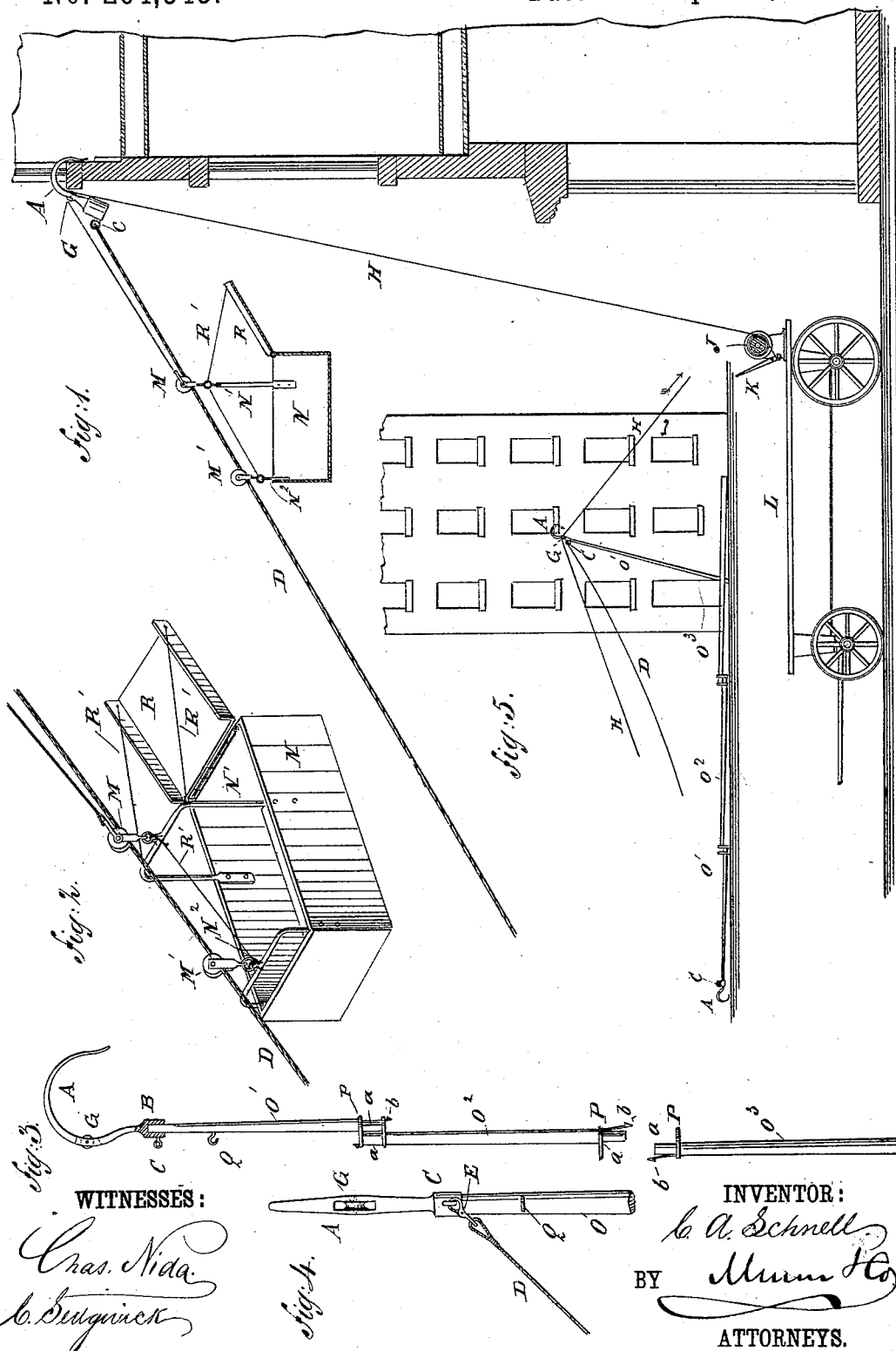


C. A. SCHNELL.

No. 264,345.

Patented Sept. 12, 1882.



UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

CHARLES A. SCHNELL, OF TROY, OHIO.

FIRE-ESCAPE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 264,345, dated September 12, 1882.

Application filed March 28, 1882. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, CHARLES A. SCHNELL, of Troy, in the county of Miami and State of Ohio, have invented a new and Improved Fire-Escape, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description.

