable character but are preferably in the nature of snap hooks. These bodies are primarily utilized to assist in the raising of sunken vessels, and are adapted to be positioned within the vessel in superimposed rows, with the respective bodies of the bottom row connected to the boat in any suitable manner and to each other. The snap hooks 13 of one body are connected with the snap hooks of the adjacent body and in this manner any number of floats or rafts may be coupled together in a single row, and any number of rows arranged in superimposed relation to provide for the desired buoyancy, in assisting in the raising of a sunken vessel, or the maintaining of a damaged vessel afloat for a considerable length of time. By reason of the fact that the annulus 12 for each body is capable of rotation, it is obvious that the hook-like elements of one body may be conveniently disposed to be engaged by the hook-like elements of the adjacent body for the purpose above stated.

While it is believed that from the foregoing description the nature and advantages of the invention will be readily apparent, I desire to have it understood that what is herein shown and described is merely illustrative of the preferred embodiment of the invention to which I do not limit myself, and that such changes may be resorted to when desired as fall within the scope of what is claimed.

What is claimed is:—

A device of the character described comprising a buoyant body formed as a closed hollow cylindrical shell, its ends terminating in points, the central portion of said body being provided with a peripheral groove, an annular band disposed within said groove and thereby prevented from longitudinal movement, and attaching means carried by said band.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature.

PAUL DROCAR.

Witness to signature:

W. M. CRAIG.

Copies of this patent may be obtained for five cents each, by addressing the "Commissioner of Patents, Washington, D. C."