

BABCOCK and another v. JUDD and another.

(Circuit Court, D. Connecticut. February 8, 1883.)

PATENTS FOR INVENTIONS—SUBSTITUTION.

The substitution of a new ingredient in a combination of old ingredients is not an infringement.

Babcock v. Judd, 1 FED. REP. 408, followed.

Wm. Edgar Simonds, for plaintiffs.

Chas. E. Mitchell, for defendants.

SHIPMAN, J. This bill in equity is founded upon the alleged infringement by the defendants of Franklin Babcock's reissued patent No. 9,301, dated July 20, 1880, for an improved window-spring catch. The original patent was dated September 29, 1868. A suit upon the original patent between the same parties for the same alleged infringement was tried before me, and was decided in February, 1880. I held that the original patent was not infringed. *Babcock v. Judd*, 1 FED. REP. 408. Before a decree in conformity with the opinion was entered in that case the patent was surrendered and the present reissue was obtained. The pending suit was thereupon dismissed by reason of the surrendry of the patent. It is admitted that the first and second claims of the reissue are invalid under the recent decisions of the supreme court. It is said by the plaintiff that the third claim is simply a restatement, and not an enlargement, of the single claim of the original patent. The third claim is:

"In combination, this exteriorly-threaded case, the bolt provided with a locking shoulder and pressure pad, the spring and the stem supporting the spring, all substantially as shown and described."

Admitting that the plaintiffs' construction of this claim is correct, there is no infringement, for the reasons stated in the former case—*Babcock v. Judd, supra*. The new exhibits which the plaintiffs introduced in evidence in this case have no substantial value upon the point which is in controversy.

Let the bill be dismissed.

THE HARRY.

(District Court, E. D. New York. January 15, 1883.)

COLLISION—CANAL-BOAT AT END OF PIER—PROPELLER.

Where a canal-boat, sound and strong, was lying at the end of a pier, and a propeller, in attempting to get into the adjoining slip, brought up against the canal-boat and injured her, *held*, that if it was necessary for the propeller to come up along-side and against the canal-boat, it was her duty to do so in an easy manner, and the propeller must be held liable for the damage resulting from the blow.

In Admiralty.

W. W. Goodrich, for libellant.

Beebe, Wilcox & Hobbs, for claimant.

BENEDICT, J. This action is to recover for injuries to the canal-boat *T. S. Gray*, while lying at the end of pier 46 in the North river, occasioned by a collision between the canal-boat and the propeller *Harry*. At the time of the collision the propeller *Harry*, having a barge laden with grain in tow along-side, was endeavoring to get into the slip between pier 46 and pier 45. The libellant's boat lay moored at the end of the pier, her bow down stream and projecting beyond the side of the pier. The tide was flood. The method adopted by the propeller was to come head to the tide off the end of pier 46, and then move into the slip. In accomplishing this maneuver she brought up against the canal-boat, that was lying at the end of pier 46, causing the damage sued for.

The proofs show that the canal-boat was a sound boat, able to withstand all ordinary contact with other vessels at the piers, and that she was moored in a proper manner at a place where she had the right to be. The proofs also show that the blow which she received from the *Harry* was a severe one. If, as contended in behalf of the propeller, it was necessary for the propeller, under the circumstances, to come up along-side and against the canal-boat, it was, nevertheless, the duty of the propeller to do so in an easy manner, without dangerous force. This duty was not discharged. The effect of the blow shows that the blow was severe. I have no doubt that the injury to the libellant's boat resulted from a want of due care on the part of the *Harry*.

The case differs from the case of *The Charles R. Stone*, 9 Ben. 182, relied on by the claimant. In that case the tug simply sagged in by

*Reported by R. D. & Wyllys Benedict