

J. A. LORD, Jr.
Detaching Boats.

No. 109,328.

Patented Nov. 15, 1870.

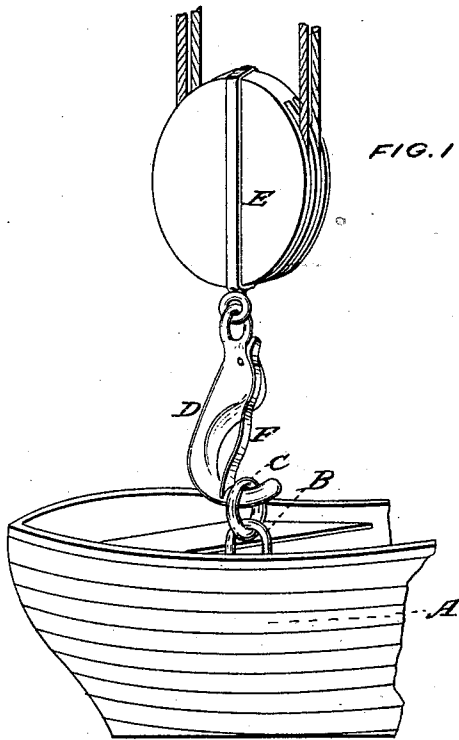


FIG. 1

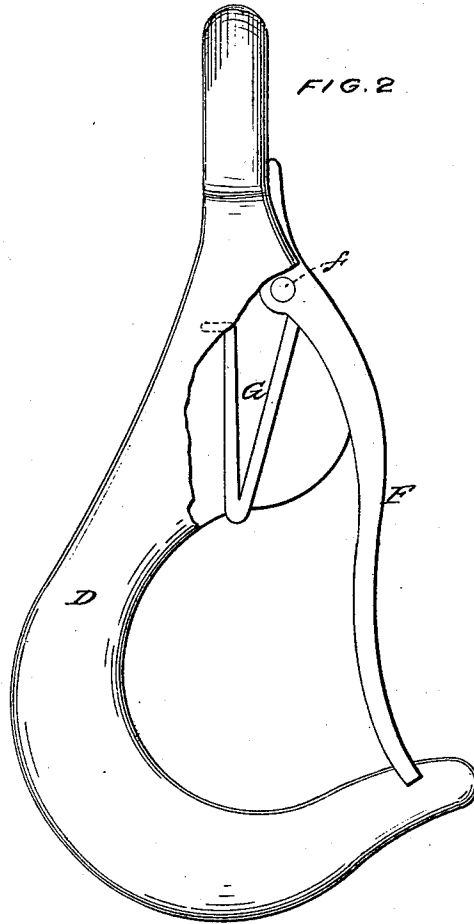


FIG. 2

WITNESSES:

E. M. Heay
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INVENTOR:

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By his atty.
R. D. Smith

United States Patent Office.

JOSEPH A. LORD, JR., OF MIDDLETOWN, CONNECTICUT.

Letters Patent No. 109,328, dated November 15, 1870.

IMPROVEMENT IN DETACHING-HOOKS.

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, JOSEPH A. LORD, JR., of Middletown, in the county of Middlesex and State of Connecticut, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Boat-Detachers; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawing, in which—

Figure 1 represents, in perspective, the stern of a boat suspended at the davits.

Figure 2 is a sectional elevation of the tackle-hook and detacher.

It is frequently necessary to lower a boat from a vessel in motion, and it is well known that this proceeding often involves considerable danger if the tackle-hooks are not promptly and almost instantaneously liberated at the proper moment. In ordinary practice a man is stationed at each end of the boat for the purpose of unhooking when the boat rests upon the water, but it is practically difficult for two men so stationed to act in concert, and it has occurred that one or the other has failed and a sacrifice of life has resulted.

To avoid these difficulties, and the consequent perils, many devices have been contrived whereby a single person, situate at or near the middle of the boat, should be enabled to disengage both ends of the boats from their tackles at the same instant. In practice these contrivances have not proved satisfactory on account of liability to derangement or obstruction. I have, therefore, invented an automatic device which will be certain to act at the instant the weight of the boat is supported by the water, and so simple in construction that it will not be liable to derangement or obstruction, and if deranged from any cause it may still be employed in the ordinary manner of common hooks.

My improvement is confined entirely to the hook which is attached to the lower block of the davit-fall; and

It consists of a spring detacher retracted to admit the eye-bolt ring, and retained in that position so long as the weight of the boat rests in said hook, but with sufficient power to eject said ring at the instant when the boat is supported by the water, and the strain upon the hook thereby relieved.

That others may fully understand the method I

have adopted to embody my invention, I will particularly describe it.

In fig. 1 A represents the stern of a boat suspended from the davits or cranes of a vessel.

B is the stern eye-bolt, and C its ring.

D is the tackle-hook, and

E, the lower block of the davit-fall.

A detacher-arm, F, is pivoted to the hook D just below the eye of said hook, and said detacher is drawn back or retracted when the ring C is placed in the bend of the hook, as shown in fig. 1.

A stiff spring G is seated in a recess behind the detacher F to throw said detacher forward instantly upon being relieved of resistance by the lifting of the boat by the water.

The bend of the hook is not as deep as in the ordinary hook, but it is fashioned so as to describe nearly an arc of a circle about the pivot-pin *f*, upon which the detacher F moves.

The bend is sufficiently deep, however, for all purposes, and if the detacher should be disabled from any cause the hook D would still be available in the ordinary way.

The spring G is retained in place by a lip formed on one of its ends, which engages in a corresponding recess formed in the hook or in the detacher, so that it cannot become displaced unless broken, or by the removal of the detacher. If broken, however, the detacher is easily removable and a new spring may be inserted in its place, and this may be done without removing the hook from its tackle, and even while the boat is hanging thereon.

I am aware that other automatic detaching devices have been made, but I am not aware that any such devices have been made similar in form to an ordinary hook, or capable of use as an ordinary hook, if disabled, as an automatic detacher.

Having described my invention,

What I claim as new is—

A hook, D, provided with a spring-detacher, F, constructed and operating substantially in the manner shown and described.

J. A. LORD, JR.

Witnesses:

CURTIS BACON,
JAMES P. FAY.