

G. WRIGHT.
BALLOON.

No. 45,665.

Patented Dec. 27, 1864.

Fig 1

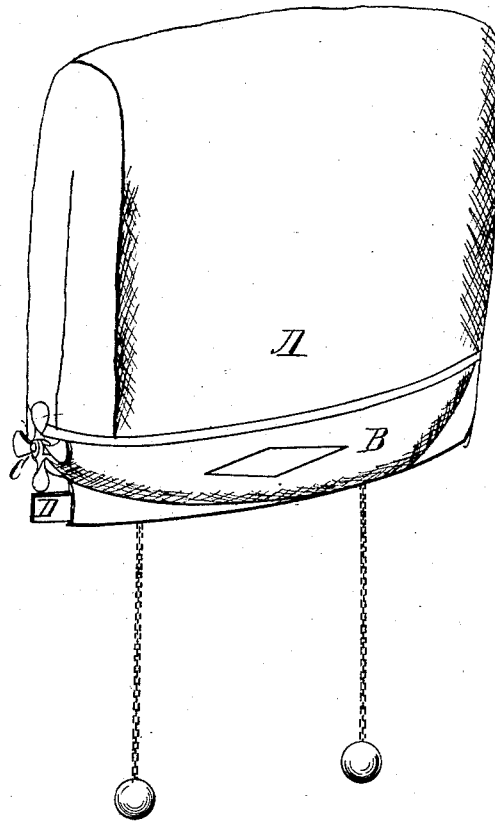
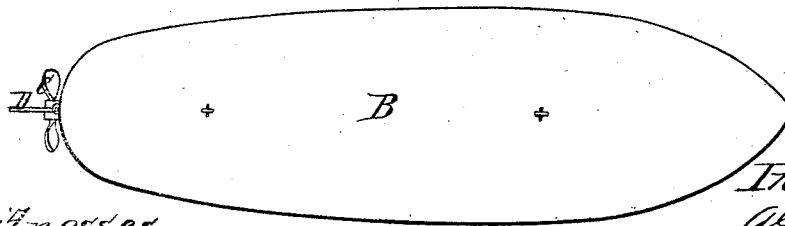


Fig 2.



Witnesses
J. W. Combs
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per M. W. C.
atty

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

A. G. WRIGHT, OF SANTA CRUZ, CALIFORNIA.

IMPROVEMENT IN BALLOONS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 45,665, dated December 27, 1864; antedated December 24, 1864.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, A. G. WRIGHT, of Santa Cruz, in the county of Santa Cruz and State of California, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Air-Balloons; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description of the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, forming part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 represents a side elevation of my invention. Fig. 2 is an inverted plan of the same.

Similar letters of reference in both views indicate corresponding parts.

This invention consists in a boat-shaped car connected directly to the lower edge of the balloon in such a manner that said balloon assumes the shape of an ordinary sea-going vessel, and that the same can be readily propelled and steered in the air in any desired direction, giving to the operator the same facilities as if on board of an ordinary vessel.

To enable others skilled in the art to make and use my invention, I will proceed to describe it.

A represents an air-balloon, made, of oil silk or other suitable material, in the shape of a huge boat with a sharp bow and rounded or flat stern, as clearly shown in Fig. 2. The lower edge of this balloon is fastened directly to the car B, which has the shape of an ordinary boat. It is made of light material sufficiently strong to sustain the weight which it is intended to bear and high enough to afford convenient room for the aeronauts or operators. A horizontal partition separates the boat from the gas-space of the balloon, and the boat contains the requisite machinery for the purpose of driving a propeller, C, which

is secured to its stern, and it is provided with a rudder, D, whereby the course of the balloon can be governed the same as that of a vessel navigating in the water. The boat also contains the requisite apparatus for the purpose of generating hydrogen gas to inflate the balloon, and said balloon must be provided with one or more valves to let the gas escape in case it is desired to descend. By connecting the casing of the balloon directly to the boat the entire balloon is rendered much more compact and easier to manage than an ordinary balloon. The operator or operators have complete control over all the machinery, and also over the quantity of gas contained in the balloon. This quantity can be reduced or increased at any moment, and, consequently, the motions of the balloon can be better regulated than they can with a balloon of the ordinary construction. Furthermore, by giving to the entire balloon the shape of a boat, its motion through the air is rendered easier and more regular than that of an ordinary globe or pear shaped balloon, and it follows the rudder similar to a vessel in the water.

I am aware that oval shaped balloons and balloons with propellers and rudders have been in use and have been the subjects of Letters Patent of the United States; but

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

Attaching the lower edge of the casing of the balloon A directly to the upper edge of the boat-shaped car B substantially in the manner and for the purposes set forth.

A. G. WRIGHT.

Witnesses:

C. O. CUMMINGS,
O. T. HECO.