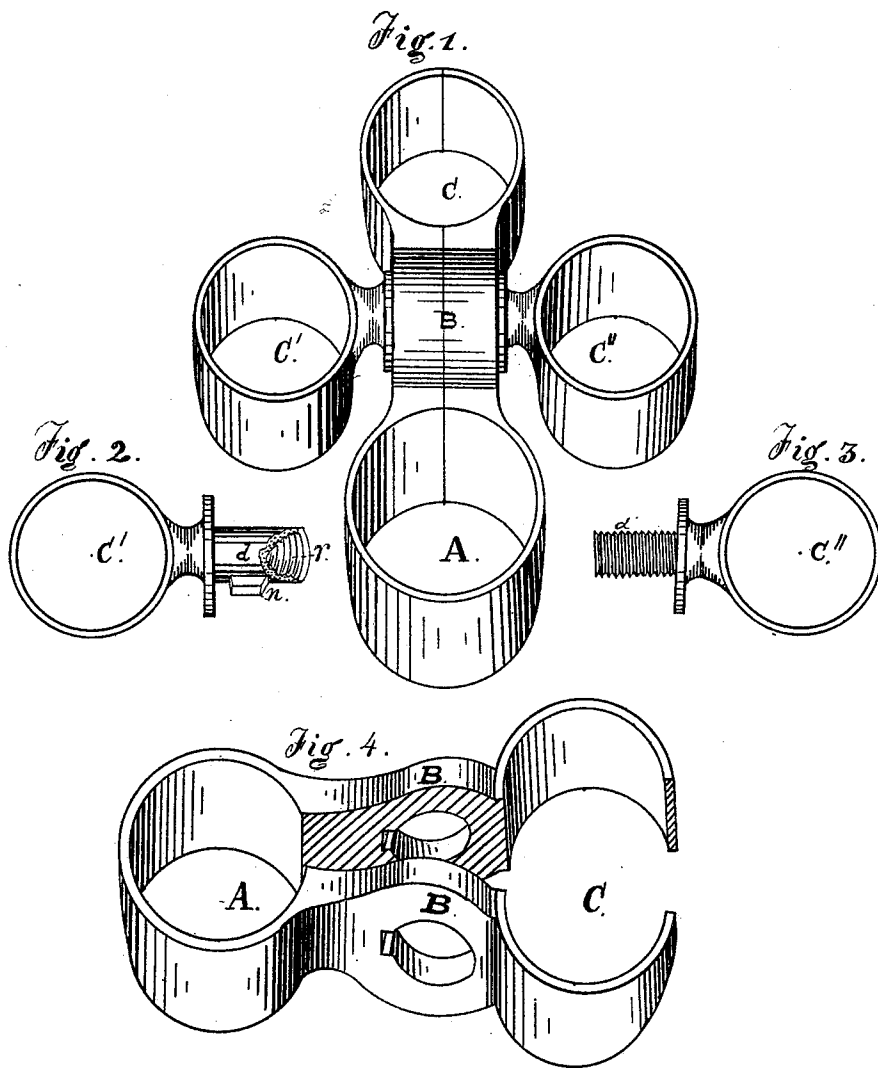


J. BETTS.
Fair-Leaders for Ships' Rigging.

No. 198,447.

Patented Dec. 25, 1877.



Witnesses:
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOHN BETTS, OF BROOKLYN, NEW YORK.

IMPROVEMENT IN FAIR-LEADERS FOR SHIPS' RIGGING.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **198,447**, dated December 25, 1877; application filed October 22, 1877.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOHN BETTS, of the city of Brooklyn, in the county of Kings and State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Fair-Leaders for Leading Running-Gear systematically to the Rails; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description thereof, which will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and to the letters of reference marked thereon, which form a part of this specification.

This invention relates to that class of improvements employed to facilitate the handling of ropes constituting the running-rigging of a ship or other sailing vessel.

Referring to the drawings, Figure 1 is a perspective view of my improved metallic fair-leader, composed of sections screwed together ready for use. A is the eye or loop which receives and secures the fair-leader to the shroud at any desirable point. B is the split shank or body, forming a part of the eye A and split eye C, held together by means of the adjustable eyes C' and C'', which are provided with threaded shanks, as shown at Figs. 2 and 3.

Fig. 2 represents the eye C' taken out of the shank B, said eye being provided with a hollow cylindrical shank or stem, *d*, having a female screw-thread cut upon the internal surface thereof, as shown at *r*; also, having a projecting lug, *n*, on the outside of the stem, to prevent the eye C' from turning in the body B when in the position shown at Fig. 1.

Fig. 3 represents the eye C'' removed from the shank or body B, in order to show the male screw-stem *d'*, forming a part thereof, which screws into the tubular stem *d*, Fig. 2, to firmly secure the clamping-eye A around the shroud in the position shown at Fig. 1.

Fig. 4 is a perspective view of the united parts of my fair-leader, consisting of the eye

A, shank or body B, open eye C; also, showing the holes through the shank B, to receive the stems *d* and *d'*, Figs. 2 and 3, when the parts are united together, as shown at Fig. 1.

The shank B and eye C may be opened or drawn apart, as shown at Fig. 4, to any required width, to allow the largest shroud or rope to pass through the same into the eye A, preparatory to being screwed together for use.

I would here state that I do not confine myself to any particular form of opening or openings in the shank or body B, to allow the shroud to pass through the same into the clamping-eye A. Neither do I confine myself to any particular material to make the several parts of my invention, or to the number of eyes employed in the same, but use any suitable material and number of eyes, arranged and operated to suit the exigencies of the time and place.

The novelty of my invention consists in the construction of a fair-leader composed of parts A, B, C, C', C'', *d*, *d'*, *n*, and *r*, constructed as above set forth, to secure the buntlines, leechlines, clew-lines, &c., in their proper places.

What I claim as novel and useful, and wish to protect by Letters Patent of the United States, is—

As an improved article of manufacture, the herein-described fair-leader, consisting of the split shank or body B, having a central opening, and forming the eyes A and C, said shank being also provided with an adjustable eye, C'', the shank *d'* of which screws into the hollow sleeve *d* of the opposite eye C' through the central opening of the split shank, substantially as described.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing as my own invention I affix my signature in presence of two witnesses.

JOHN BETTS.

Witnesses:

JOHN T. WATERS,
CHAS. H. BOYD.