

(No Model.)

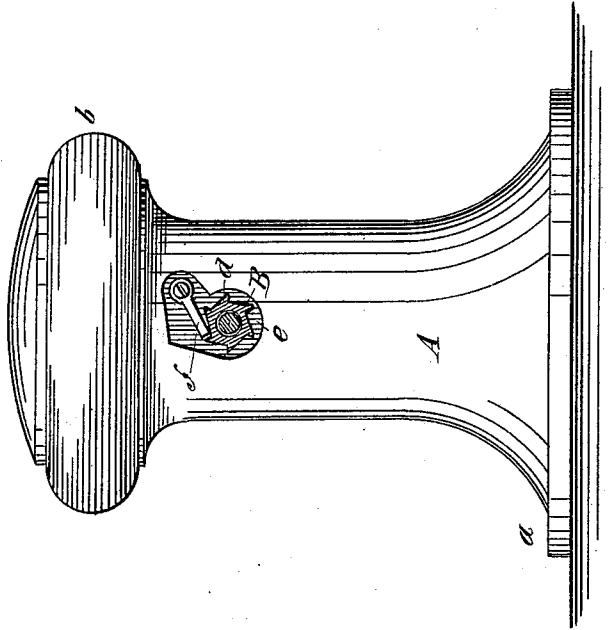
E. F. ENOS.

SHEET HOLDER FOR MARINE VESSELS.

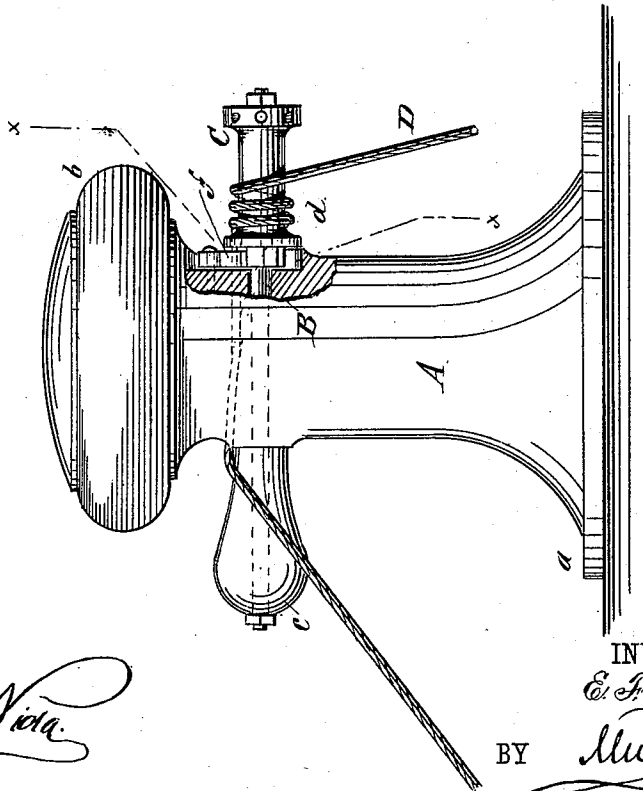
No. 348,001.

Patented Aug. 24, 1886.

*Fig. 2.*



*Fig. 1.*



WITNESSES:

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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

EBEN F. ENOS, OF MAGNOLIA, MASSACHUSETTS.

## SHEET-HOLDER FOR MARINE VESSELS.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 348,001, dated August 24, 1886.

Application filed December 2, 1885. Serial No. 183,465. (No model.)

### *To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, EBEN F. ENOS, of Magnolia, in the county of Essex and State of Massachusetts, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Sheet-Holders for Marine Vessels, of which the following is a specification, reference being had to the annexed drawings, forming a part thereof, in which—

Figure 1 is a front elevation with parts broken away to show the internal construction. Fig. 2 is a side elevation taken on line *x x* in Fig. 1.

Similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts in the different figures of the drawings.

The object of my invention is to provide a simple and efficient sheet-holder and slack-gatherer for marine vessels, by means of which the sheet is held as it is hauled in the manipulation of the sails.

My invention consists in a post provided with a foot or flange for attachment to the deck of the vessel, and in a shaft journaled in the post provided with a drum and ratchet, the ratchet being engaged by a pawl pivoted in the post.

The post *A* is provided with a flange, *a*, by which it is secured to the deck of a vessel, and has upon its upper end a rounded head, *b*, which assists in the handling of the sheet. It is also provided with a pear-shaped arm, *c*, extending horizontally from its side a short distance below the head *b*. A shaft, *B*, is secured in the post and in the arm *c*, and supports a drum, *C*, which turns loosely thereon, and has attached to or formed upon its inner end a ratchet, *d*, which is contained by a chamber, *e*, formed in the side of the post. A pawl, *f*, also contained by the chamber *e* and pivoted to the post *A*, engages the ratchet *d*. The drum *C* is provided with flanges at its ends for retaining the sheet *D*, which is wrapped around it.

My improved sheet-holder is intended to take the place of the bit or cleat commonly used on vessels for holding the sheet.

When the holder is in use, the sheet *D* is laid over, or, if desired, under the arm *c*, and

carried around the post *A* and wrapped 50 around the drum *C*. When it is desired to haul the sheet *D*, it is drawn forward, when it revolves the drum *C*. The pawl *f*, by engaging the ratchet *d*, prevents the retrograde motion of the drum *C*, so that the sheet is held 55 without any further manipulation. Should it be found desirable to put the sheet under greater tension than is possible by merely hauling it in the usual way, a bar may be inserted in holes in the drum near the end, so 60 that one or two men can assist by turning the drum *C*. By placing the ratchet *d* and the pawl *f* in the chamber *e* they are protected from being brought into contact with the sheet *D*.

The advantages secured by my invention 65 are, that a smaller number of men than is now required can handle any of the larger fore-and-aft or square sails. One man can easily hold the turn in the heaviest weather, and can quickly gather all the slack, and is sure of 70 holding all he gets, and by luffing the vessel one man can haul the sheet aft in a gale of wind without danger of its getting away from him, or if it is not considered advisable to luff, 75 then the bar can be applied to the drum in the manner described.

In jibbing fore and after as the sail swings over and fills on the other tack, the man holding the turn can reduce the strain on the 80 boom and sheet by surging, or rendering the sheet loose on the drum, thereby to some extent lessening the difficulties and dangers experienced in jibbing a vessel in heavy weather.

Having thus described my invention, what I 85 claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. A sheet-holder for marine vessels, consisting of a support provided with a laterally-projecting arm at its upper end, a drum journaled to said support, a ratchet-wheel on the 90 drum, and a pawl pivoted to the support and engaging the ratchet-wheel, substantially as herein shown and described.

2. In a sheet-holder, the post *A*, provided 95 with a laterally-projecting arm and the recess *e* in its side opposite the arm, in combination

with the drum C, journaled to the post and provided with the ratchet-wheel *d* in the said recess, and the pawl *f*, pivoted in the recess substantially as herein shown and described.

- 5 3. In a sheet-holder for marine vessels, the combination of the post A, provided with a flange, *a*, rounded head *b*, and pear-shaped

arm *c*, the shaft B, drum C, ratchet *d*, and pawl *f*, substantially as specified.

EBEN F. ENOS.

Witnesses:

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