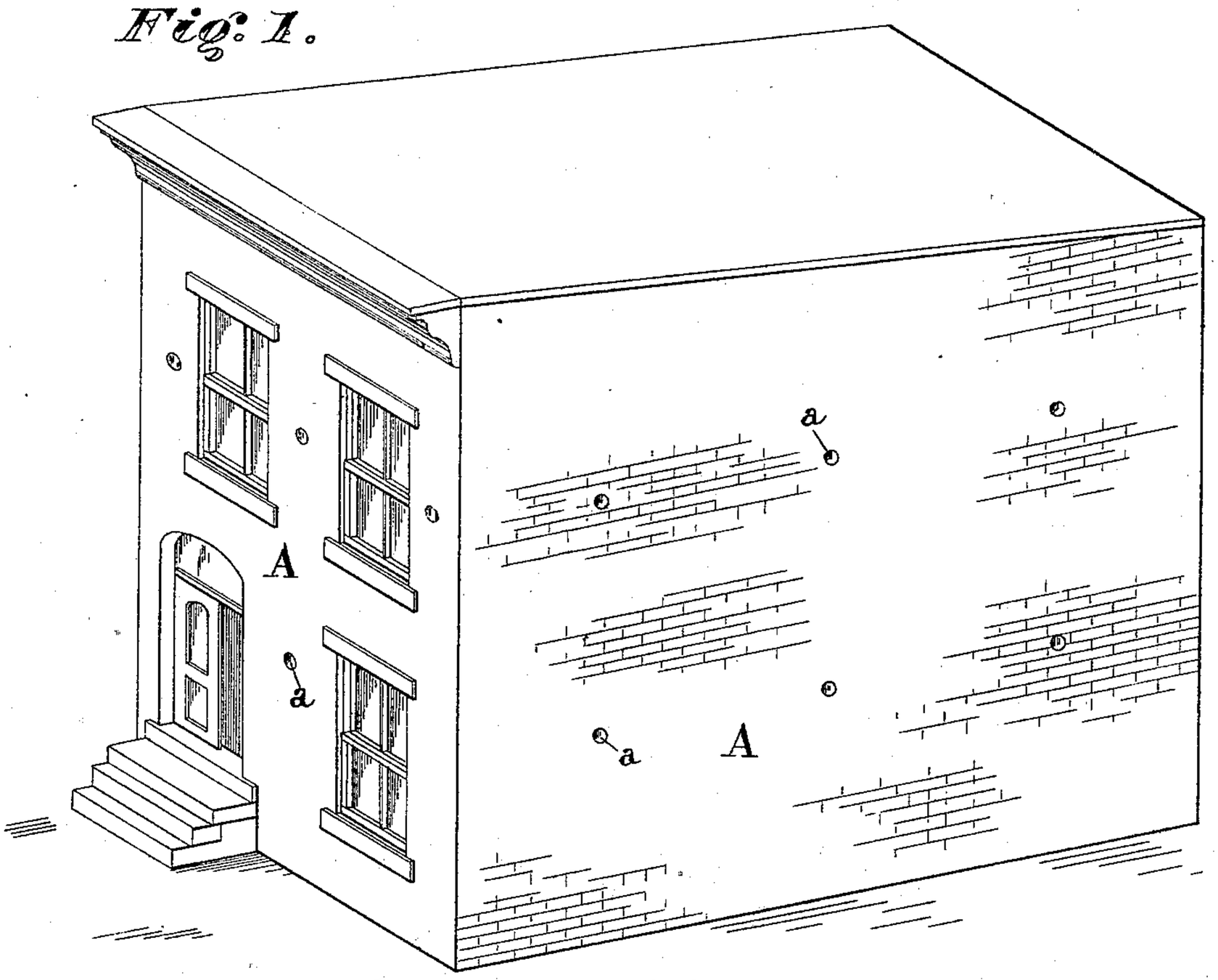
(No Model.)

H. EPPELSHEIMER.

MEANS FOR OBTAINING ACCESS TO FIRES IN BUILDINGS.

No. 369,636. Patented Sept. 6, 1887.

Fig. 1.



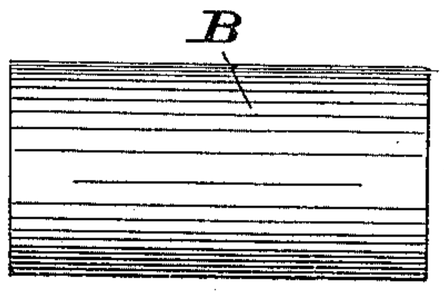


Fig. 2.

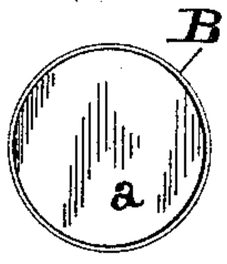


Fig. 3.

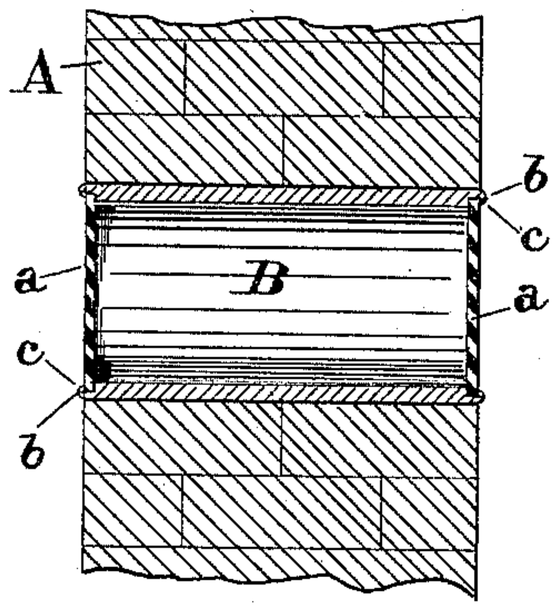


Fig. 4.

