

(No Model.)

V. LEBER.
FIRE ESCAPE.

No. 527,529.

Patented Oct. 16, 1894.

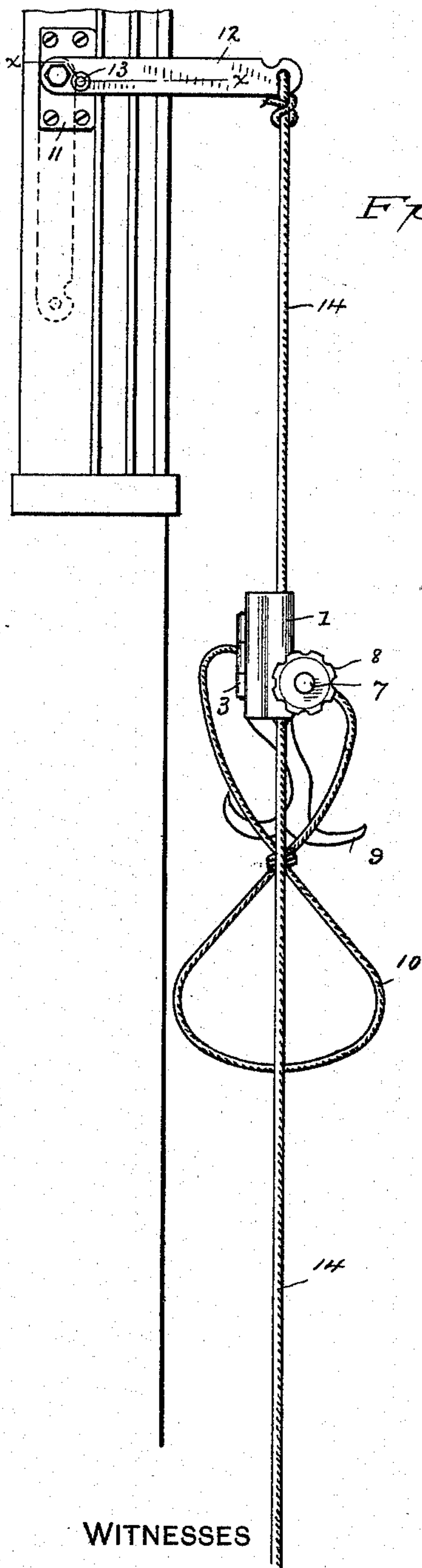


Fig. 1.

