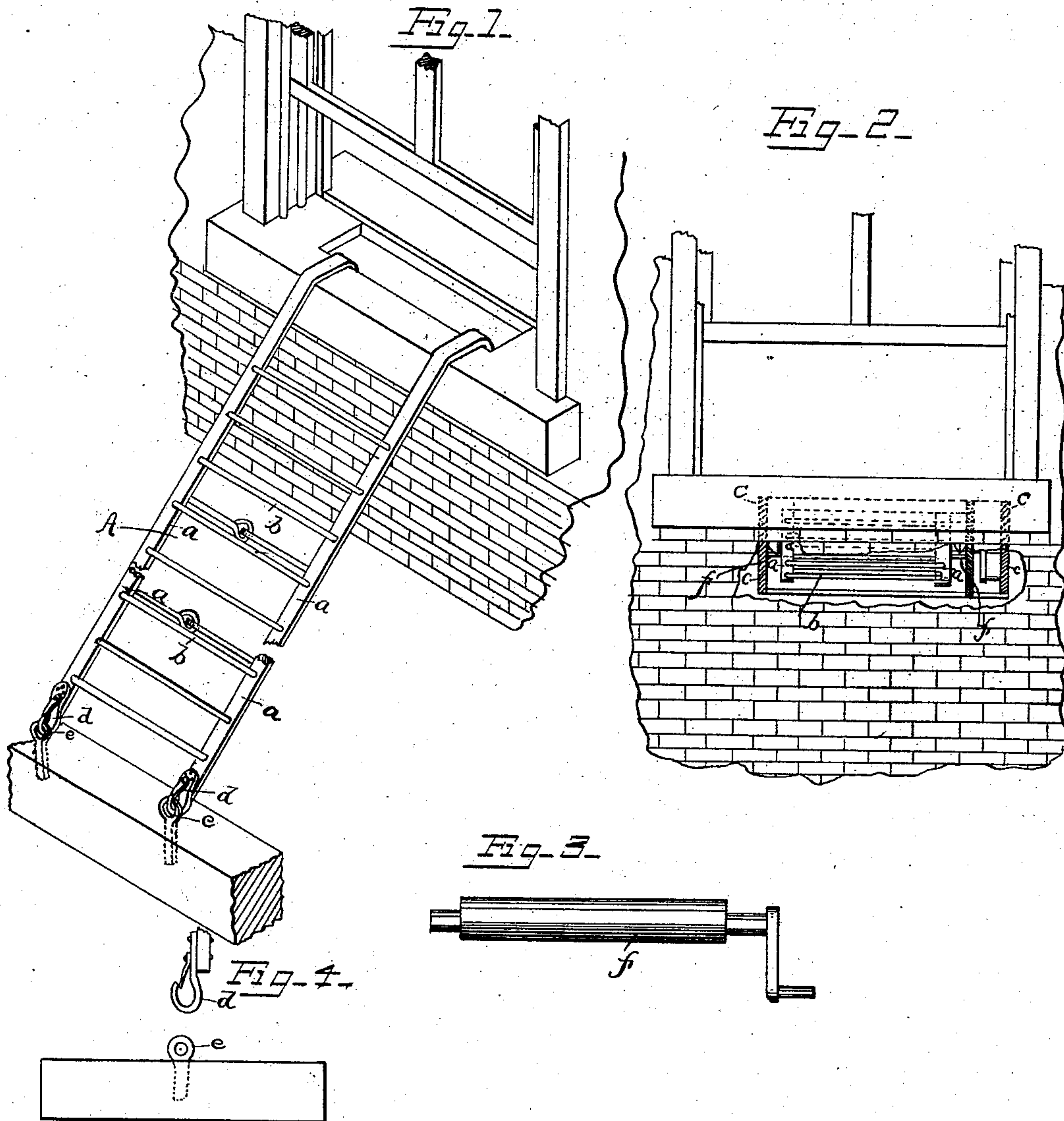


(No Model.)

