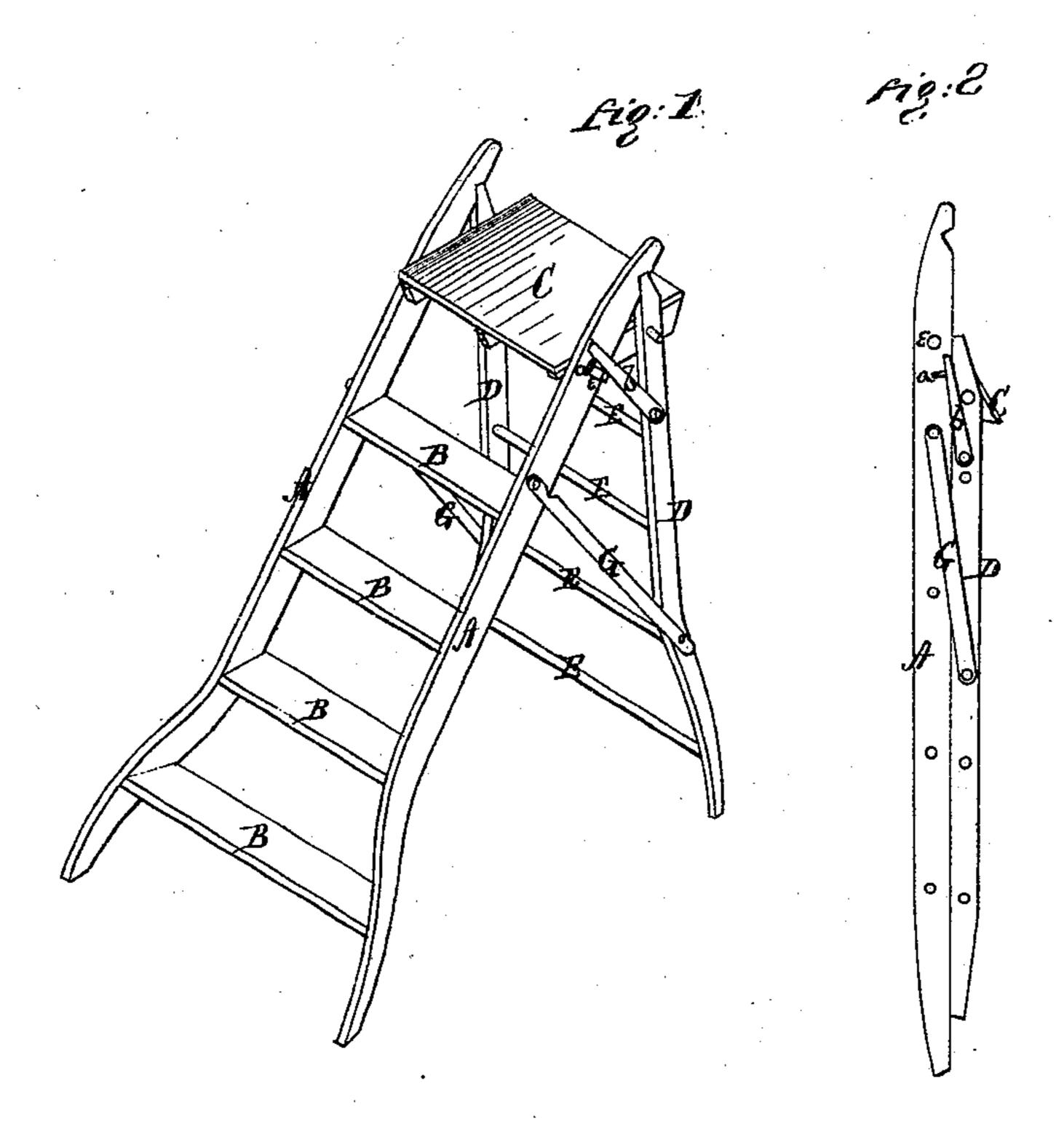
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United States Patent Office.

WILLIAM G. PHILIPS, OF NEWPORT, DELAWARE.

Letters Patent No. 110,785, dated January 3, 1871.

IMPROVEMENT IN STEP-LADDERS.

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, WILLIAM G. PHILIPS, of Newport, in the county of New Castle, and in the State of Delaware, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Step-Ladders; and do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description thereof, reference being had to the accompanying drawing and to the letters of reference marked thereon making a part of this specification.

The nature of my invention consists in the construction and arrangement of a "step-ladder," as will

be hereinafter fully set forth.

In order to enable others skilled in the art to which my invention appertains to make and—use the same, I will now proceed to describe its construction and operation, referring to the annexed drawing, in which—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of my step-ladder spread out ready for use, and

Figure 2 is a side view of the same folded up.

A A represent the two sides of my step-ladder, connected by means of the steps B B, placed a suitable distance apart. The lower ends of the sides A A are spread outward, as shown, so as to form a broader base for the ladder.

The top step of the ladder consists of a platform, C, pivoted near its front edge between the sides of an auxiliary ladder or prop formed of the sides D D and rounds E E, which serve as a support or brace for the step-ladder A B, the upper ends of the sides D D fitting, when the ladder is spread open for use, in notches made in the rear sides near the upper ends of the sides A A, as shown in fig. 1.

Underneath the platform C, and fastened to the

sides A A, are pins or stops, which serve as an additional rest for the platform when the ladder is in position for use. These pins or stops may answer in lieu of the notches mentioned above, as the platform comes to its right position when it lights upon them.

A B and D E are connected on each side by means of a pivoted bar, G, which holds them a proper distance apart for use; also, assist to support the weight upon the ladder.

The sides D D are the same shape as the sides A A, so that, when the ladder is folded up as shown in

fig. 2, they will come close together.

Near the upper end of the side D is pivoted an arm, b, provided, near its outer end, with a pin, a, which, when the ladder is spread out for use, hooks over the projecting end of the shaft e, or will brace against the bar G on the side A; or, if put on the inner side of D, can brace against one of the steps of the ladder A B. This serves as an additional security in holding the ladder in position when in use.

Having thus fully described my invention,

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

The construction and arrangement of the ladder A B, support or prop D E, platform C, bars G G, arm b, pin a, and shaft e, all substantially as shown and described, and for the purposes set forth.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing I have hereunto set my hand this 15th day of October, 1870.

WM. G. PHILIPS.

Witnesses:

C. L. EVERT,

J. E. HUTCHINSON.