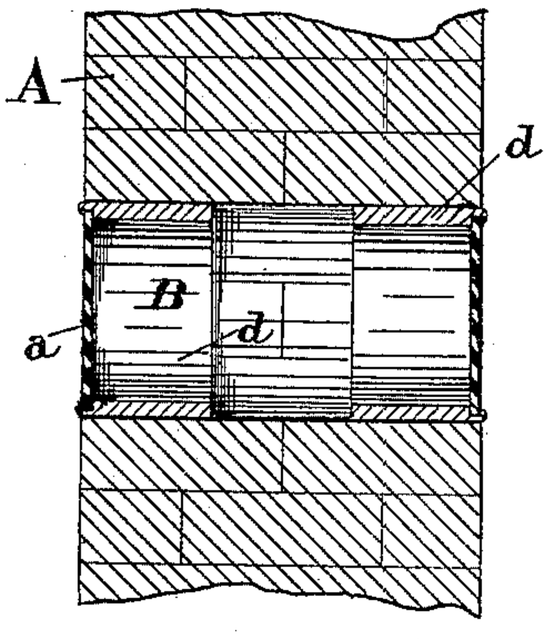


Fig. 5.

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MEANS FOR OBTAINING ACCESS TO FIRES IN BUILDINGS.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 369,636, dated September 6, 1887.

Application filed May 7, 1887. Serial No. 237,409. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, HENRY EPPELSHEIMER, a citizen of the United States, residing at New York, in the county of New York and State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Means for Obtaining Access to Fires in Buildings, of which the following is a specification.

Heretofore in the event of fire occurring in a closed building the firemen, in order to obtain access, would break in either windows or doors, or both, to gain admittance for the hose-nozzle. The disadvantage of this procedure is that a draft of air is at once admitted, which greatly increases the flames.

This invention therefore relates to a fire-hose port or opening for the walls of buildings, the object of which is to provide a ready means of access in case of fire for the pipe of fire-hose, the construction being such that while the hose-nozzle may readily be entered through the wall, the opening will not be large enough to admit any great volume of air to augment the flames within.

The invention is illustrated in the accompanying drawings, in which Figure 1 is a view of a building, showing the hose-nozzle ports applied to the walls. Fig. 2 is a side view of one form of the port. Fig. 3 is an end view of the same. Fig. 4 is a section of a wall and a port in position in the wall. Fig. 5 is a section of a wall and a port of modified construction.

The hose-nozzle ports consist of small openings in the wall A and closed by glass plates *a*. The size of the opening may vary according to the thickness of the wall. For instance, for a nine-inch wall the opening may be from four to six inches in diameter, and for thicker walls the size of the opening may be increased, the object being to have the size sufficient to admit the hose-nozzle, and also afford a sight or inspection of the fire, but to avoid having the port so large as to admit any considerable air-draft. It will be seen, also, that these ports are too small to afford an entrance for thieves.

The construction of the fire-hose port comprises a frame, tube, or thimble, B, having a neck of any suitable shape to fit tight in the opening in the wall, and having a rabbet, *b*, to receive the glass *a*, which may be secured to its position in any suitable or convenient manner—for instance, by putty, *c*. The tube, frame, or thimble B may be made of wood, metal, or stone.

In Fig. 5 the port is shown as comprising a short neck, *d*, which fits in the wall-opening far enough to secure it to its position, and the glass *a*, attached to the said neck, is flush with the surface of the wall. A metal neck and a glass of this form may be fitted in the opening at either one or both sides of the wall.

The preferred way of constructing the fire-port is shown in Fig. 4. Here a tube, B, passes through the wall A, and said tube constitutes the opening through the wall. At each end of the tube a glass plate, *a*, is attached, and said glasses are flush with the outer and inner surfaces of the wall, respectively. The two glasses thus separated inclose the space through the wall and prevent the accumulation in the tube or opening of dirt, and thus the tube or opening in the wall is kept in the most favorable condition for inspecting a fire and for admitting a hose-nozzle. Another advantage of two glasses with a space between is that in case of fire if one be accidentally broken the other will keep the opening closed.

In the event of fire in a building thus provided the glazed fire-ports will afford a sufficient inspection to enable the firemen to locate the fire, and then with the end of the hose-pipe nozzle the glass may be punched out and the hose-pipe introduced for throwing water.

I am aware that a door has been provided with a peep-tube having at each end glasses, the outer one being of colored glass, the inner glass being covered with a pivoted disk; also, that said peep-tube is made tapering at its outer end, so that it can be wedged in an opening or hole of a door, and I do not claim such a device, my construction of a tube being substantially of a uniform diameter and of a length corresponding to the thickness of the wall in which it is designed to be inserted, for the purpose herein described.

Having described my invention, I claim and

desire to secure by Letters Patent of the United States—

In a building, the wall thereof provided with a port or ports, as described, said ports being of a size adapted to admit a hose-nozzle and permit inspection of a fire within and exclude free drafts of air, said ports being also normally closed by a frangible and translucent glazing, and unobstructed by other covering, as and for the purposes set forth.

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

HENRY EPPELSHEIMER.

Witnesses:

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