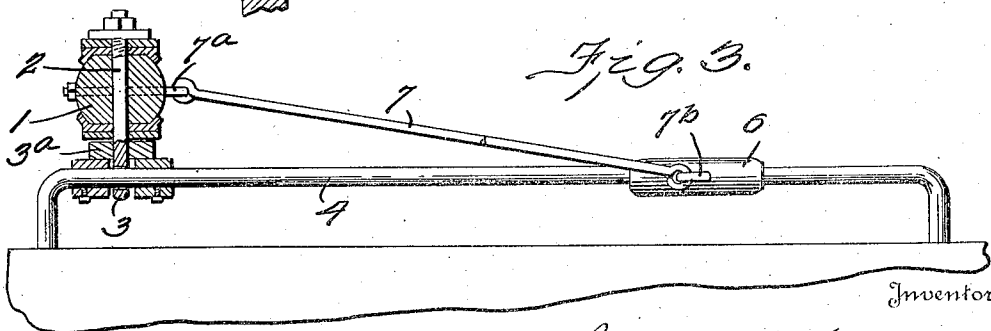
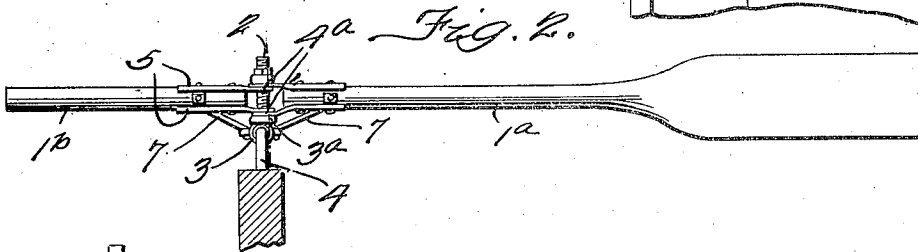
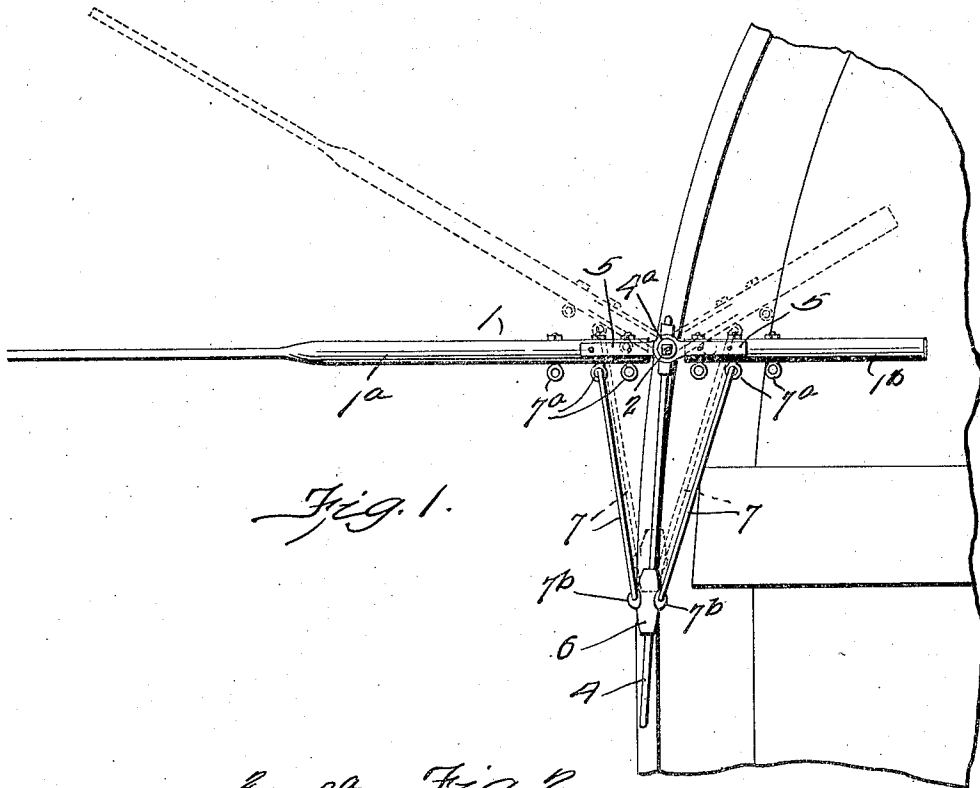


W. H. CLAY.
BOW FACING OAR.
APPLICATION FILED DEC. 27, 1919.

1,353,027.

Patented Sept. 14, 1920.