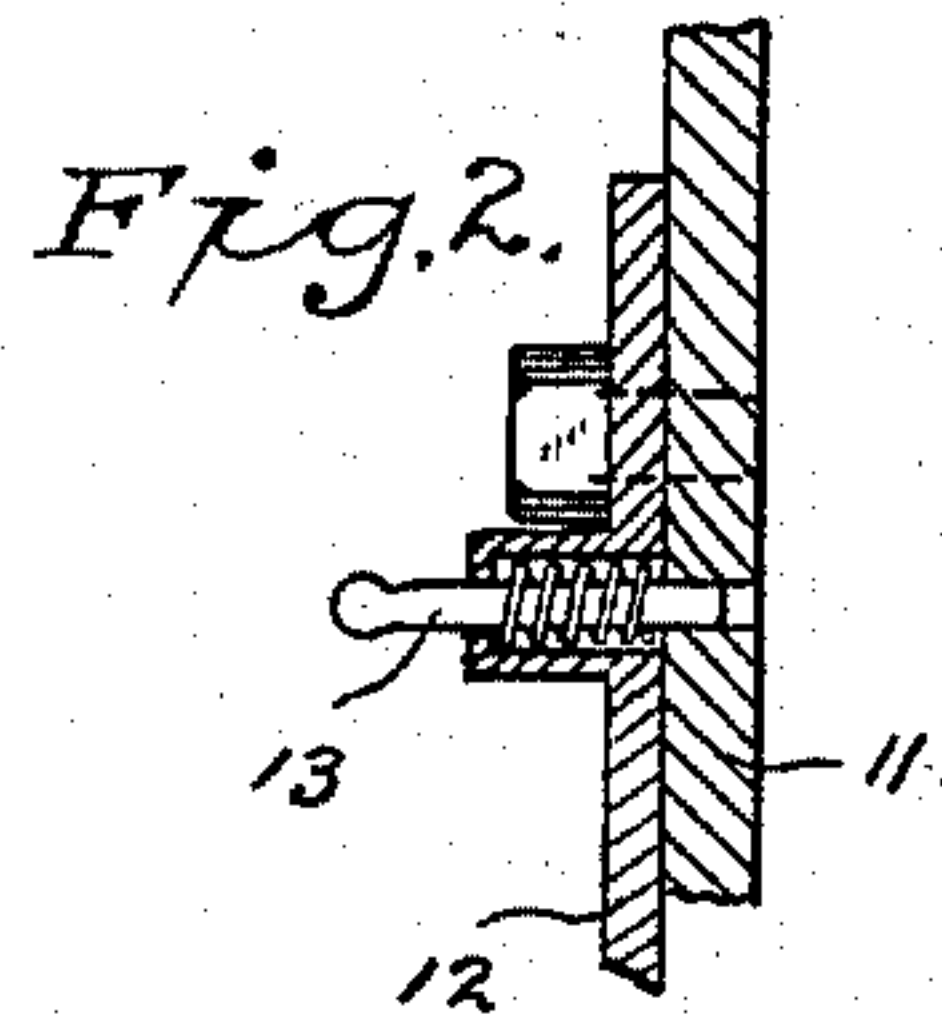


Fig. 2.

