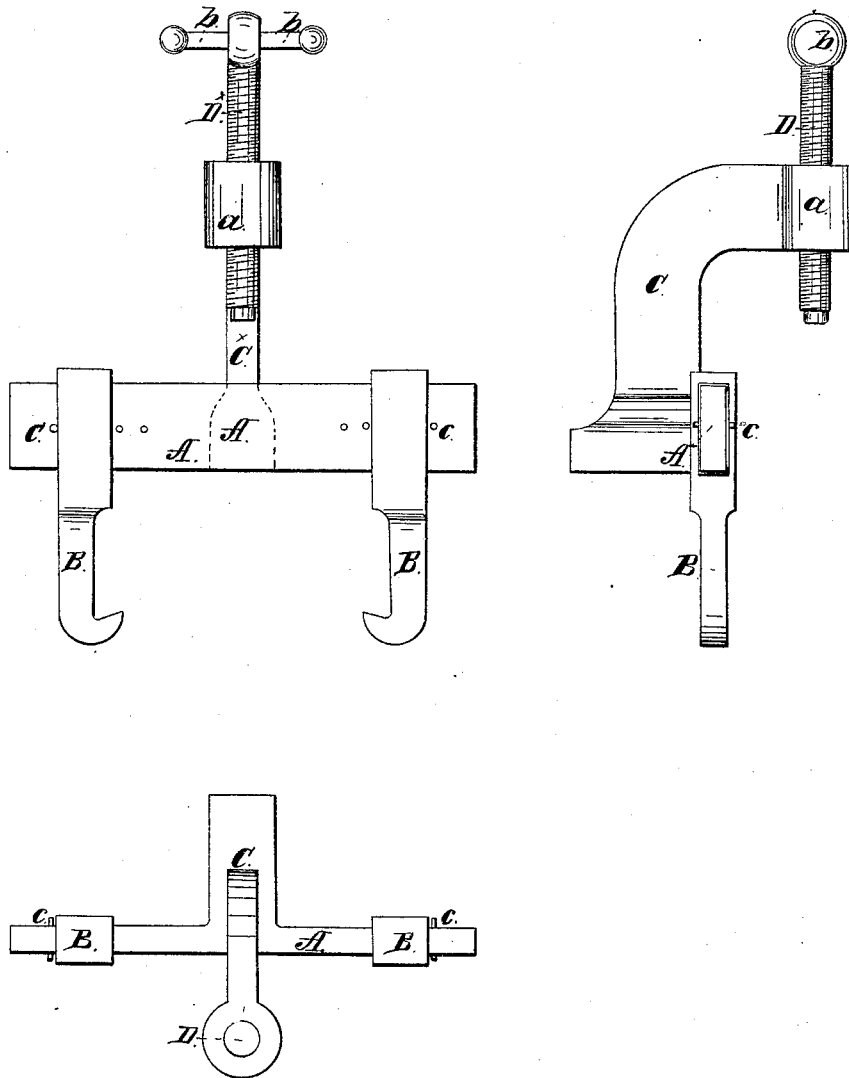


J. Macotter,

Wood Clamp.

N^o 50,941.

Patented Nov. 14, 1865.



Witnesses:
John Beard.
P. J. Wilson

Inventor:
Joseph Monrother

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOSEPH MACOTTER, OF BALTIMORE, MARYLAND.

IMPROVEMENT IN PLANKING-CLAMPS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **50,941**, dated November 14, 1865.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOSEPH MACOTTER, of Baltimore, in the State of Maryland, have invented a certain new and useful improved clamp-screw for planking the bottoms of vessels when they are sealed up; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full and exact description thereof, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and to the letters of reference thereon marked.

To enable others to make and use my invention, I will describe its construction and operation.

In the drawings, Figure 1 is a front elevation. Fig. 2 is a side elevation. Fig. 3 is a plan view.

The nature of my invention consists in constructing clamp-screws for bending or holding the planking of a ship in position to be nailed or bolted to the frame in such a manner that the adjustable hooks shall be hooked upon the frame-timbers and the screw be applied to the plank to be bent or held.

The usual practice in "sealing" a vessel is to use a common jack; but when this is done it is necessary to construct extensive and peculiar scaffolding for the jack to act upon, and the accidents which occur from the slipping consequent upon such an ineffective mode frequently result in broken limbs to the workmen.

In the drawings, C represents a strong wrought-iron knee, provided with a socket, *a*, at one end for the reception of the screw D, which is provided with a handle, *b*, to turn the

screw. The other end of the knee C is firmly fixed at right angles to the wrought-iron cross-bar A, which should be from eighteen to forty inches long. The bar A is rectangular in section, so as to allow the hooks B B, which have rectangular mortises, to slide upon it without turning.

B B are two strong wrought-iron hooks sliding upon bar A, and retained at the desired point by the pins *c*. These hooks are intended to catch upon or between the frame-timbers, while the point of the screw is made to bear upon the plank, so as to force it into position to be nailed. The hooks can be so arranged upon the bar as to have their points outward when designed to be used between two timbers.

My invention, although more especially designed to be used for sealing up vessels, may also be used for planking the bulwarks and for various other purposes.

By the use of my improved clamp-screw I am enabled to work with much greater cheapness and safety.

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

In a clamp for planking vessels, the arrangement of the strain-bar A, hooks B B, knee C, and screw D, when constructed and operating substantially as described.

JOSEPH MACOTTER.

Witnesses:

JOHN BEARD,
P. T. WILSON.