

T. Thompson, Jr.

Fire Escape.

No. 81,436.

Patented Aug. 25, 1868.

Fig: 1.

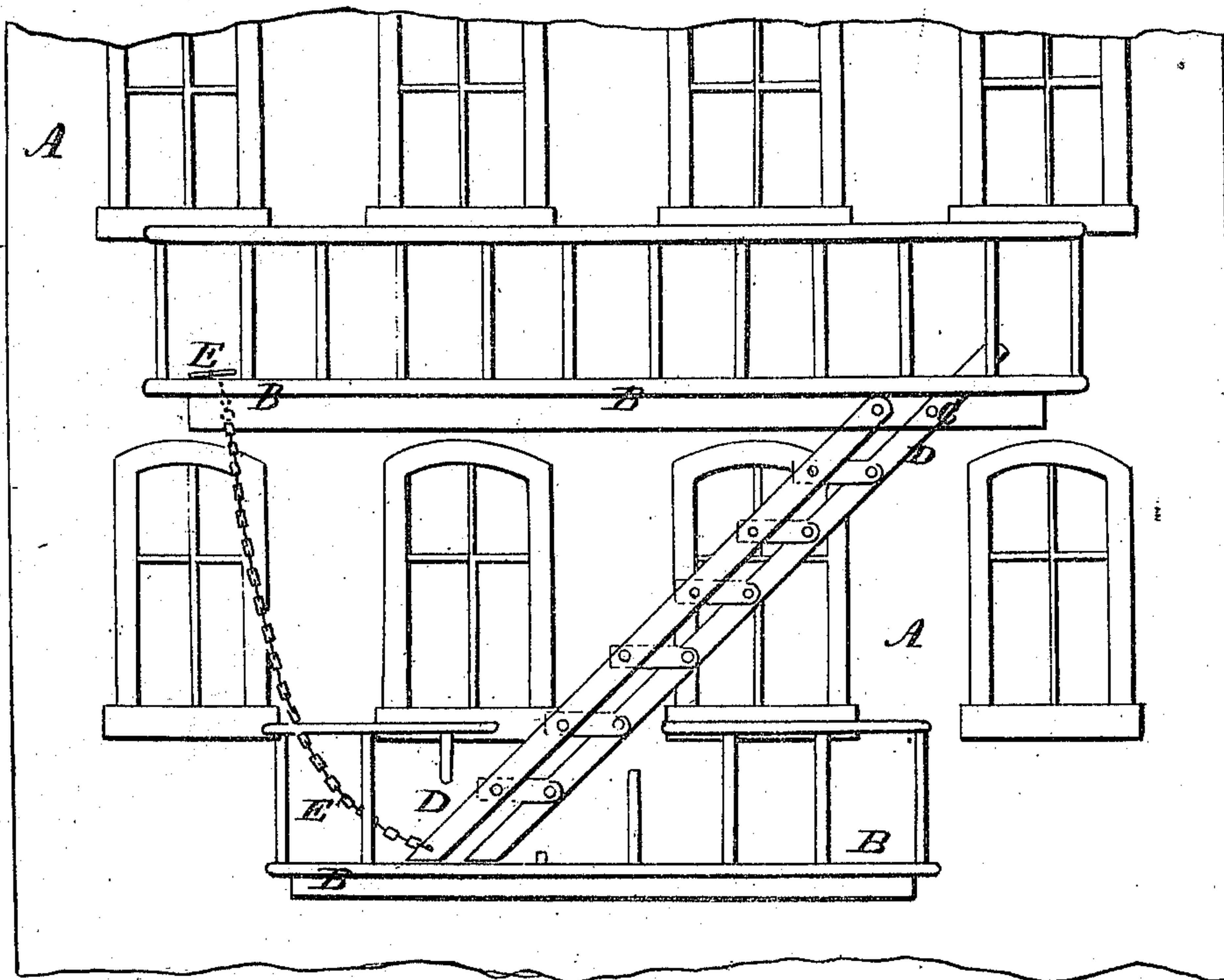


Fig: 2.

