

No. 839,508.

PATENTED DEC. 25, 1906.

E. B. PETRIE.
SWEEP OR WRECK FINDER.
APPLICATION FILED SEPT. 17, 1906.

FIG. 1.

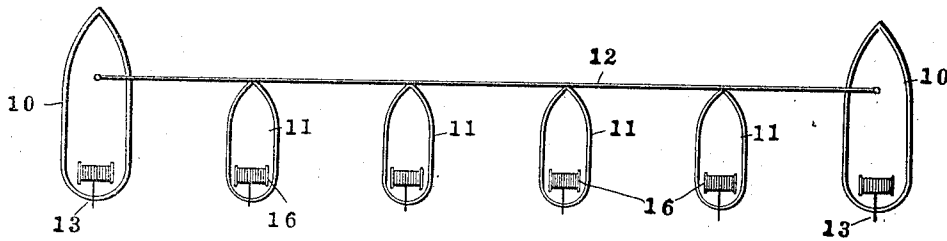
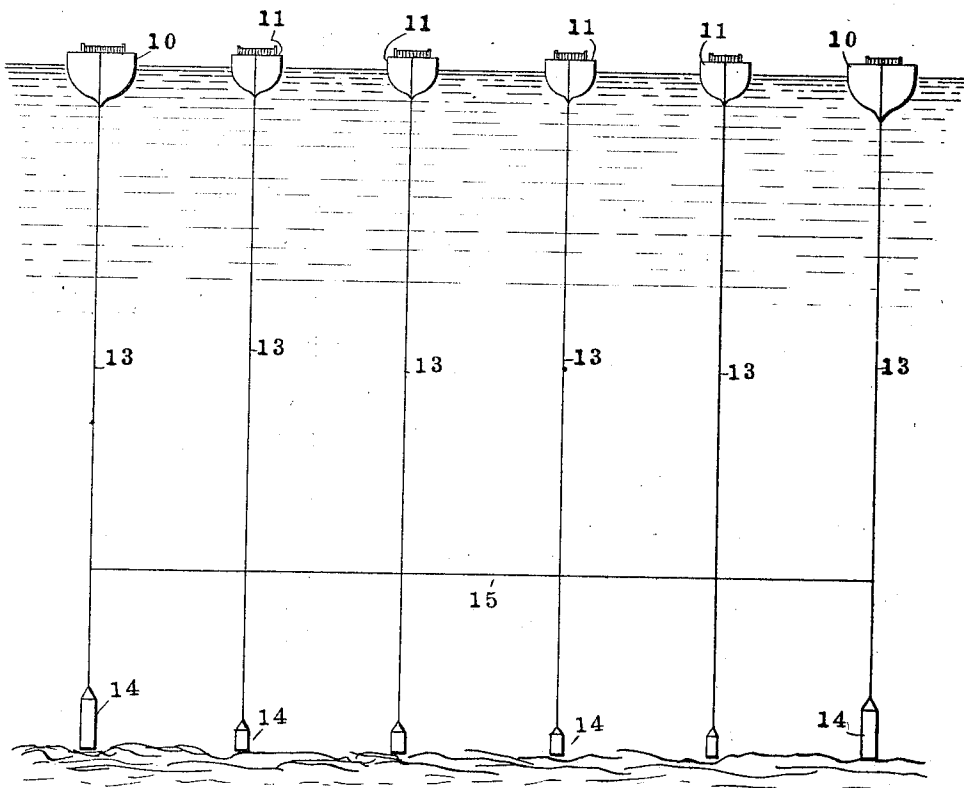


FIG. 2.



WITNESSES

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SWEEP OR WRECK-FINDER.

No. 839,508.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Dec. 25, 1906.

Application filed September 17, 1906. Serial No. 334,854.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ENOS BLANCHARD PETRIE, of the city of New York, county of Kings, and State of New York, have invented a new and Improved Sweep or Wreck-Finder, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description.

My invention relates to improvements in deep-sea apparatus which is intended to sweep the bottom on a rather comprehensive scale, with a view of locating sunken vessels or other bulky things.

The object of my invention is to produce a system by which a whole series of boats can be held at a definite distance apart and in which lines dropped from the several boats can be held together in a sort of open net arrangement, each line having a separate weight, so that a wide sweep can be made and a sunken vessel or other article located between the outer boats readily found. In this way I can cover a large lot of territory, and at the same time the individual lines will indicate the exact position of the wreck or whatever it is which is to be located. All this is to the end that when located diving apparatus can be sent down to save whatever is desirable of the wreck or other thing.

To this end my invention consists of a sweeping and dragging system which will be hereinafter described in detail, and the novel features claimed.

Reference is to be had to the accompanying drawings, forming a part of this specification, in which similar characters of reference indicate corresponding parts in both the views.

Figure 1 is a diagrammatic plan of the apparatus necessary to my invention, and Fig. 2 is a section through a body of water, showing the boats in end elevation and the rest of the apparatus in diagram.

In carrying out my invention I use two relatively large steamboats or tugs 10, which are placed on the outer sides of the system, and between them can be placed and properly spaced any necessary number of smaller boats 11, the distance between which is regulated by fastening them to a hawser or line 12, which is stretched from one boat 10 to the other. The boats will all travel forward at the same speed, and in order that the distance between the outer boats can be maintained the rudder of one can be set to port and of the other to starboard. The line 12

can be made fast in any convenient way, and it should not be too far forward so as to interfere with the steering. From the stern of each boat 10 and 11 is dropped a line 13, having at the bottom a weight or drag 14, and the outer weight 14 should be considerably heavier than the others, so that the outer lines 13 and weights 14, acting with the outer boats 10, will serve as guides for the intervening boats and lines. The several lines 13 are connected by a cross-line 15, which is located relatively near the lower ends of the lines 13, so that they shall be properly spaced, and for convenience the tops of the several lines are secured to windlasses or reels 16, which can be of any approved construction and by which the lines can be lowered or raised, as desired.

It is obvious that I can use any necessary number of boats 11 and corresponding lines 13 and that when the whole system of boats is under way, with the bows of the boats set, respectively, port and starboard the space between the several boats will be maintained, and the space between the several lines will also be maintained, so that I can sweep over a large surface of the bottom, and the location of any large obstruction will be indicated by its contact with a particular weight or weights 14. It will be understood, of course, that the character of the boats, the scheme for fastening the lines, and the apparatus for raising and lowering them forms no part of the invention and that any usual device or apparatus of these kinds can be used.

Having thus fully described my invention, I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent—

1. An apparatus of the kind described, comprising a series of boats with means for spacing them apart in broadside relation, a separate weighted line for each boat, and means for connecting and spacing the several lines.

2. An apparatus of the kind described, comprising a series of boats spaced and held apart in broadside relation, a separate weighted line for each boat, a connection between the several lines, and means for raising and lowering the several lines.

3. An apparatus of the kind described, comprising a series of boats spaced and held apart in broadside relation, a separate weighted line for each boat, means for raising and lowering the several lines, an under-water

connection between the several lines, and a connection above water between the several boats.

4. A system of the kind described, comprising a pair of relatively large boats, each
5 forming a part of the system, smaller boats spaced and held apart between the larger boats, weighted lines having means for rais-

ing and lowering them, there being a line for each boat, and a connection between the several lines. 10

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