

A. W. CURTIS.
 APPARATUS FOR STOWING CARGO.
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1,125,009.

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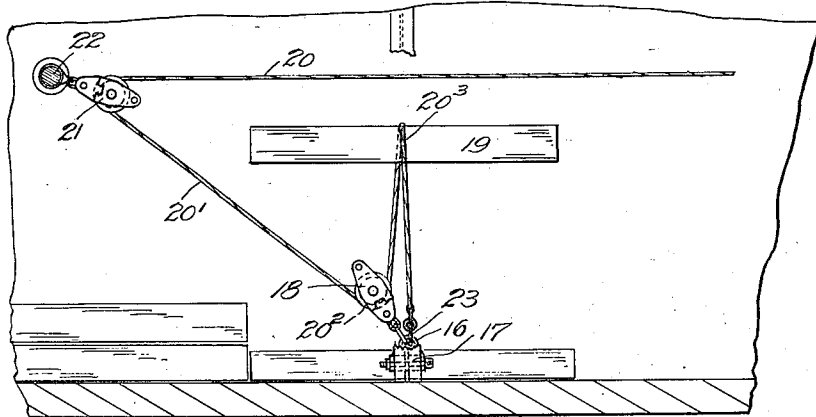
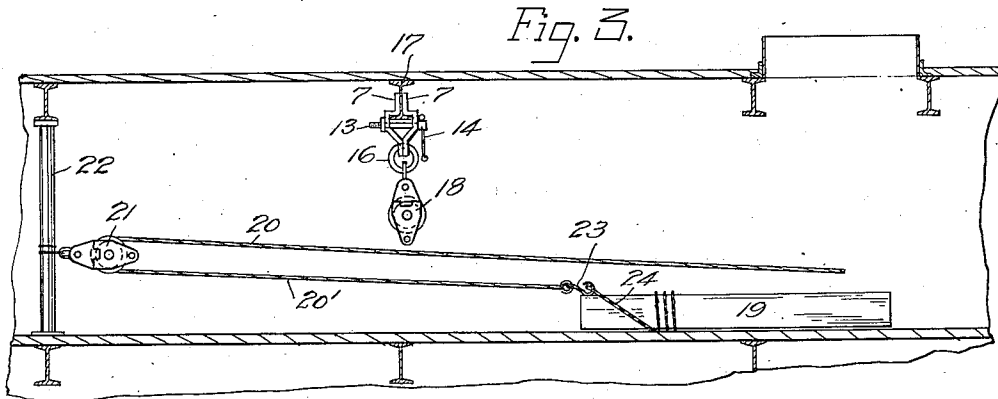


Fig. 4.

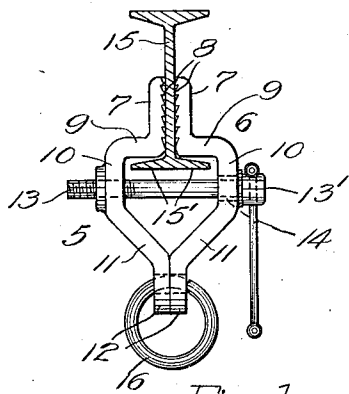


Fig. 1.

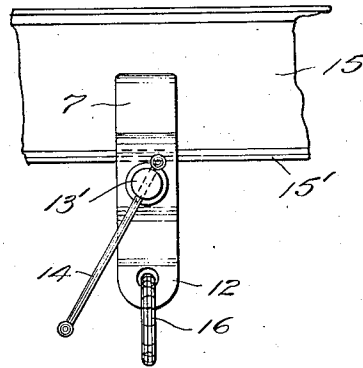


Fig. 2.

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APPARATUS FOR STOWING CARGO.

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Specification of Letters Patent.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ARTHUR W. CURTIS, a citizen of the United States, residing at Seattle, in the county of King and State of Washington, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Apparatus for Stowing Cargo, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to an improved system of conveying appliances which is especially adapted for use in stowing cargoes aboard ships.

The object of the present invention is the provision of apparatus including a clamp which is arranged to be detachably engaged with a frame member such as a deck-beam of a vessel to furnish means for connecting a block thereto at positions whereat the tackle may be advantageously led for the convenient disposal of the cargo when stowing the same.

The invention consists in the novel construction and combination of parts, as will be hereinafter described and claimed.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is an end elevation of my improved block-securing clamp. Fig. 2 is a side elevation thereof. Figs. 3 and 4 are longitudinal vertical and horizontal sectional views, respectively, of so much of a marine vessel as is necessary to be shown in order to illustrate the application of my invention.

