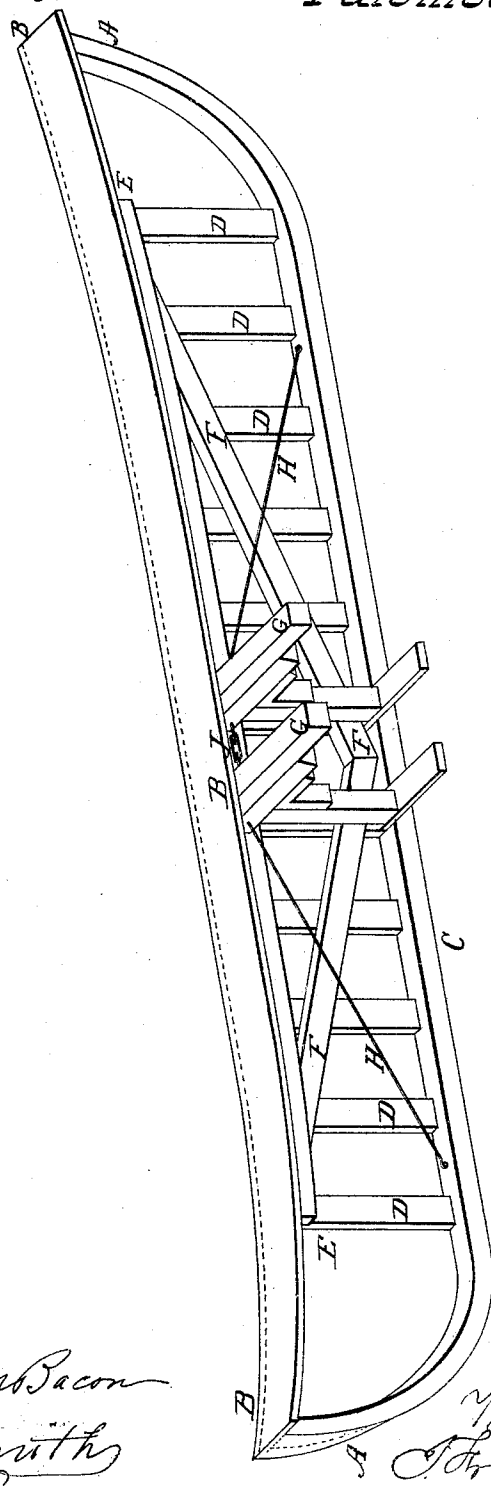
F. Mertens.
Building.

No. 65,255. Patented May 28, 1867.



Witnesses:
Augustus M. Bacon
H. P. Smith

Inventor
By his Atty
S. Franklin Reagan

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United States Patent Office.

FREDERICK MERTENS, OF CUMBERLAND, MARYLAND.

Letters Patent No. 65,255, *dated May* 28, 1867.

IMPROVED MODE OF BRACING AND STAYING BOATS.

The Schedule referred to in these Letters Patent and making part of the same.

TO ALL WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

Be it known that I, FREDERICK MERTENS, of Cumberland, Alleghany county, State of Maryland, have invented an "Improved Mode of Bracing and Staying Boats;" and I do hereby declare the following to be an exact description thereof, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and to the letters of reference marked thereon, making a part of this specification.

The nature of my invention consists in the arrangement of the braces in combination with adjustable tightening-rods for bracing and staying the sides of a boat, and tightening them through the cross-ties.

A represents the one side of a boat, with its gunwale B and keelson C. D D are the ribs extending from the keelson C to the gunwale B. E is a long brace of timber to which the ribs D are bolted or pinned. F F are two long braces inclining from the ends of brace E to the centre, also staying the ribs D and side of the boat. G G are cross-ties that extend across the boat. H H are the tightening-rods, adjusted and tightened by a clutch or link, J, operating on the screw ends of the rods, the other ends of the rods being firmly fastened to keelson C below. The rods H also pass through the cross-ties G G, so as to tie them and keep them firmly braced to the keelson.

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

The arrangement of the braces E and F, and the cross-ties G, when constructed and combined with the tightening-rods H, as herein described and for the purpose set forth.

F. MERTENS.

Witnesses:

J. FRANKLIN REIGART,

J. D. McEVOY.