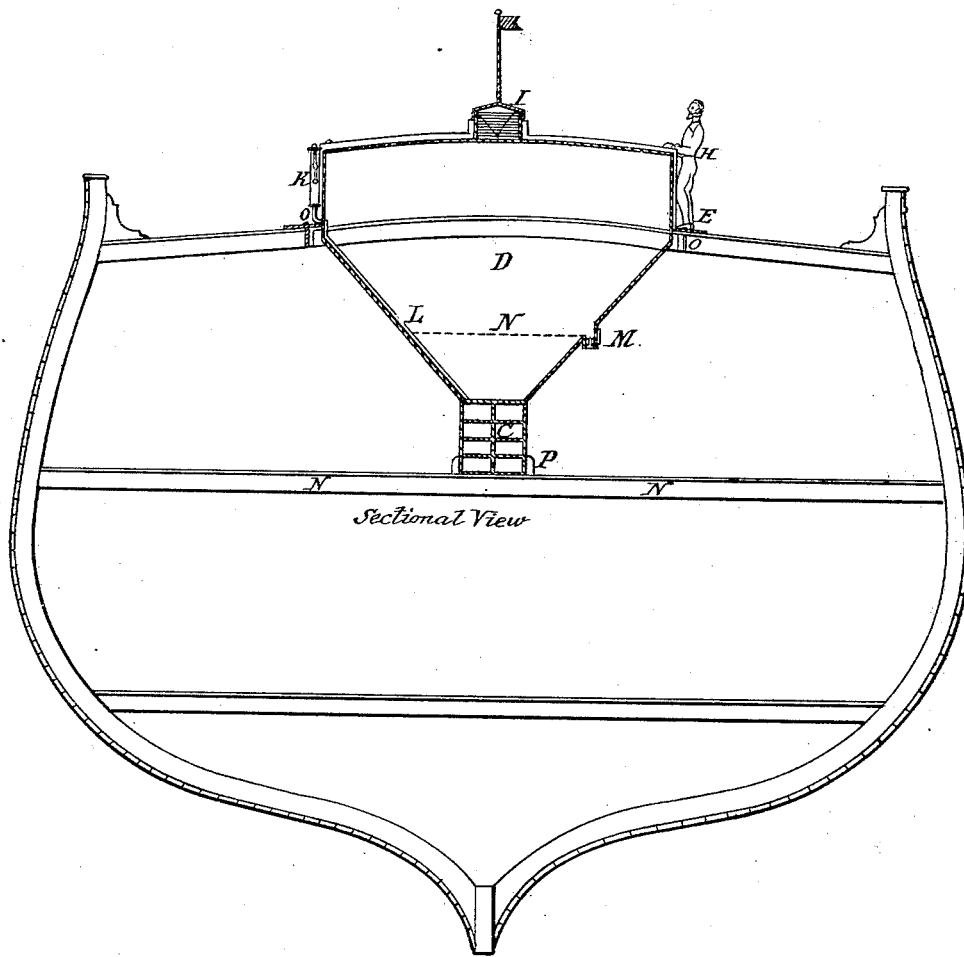


F. D. LEE.

Life Buoy.

No. 18,819.

Patented Dec. 8, 1857.



Witnesses  
Nathl. Lewis  
H. M. Howard.

Inventor.  
Francis Lee.

# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

FRANCIS D. LEE, OF CHARLESTON, SOUTH CAROLINA.

## ARRANGEMENT OF LIFE AND TREASURE BUOY FOR VESSELS.

Specification of Letters Patent No. 18,819, dated December 8, 1857.

### *To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, FRANCIS D. LEE, of the city of Charleston, in the State of South Carolina, have invented a new and useful  
5 arrangement of a life and treasure buoy for the purpose of protecting the lives of passengers and crew and for the safety of bul-  
lion, mails, and other valuables, in case the vessel carrying the same should founder at  
10 sea; and I do hereby declare that the follow-  
ing is a full and exact description thereof, reference being had to the accompanying drawings and to the letters of reference marked thereon.

15 The drawing represents the transverse section of a vessel (N showing the middle deck and O the upper deck) in which is placed a metallic air-tight chamber D, so arranged as to float in case the vessel found-  
20 ders.

An iron chest for treasure, &c., C is permanently attached to the bottom of the same and rests on the middle deck, and so arranged with guides *p* around its base as to  
25 allow the buoy an easy exit from the vessel. Attached to that portion of the buoy next above the deck and forming a flange around it, is an iron foot board E and around the  
30 upper edge lashings H, by which the pas-  
sengers and crew may secure themselves. Besides these other lashings may be ar-  
ranged around the foot-board, and on the top of the buoy by means of which many  
35 more may be secured as the circumstances may require.

On the top of the buoy is a metallic box

containing a smaller buoy of cork marked I, attached and surrounded by a coil of cord so arranged that in case some unforeseen accident may sink the larger buoy, the  
40 smaller one may float to the surface and mark the location of the lost treasure, pro-  
vided it be sunk to such a depth as may insure its recovery.

The use of the buoy ordinarily is for a  
45 water-tank to the vessel, the water being reached by means of the pump K and the pipe L, but in case of the vessel being about to sink the water may be rapidly removed  
50 by means of the large cock M down to the  
point N, that below N being reserved for the use of the shipwrecked.

In case of destruction of a vessel by fire, the buoy being non-combustible may still be  
55 used as a life and treasure preserver, the  
crew and passengers returning to it after the burning vessel has sunk.

In order to prevent all lateral motion to the buoy on the vessel under ordinary cir-  
60 cumstances the pins O are used loosely fit-  
ting and easily removed.

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

The arrangement of the buoy, provided  
65 with the means and appliances herein set  
forth in relation to the chest or safe, and  
indicating buoy, and the decks of the vessel  
as and for the purposes described.

FRANCIS D. LEE.

Witnesses:

THOS. D. DEWEY,  
L. M. HOWARD.