A clamp, as shown in Figs. 1 and 2, is comprised of a frame having two complementary members 5 and 6 which are forged or otherwise formed, of steel or an equivalent. Each of said members is provided at one end with a jaw 7 having at its inner side ratchet teeth 8. At the base of a jaw, a member extends outwardly, as at 9, in a substantially rectangular direction from the jaw, thence downwardly, as at 10, returning by an inclined portion 11 to a depending tongue 12 which is disposed to be in alignment, or nearly so, with the respective jaw 7. The offset portion 10 of a member 5 is bored and screw-threaded for engagement with the threads of a clamping-screw 13 which extends through a hole provided in the offset portion 10 of the member 6.

14 represents a handle-bar extending through a hole provided in the head 13¹ of said screw for manipulating the same to cause the frame members to be drawn toward each other so that the tongues 12 thereof will be contiguous when an object,

such as the web 15 of a deck-beam, is grasped between the jaws 7 while the offset portions 10 straddle the beam flanges 15¹. The tongues 12 are provided with holes to receive a ring 16.

The principal use to which my invention is applicable is in stowing heavy articles, such as timbers, in the hold or between the decks of a vessel and especially in the spaces adjacent to the vessel's sides but which is now accomplished in a laborious manner and with a consumption of considerable time.

In using the invention, the aforescribed clamp is secured to a deck-beam, as 17, Fig. 3, and a snatch-block 18 is engaged to the clamp-ring 16. A timber, as 19 for example, is first drawn forward within the vessel by means of a rope or cable 20 leading from a power-driven winding drum (not shown) to a snatch-block 21 attached to a stanchion 22 or other rigid place for securing the same and, after passing about the block-pulley, has a lead 20¹ provided with a terminal hook 23 which engages in a "choker-line" or sling 24 secured to the timber.

When the timber is thus drawn forward to be opposite the place where it is to be deposited, the cable is slacked, a bight 20² (Fig. 4) is formed in the lead 20¹ and engaged over the pulley of the snatch-block 18 which is supported by my clamp. The hook 23 is then disconnected from the sling 24 and passed with the attached end of the cable, as at 20³, over the timber, thence around its side remote from snatch-block 18, and finally beneath the timber and to the clamp where the hook is caught on the ring 16, whereupon the cable is again wound upon the referred to drum, thereby causing the cable as it is drawn in, to effect the rolling of the timber in a transverse direction with respect to the vessel into the position in which it is to be stowed.

The invention is of simple construction and is capable of not only grasping an object such as the web of a beam but the jaw-teeth will bite into the latter to furnish a means whereby a snatch-block may be reliably connected with a selected support to suitably lead the hauling cable in effecting a sidewise movement to an article in stowing the same. Furthermore, by having the elements 11 inclined with respect to the axis of clamp-screw 13 and having the latter dis-

posed to be in proximity to the jaws, the frame-structure is not only well adapted to withstand any distortion when subjected to lateral strains, but the power of the screw is applied to exercise a relatively strong gripping force at the jaws.

Having described my invention, what I claim, is—

1. A tackle-block attaching device, comprising a frame having two members provided with opposing jaw and tongue elements at the opposite ends of the respective members, a clamping screw engaging with both of said members, and block-attaching means connected to the tongues of both of the frame-members.

2. A tackle-block attaching device, comprising a frame having two members provided with opposing jaw and tongue elements at the opposite ends of the respective members, said members being provided intermediate such ends with offset portions, a clamping screw engaging with both of said members at the offset portions thereof, and block-attaching means connected to the tongues of both of the frame-members.

3. A tackle-block attaching device, com-

prising a frame having two members provided with opposing jaw and tongue elements at its opposite ends, teeth provided on the opposing faces of said jaw-elements, means for coupling the members together at the tongue-ends and serving for the connection of a tackle-block to the frame, and a clamping screw for drawing said members into juxtaposition at the tongue-ends and to effect the engagement with an object interposed between the jaw-elements.

4. A tackle-block attaching device comprising a frame having two members provided with opposing jaw and tongue elements at opposite ends of the respective members, and a clamping screw engaging with both of said members, said screw serving to draw the tongue elements in juxtaposition with each other when an object is clamped between the jaws.

Signed at Seattle, Wash., this 15th day of April, 1914.

ARTHUR WILLIAM CURTIS.

Witnesses:

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