(No Model.)

M. KOLOSEUS.

FIRE ESCAPE.

No. 604,989. Patented May 31, 1898.

Fig. 1.

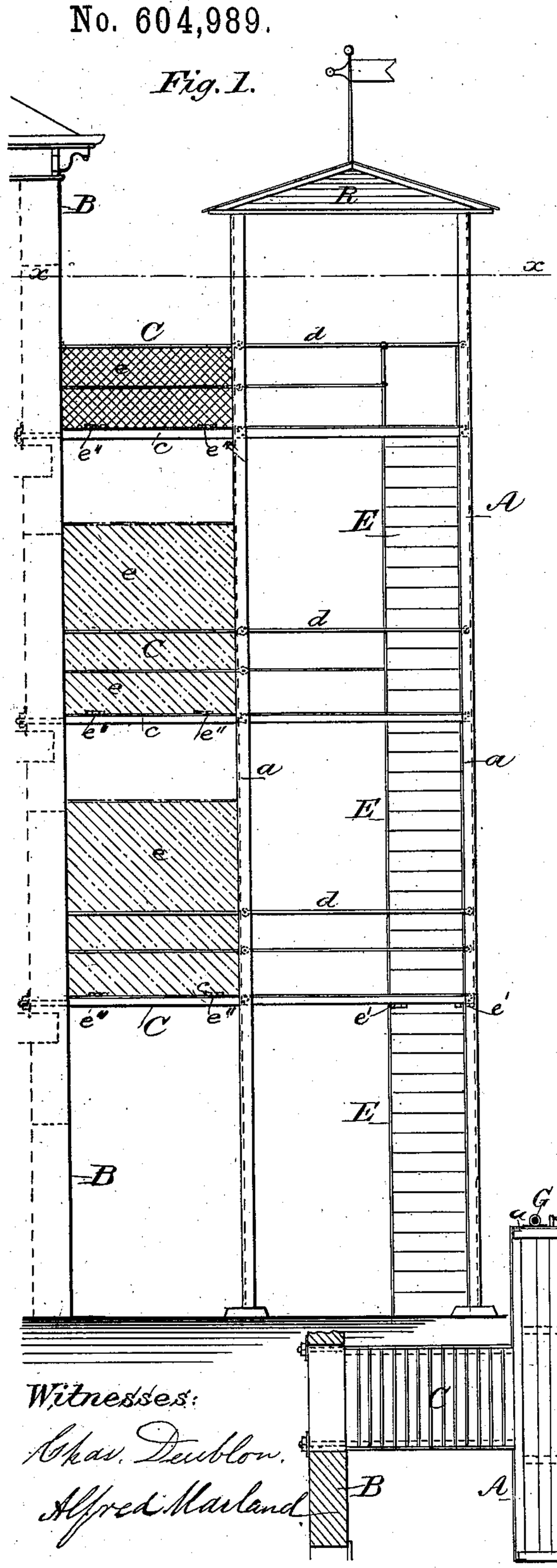


Fig. 2.

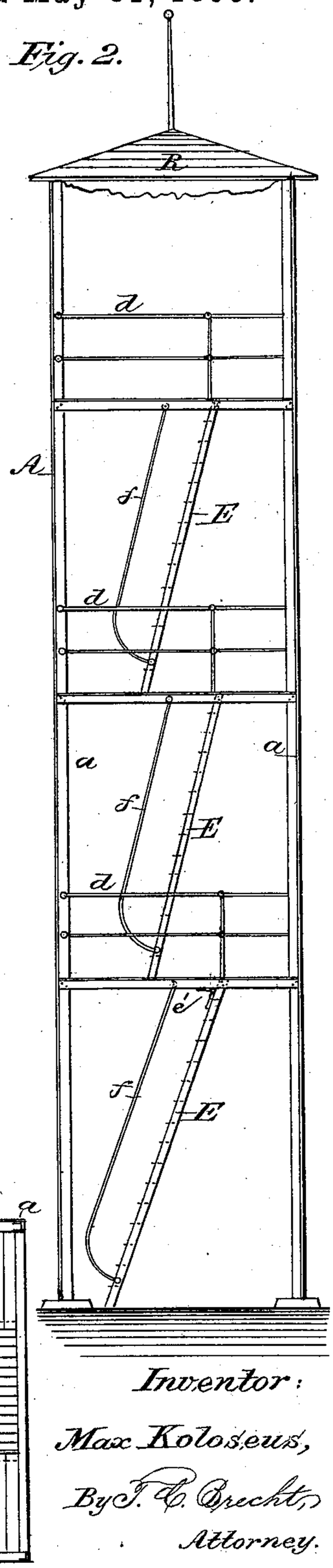
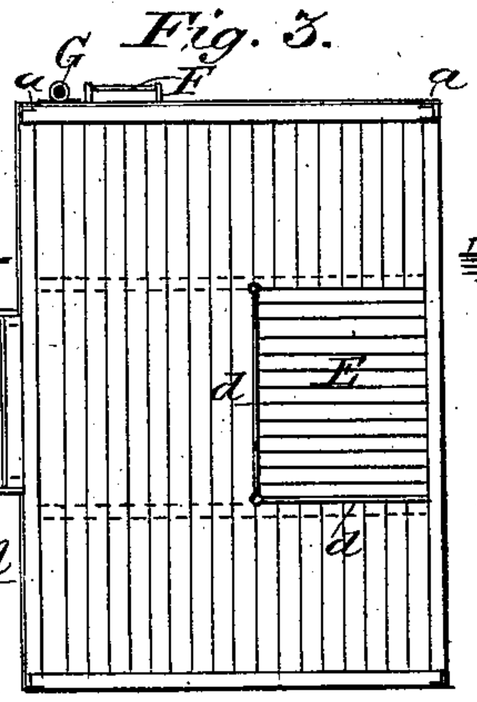


Fig. 3.



