(No Model.)

W. MÜLLER.

FIRE ESCAPE.

No. 589,569. Patented Sept. 7, 1897.

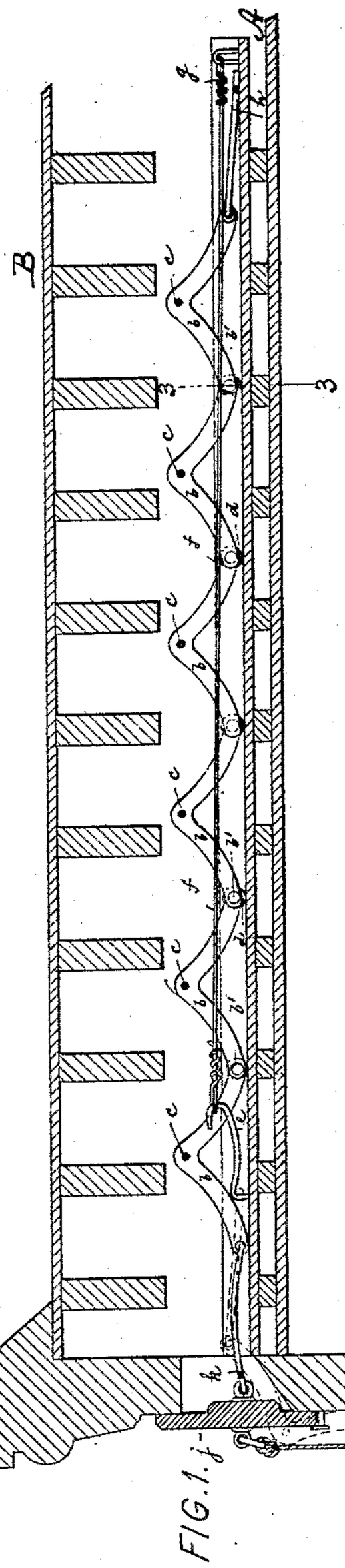

FIG. 1.

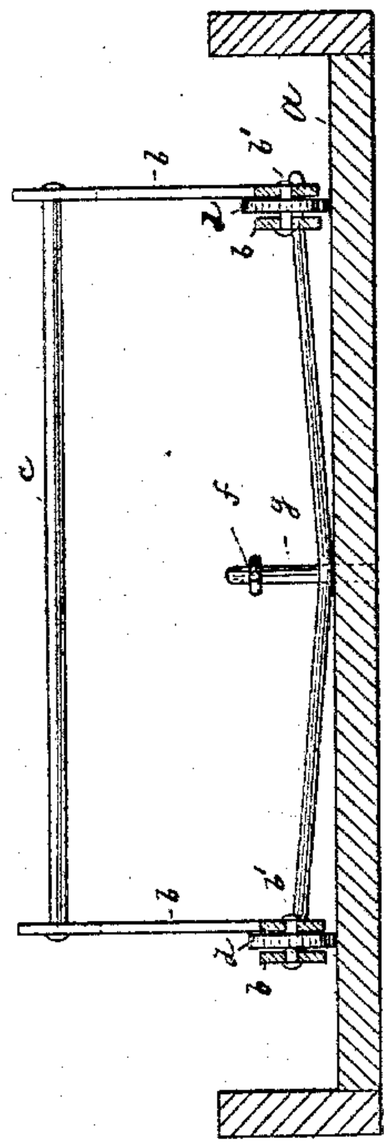

FIG. 3.

