No. 704,991. Patented July 15, 1902.

B. J. WARREN.

FISHING ROD HOLDER.

(Application filed Sept. 23, 1901.)

(No Model.)

Fig. 3.

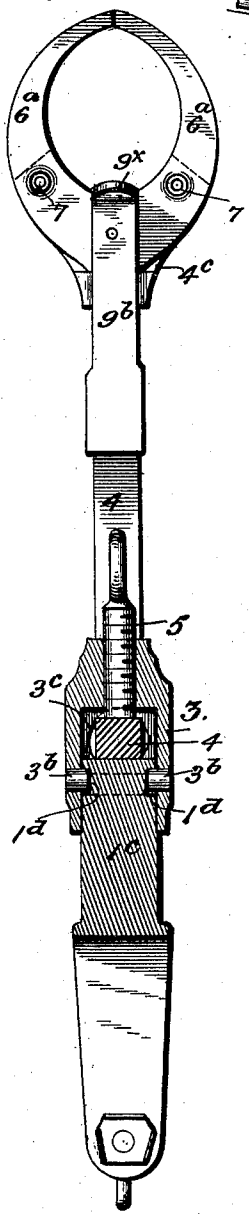


Fig. 1.

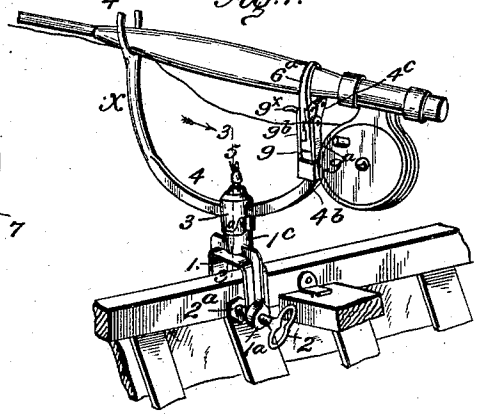
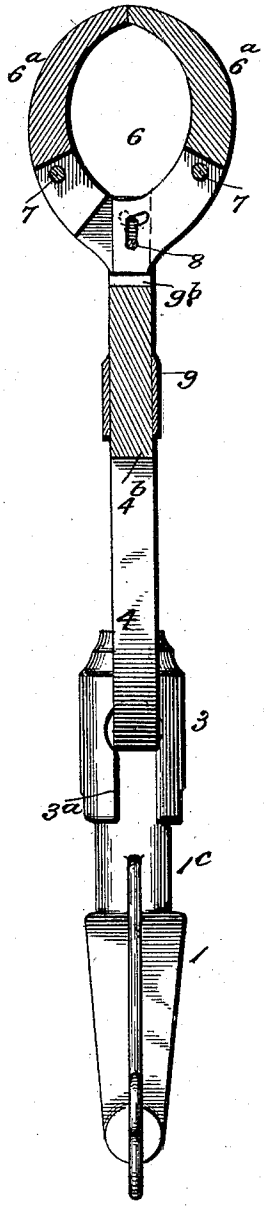


Fig. 4.



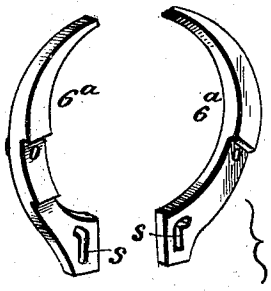


Fig. 5.

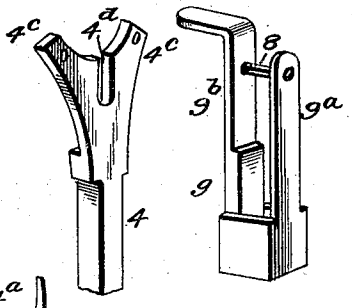
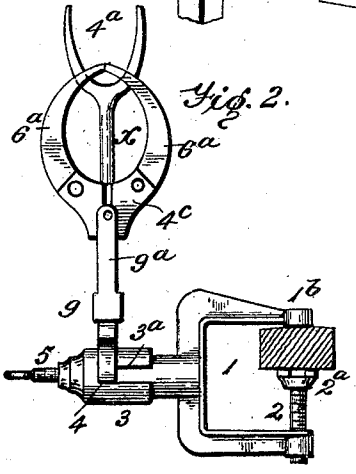


Fig. 2.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

BERNARD JEROME WARREN, OF DOVER, MAINE.

