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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

MAURICE J. HART, OF NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA.

FIRE-ESCAPE AND WATER-TOWER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 373,658, dated November 22, 1887.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, MAURICE J. HART, of New Orleans, in the parish of Orleans and State of Louisiana, have invented a new and
5 Improved Fire-Escape and Water-Tower, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description.

Reference is to be had to the accompanying drawings, forming a part of this specification,
10 in which similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts in both the figures.

Figure 1 is a side elevation of my improved fire-escape, and Fig. 2 is a horizontal section taken on line *x x* in Fig. 1.

15 The object of my invention is to construct a fire-escape which may remain permanently fixed in the streets, and which will also answer the requirements of a water-tower in extinguishing fires.

20 My invention consists in a tower formed of four corner-posts inclined toward each other and connected together at intervals by braces and floors or platforms, the tower being provided with movable bridges for establishing
25 connections with the buildings and furnished with a stand-pipe with lateral branches for conveying water to different heights for fire-extinguishing purposes.

30 At the intersection of the streets are located towers A, which are formed of four corner-posts, D, resting upon the pavement at the street corners near the curbstone, and connected by platforms E, arranged at suitable intervals; also, a platform secured to the upper
35 ends of the posts D. Below the lower platform E the posts are connected by arches G, which spring from the bases of the posts and reach over the street H, the said arches being sufficiently high to permit of the passage
40 through them of any vehicle. The towers A are of sufficient height to reach above the top of the highest building in their vicinity to permit of forming connections with the roofs for escape in case of fire and to allow of throwing
45 water downward upon the buildings when necessary.

The posts D are made of angle or star iron, the platforms E are made of bar and sheet iron, and the panels of the tower are stiffened
50 by braces *a*, extending diagonally across the tower.

To one of the posts D of the tower is secured a water stand-pipe, M, which extends to the top of the tower, and is provided at intervals with branches *m*, for receiving hose for
55 conveying the water for extinguishing fire, and the lower end of the pipe M is adapted to receive a hose connected with a fire-engine or other source of water under pressure.

The platforms E are provided with bridges 60 N, of sufficient length to reach to buildings adjacent to the tower. These bridges in case of fire are let down, so as to furnish a means of escape to the occupants of the buildings. The bridges also enable the firemen to approach
65 the building and furnish a convenient support for the hose. When not in use, these bridges are folded up and locked to the sides of the tower. One of the posts D is provided with pins *n*, arranged at suitable intervals to form
70 a ladder, by which the ascent and descent of the tower are made. In the upper portion of the tower, in the center thereof, is arranged a ladder, which extends through the several upper platforms E.

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

1. A fire-escape tower formed of the corner-posts D, platforms E, connecting the corner-
80 posts, and the braces *a a*, extending diagonally across each frame of the tower, substantially as specified.

2. A fire-escape tower formed of the corner-
85 posts D, one or more of which are provided with the projecting pins or steps *n*, the platforms E, connecting the corner-posts, and the braces *a*, extending diagonally across each frame of the tower, substantially as herein shown and de-
90 scribed.

3. The combination, with the tower A, formed of the posts D and platforms E, of the water-supply pipe M, provided with branches
95 *m*, substantially as shown and described.

4. The combination, with the tower A, pro-
vided with the platforms E, of the bridges N, substantially as shown and described.

MAURICE J. HART.

Witnesses:

A. S. PERKINS,
CHAS. S. RICE.