

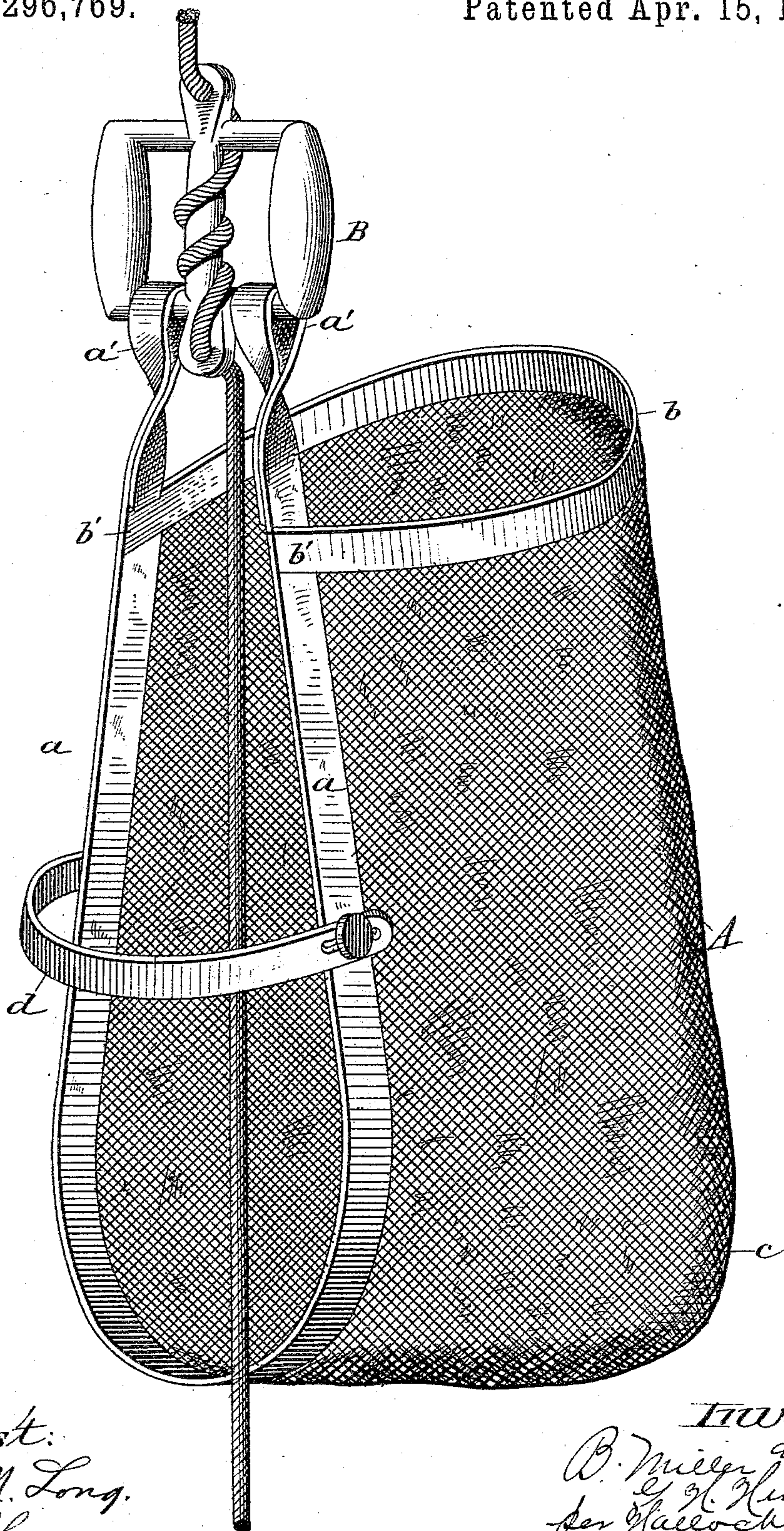
(No Model.)

B. MILLER & G. H. HUME.

FIRE ESCAPE SLING.

No. 296,769.

Patented Apr. 15, 1884.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

BENEDICK MILLER AND GEORGE H. HUME, OF PAOLA, KANSAS.

FIRE-ESCAPE SLING.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 296,769, dated April 15, 1884.

Application filed June 22, 1883. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that we, BENEDICK MILLER and GEORGE H. HUME, citizens of the United States, residing at Paola, in the county of Miami and State of Kansas, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Fire-Escape Chairs or Slings; and we do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same.

Our invention relates to slings for fire-escapes.

The object of our invention is to provide a sling that will combine all the elements of safety necessary for the proper conveyance of parties descending on the escape, and the same time be cheap, durable, easily managed, and provided with no complicated parts that are liable to get out of order when the device is most needed.

To that end the nature of our invention consists of constructions and combinations, all as will hereinafter be set forth in the description, and pointed out in the claim.

Referring to the drawing, which represents a perspective view of our device attached to a fire-escape patented to George H. Hume, A represents the sling or chair, which consists of a supporting-strap, *a*, a back strap, *b*, a net or canvas, *c*, and a front safety-strap, *d*.

The supporting-strap *a* is provided with loops *a'*, which are attached to the lower bar of the fire-escape frame B. These loops are made of sufficient length to permit of their being drawn over the side bars or handles, so that when necessary the sling can be slipped to the opposite side when the frame has been inverted. The strap is preferably made in one piece; but it is obvious that various constructions could be used without departing from our invention.

The back strap, *b*, is attached to strap *a* at *b'*. This strap may be made of any suitable material, but should be sufficiently strong to bear the pressure exerted by the back of the person seated in the sling.

Attached to the strap *a* and back strap, *b*,

by any suitable means is the net *c*. This net is formed in substantially the shape shown in the drawing, and is designed to hold a person as though seated in a flexible arm-chair. The net-work may be of any design, as we lay no claim in this application to its peculiar construction. Canvas may be used in place of the net.

If desired, a front safety-strap, *d*, may be used on the device. This strap may be permanently attached by one end to one side of the strap *a* and buttoned on the other, as shown, or be buttoned on both sides. It is obvious that many other means may be used for holding or attaching the strap *d* to strap *a*, and we therefore do not limit ourselves to the exact construction.

By using such a sling it is plain that women, children, or any persons, even the most timid, can be safely carried.

We are aware that a sling having a strip which forms supporting and back strap and passing through an eye at a point between the back and front pieces is old, and to this we make no claim. Our device differs from that form in that our supporting-strap is provided with loops which permit the sling to be transferred from the lower end of the frame to the upper without removal. The back-strap is also attached to the supporting-strap at a point below the loops, so that there will be no swinging upon the bar, as would be the case in the device referred to above. Therefore

What we claim as new is—

A fire-escape sling having a supporting-strap provided with loops for the purpose set forth, and a front strap, a back strap attached to the front strap below the loops, and a net or canvas sack attached to the back and supporting strap, substantially as described.

In testimony whereof we affix our signatures in presence of two witnesses.

BENEDICK MILLER.
GEORGE H. HUME.

Witnesses:

D. M. FERGUSON,
J. C. TAYLOR.