FISHING-ROD HOLDER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 704,991, dated July 15, 1902.

Application filed September 23, 1901. Serial No. 76,226. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, BERNARD JEROME WARREN, residing at Dover, in the county of Piscataquis and State of Maine, have invented a new and Improved Fishing-Rod Holder, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to improvements in that class of fishing-rod holders for supporting the rod over the side of a boat or at other suitable and convenient locations; and it primarily has for its purpose to provide a holder of this kind of a very simple and economical construction adapted for convenient and secure attachment and capable of being folded up in such compact form as to fit in a coat-pocket.

In its generic nature my invention comprehends a novel and correlative arrangement of clamping members capable of being quickly clamped to the "rail," "thwart," or "stanchion" of a boat, a rod-supporting member capable of being adjusted at any angle desired, and a rod lock or clamp movable with and forming an attached part of the support.

In its more complete nature my invention includes a holder having means for gripping the rod-butt to hold the rod locked from accidental displacement, said means also including a trip arranged to be engaged by one of the fingers of the hand as the rod-butt is grasped to raise the rod from the support, certain subordinate features of construction and peculiar combination of parts being also included, all of which will hereinafter be fully described, and particularly pointed out in the appended claims, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of my rod-holder, showing same clamped to the rail. Fig. 2 is a view showing same clamped to the thwart. Fig. 3 is a vertical section of the same on the line 3 3 of Fig. 1 looking in the direction of the arrow. Fig. 4 is a section illustrating the rod-butt grip in its closed or locked position. Fig. 5 is a perspective view of the several parts constituting the grip or lock member separated.

In its practical construction my invention comprises a U-shaped clamping member 1, one arm 1^a of which has a threaded aperture to receive the clamping-screw 2, the inner end of which has a swiveled clamping-claw 2^a, that opposes the stationary clamping-arm 1^b of the member 1, and the outer end of the screw 2 has the usual finger or turning piece 2^b, the several parts of members 1 and 2 being arranged to provide for conveniently engaging with either the rail, thwart, or stanchion of a boat or other supporting-body. The member 1 has an integral hub 1^c, projected at right angles to the clamping-screw, the outer end of which has an annular groove 1^d, the purpose of which will presently appear.

3 designates a socketed headpiece mounted to turn on the hub 1^c of the clamp member 1. The head 3 is slotted, as at 3^a, on diametrically opposite sides for the insertion of the yoke or rod supporting frame 4 when the parts are assembled for use and to hold the two parts from becoming detached after they are assembled for use. The head 3 has inwardly-projecting studs 3^b to engage the annular groove 1^d of the hub 1^c, as clearly shown in Fig. 3. The headpiece 3 is also formed with transversely-extending socket 3^c and a clamp-screw 5, that opposes the end of the hub 1^c, against which the yoke-frame 4 is securely clamped when adjusted to its desired position by the screw 5.

The yoke-frame 4 has one end terminating in a forked seat 4^a, which forms the outer rest for the rod, and at the other end it terminates in vertically-extended arm 4^b, upon which the inner rod-rest member is mounted, the construction of which forms an essential feature of my invention.

The rod-rest 6 is in the nature of a grip-lock adapted to engage the butt-end of the rod and hold it from accidental displacement, and the said rest 6 includes in its complete make-up a pair of opposing claw or grip members 6^a, pivotally mounted to close toward or open from each other, they being journaled on pivot-pins 7, projected inwardly from the diverging upper ends 4^c of the arm 4^b. The lower ends of the members 6^a lap each other and have slots *s s*, that register with each other and project diagonally in opposite directions to the vertical arm 4, the upper or crotch portion of which has a vertical slot 4^d, in which is reciprocally held a stud-bolt 8, that passes through the slots *s s* and connects with the arms 9^a 9^b of a sleeve 9, slidably mounted on the arm 4, the said several parts

being so arranged that the movement of sleeve 9 upward will open the gripper-jaws and movement in the other direction will close said jaws, the correlation of the slots *s s* and the bolt 8 being such that said bolt has a slight free movement in said slots without affecting the position of the jaws, whereby to provide against the jaws opening by slight pressure or lift of the member 9 or by ordinary jarring of the boat or other object to which the holder may be attached, and thereby cause the grip-jaws to remain in a firmly-locked position around the butt-end of the rod until released by a proper hand manipulation.

