

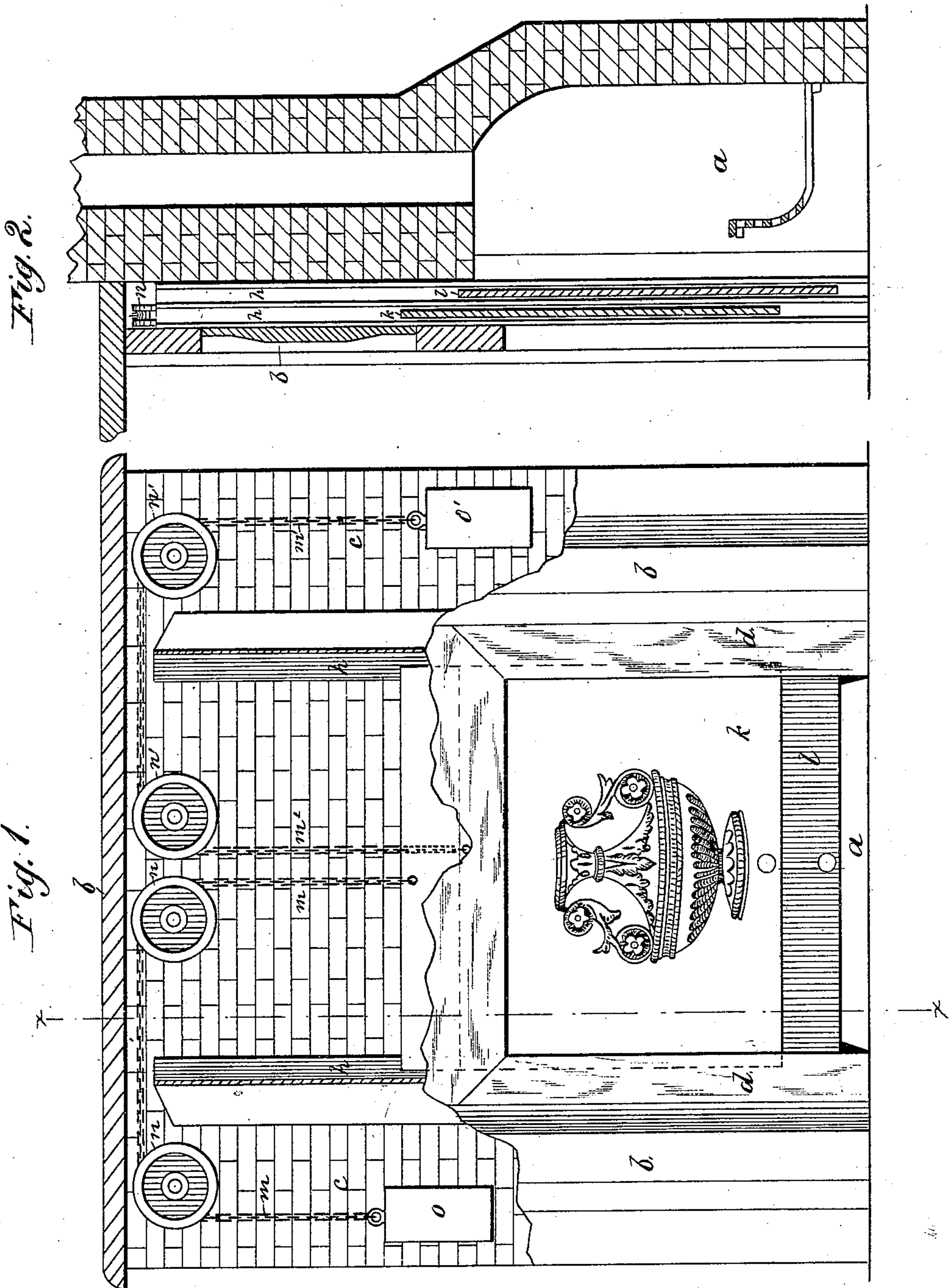
(No Model.)

T. J. SUGGS.

COMBINED FIRE SCREEN AND FENDER.

No. 253,127.

Patented Jan. 31, 1882.



WITNESSES:

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THOMAS J. SUGGS, OF FORT GAINES, GEORGIA.

COMBINED FIRE-SCREEN AND FENDER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 253,127, dated January 31, 1882.

Application filed November 23, 1881. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, THOMAS JONATHAN SUGGS, of Fort Gaines, in the county of Clay and State of Georgia, have invented a new and Improved Combined Fire-Screen and Fender; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description of the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, forming part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 is a front elevation of my improved fire-screen and fender partly broken away. Fig. 2 is a vertical section of same on line *xx*, Fig. 1.

