

T. Bracher
Coffer Dam.

N^o 95,976.

Patented Oct. 19, 1869.

Fig. 1.

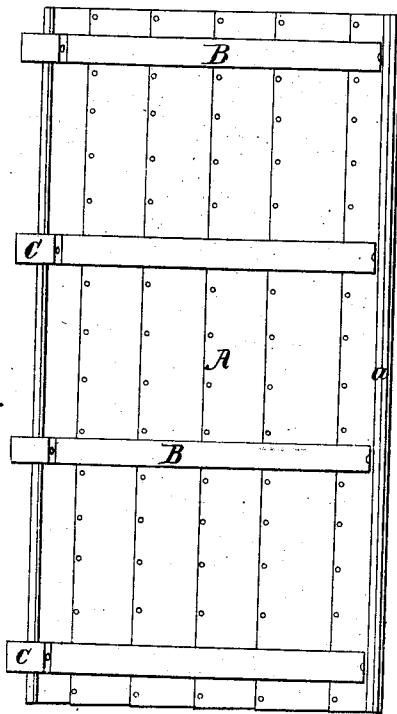
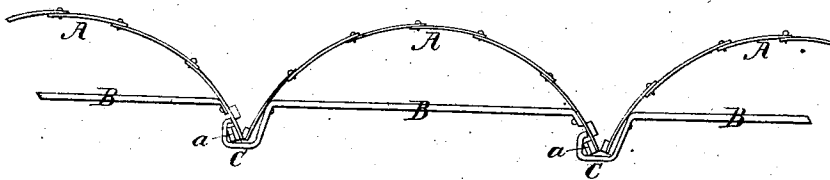


Fig. 2.



Witnesses,
Edw. S. Osborn

Inventor,
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

THOMAS BRACHER, OF RAHWAY, NEW JERSEY.

IMPROVEMENT IN SECTIONAL COFFER-DAMS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **95,976**, dated October 19, 1869.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, THOMAS BRACHER, of Rahway, in the county of Union and State of New Jersey, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Coffe-Dams; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the construction and operation of the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a view of one of the sections of which the dam is composed, and Fig. 2 a top view illustrating the manner in which the sections are united with each other.

Similar letters of reference indicate like parts in the several drawings.

My invention consists in the employment and use of a series of curved metal plates, riveted together, and so arranged in sections that they may be interlocked together in any desired position, as will be fully set forth hereinafter.

To enable others skilled in the art to make and use my invention, I will describe the construction and operation of the same.

The sections of which the coffer-dam is built are constructed of metal plates A, bent to the proper curvature and riveted together, and suitable braces, B, are arranged at intervals, to strengthen and enable the shape of the plates to be preserved. The bars B are bent at one end to form catches C, which embrace the blocks or bars a, riveted on the edge of

the opposite sections, when several sections are joined together. Each section is therefore provided with a series of catches, C, at one end, and a projection or bar, a, secured to the other. In using these sections to form a dam they are placed one at a time in position in the stream, each section being lowered separately into place, and piles are then driven down in front of the bars B, to which ropes are tied and secured to anchors placed at a distance in the stream, in order to keep the sections in an upright position against the pressure of the water on the outer convex sides of the sections. The joints are calked by driving wedges between the catches and the ends of the sections, to press them together, or any other mode may be employed to effect the same object. When the dam is completed, the inclosed water is removed by pumping.

Having thus fully described my invention, I claim—

A sectional coffer-dam constructed of a series of curved sections formed of metal plates A, riveted together and to cross-bars B, and provided with interlocking devices, whereby a series of sections can be interlocked together, substantially as described and specified.

THOS. BRACHER.

Witnesses:

C. A. DURGIN,
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