This invention has relation to improvements in fire-escapes; and it consists, first, of a hook having an aperture in its lower or butt end, combined with a pole having a hook near its upper end; secondly, of a hook combined with a pole formed of a series of sections provided with socket-rings at the upper ends and with shoulders and catches at the lower ends; and, thirdly, of a box or receptacle having a hinged platform supported by cords, said box being adapted to travel along a rope by means of pulleys connected thereto by bails, substantially as hereinafter more fully set forth.

Reference is to be had to the accompanying drawings, forming part of this specification, in which similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts in all the figures.

Figure 1 is a general view of my improved fire-escape, showing the manner in which it is used. Fig. 2 is a perspective view of the sliding box or basket. Fig. 3 is a longitudinal elevation of the hook and the combination-pole for raising it. Fig. 4 is an end elevation of the same. Fig. 5 is a general view, showing the manner of raising the pole.

A large hook, A, is provided at its lower or butt end with an aperture, B, adapted to receive the upper end of a pole, O. The lower end of the hook is also provided with an eye-loop or ring, C, for attaching a strong rope, D. This rope is preferably provided at its end with a spring-hook, E, which can be passed into the ring C. This rope D is preferably made of fire-proof material, such as wire; but in all cases the upper fifteen or twenty feet of this rope should be made of wire. The hook A is provided with a pulley, G, a short distance above its lower end, over which pulley G a wire rope, H, about one-quarter inch thick, can be passed, and which is secured at its lower end to a drum, J, of a windlass, provided with a brake, K, and mounted on a truck, L, or some other suitable movable or portable support. The upper end of the rope H is attached to a grooved pulley, M, resting on the rope D,

from which pulley M one end of the box N is suspended by means of a bail, N'. The other end of the box N is suspended by means of a bail, N², from a pulley, M', on the rope D, below the pulley M, the difference in the height of the bails N' N² being such that the bottom of the box N will be about horizontal. A swinging board, R, is pivoted to one end of the box, and can be adjusted by means of cords or ropes R' passing over or attached to the bail N'. This board or platform serves as a convenient means of egress from or through the window to the box or receptacle for the person or persons escaping from the burning building.

The pole O for raising the hook S is composed of a series of sections, O' O² O³, &c., provided at the upper ends with socket-rings P. The ends of the sections O' O² O³, &c., are each provided with shoulders *a* adapted to rest on the upper edges of the socket-rings P. The sections O' O² O³, &c., are provided at the upper and lower ends with spring-catches *b*, which catch on the socket-rings P, as shown in Fig. 3. The uppermost section, O', of the pole is provided near its upper end with a hook, Q, adapted to be passed over the rope D. The box or basket N is preferably made of sheet-iron.

The operation is as follows: The sections O' O² O³, &c., are put together to form a pole of the required length, and the hook A is placed in the uppermost section, O'. The rope D is secured to the ring C of the hook, the rope H is passed over the pulley G, and the pulleys M M' are placed on the rope D. Then the hook A is raised by means of the pole and hooked on the sill or frame of a window, as shown in Fig. 5. The pole O is then withdrawn and the rope D is held taut by a number of men, or its lower end is secured to a lamp-post, hydrant, or some other suitable object. The basket or box N is raised up to the hook A by winding the rope H on the drum of the windlass. When the persons to be rescued are in the box or basket N the same is lowered by permitting the rope H to unwind from the drum of the windlass. By means of the brake K the unwinding of the rope H can be regulated. If the hook A is to be removed, the hook Q is passed over the rope D and is moved upward

along the rope D, whereby the rope D will guide the upper end of the section O' into the aperture B in the lower end of the hook A. Then the hook A can be removed by means of the pole.

The above-described fire-escape is very effective, and can be erected for use very easily in a few minutes, and there are no heavy and cumbersome parts.

10 In place of the box or basket, a rope ladder or other ladder can be raised to the window by means of the above-mentioned device.

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

1. In a fire-escape, the combination, with the hook A, provided with an aperture or recess, B, in its lower or butt end, of the pole O, provided near its upper end with a hook, Q, sub-

stantially as herein shown and described, and 20 for the purpose set forth.

2. In a fire-escape, the combination, with the hook A, of the pole O, formed of a series of sections, O' O² O³, provided at the upper ends with socket-rings P and at the lower 25 ends with shoulders *a* and catches *b*, substantially as herein shown and described, and for the purpose set forth.

3. In a fire-escape, the combination, with the box N, of the pulleys M M', the bails N' N², 30 and the swinging end platform, R, and supporting-cords R', substantially as herein shown and described, and for the purpose set forth.

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Witnesses:

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