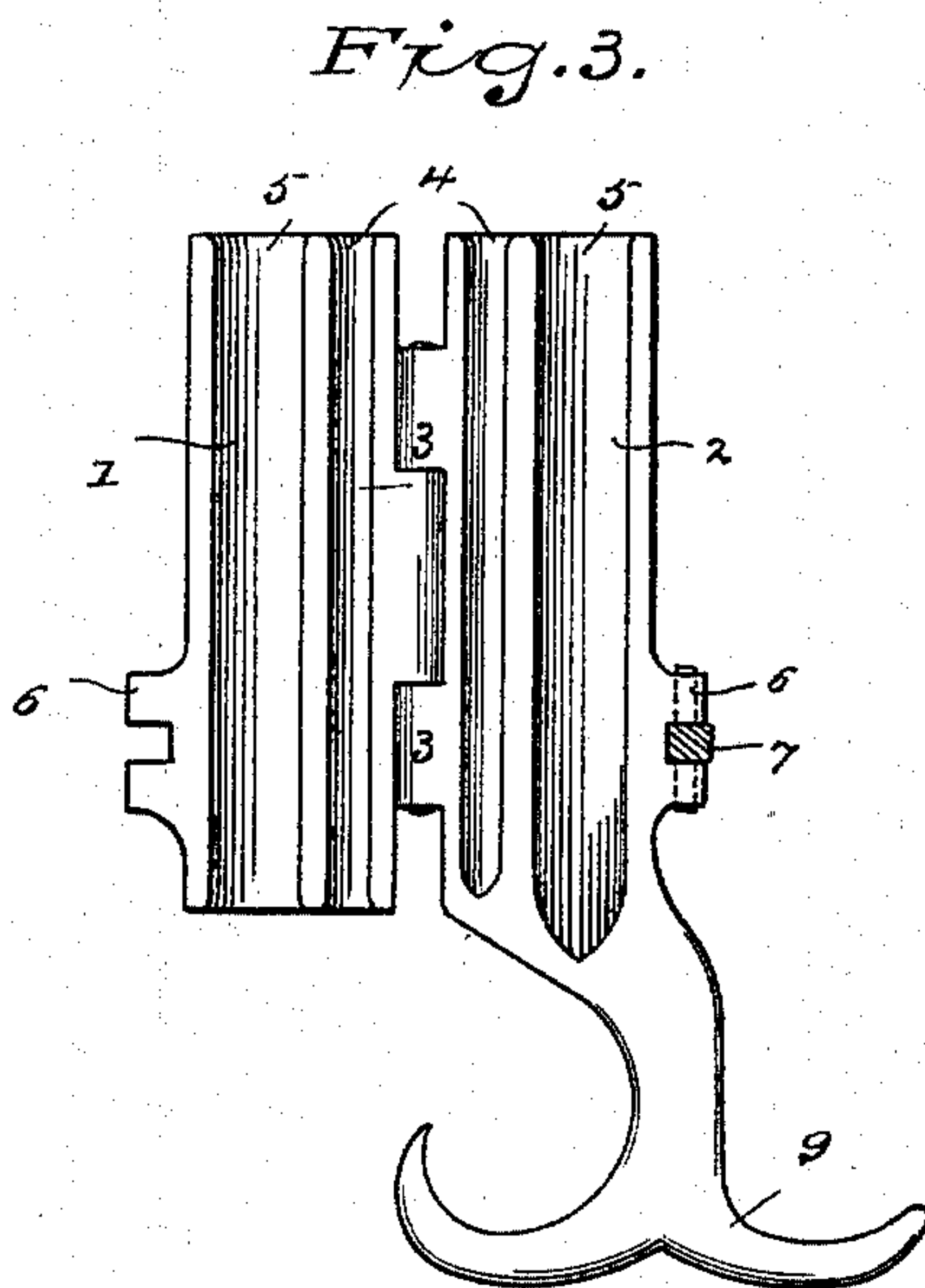


Fig. 3.

Fig. 4.

