

(No Model.)

G. RYER.
FIRE ESCAPE.

No. 303,055.

Patented Aug. 5, 1884.

Fig. 1.

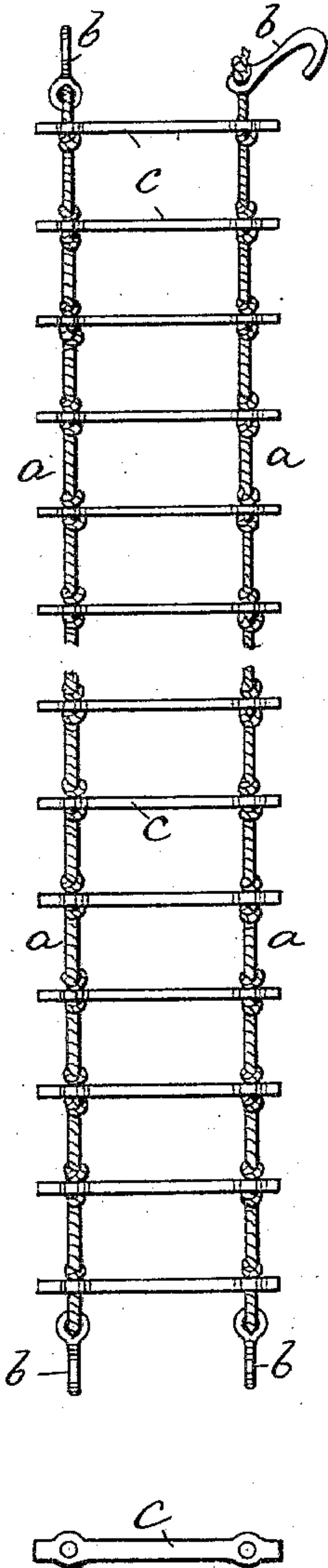
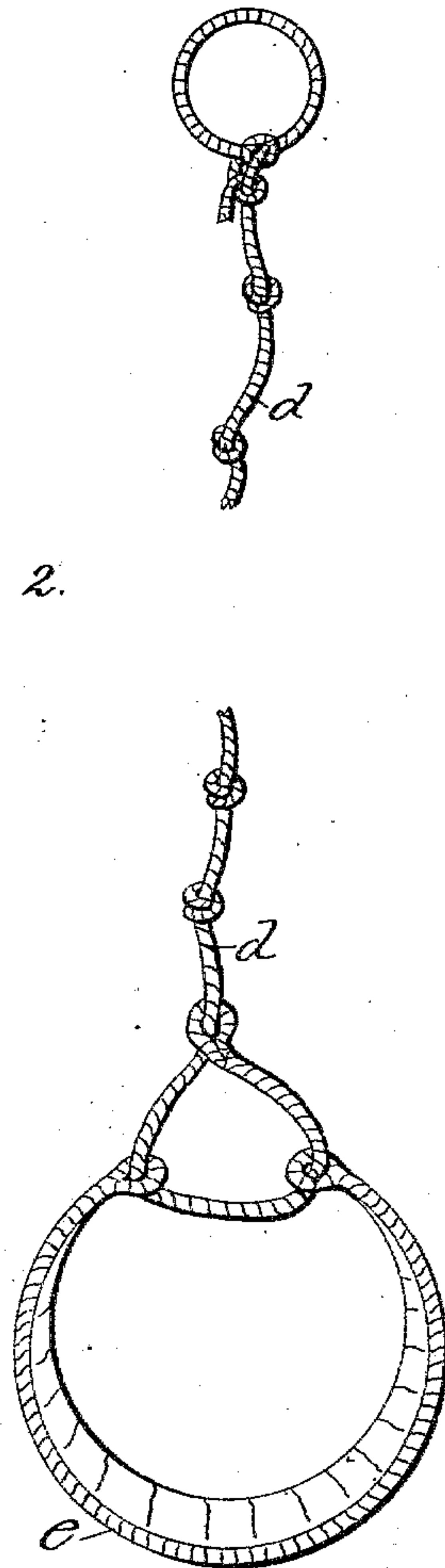


Fig. 2.



Witnesses.

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FIRE-ESCAPE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 303,055, dated August 5, 1884.

Application filed February 26, 1883. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, GEORGE RYER, of Rocky Hill, in the county of Hartford and State of Connecticut, have invented a certain new and useful Improvement in Fire-Escapes, whereof the following is a description, reference being had to the accompanying figures, where—

Figure 1 is a view of the ladder and a rung. Fig. 2 is a view of the device used with the ladder.

The letters *a a* denote two ropes, preferably of fibrous material, made fire-proof, and by preference also water-proof, and provided at the ends with hooks *b*, for taking hold of a window-sill or the like. Both ends may have such hooks, if desired.

The letters *c* denote the rungs of a ladder made of some material which is stiff in distinction from material that is pliable like a rope. In the present case they are made of wood with holes near the ends, through which the ropes *a* pass, which ropes are knotted on both sides of each rung, so as to hold the rungs in place.

I deem it essential that the ropes of this ladder should be of fibrous material, in order that they may be very flexible, so that the contrivance may be carried in a portmanteau or stored under the bed; and in connection with such fibrous ropes it is essential that the rungs be made of some stiff material—as wood or the like—so that when a person steps upon a rung the two ropes at the sides shall not be drawn together. The hooks at the end are essential that the device may be attached to the inside of a window-sill, or to any convenient object in a bed-chamber.

In Fig. 2 I show a device for use in connection with the ladder, which is shown in Fig.

1, the fact being that most women and children and many timid men and boys could hardly be got to descend a ladder without some other protection. This device I am now about to describe affords such protection. It consists of a knotted rope, *d*, looped at the upper end, so that a person in the chamber may get a good grasp of it. The knots permit the person who is descending the ladder to get a good grasp of the rope. At the lower end thereof there is a padded strap, *e*, for encircling the person about the waist or under the arms, with loops at the end, through which the lower end of the loop *d* is slip-noosed, so that a pull on the rope gives the padded strap a firm embrace of the person who is descending the ladder. This device I intend to be used in conjunction with the ladder shown in Fig. 1, when a weak or timid person is descending. The padded strap *e* is slip-noosed under the waist. The person descending may or may not take hold of the knots in the rope. The upper end of the rope is held meanwhile by a person in the room above, who pays out the rope as the person on the ladder descends.

I claim as my improvement—

1. The padded safety-strap *e*, combined with a slip-noosed and knotted rope, *d*, all substantially as described, and for the purpose set forth.

2. The combination of the ladder and the device composed of the padded strap *e* and slip-noosed and knotted rope *d*, all substantially as described, and for the purpose set forth.

GEORGE RYER.

Witnesses:

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