

(No Model.)

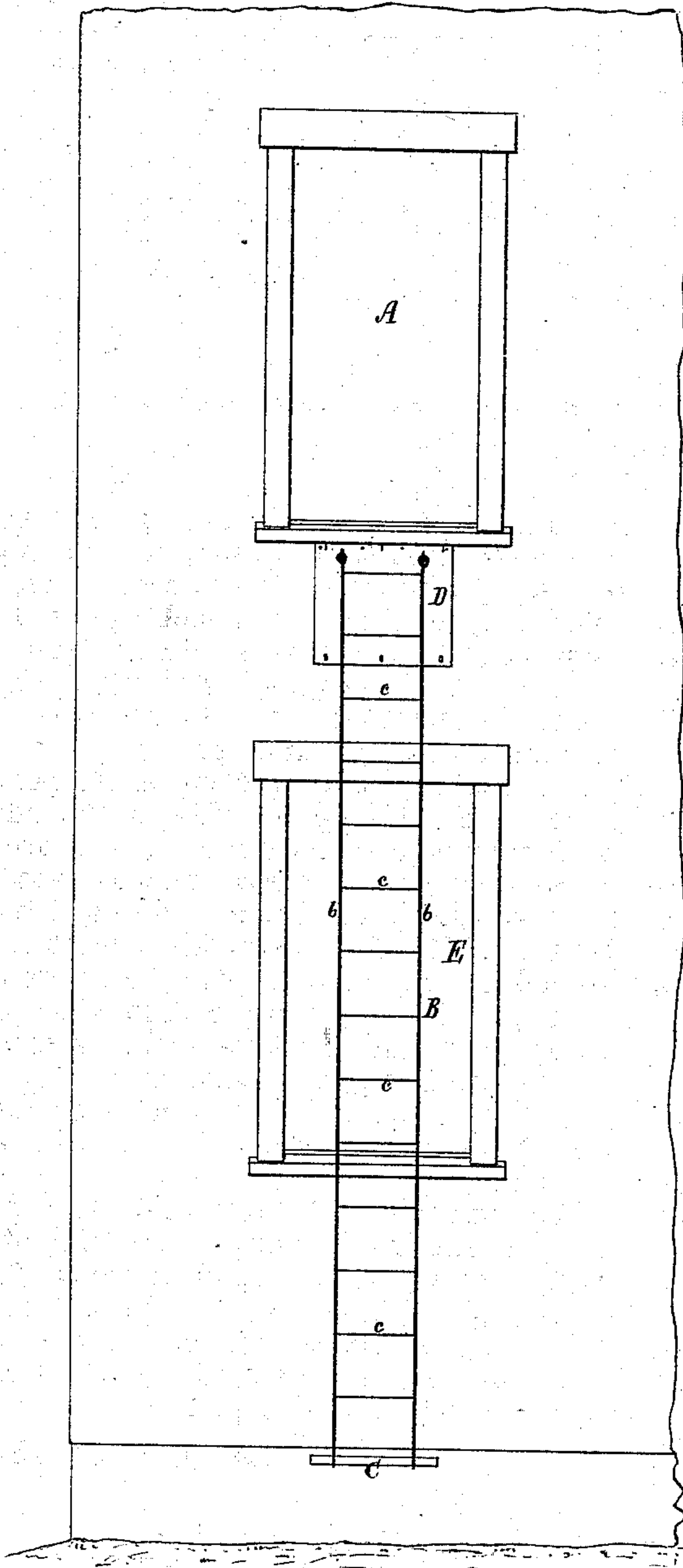
W. CHASE.

FIRE ESCAPE.

No. 278,655.

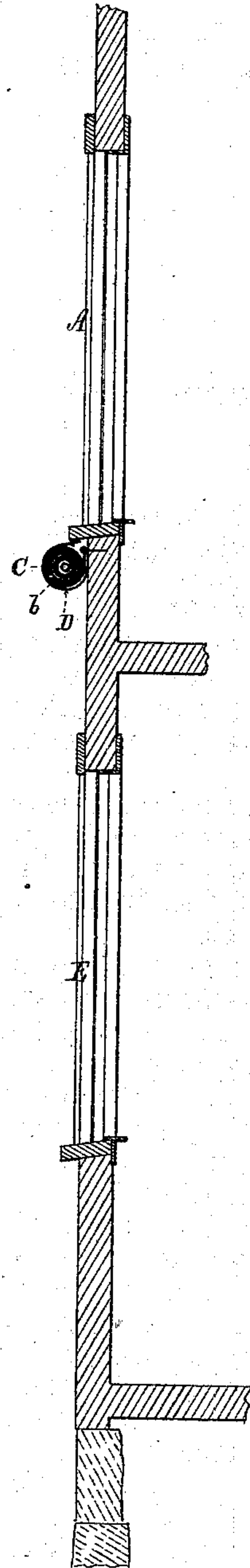
Patented May 29, 1883.

Fig. 1.



Witnesses  
S. N. Piper  
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Fig. 2.



Inventor  
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by R. H. Sady atty.

# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WHITMAN CHASE, OF NORTH DIGHTON, MASSACHUSETTS.

## FIRE-ESCAPE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 278,655, dated May 29, 1883.

Application filed March 5, 1883. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, WHITMAN CHASE, of North Dighton, in the county of Bristol, of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Fire-Escapes; and I do hereby declare the same to be described in the following specification and represented in the accompanying drawings, of which—

10 Figure 1 is a front elevation of a window with my fire-escape ladder applied to it and unrolled ready for use. Fig. 2 is a section showing the ladder in a folded state and covered by its shield.

15 The nature of my invention is defined in the claim hereinafter presented.

In the drawings, A denotes the window of a building, and *a* the sill of the frame of such window. A ladder, B, composed of two long  
20 ropes, or, by preference, chains, *b b*, and of rungs *c c*, &c., of metal or other suitable material, is at its upper end to be firmly attached to the window-sill, or to the building immediately below such. At its lower end the ladder  
25 is fixed to a heavy rod or bar, C. On revolving this bar the ladder may be wound around it and up to the window-sill, which having been done a flexile metallic shield or cover, D, fixed to the building below the sill and de-  
30 pending therefrom, is to be turned up around the roll and hooked or otherwise properly secured to the sill. This shield serves not only as a protector to the ladder, to prevent the ac-

cumulation of ice or snow upon it, or it being otherwise clogged or injured, but as a means 35 of holding it rolled up ready for use when occasion may require. On unhooking the shield from the sill the ladder will immediately unroll and fall into position, as shown in Fig. 1, the shield serving to keep it more or less out 40 of contact with the building.

In case of the building being on fire, persons therein can easily escape by way of the ladder. After having drawn the ladder upward through 45 the window the rod or bar C may be seized by the hands and revolved, so as to wind the ladder around it and up to the sill. When down, the ladder may extend by one or more windows, E, below the upper one, in which case it may answer as a fire-escape for persons in 50 the stories having such windows.

I do not claim a flexile or folding ladder, such being very old; but

I claim—

The combination of the ladder fastened at 55 its upper end to a building, or to a window-sill thereof, with a flexile shield arranged therewith, as set forth, and with a heavy rod or bar attached to the opposite or lower end of such ladder, all being substantially and to operate 60 as and for the purpose explained.

WHITMAN CHASE.

Witnesses:

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