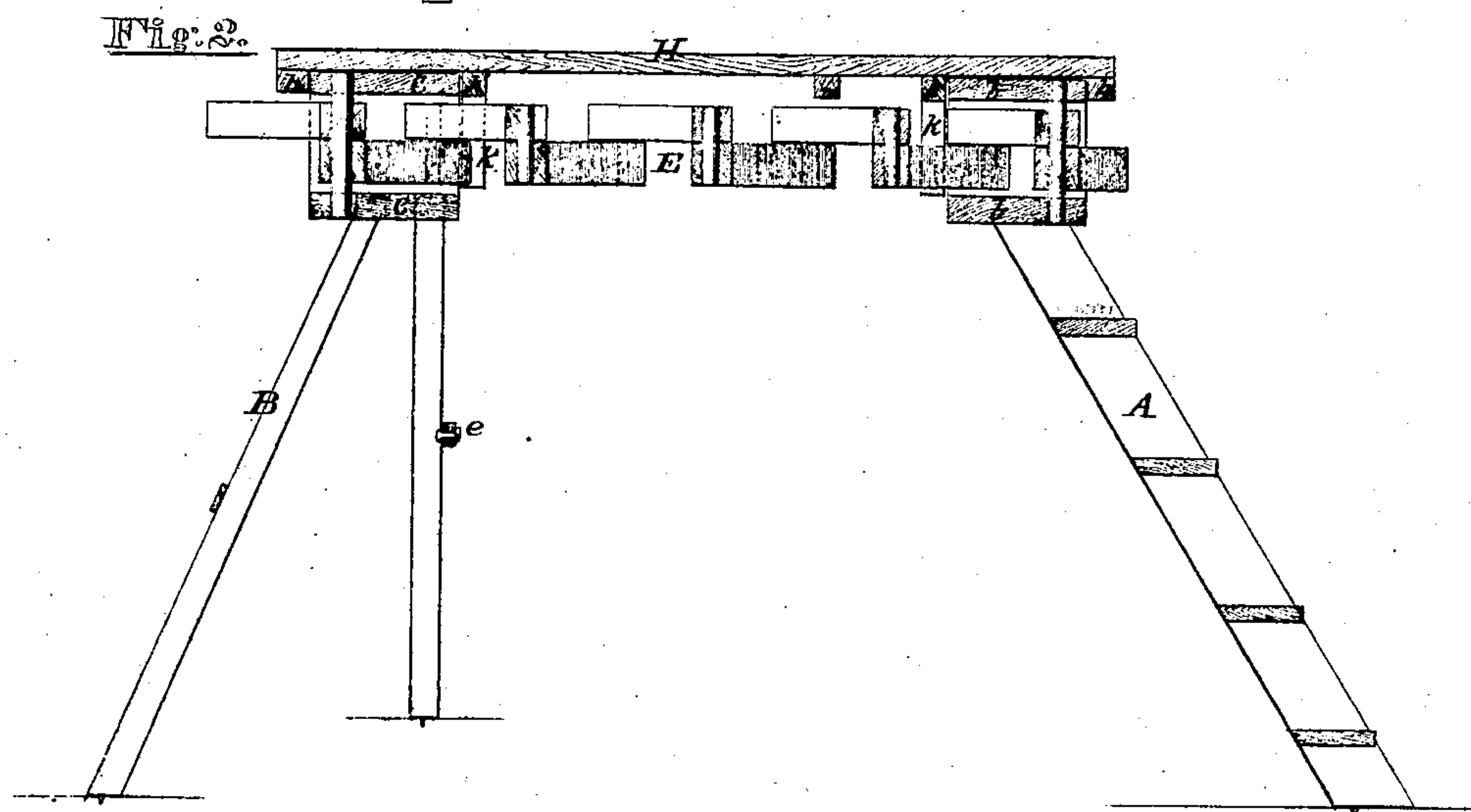
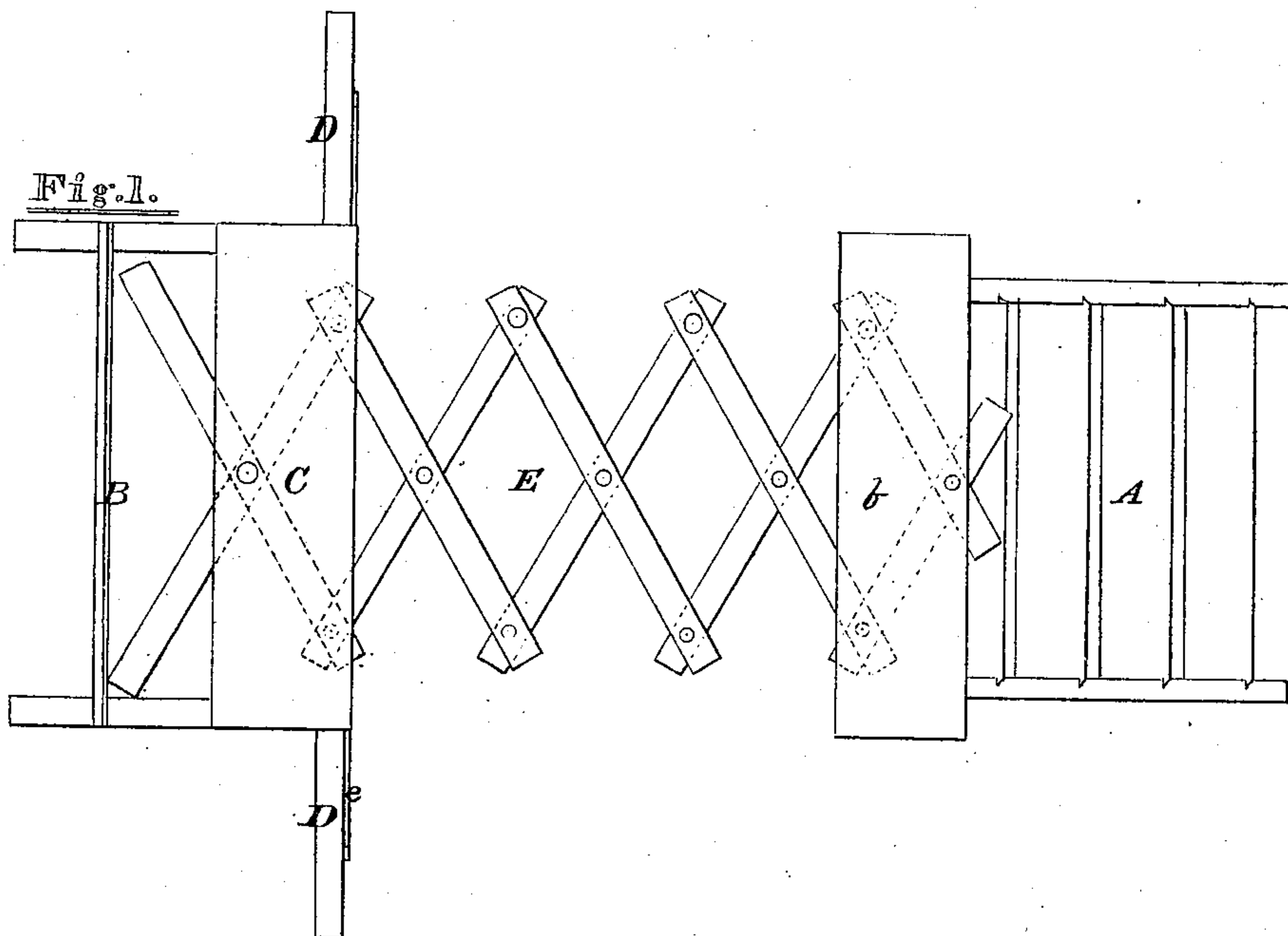