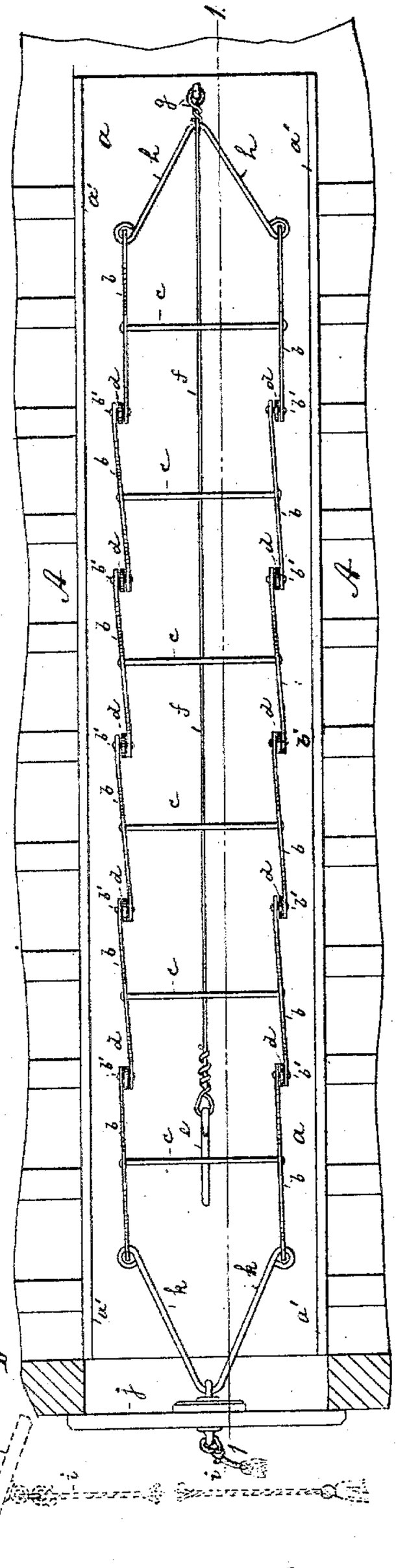

FIG. 2.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WENDELIN MÜLLER, OF NEWARK, NEW JERSEY.

FIRE-ESCAPE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 589,569, dated September 7, 1897.

Application filed May 10, 1897. Serial No. 635,768. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WENDELIN MÜLLER, of Newark, county of Essex, and State of New Jersey, have invented an Improved Fire-Escape, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to a fire-escape which is designed to be permanently secured to a building, preferably beneath the roof, and which may be drawn down in case of fire, so as to provide ready and reliable means of escape.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is a vertical longitudinal section of my improved fire-escape on line 1 1, Fig. 2. Fig. 2 is a plan, and Fig. 3 an enlarged cross-section on line 3 3, Fig. 1.

Upon the top of a ceiling A and preferably beneath the roof B of a building I place a track *a*, having flanged longitudinal edges *a'*. The track *a* serves to support a sliding ladder, the side pieces of which are made sectional and are composed of angular links *b*, connected at their lower ends by pivots *b'*, while the apex of each link *b* carries the round *c*. Upon each pivot *b'* there is mounted between every pair of links *b* a friction-roll *d* to permit a free sliding motion of the ladder along the track. To the forward end of track *a* there is secured the doubly-bent hook or stop *e*, which serves for the attachment of one end of a central guide-wire *f*, that extends longitudinally between the links and beneath the rounds *c* to a staple *g* at the rear of the track. The rearmost pair of links *b* are connected by a bent cross-arm *h*, which projects beneath the longitudinal wire *f*. The forward end of the ladder is connected to a pull-rope *i*, which may be attached to a panel *j*, that closes an opening in the wall D, the panel being in turn attached to the ladder by bent wire *k*.

Ordinarily the panel *j* is closed and the ladder rests upon the track *a*. In case of fire a pull on rope *i* will open the panel and will at the same time draw the ladder forward along the track until its rear cross-arm *h* comes into engagement with the lower bend of hook *e*, when the ladder will become arrested and suspended from said hook ready for use. While the ladder is thus drawn forward the longitudinal wire *f* will guide the cross-arm *h* toward the lower bill of the hook, so that an ultimate engagement between hook and cross-arm is insured.

It will be seen that my improved fire-escape is simple in construction, reliable in operation, and ready for instant use.

What I claim is—

In a fire-escape the combination of angular links with rounds at the apexes of the links, a cross-arm connecting the rearmost pair of links, a guide extending longitudinally between the links beneath the rounds and above the cross-arm, and a stop to which the forward end of the guide is secured, substantially as specified.

WENDELIN MÜLLER.

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