

## THE DEVELOPMENT OF BOAT DAVITS.

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Most of those present to-night are probably acquainted with the old-fashioned round bar cranes, used to swing a life-boat out from a ship's side, and called in nautical parlance "davits." There are hundreds of thousands of these old style davits in use at the present time and they, no doubt, have been used since long before Columbus sailed across the western ocean from Spain to discover the new world centuries ago.

One of the reasons that there has been so little successful development, and why so many of these antiquated davits are still in use, is due to the unusual conditions and neglect that they have to live through and survive, particularly when not required for service making it very difficult to improve on them on account of their extreme crude simplicity.

I do not mean to infer by the preceding statement that no attempts have been made to improve upon these davits, because I am given to understand, on good authority, that there are up-

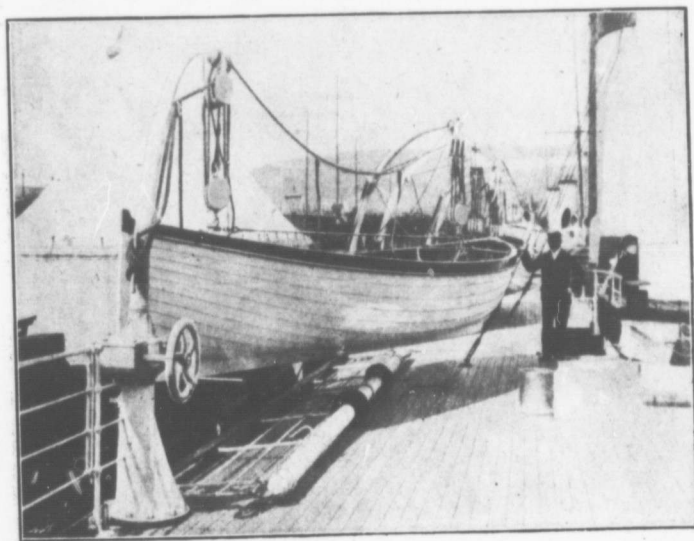


FIG. 1