A. J. BARTLETT.
FIRE ESCAPE LADDER.

No. 292,531.

Patented Jan. 29, 1884.



WITNESSES
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ANDREW J. BARTLETT, OF ELK FLAT, OREGON.

FIRE-ESCAPE LADDER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 292,531, dated January 29, 1884.

Application filed October 2, 1883. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ANDREW J. BARTLETT, a citizen of the United States, residing at Elk Flat, in the county of Union and State of Oregon, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Fire-Escapes, of which the following is a specification, reference being had therein to the accompanying drawings.

My invention relates to improvements in fire-escapes; and it consists in the peculiar construction and arrangement of the ladder and its attachments, as fully described and shown hereinafter in the specification and claims.

The objects of my invention are, first, to provide every outside room of a building with a flexible ladder extending from the window-sill to the street below, and arranged to be readily attached to the sidewalk or curbing of the street; and, secondly, to arrange a convenient receptacle for the ladder when it is not required to be used as a fire-escape, and yet have the same where it cannot be misplaced or missing in case of need. These objects I attain in the manner illustrated in the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a view of a ladder extending from the window and attached to the curbing ready for use. Fig. 2 shows the same wound or coiled in the box or receptacle in the window-sill. Figs. 3 and 4 are views showing the roller or shaft around which the ladder is rolled and the method of attaching the lower end of the ladder to the curbing.

A is the ladder, constructed of two flexible metallic or leather straps, *a*, and having a series of cross-bars, *b*, securely attached to the straps *a*. These cross-bars *b* are made of strong wire passing through the straps *a* and having the ends bent back to meet each other where they are looped together, thus making each rung of the ladder double. The upper end of the ladder is secured to an iron roller or shaft, *f*, journaled in a receptacle or hollow box, *c*, sunk in the window-sill, which receptacle is of size sufficient to contain the ladder when rolled or wound around the shaft *f*, as it is when out of use. A lid or cover conceals the wound ladder and the roller, which latter is provided at one end with a removable crank

to wind it up. The lower or free ends of the straps *a* of the ladder are provided with snap-hooks *d*, which are arranged to fasten into rings *e*, let into the curbing of the sidewalk or street below. As the ladder is of length just sufficient to extend from the window-sill to the curbing, it will, when attached, provide a gentle incline which a child or infirm person can readily descend, and even if no attachment is made, it can still be descended quite as easily as an ordinary ladder. The double rungs afford a firmer hold for the hands and feet, especially for children.

When not in use, the ladder is wound upon the shaft, the crank is removed and placed in the receptacle with the ladder, the lid is closed, and the whole device is at hand when needed, but yet entirely out of the way and concealed, so that no storage-room is required, while at the same time it is impossible for the ladder to be missing in the event of its being suddenly required.

In case of fire the occupant of the room raises the window, opens the receptacle, and drops the free end of the ladder to the street below. It unwinds from the roller by its own weight, and when it reaches the ground it is attached to the rings in the curbing, forming an incline, and the occupant descends. The foot of the ladder being attached to the curbing at some distance from the building, in case of fire in the lower stories persons descending from above will be clear of flames and smoke coming out of the windows below; or the ladder may be swung still farther out and held, which will make the incline still easier to descend.

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

1. A fire-escape ladder consisting of two flat leather or metallic side pieces, *aa*, attached to and rolled around the shaft or roller *f*, which is secured in a receptacle opening through the window-sill, said side pieces being connected by a series of double wire rungs, and the lower end of each side piece having attached a snap-hook arranged to fasten in a ring secured to the curbing of the street, all as described.

2. The combination of the shaft or roller *f*,

secured in a receptacle opening through the window-sill, said shaft being provided with a removable crank, with the side pieces, *a a*, the double wire rungs or steps *b*, the snap-
5 hooks *d*, and the attaching-rings *e*, the latter secured in the street-curbing, all substantially as described.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature in presence of two witnesses.

ANDREW J. BARTLETT.

Witnesses:

D. MERRITT,
S. L. THOMPSON.