(No Model.)

A. A. STARR.

FIRE ESCAPE.

No. 301,296. Patented July 1, 1884.

Fig. 1.

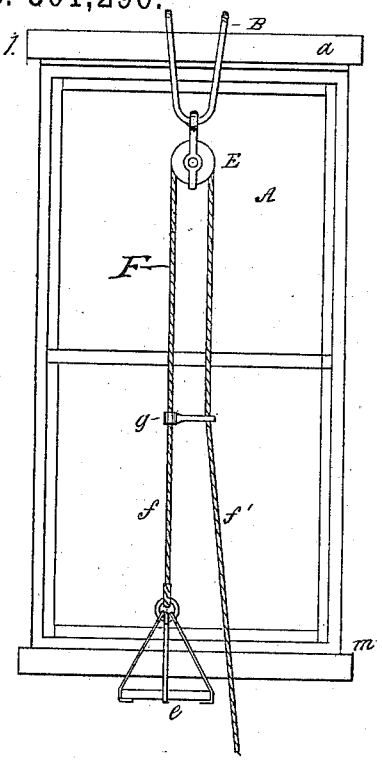
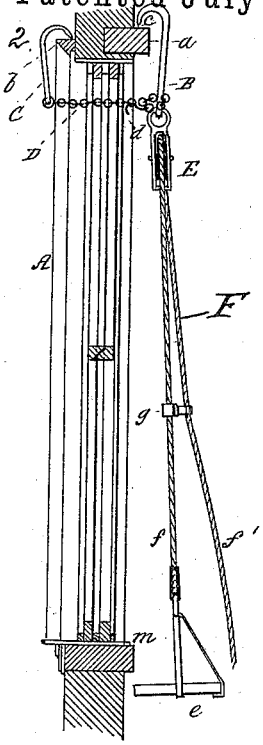


Fig. 2.



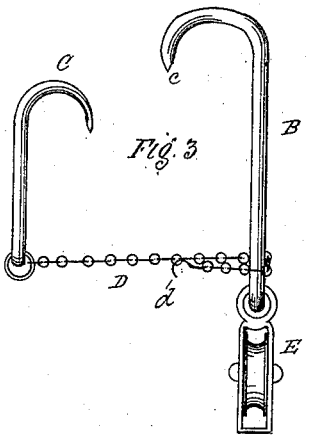
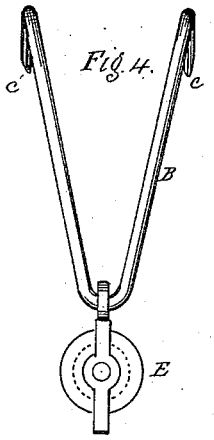


Fig. 3.

Fig. 4.



Witnesses:
George H. Gillette.
M. A. Upling

Inventor:
Alfred A. Starr,
By John S. Thornton
Attorney.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ALFRED A. STARR, OF WESTFIELD, NEW JERSEY.

FIRE-ESCAPE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 301,296, dated July 1, 1884.

Application filed April 3, 1884. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ALFRED A. STARR, of Westfield, in the county of Union and State of New Jersey, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Fire-Escapes; and I hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description thereof, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, which form a part of this specification.

This invention relates to an improvement in fire-escapes or apparatus by means of which the inmates of a burning building may escape therefrom; and the object of the invention is to provide a fire-escape which shall be extremely simple in its construction, which is detached from the building, and can readily and easily be put in position for use when needed, and which can be stowed away in a closet or other suitable place, so as to be readily accessible for use when required.

The invention consists in the construction and the combination of parts of a fire-escape, substantially as described in the following specification and specified in the claims thereof.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 may represent the outside of a window with my improved fire-escape in position for use; Fig. 2, a sectional side view of the same; and Figs. 3 and 4 are details which are hereinafter referred to and explained.

Similar letters of reference indicate the same parts in all the several figures.

A may represent the window of a building, *a* being the lintel or coping on the outer wall above the window-frame, and *b* the top of the window-frame on the inside.

My improved fire-escape is composed of the following parts, namely:

B is a hook having a bifurcated shank and two points, *c c*, which latter are placed upon the lintel or coping *a*, as a support when the apparatus is placed in position for use.

C is a single hook, which is placed upon the top of the window-frame on the inside of the window. A small chain, D, connects the shanks of the hooks B and C to draw them toward each other, and thereby prevent them from slipping off their respective supports. This chain may be attached at one end to one of said hooks, and its other end passed around the shank of the other hook and provided with a hook, *d*, to fit into the links forming the body of the chain, so that the distance between the hooks B and C may be adjusted at pleasure.

To the lower end of the hook B is attached a pulley or pulley-block, E, over which a rope, F, is passed. To one end, *f*, of the rope F a stirrup, *e*, is secured, said stirrup being of any suitable construction to form a support for a person who may step upon it, while the other end, *f'*, of said rope passes downward to the ground, and is to be of at least twice the length of the distance between the ground and the top windows of the building. By means of this construction a person can readily place the hooks B and C in the positions above mentioned, and can easily and readily step from the window-sill *m* onto the stirrup, the latter being drawn by the rope into about the position shown in the drawings, and can then let himself down by means of the rope, or may be let down therewith by persons on the ground below.

g represents a ring attached rigidly to the portion *f* of the rope at a suitable distance above the stirrup, through which said ring the other end, *f'*, of said rope is free to slide. By this means the two portions of said rope F are kept in proximity to each other, so that they can be readily caught hold of by a person escaping from the building; or, if necessary, the stirrup and its occupant can be drawn away from the lower windows by persons on the ground in case flames should be issuing from said lower windows.

In buildings in which there is no outside lintel or other similar support for the hook B, the latter may be placed upon the top of the frame inside, and the use of the hook C dispensed with.

In Fig. 3 is shown a side view of the hooks B and C, and Fig. 4 represents an elevation of the rear side of the hook B.

I am aware that fire-escapes with hooks carrying ropes have heretofore been used; but such have generally been of complicated construction, and have also been adapted to be attached to the window-sill, and not to the top of the window-frame, and such construction has rendered it extremely difficult for

persons in the building, and especially females, to use them successfully; but by means of my improvement, the escape being attached to the top of the window, all that the person escaping has to do is to take hold of the rope and step from the window-sill onto the stirrup, and either let himself down or be let down by means of the part *f'* of the rope F.

What I claim as my invention is—

1. In a fire-escape, the combination of hooks B and C, connected by chain D, and constructed as described, pulley E, attached to said hook B, rope F, and stirrup *e*, attached to said rope, said hooks B and C being adapted to be supported above the window-frame, as shown and described.

2. In a fire-escape, the combination of the hooks B and C, adjustable chain D, pulley E, rope F, having ring *g*, and stirrup *e*, attached to one end of said rope, each of said parts constructed substantially as described, and the whole arranged to be operated as and for the purpose set forth.

ALFRED A. STARR.

Witnesses:
JOHN S. THORNTON,
M. H. TOPPING.