Witness
[Signature]

William H. Clay

By *[Signature]*

Attorney &

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLIAM HENRY CLAY, OF EUSTIS, FLORIDA.

BOW-FACING OAR.

1,353,027.

Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Sept. 14, 1920.

Application filed December 27, 1919. Serial No. 347,744.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM HENRY CLAY, a citizen of the United States, residing at Eustis, in the county of Lake and State of Florida, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Bow-Facing Oars; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same.

This invention relates to improvements in rowing oars, which may be characterized as of the type termed bow-facing oars.

The invention has for its object, among other things, to provide an oar simple in construction, of the minimum number of parts, easy of operation and readily applied to the gunwale of the boat.

A further object is to adapt the oar to take care of itself when released as upon the cessation of the rowing operation or the oar is not in use.

A still further object is to provide for carrying out with facility and economically, the aforesaid objects together with others which may be apparent from the following description and illustration of the invention.

The invention consists, therefore, of certain instrumentalities and features of construction substantially as hereinafter more fully disclosed and defined by the appended claims.

The accompanying drawing illustrates the preferred embodiment or one form of my invention wherein it will be understood that various changes and modifications as relate to the detailed construction and arrangement of parts may be made without departing from the spirit or scope thereof as covered by the claims.

In the drawing:

Figure 1 is a plan view of my invention; Fig. 2 is a longitudinal section thereof.

Fig. 3 is a detailed transverse sectional view, taken upon an enlarged scale, showing more fully the pivotal connection between the members of the oar and the rail or keeper therefor attached to the gunwale.

As characteristic of my invention, I form the oar, generally designated as 1, in two members, the blade or oar proper 1^a, and the handle 1^b, these constituting practically a single unit. The blade 1^a and handle 1^b are pivoted upon a common pivot or pintle

2, having its lower end terminating in a ring-formation 3 receiving the longitudinal portion of a keeper or rail 4 suitably secured to the boat-gunwale. The pivotal connection between the blade and handle members 1^a, 1^b, and the pivot or pintle 2 is effected preferably by providing said blade and handle members each with opposite or a pair of metallic straps or plates 5 suitably secured to the respective opposite sides of said members, each pair of said straps or plates terminating in orificed or apertured extensions 4^a whose orifices receive said pintle or pivot 2. The pivot or pintle 2 is preferably provided with a washer 3^a which limits the downward insertion of the orificed pivoting extensions 4^a of the blade and handle members 1^a, 1^b, respectively.

The blade and handle members 1^a, 1^b, are freely connected to a sleeve or tubular member 6 slidably mounted upon the rail or keeper 4, said connection including inflexible members, links or rods 7 having terminal connections with said blade and handle and said sleeve, comprising preferably eye-ended members 7^a threaded into the handle and blade, and lateral apertured extensions or flanges 7^b of the sleeve, which eye-ended members and flanges receive hooked terminals of said rods or links.

From the aforesaid arrangement of parts, *i. e.* the connection of the handle and blade with the rotatable T-member carried pivot or pintle, mounted upon a rail carried by the boat-gunwale and the inflexible links and slidable sleeve connection between the boat-gunwale rail and the blade and its actuating handle, the handle and blade of the oar are adapted to be extended to alignment transversely of the longitudinal or median plane of the boat, preliminary to making the initial stroke, and successively to cause the blade to conform to the usual movement in submergence in producing the propelling stroke as the handle is actuated.

The connection between the connecting rods 7 and the blade and handle members 1^a, 1^b, of the oar 1, may be adjustably effected by providing additional eye-bolts 7^a to said handle and blade members, as shown in Fig. 1, as may be required in obtaining a variable stroke.

It is believed that the advantages, simplicity, and facility of manipulation of my invention have been made clearly appar-

ent from the foregoing description of the construction and operation thereof.

Having described my invention, what I claim and desire to secure by Letters Patent is:

1. The combination of an oar including a blade and a handle member and means providing for a freely movable connection between said handle-member and blade, and
10 a boat, comprising a rail secured to the gunwale of the boat, means effecting a sliding connection between said handle and blade and said rail, and a pivoting member having
15 a lower end ring terminal slidably and rotatably positioned upon said rail.

2. The combination of a handle member and blade member; a pivot for the said handle member and blade member; an annular head upon said pivot; a rod longitudinally positioned upon the gunwale of the boat and passing through said annular head; a member sliding upon said rod and having adjustable connections with said handle member and said blade member.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature. 25

WILLIAM HENRY CLAY.

Witnesses:

CLIFFORD L. HOFMANN,
W. W. LYONS.