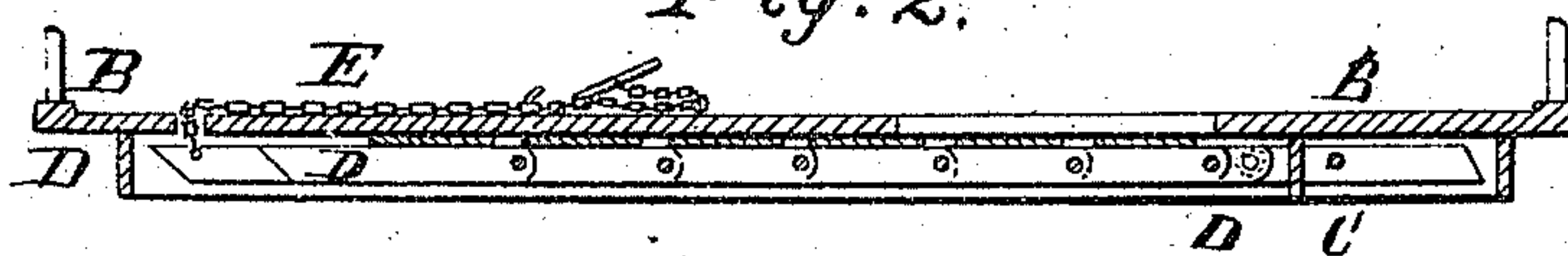
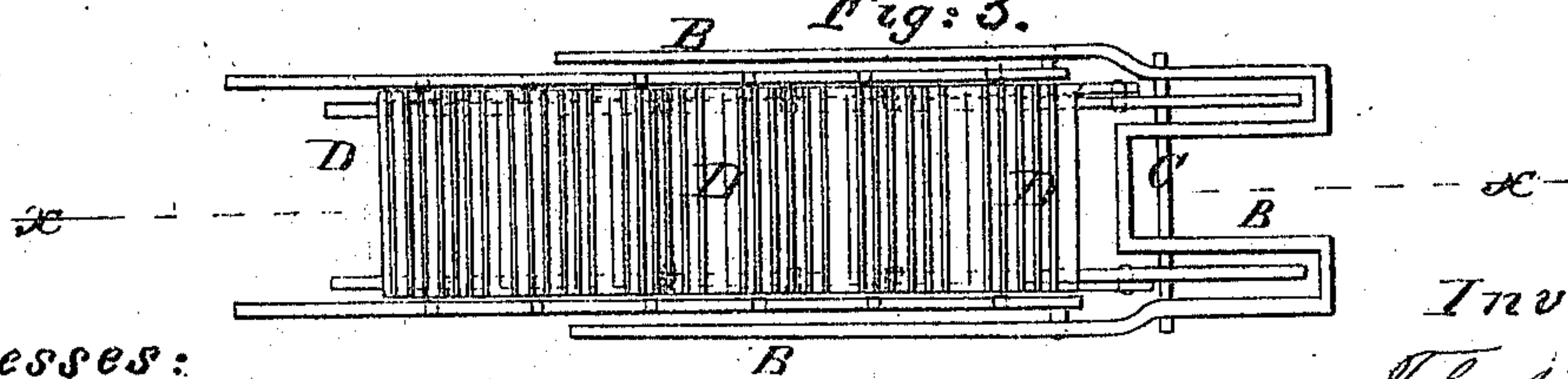


Fig: 3.



Witnesses:

*Am A Morgan
G C Cotton*

Inventor:

*Thos Thompson Jr
per Mum & Co
Attys*

United States Patent Office.

THOMAS TOMPSON, JR., OF NEW YORK, N. Y.

Letters Patent No. 81,436, dated August 25, 1868.

IMPROVED FIRE-ESCAPE.

The Schedule referred to in these Letters Patent and making part of the same.

TO ALL WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

Be it known that I, THOMAS TOMPSON, JR., of the city, county, and State of New York, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Fire-Escapes; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description thereof, which will enable those skilled in the art to make and use the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, forming part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 is a front view of a portion of a building to which my improved fire-escape has been attached, showing the ladder lowered.

Figure 2 is a detail sectional view of the same, taken through the line *x x*, fig. 3, and showing the ladder raised.

Figure 3 is a detail top view of the ladder, showing the manner in which it is pivoted to the balcony.

Similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts.

My invention has for its object to furnish an improved fire-escape, for permanent attachment to the outer sides of buildings, which shall be so constructed and arranged that it may be conveniently lowered when required for use, and raised again when not required for use; and it consists in the construction of the ladder, and in its combination with the balcony, as hereinafter more fully described.

A represents the outer wall of a building, to which the balconies B have been permanently attached in the ordinary manner.

D is the ladder, which is formed with four side-bars, two upon each side, to which the steps are pivoted.

The upper ends of the outer side-bars are pivoted to the framework of the balcony, and the upper ends of the inner side-bars are pivoted to a rod, C, attached to said framework, as shown in fig. 3.

The steps of the ladder D should be made of corrugated iron, and with a downwardly-projecting flange upon their ends, said flanges projecting at the rear of the said steps, to form ears.

The forward part of the flanges of the said steps is pivoted to the inner sides of the outer side-bars of the ladder D, and the rearwardly-projecting part of said flanges is pivoted to the outer sides of the inner side-bars of the ladder, so that when the ladder is raised into a horizontal position, as shown in fig. 2, the two side-bars upon each side of the ladder may lie side by side with the flanges of the steps between them.

The steps of the ladder D are made broad, so that, when the ladder is raised into a horizontal position, the forward edge of one step may correspond with the rear edge of the next step, thus forming a continuous floor, enabling the ladder when raised to serve as a part of the floor of the balcony, if desired.

The ladder D should be made of such a length that when its free end is lowered to the next lower balcony, or to the ground, the ladder may stand at such an inclination that ascent and descent upon it may be easy and convenient.

In the case of the upper balcony, the ladder may be made long, and may be pivoted at its middle part, so that when lowered, its upper end may extend up to the roof, to enable any who may be upon the said roof to escape.

The ladder D is raised and lowered by means of a chain or chains, E, attached to its free or lower end, and extending up to the balcony, to which said ladder is pivoted, and which, when the ladder has been raised into a horizontal position, may be secured in place by being attached to staples or hooks, or by means of other well-known secure and easily-detachable means.

This construction of the ladder D enables it to be easily raised out of the way, when not required for use, and enables it to be easily and quickly lowered when needed, and, when lowered, it furnishes a firm and secure passage-way for the escape of those who may be in the upper part of the house, and whose escape by the ordinary passage-ways has been prevented.

I claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent—

The ladder D, constructed substantially as herein shown and described, that is to say, with two side-bar at each side, to which the flanged ends of the broad steps are pivoted, in combination with the balcony B, permanently attached to the outer wall of the building, in the manner and for the purpose set forth.

THOS. TOMPSON, JR.

Witnesses:

FRANK BLOCKLEY,
JAMES T. GRAHAM.