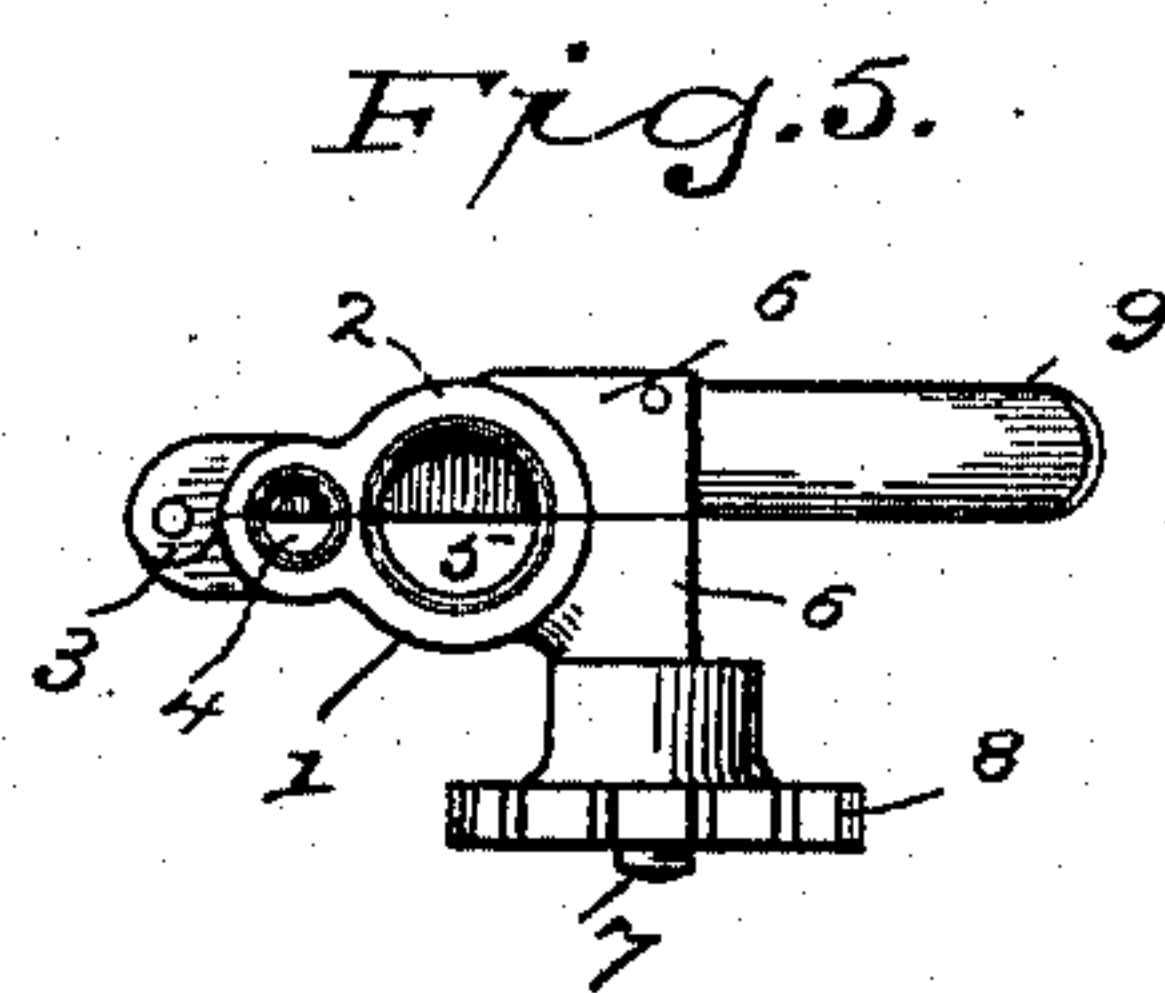
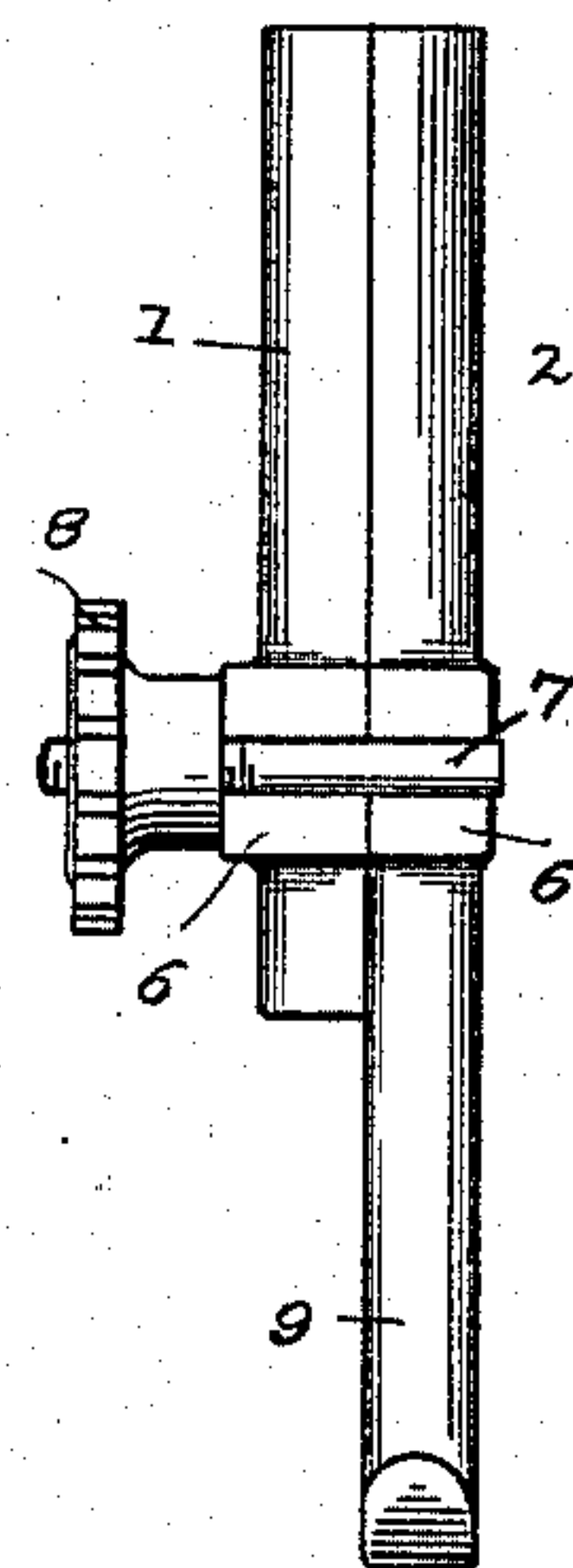


Fig. 5.

WITNESSES

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INVENTOR

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

VICTOR LEBER, OF DANBURY, CONNECTICUT, ASSIGNOR, BY MESNE ASSIGNMENTS, OF ONE-HALF TO HENRY H. TURNER, OF SAME PLACE.

FIRE-ESCAPE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 527,529, dated October 16, 1894.

Application filed January 8, 1894. Serial No. 496,050. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, VICTOR LEBER, a citizen of the United States, residing at Danbury, in the county of Fairfield and State of Connecticut, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Fire-Escapes; and I 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.

