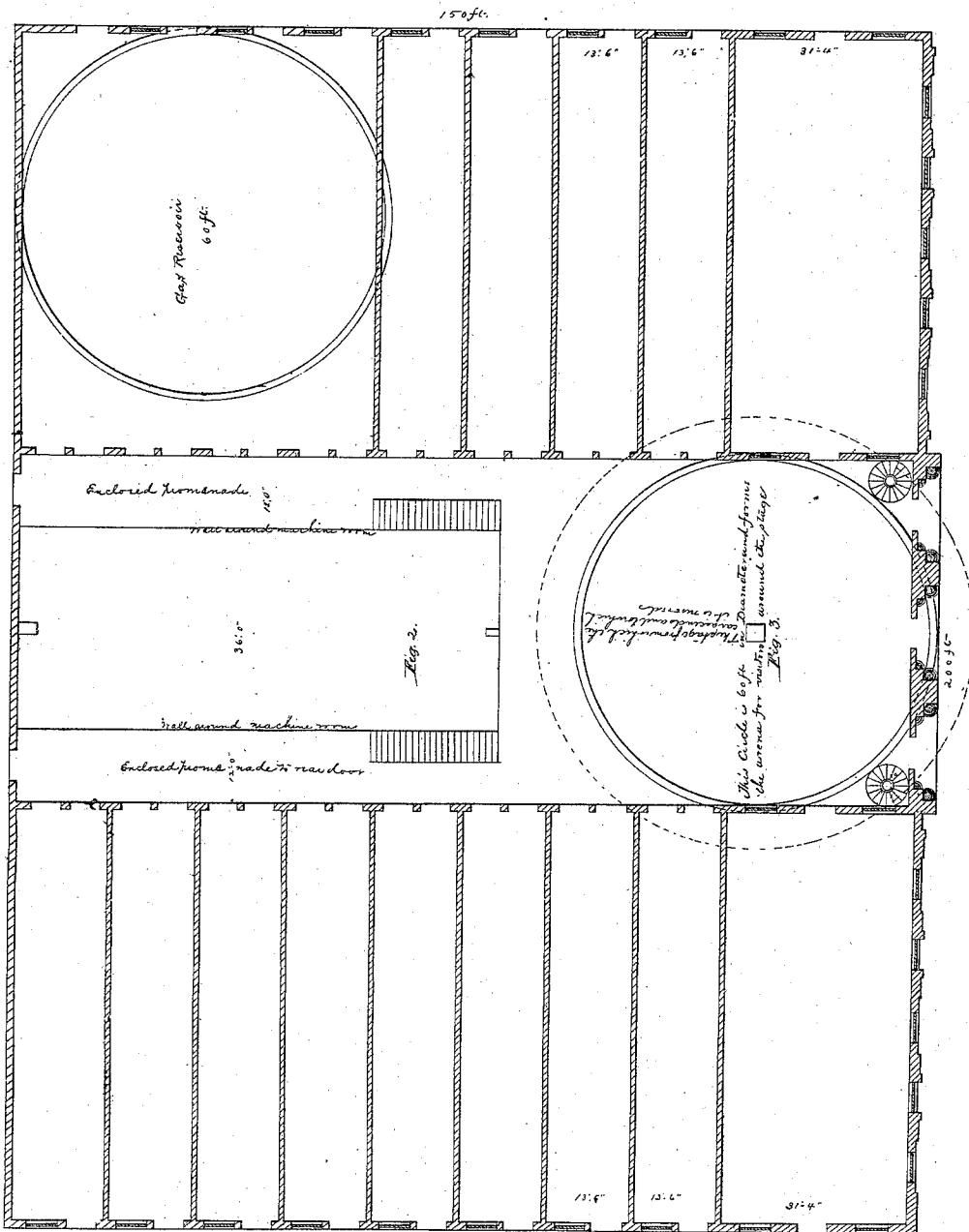


J. W. BREWER
BALLOON.

No. 11,248.

Patented July 11, 1854.



UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOHN W. BREWER, OF CINCINNATI, OHIO.

ARRANGEMENT FOR MOORING AND MANAGING BALLOONS.

Specification of Letters Patent No. 11,248, dated July 11, 1854.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOHN W. BREWER, of the city of Cincinnati, in the county of Hamilton and State of Ohio, have invented a new and useful Machine for Mooring and Managing Balloons, (my balloons I make *ad libitum* after the model of the best machines of the kind, adding thereto all the necessary appendages of such machines, [take, for example, the great Vauxhall balloon by Mr. C. Green, of London,] with slight variations in annexing the car to the balloon;) and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description of the construction and operation of the same, reference being had to the annexed drawings, (and likewise to the ground plan of the building,) making a part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 is a large and strong frame and reel to be made by calculating the size and length of the cable, as for instance at some places I may choose to use 1 mile of cable, at others 2 miles, and at others 3 miles of cable, &c. And so also for some cities I may construct my balloon of 2,000 pounds ascensive power, for others 4,000 pounds, and for others 8,000 pounds, &c. Hence according to the size and length of my cable must be the dimensions of my reel. And Fig. 2 is likewise a strong and substantial frame the strength of which must more than equal the ascensive power given the balloon, and upon this second frame is a double capstan or drum around which the cable is fixed and always remains till it is worn out. The reason of this capstan being double is this, viz., as I send the balloon up I place the cable on the right hand end of the capstan and there let it run till she reaches her destined height, and then by a pressure of the hand on the lever just ahead of the capstan frame I hold the cable until I make a little more of the cable off the reel, and so I get the rings of the cable a little loose around the right hand end of the capstan so that I can change the cable to the left hand end of the capstan, (a crank being fixed on one end of the axle of the capstan

and a steam engine being attached and in readiness.) I then apply the steam which gives the motive power for mooring the balloon as often as required. And also Fig. 3 is a plain and simple frame to be made sufficiently strong to resist the surge of the balloon while the engine is working her down to her mooring; and the top of this frame is covered with a triple ply of cord, canvas and carpeting (and to be interlaid with straw if necessary) that forms a flexible floor for this, the stage, and through the middle of this stage floor I make a round hole as large as the foot pit of my car.

The circular arena, or pavilion (see ground plan) is to be of smooth finish from the ground to the top, so as to prevent as far as possible any and all friction of the balloon whenever she is in this her mooring. (For note, I contemplate having my balloons ordinarily to stand charged, that is in readiness, as a ship or boat in their mooring; so this circular arena serves me not only as a pavilion from which I ascend, and into which I descend each time; but also as a depot or mooring where I can keep my balloon safely in calm or storm, ready any day or hour for immediate use; having on hand a sufficient supply of pure hydrogen gas.) This arena, may be made by a continuous series of circular galleries of circular finish or a solid circular wall according to the choice of the proprietors. Note this circular arena must in all cases be made as high, or higher than the equator of the balloon, and this should be within the main body of a large building, as for instance a large hotel that will give protection, strength, and safety to the whole concern.

I claim—

The invention of this plan of a building and the arrangement of the necessary machinery together with a stationary steam engine, gas generators, &c., therein, as set forth for mooring and managing balloons.

JOHN W. BREWER.

Witnesses:

C. VICTOR BECHMANN,
I. BINKETT.