Witnesses:
Chas. Deublow.
Alfred Maland

Inventor:
Max Koloseus,
By F. C. Brecht,
Attorney.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

MAX KOLOSEUS, OF CHICAGO, ILLINOIS.

FIRE-ESCAPE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 604,989, dated May 31, 1898.

Application filed December 30, 1897. Serial No. 664,578. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, MAX KOLOSEUS, a citizen of the United States, residing at Chicago, in the county of Cook and State of Illinois, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Fire-Escapes; and I do 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, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and to the letters of reference marked thereon, which form a part of this specification.

My invention relates to that class of fire-escapes in which a tower is arranged at a distance from a building and provided with bridges connected to said building, and stairs in the tower, and employed for the escape of the occupants from a burning building.

The objects of my invention are to produce ready and accessible means of escape in case of fire in schools for the school-children or in factories of any kind for the escape of the employees, as well as in case of hotels, theaters, hospitals, or any other buildings containing a large number of persons desiring a ready and expeditious exit from a burning building; also, to furnish this ready exit so that it can be produced in a very inexpensive but at the same time very secure and safe manner, and, finally, that it will not deteriorate or mar the appearance of the building.

With these ends in view my invention consists in the peculiar construction of certain details and the arrangement of parts, as will be more fully described hereinafter and specifically pointed out in the claim, reference being had to the accompanying drawings and the letters marked thereon.

Like letters indicate similar parts in the different figures of the drawings, in which—

Figure 1 represents a side view of my improved fire-escape with the covering removed. Fig. 2 is a cross-section of Fig. 1. Fig. 3 is a horizontal section on line *x x* of Fig. 1.

In the accompanying drawings, A represents the main part or tower of my improved fire-escape, which is preferably made of angle-iron posts *a*, T-irons, or their equivalent, and there may be four, six, or more such posts, according to the size and strength required. This tower is provided with a roof R and is securely fastened to a foundation and is arranged at a considerable distance from the side or wall of a building B, whether it be a school, theater, hospital, hotel, insane asylum, manufactory, or any other kind of building containing a large number of children, people, or employees of any kind who in case of a fire desire to escape easily and safely from the building. This tower is connected to the building, of any kind, by a series of bridges C, arranged to correspond with the level of every floor of said building and communicate with it through suitable doors or openings. These bridges C are made of angle-irons *c* or equivalents and are firmly riveted, bolted, or otherwise connected to the uprights of the tower at one end and to the wall of the building at the other end. Said bridges are provided with sheet-iron or other metal or wooden floors and have metal railings *d*. Between the railings and the floors of the bridges C wire screens *e* or their equivalents are arranged to prevent any possibility of fire or flames reaching a person passing along the bridges.

The tower is to be inclosed or covered with sheet-iron or its equivalent to prevent flames from a burning building entering, although any other equivalent fireproof material may be employed. From one floor to the other are arranged suitable ladders or stairs E, which are also provided with railings *f*, so that the descent or ascent can be accomplished with perfect safety within the tower, and it may be desirable for the firemen who serve in extinguishing of the fire to ascend or descend, as necessity requires, with perfect safety and convenience.

To prevent any person being injured or burned by flames in passing along the bridges, I arrange between the floors and the railings of the bridges, as stated, wire screens *e* of suitable mesh, which may be extended over the top and sides to form complete gangways. This is a very important feature of my invention, although, if desired, curtains of similar or equivalent fireproof material may be arranged for the same purpose.

The lower steps or ladder may be hinged, as at *e'*, to the floor, so that when not in use they

may be out of the way and prevent ascent and to be lowered only in case of fire, when required.

If desired, a ladder F may be arranged on the outside of the tower for use of firemen, and a stand-pipe G, with branches and valves for hose, may be placed near one corner of the tower. Instead of angle-irons at the corners or intermediately, T-iron pipes or tubes, and, if desired, water circulated through them, may be employed. The treads of the steps may be made of cast-iron, steel, or wood. The latter being more safe and comfortable may be used and can be arranged in any suitable manner. The tower may be made rectangular, square, octagonal, or other suitable shape.

The floors of the bridges can be made of wire screens supported by cross-bars, and they may be hinged to one side of the frame of the bridges, as at e'', and usually secured to the railings of said bridges and lowered in case of fire only. This prevents snow or ice accumulating on them in case of winter or extreme cold weather.

The many advantages of my fire-escape will be apparent to all, and among them may be cited the following: In case of schools the children can readily pass over the bridges and descend the steps without danger. Any person can pass over the bridges without the danger of being burned. The tower, being some distance from the main building, will not become heated and the flames and smoke not affect persons ascending or descending. The firemen can more readily approach close to the fire to fight the fire, and losses by fire will be greatly reduced.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim is—

In a fire-escape, a fixed metal tower, a series of floors therein, each floor provided with an opening, a series of ladders depending from said floors, the lowermost ladder being hinged to its floor, a series of bridges secured to said tower adjacent the floors, and wire screens hinged to said bridges substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

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

MAX KOLOSEUS.

Witnesses:
CHAS. DEUBLON,
ALFRED MARLAND.