My invention has for its object to provide a practicable and inexpensive portable fire escape which may be packed in small compass so as to require but little room in a traveler's trunk or bag, which will weigh but little and which shall be so simple and safe in its mode of operation that there shall be no reasonable possibility of a person failing to make it work properly in an emergency.

With these ends in view I have invented the novel device which I will now describe, referring by numbers to the accompanying drawings forming part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 is an elevation showing the manner of use; Fig. 2, a section on an enlarged scale on the line $x x$ in Fig. 1 looking down; Fig. 3, an elevation showing the parts of the clamp in the open position, the locking lever being in section and the finger wheel removed; Fig. 4, an edge view showing the parts in the closed position, and Fig. 5 is a plan view the parts being in the closed position.

My novel fire escape consists essentially of a clamp of peculiar construction which is adapted to slide upon a rope and to be readily controlled by the person making use of it. With it in practice I frequently use a loop of peculiar construction. A rope of suitable length, the clamp and the loop are packed in small compass and in convenient shape for the use of travelers. The clamp consists of two parts 1 and 2 which are hinged in any suitable manner as at 3. Both parts of the clamp are provided with half grooves 4 and 5 which register with each other when the parts are in the closed position as in Fig. 5 and form complete grooves to receive different sizes of rope. I preferably provide two

different sized grooves as by that means I make the clamp readily usable on any sized rope from the smallest that would support the weight to one upward of an inch in diameter. At the top of the clamp the edges of the grooves are preferably rounded as clearly shown in Figs. 3 and 5 so as to avoid wear upon the rope at this point, it being contemplated that friction be applied to the rope at but one place and that in such a manner that while the rope shall be clamped firmly unnecessary wear upon the rope shall be avoided. This I accomplish by causing grooves 4 and 5 in part 2 to run out, that is to say, the grooves in part 2 become shallower near their lower ends and finally run out at the surface on the inner face of said part as clearly shown in Fig. 3 in connection with Fig. 5. By this means I am able to get a perfectly firm bite upon the rope when the parts of the clamp are locked together. Both parts of the clamp are provided with lugs 6 between which a locking lever 7 is adapted to swing. This locking lever is pivoted to one of the parts, in the present instance part 2 and in the locking position lies between the two pairs of lugs as clearly shown in Fig. 4. The outer end of the lever is threaded to receive a finger wheel 8 which is adapted to be turned up against the outer face of the lugs on part 1 thereby locking the parts of the clamp together and causing them to grip a rope firmly.

9 denotes a double hook which I preferably provide at the lower end of one of the parts, in the present instance part 2 which is adapted to be grasped by the hands of the user or to which a suitable loop may be attached.

I contemplate furnishing with the clamps a double loop 10, see Fig. 1, which is shown in said figure in the position it would occupy in use. In use the operator would pass both legs through the lower loop so as to sit upon it and would then pass his head and one arm through the upper loop. The double hook would then engage the upper loop in front of the user at about the point indicated in Fig. 1.

Where my novel fire escape is placed in permanent use for example in hotels, dwell-

ing houses, factories, &c., I rigidly secure on the inner side of the window casings plates 11 on which are hinged arms 12 adapted to be locked in the extended position by bolts 13 or in any suitable manner.

The rope 14 may be kept permanently attached to the arm or may be quickly knotted thereto at the time of use.

When not in use arms 12 lie wholly out of the way in the position indicated by dotted lines in Fig. 1.

Having thus described my invention, I claim—

1. A device of the class described consisting of two parts 1 and 2 suitably hinged together, the inner faces of said parts being provided with half grooves 4 and 5, the half grooves in one of the parts running out on the inner faces thereof so that a firm bite may be had upon the rope, and suitable means for

locking the two parts together and causing them to clamp a rope.

2. A device of the class described consisting of a clamp made in two parts suitably hinged together, the inner faces of said parts being provided with half grooves to receive ropes, the half grooves in one of said parts running out at the surface on the inner face so as to get a firm bite upon the rope and one of said parts being provided with a double hook 9 to carry a loop in use, and suitable means for locking the parts together and causing them to clamp a rope.

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

VICTOR LEBER.

Witnesses:

HENRY QUIEN,
CHRISTIAN QUIEN.