From the foregoing, taken in connection with the accompanying drawings, it is thought the manner of use and the advantages of my invention will be readily apparent. It will be noticed by reason of joining the yoke-frame with the bracket-headpiece 6, as shown and described, the same can be set to project from the clamp member 1 in a plane therewith, as illustrated in Fig. 1, or at right angles thereto, as shown in Fig. 2, and tilted at an angle and in the direction desired and held to its adjusted position by the clamp-screw 5.

The rod can be conveniently laid on the outer and inner rest members and by reason of the grip-jaws will be held from accidental displacement. By providing a jaw-releasing means, as described, it is manifest that while the rod will be firmly held against being pulled out of the rests under ordinary conditions, yet it can be instantly lifted out without any special effort or manipulation. This latter advantage will be readily apparent to "fishermen," for the reason that no time is lost in removing the rod, as is necessary in other forms of supports now in use.

In grasping the rod-butt it is only necessary in closing the hand about the rod-butt to have, say, the middle finger extend under the finger-piece $9^{\times}$, the closing of the finger about the rod serving to trip the jaws and swing them to an open position. Thus the danger of "scaring off" a game fish making the strike by unnecessary shaking or movement of the rod incident in the common type of holders is entirely avoided.

It will be noticed the finger-piece $9^{\times}$ when the parts are in a closed position has its upper edge in a plane with the bottom or crotch of the clamping-jaws; but when said jaws are open the said piece $9^{\times}$ is in a plane above the crotch. This provides for automatically closing the jaws around the rod when said rod is seated in the rests, as the pressure of the rod will tend to force the member $9^{\times}$ down to close the jaws.

To provide for firmly gripping the yoke-frame and holding it from lateral motion, the major portion of the said frame is made non-circular in cross-section, and the aperture in the head in which it slides is likewise formed; but to provide for folding up the entire device, so that it may be conveniently carried in the pocket when not in use, the outer end of the yoke-frame (indicated by *x*) is made round to turn freely in the headpiece and permit of the bracket member 1 being folded over between the arms of frame 4.

By my construction of holder the same can be used on either side of the boat when in motion.

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

1. The combination with the bracket 1, having a laterally-projecting hub, a headpiece rotatably mounted on the hub, said headpiece having slots extending from the lower end upward, and a transverse socket at a point above the hub-head; of the yoke-frame movable in the said transverse socket, adapted to be slipped up into the socket through the slots in the side of the head, said frame having rod-rests on the outer ends, and means on the head for clamping the frame against the hub-head, for the purposes described.

2. In a rod-holder of the character described, a supporting member, a yoke-frame having an inner and an outer rod-rest, one of said rests including jaws, automatically closable over the rod when seated therein, and finger-operated means for moving the jaws to an open position, as set forth.

3. In a rod-holder of the character described, a supporting member having a rod-rest, said rest including a pair of pivoted jaws, adapted to close over the rod-butt, and a slide-plate connecting with the jaws and adapted to move said jaws to their open or closed position by alternate movement, as set forth.

4. The combination with the frame 4, having a vertical arm 4^{b}, said arm having a vertical slot, in its upper end; of the jaws pivotally mounted on the arm 4^{b}, the lower ends of said jaws lapping each other and each having a slot extended diagonally to the slot in arm 4^{b}; of the vertically-shiftable member 9, having a stud-bolt 8, held to play in the slot in member 4^{b}, and the slots in the pivotal jaws, said member 9 having a lift-piece $9^{\times}$, all being arranged substantially as shown and for the purposes described.

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Witnesses:
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C. E. HOLT.