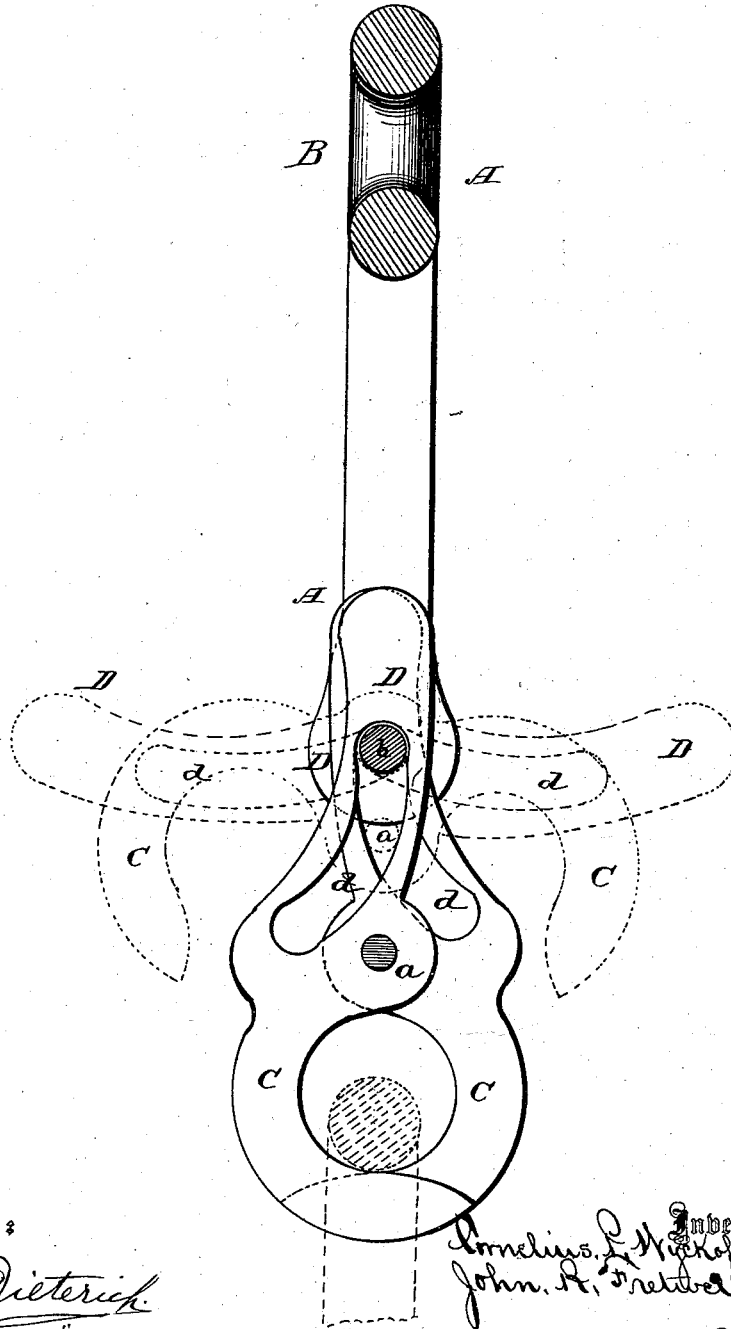


C. P. WYCKOFF & J. R. FRETWELL.

AUTOMATIC DETACHING HOOK.

No. 182,047.

Patented Sept. 12, 1876.



Witnesses:

P. C. Dieterich

Wm. S. ...

Inventors:
Arnoldus P. Wyckoff, jun.
John R. Fretwell

Per: *C. H. Watson & Co* Attorneys.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

CORNELIUS P. WYCKOFF, OF MOBILE, ALABAMA, AND JOHN R. FRETWELL,
OF GALVESTON, TEXAS.

IMPROVEMENT IN AUTOMATIC DETACHING-HOOKS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **182,047**, dated September 12, 1876; application filed
February 29, 1876.

To all whom it may concern :

Be it known that we, CORNELIUS PETER WYCKOFF, of Mobile, county of Mobile, Alabama, and JOHN RICHARD FRETWELL, of the city of Galveston, and State of Texas, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Hooks; and we do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description thereof, which will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawing, and to the letters of reference marked thereon, which form a part of this specification.

The nature of our invention consists in the construction and arrangement of an automatic hook, adapted for lowering boats or other things, under any circumstances, with dispatch, as will be hereinafter more fully set forth.

In the annexed drawing, the figure is a side elevation, partly in section.

A represents a link, open at one end, and provided with an eye, B, at the other end. C C represent two hooks, made in about semi-circular form, and pivoted together at *a*, side by side, the hooks pointing in opposite directions, and, when closed, the ends of the hooks overlap each other, as shown.

Above the point *a* the hooks are extended as shanks D D, of substantially the form shown in the drawing, and in each shank D is a curved slot, *d*, said slots, like the hooks, running in opposite directions.

The hooks, thus constructed, are placed within the upper end of the link A, and fastened therein by a pin or bolt, *b*, passing through the jaws of the link, and through the curved slots *d* of the hook-shanks D D.

In lowering, for instance, boats, it will be seen that when the boat is suspended on the hooks the pivot-point *a* is below the end of the link, and the hooks hang upon the bolt *b* at the upper ends of the slots *d d*. Hence, it is impossible for the hooks to open; but, as soon as the boat gets into the water, and the strain on the hooks is relieved, the link falls down, and the bolt *b*, descending through the curved slots *d*, throws the hooks open.

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

The hooks C C, pivoted together at *a*, and formed with elongated shanks D D, having curved slots *d d*, in combination with the open link A and pin or bolt *b*, substantially as and for the purposes herein set forth.

In testimony that we claim the foregoing as our own we affix our signatures in presence of two witnesses.

CORNELIUS PETER WYCKOFF.
JOHN RICHARD FRETWELL.

Witnesses:
GEORGE DOHERTY,
JOHN DUFFY.