

J. S. Bradford
Ferry Guard

No. 80,902.

Patented Aug. 11, 1868.

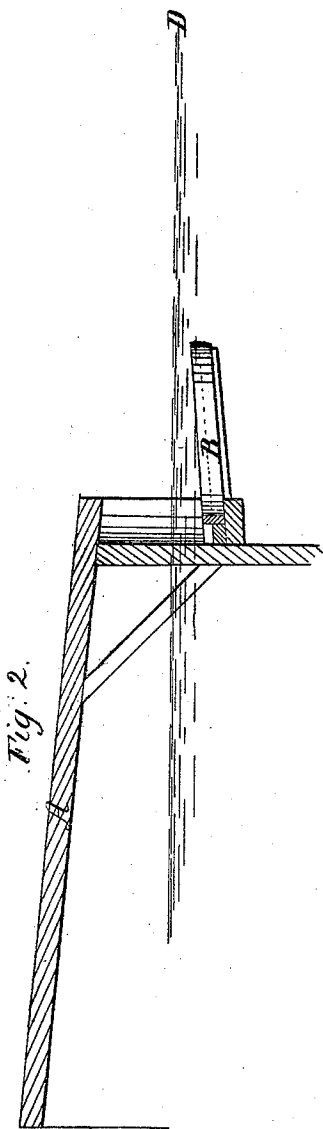


Fig. 2.

Witnesses;
Ben A. Maben
Almon H. Maben

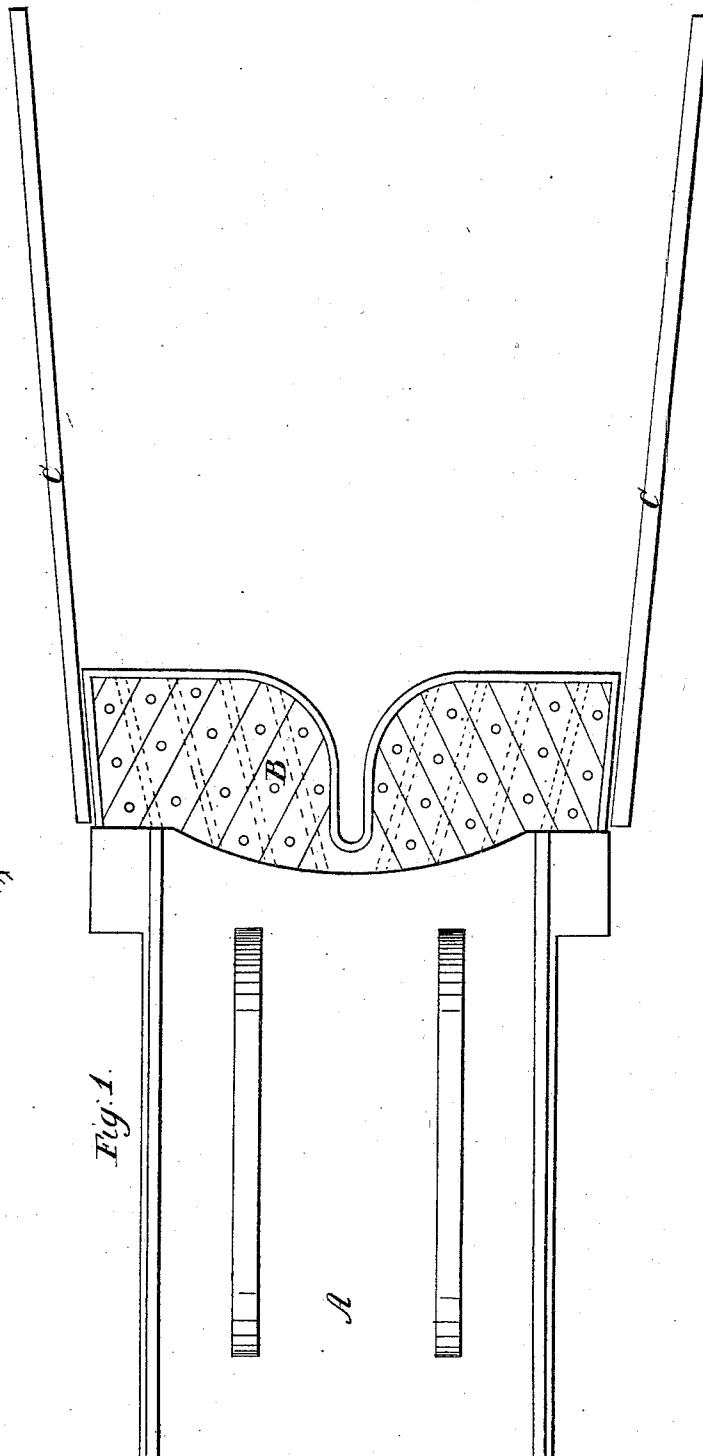


Fig. 1.

Inventor;
J. S. Bradford

United States Patent Office.

JOHN STRICKER BRADFORD, OF NEW YORK, N. Y.

Letters Patent No. 80,902, dated August 11, 1868.

IMPROVEMENT IN FERRY-BRIDGES.

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, JOHN STRICKER BRADFORD, of the city, county, and State of New York, have invented a new and valuable Improvement in the Construction of Ferry-Bridges, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description, reference being had to the drawings filed with the original specification.

Figure 1 is a plane view.

Figure 2 is a vertical longitudinal section through the centre of fig. 1.

A represents an ordinary ferry-bridge, which rises and falls with the tide.

B is my improvement, consisting of the platform or grating, attached, at a slight angle of inclination inwards, to the front of and forming a part of the bridge, and may be submerged, or adjusted at or above the surface of the water, constructed of heavy double planking, or timber, so placed, diagonally, as to leave open spaces for the water to pass through, and strengthened by diagonal braces, (underneath of and forming a part of the platform,) placed at such an angle as to receive the entire strain from the concussion of the boat, on its entrance to the slip, surrounded by a raised edge, and with its inner extreme ends, at the boat-opening, so rounded off as to act rather as a guide than an impediment to the ferry-boat, in its ingress to or egress from the slip.

C is the line of the ferry-slip.

D is the water-line.

My invention is designed as an absolute safeguard against loss of life by drowning, in the event of a person falling overboard, either from the ferry-bridge or boat, the entire water-surface, of the breadth of the slip, for fifteen feet, more or less, outwards from the front of the bridge, (with the exception of the small space to be occupied by the end of the boat,) being protected by the platform or grating, the construction of which is such that its angle of inclination is sufficient to cause bodies falling on its surface to slide inwards towards the bridge, and its raised edge (to the height of which I do not limit myself) rendering it impossible for them to slide off at the sides, or at the boat-opening in the centre, or to get beyond or over it into deep water.

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

A platform or grating, attached to a ferry-bridge, whether submerged, or at or above the surface of the water, constructed substantially as herein described, and for the purpose set forth.

J. STRICKER BRADFORD.

Witnesses:

RUSH VAN DYKE,
JAS. W. HALE.