

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JAMES STRACHAN, OF GODERICH, ONTARIO, CANADA.

IMPROVEMENT IN BOAT-LAUNCHING APPARATUS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **185,986**, dated January 2, 1877; application filed October 23, 1876.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JAMES STRACHAN, of Goderich, in the Province of Ontario and Dominion of Canada, have invented a new and Improved Life-Boat-Launching Apparatus, of which the following is a specification:

In the accompanying drawing, Figure 1 represents a plan view, and Fig. 2 a vertical longitudinal section on line *c c*, Fig. 1, of my improved life-boat-launching apparatus; and Fig. 3, a detail side view of the lowering-pulley and lockeye.

Similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts.

The invention relates to an improved apparatus for launching life-boats from vessels of all kinds, by which the life-boat, filled entirely with passengers, may be lowered with great facility.

The invention will first be described in connection with drawing, and then pointed out in the claim.

In the drawing, A represents two davits, which are connected laterally by diagonal braces B, and secured to the horizontal or base parts of the same by inclined braces B'. The horizontal parts of the davits A move, by rollers and guides, along ways C of the vessel, the extent of forward and backward motion being controlled by suitable stop devices, in such a manner that by the forward

motion the davits are brought in position for lowering the life-boat from the vessel, while by the return motion the life-boat is carried back within the vessel for admitting the convenient getting in of the passengers. The davits A carry on suitable bearings a lateral crank-shaft, D, to which the winding-drums D' are applied near the ends. The hoisting and lowering ropes E are wound up on the drums, which are locked, in the customary manner, by a pawl-and-ratchet mechanism, and provided with a friction-brake, to admit the ready lowering of the life-boat on releasing the pawl.

The boat is lowered in horizontal position by the simultaneous paying out of the ropes from the drums, and launched in perfectly safe and reliable manner, when in the water, by suitable detaching mechanism.

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

The combination, with davits A A, provided with rollers traveling on suitable ways, of the diagonal braces B B', constructed and arranged as shown and described.

JAMES STRACHAN.

Witnesses:

PAUL GOEPEL,
C. SEDGWICK.