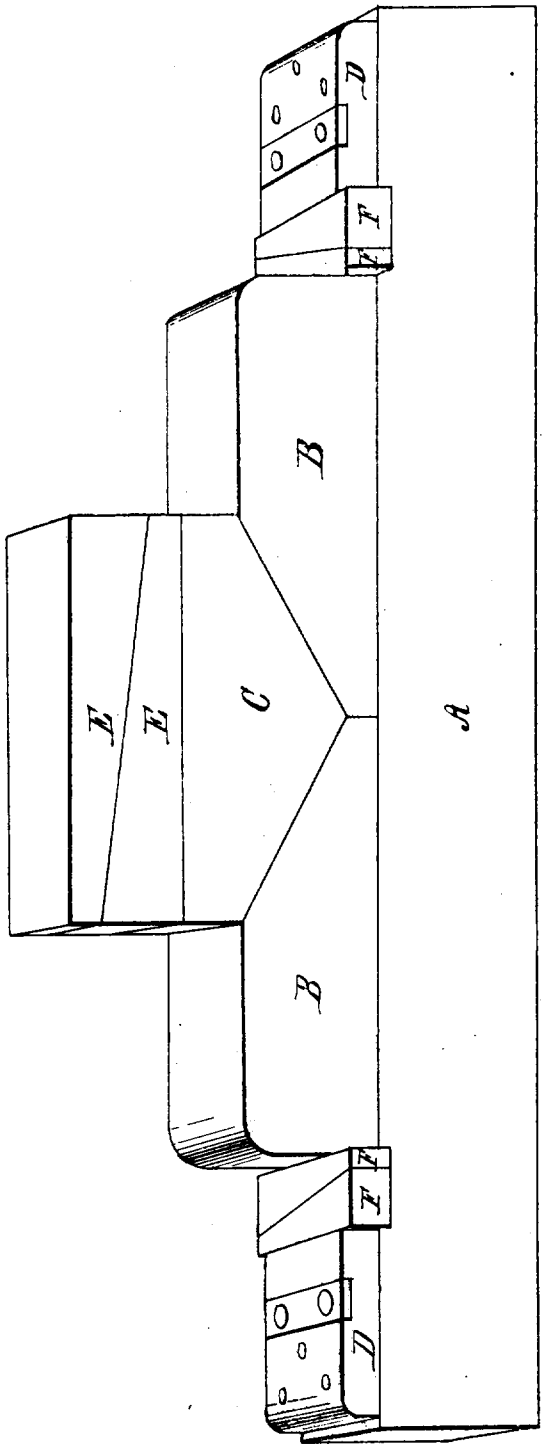
8488X

J. Williston.
Floating Dock.

No. 7 Patented Nov. 6, 1834



N. PETERS, PHOTO-LITHOGRAPHER, WASHINGTON, D. C.

Nov. 6. 1854

John Williston of Portsmouth State of Virginia —

8466X

Letters Patent.

The schedule referred to in these Letters Patent and making part of the same containing a description in the words of the said John Williston himself of his improvement in blocks used in docking and building vessels, and other purposes.

To all to whom these presents shall come.

Be it known that I John Williston of Portsmouth, in the County of Norfolk and State of Virginia, have invented a new and useful improvement in blocks used in docking and building vessels and other purposes; and that the following is a full and exact description of the same as invented or improved by me,

Description of the improved blocks, used in docking & Building vessels and for other purposes. 1st a ground block of convenient size for the intended purpose lying horizontally and at right angles to the direction of the keel, — 2d A side block surmounting the ground block, and divided into equal parts by a vertical cuniform section the faces of which, incline to each other at an angle of about one hundred and twenty degrees. The side block is prosecuted from separating at the cuniform section, by strong clasps firmly secured to the upper surface of the ground block; leaving however, a space at each end, sufficiently large for the reception of married wedges.

3d Two alternate or married wedges, equal in height and breadth to the cuniform section and resting thereon.

Form of Operation.

These blocks if used in a Dock, must be well secured to the floor; to prevent them from rising, on the admission of the water, as the water is withdrawn the vessel must be carefully placed upon the centre of the alternate wedges, if used otherwise, on the centre of the cuniform section. When it becomes necessary to remove a block, or blocks, the married wedges at the ends of the side, are withdrawn by which process the cuniform section falls sufficiently low to be removed.

The alternate wedges resting on the cuniform section, are to be used when deemed expedient, to give greater support to any particular part of a vessel, than could be imparted by the wedges

[illegible] Specification

5488X

at the ends of the rider

Witnesses

Jno. A. Foreman

Wm. H. Nash

John Williston

Drawing

434 lbs

Ex. 4

Ch. 434 lbs