G. N. SHISHMANIAN.

FIRE-ESCAPES.

No. 195,052. Patented Sept. 11, 1877.

Fig. 1

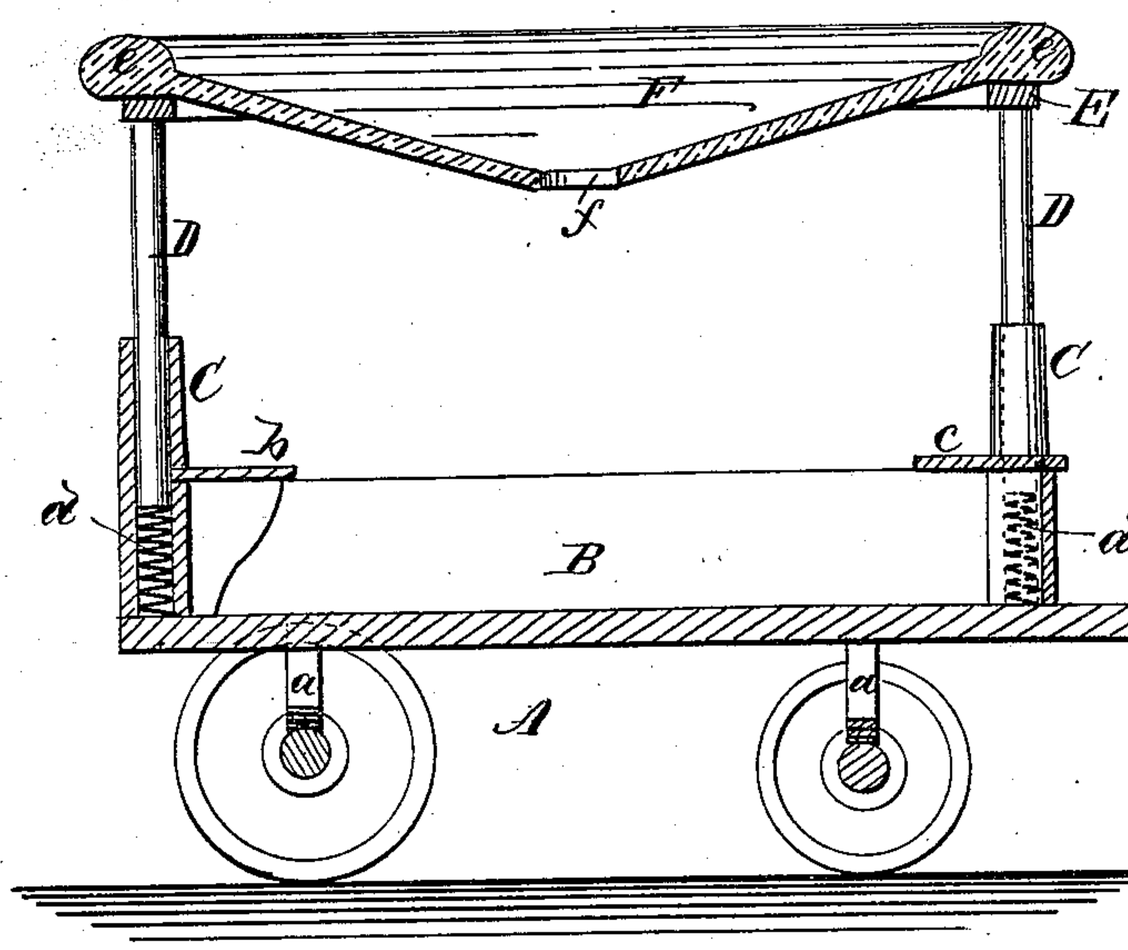

Fig. 2

WITNESSES:

C. Neveux

J. N. Scarborough.

INVENTOR:

G. N. Shishmanian

BY Munn & Co.

ATTORNEYS.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

GEORGE N. SHISHMANIAN, OF GALVESTON, TEXAS.

IMPROVEMENT IN FIRE-ESCAPES.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **195,052**, dated September 11, 1877; application filed June 30, 1877.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, GEORGE N. SHISHMANIAN, of Galveston, in the county of Galveston and State of Texas, have invented a new and Improved Fire-Escape, of which the following is a specification:

Figure 1 is a vertical section on line *x x* in Fig. 2. Fig. 2 is a plan view.

Similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts.

My invention consists of an air-cushion, having a concave upper surface, in the center of which there is an opening of sufficient size to admit a person's body. The said cushion is supported above a suitable car by standards that rest upon springs.

The object of the invention is to provide apparatus for receiving without injury persons or goods falling from windows of burning buildings.

In the drawings, A is a car, having a body, B, that is supported on springs *a* attached to the axles. The body contains seats *b c*, which are capable of receiving several persons.

In the four corners of the body there are vertical tubular posts C, in which springs *d* are placed. Upon these springs standards D rest.

To the upper ends of these standards a a frame, E, is secured, to which an elastic air-cushion, F, is attached.

The air-cushion F has a thick rounded edge, *e*, which lies above and projects over the frame E, and it has a central opening, *f*, of sufficient size to admit the body of a person. The upper surface of the air-cushion inclines downward toward the center, so that anything falling on the cushion rolls toward the opening *f*. The entire cushion is hollow, and is filled with air.

When the apparatus is to be used it is drawn near the building, and beneath the window from which escape is to be made. The person desiring to reach the ground jumps into the concave surface of the air-cushion and escapes through the central aperture *f* to the car below. The momentum of the fall is broken by the cushion, and is arrested by the action of the springs *d*. Goods may be thrown upon the cushion without fear of breaking them.

The apparatus can be readily moved from place to place, and is more manageable and reliable than ladders.

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

A wheeled vehicle provided with a superposed concave cushion, F, apertured at the center, and near the outer edges supported by standards resting on springs, as shown and described.

GEORGE N. SHISHMANIAN.

Witnesses:

CARAHEG INESROBE,

R. T. BYRNE.