J. Hughes,

Scaffold.

No. 109012.

Patented Nov. 8. 1870



Witnesses.
Chas. Henry,
Eow. P. Mau,

Inventor.
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United States Patent Office.

JOHN HUGHES, OF NEW BERNE, NORTH CAROLINA.

Letters Patent No. 109,012, dated November 8, 1870.

IMPROVEMENT IN EXTENSION SCAFFOLDS.

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, JOHN HUGHES, of New Berne, in the county of Craven and State of North Carolina, have invented a new and valuable Improvement in Extension Scaffolds; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description of the construction and operation of the same, reference being had to the annexed drawing making a part of this specification, and to the letters and figures of reference marked thereon.

Figure 1 of the drawing is a top view of my invention, with the platforms removed.

Figure 2 is a central vertical section of the same.

My invention has relation to an improvement in step-ladders, and consists in the construction and novel arrangement of an extension-frame and a platform, designed to serve also as an efficient brace. These attachments enable the step-ladder to be used as a scaffold for painting or other purposes, when desirable.

The letter A of the drawing designates the step-ladder, the upper step of which is provided with a box, *b*, for the insertion of one end of the extension-frame.

B represents the hinged legs, which, when the invention is employed simply as a step-ladder, are brought up immediately in rear of the steps A, and serve to support the same in position.

The legs B are hinged at their upper ends to the box C, similar to that at the upper end of the steps A, and serving to contain the other end of the extension-frame.

D D are braces, extending laterally outward and downward from the box C, to the bottom of which they are hinged.

These braces are connected near their lower ends by the bar *e*, which may be in two parts, and adjustable, if desired.

E designates the extension-frame, which may be composed of cross-bars, pivoted together at their centers and ends, as shown in the drawing. Or the extension-frame may be composed of longitudinal slides, placed in parallel positions with each other, in the manner of the slides of an extension-table.

The slides or cross-bars of the extension-frame are arranged in such a manner that, when the inner ends

of the boxes *b* and C are brought in contact, the extension-frame will be closed and compactly stowed within the boxes. The two sections, being secured together by suitable hooks and staples, constitute a step-ladder.

H represents a platform, consisting of one or more boards.

On the under side of the platform, at each end thereof, are secured the transverse cleats *h h'*, sufficiently distant from each other to admit the upper board of the box *b* or C between them.

kk represent guards, projecting downward from each end of each inner cleat *h h'*, and serving a double purpose. They are designed to assist in keeping the boxes *b* and C in their normal position, and at the same time to prevent lateral movement of the platform.

In order to form a scaffold, the boxes *b* and C are unfastened from each other and separated a suitable distance. The platform H is then laid above the extension-frame, with its ends resting on the boxes *b* and C, the tops of the latter being inserted between the cleats *h* and *h'*. The legs B and braces D are then adjusted with reference to each other, and the scaffold is ready for use.

Sometimes, instead of the hinged legs B, I attach a second set of steps, similar to A, thus enabling the workman to mount the scaffold at either end.

What I claim as my invention, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. In combination with a step-ladder, divided vertically and transversely through the upper step, the extensible frame E, substantially as shown and described.

2. In combination, the ladder A, legs B, boxes *b* C, extensible frame E, and bracing-platform H, substantially as specified.

In testimony that I claim the above, I have hereunto subscribed my name in the presence of two witnesses.

JNO. HUGHES.

Witnesses:

C. W. McLEAN,
J. E. WEST.