Heretofore a sheet-metal plate having ornamental figures painted on its outer face, forming a screen, and fitting over the mouth of a fire-place, and adapted to slide in grooves in the jambs, and raised by weights attached to cords secured to the upper end of the metal plate and passing over pulleys, has been employed as a combined fire-screen and fender. In this construction, when the sheet-metal plate forming the combined fire-screen and fender becomes hot the paintings are liable to be destroyed and the fender only remains, and when the fender is hot and raised it is extremely liable to set on fire the wooden mantel-piece surrounding it, and the construction above described also requires an addition to the upper part of the mantel-piece.

To remedy these defects is the object of my invention; and to these ends it consists of two sheet-metal plates sliding in grooves in the jambs, the outer one provided with ornamental figures painted on its outer face and constituting the screen, and the inner sliding plate forming the fender, with a single balance-weight for each sliding plate, the fender, when lowered, protecting the screen, when down, from rain and soot falling down the chimney, and preventing the screen from being overheated and the paintings on its outer face from being destroyed, and the screen, when raised, preventing the heated fender, when raised, from setting fire to the mantel-piece by lying between it and the wooden mantel-piece, thus shielding the latter from the heat radiating from the fender.

In the accompanying drawings, *a* represents an ordinary fire-place, and *b* a surrounding mantel-piece, provided with vertical channels *cc* in

the sides of its back face and an open space between the back of the mantel-piece and the front wall of the fire-place.

d d represent the jambs of the mantel-piece, the inner faces of each of which are provided with parallel vertical grooves *h h*, in which the screen *k* and fender *l* are adapted to slide, the screen *k* being arranged in the outer and the fender *l* in the inner vertical grooves, *h*, in the jambs. The grooves may be lined with sheet-metal to prevent danger from fire, if deemed necessary. The screen *k* is provided with ornamental figures painted on its outer face.

m represents a cord or chain, secured to the upper end of the screen, near its middle, and passing thence vertically upward and partly around the horizontal grooved pulleys *n*, journaled in the sides of the open space between the mantel-piece and fire-place, and thence vertically partly down one of the vertical channels *c*, and is provided at its lower end with a weight, *o*, which balances the weight of the screen *k*. The fender *l*, which slides in the inner grooves, *h*, of the jamb, is similarly provided with a cord, *m'*, secured to the upper end of the fender, near its middle, and passing thence vertically upward and partly around horizontal grooved pulleys *n'*, journaled in the sides of the open space between the mantel-piece and fire-place, and arranged in the opposite side of the open space between the mantel-piece and fire-place. The cord *m'* is provided with a weight, *o'*, which balances the weight of the fender *l*.

When fires are unnecessary the fender and screen are both lowered, the fender protecting the screen from rain and soot falling down the chimney and the screen closing the opening in the fire-place and improving the appearance of the room by the ornamental figures on its outer face.

When it is desired to make a fire the screen is raised behind the mantel-piece, where it is protected from the heat of the fire and dust, thus preserving its beauty and leaving the fender for service. The fender is then raised and the fire kindled. After the fire is kindled the fender is lowered until its lower edge is a few inches above the hearth, which creates a strong draft, the fender acting as a blower. When the fire is burning well the fender is

raised and lies behind the screen, the latter acting as a shield for the mantel-piece, to prevent it from taking fire from the radiated heat from the fender.

5 When it is desired to put out the fire the fender is lowered to the hearth, and, there being no longer any draft, the fire is extinguished.

It will be observed that in my construction but a single weight is employed to balance the
10 screen and a single weight to balance the fender. The screen and fender are each provided with a projection or handle near its lower end, by means of which they may be raised or lowered, as desired.

15 What I claim as my invention is—

1. The combination, with a fire-place and a mantel-piece surmounting said fire-place, of a

fender and a screen arranged in front of the fender, the fender and screen being each balanced by a separate weight and adapted to be
20 raised and lowered independently of each other in a space between the mantel-piece and the fire-place, substantially as described, and for the purpose set forth.

2. The combination, with the fire-place *a* and
25 the mantel-piece *b*, provided with channels *c* and vertical grooves *h h*, of the fender *l*, screen *k*, arranged in front of the fender, cords *m m'*, pulleys *n n'*, and weights *o o'*, substantially as described, and for the purpose set forth.

THOMAS JONATHAN SUGGS.

Witnesses:

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