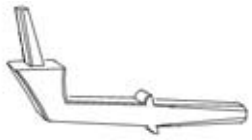
It is possible to cut microscope cover glass to shape and fit it inside the lantern, but this is difficult as the material is so brittle. When building my own lanterns, I gave up trying to do this and used transparent nitrile plastic instead, which is thin enough and easy to cut. I am unsure of its longevity but, if over time the transparency diminishes, this will not detract from the model. Once the glazing is fitted, the upper rim, roof and vent pieces may be added. Be very careful to align each piece accurately with the one below.

The base section and stool with their moldings may be fabricated using the same methods as described for the upper part of the lantern. Make sure that the stool is through-drilled to take the tang of the iron *crank* or support bracket.

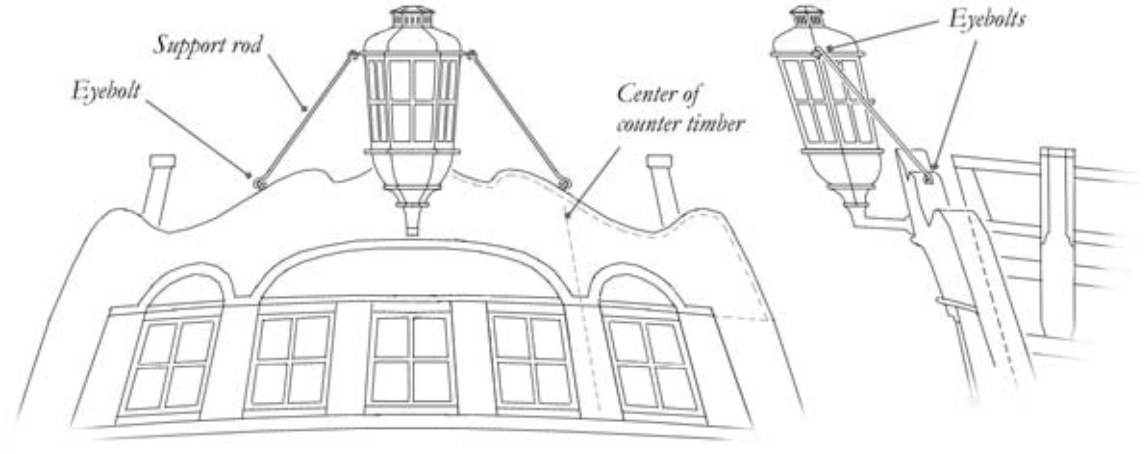
12.49 The lantern crank and support rods

The crank is made of 3" thick brass cut to shape *(illustration at right)* and blackened. Note the tang for the stool. The crank fits into a hole through the carved work in the taffarel. Somehow this seems sacrilegious after all the care that was put into the carvings! Mount the lantern on the tang of the crank. Note the level of the lantern; on some modern models it is placed far too high.



Crank

The lantern requires further stabilization. Two iron support rods run from two small eyebolts in the upper rim of the lantern to eyebolts in the capping rail of the tafferel *(illustrated below)*. Make these rods about ½" in diameter. You will need to spend some time getting the length of the rods between their hooked ends correct. Blacken all the parts as usual.



Stern lantern details, scale 1:48