

M. FINK.
FIRE ESCAPE.
APPLICATION FILED MAY 2, 1910.

1,049,219.

Patented Dec. 31, 1912.

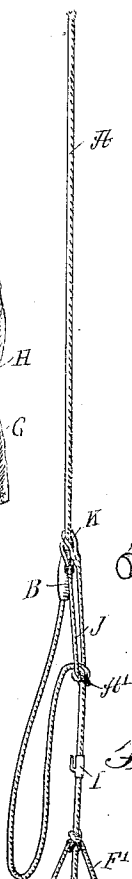
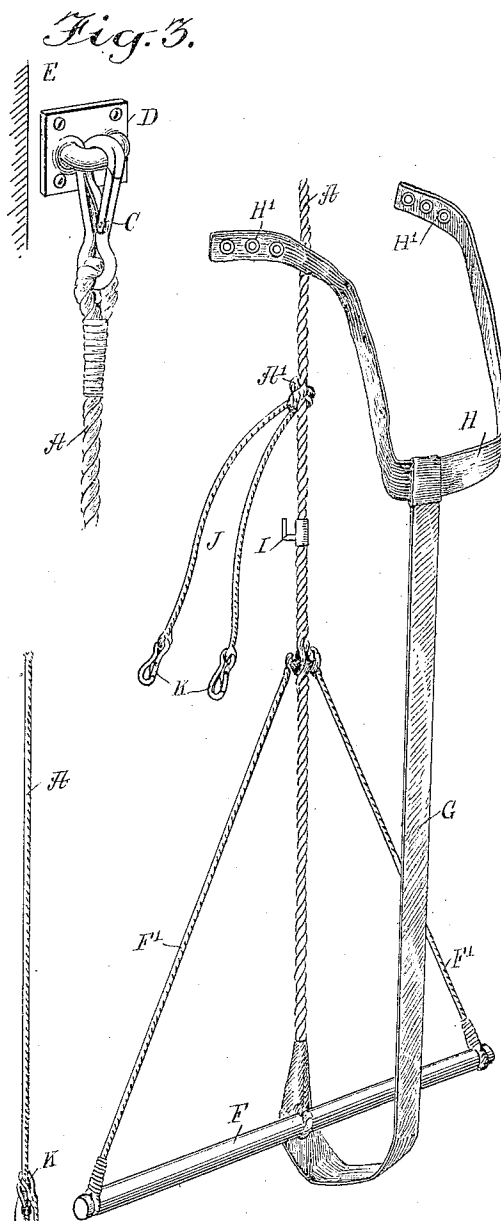
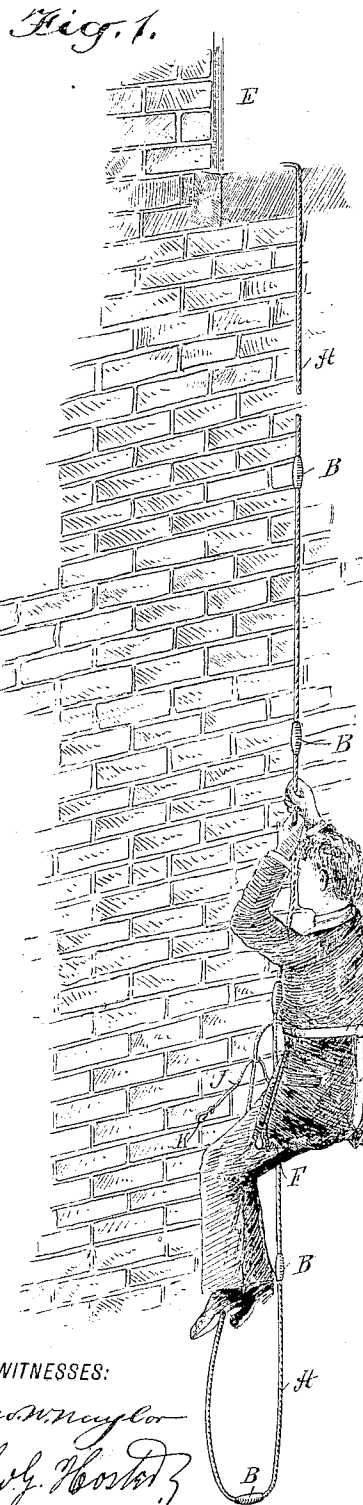


Fig. 2.

WITNESSES:

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FIRE-ESCAPE.

Patented Dec. 31, 1912.

Specification of Letters Patent.

1,049,219.

Application filed May 2, 1910. Serial No. 558,781.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, MARCUS FINK, a citizen of the United States, and a resident of the city of New York, borough of Manhattan, in the county and State of New York, have invented a new and Improved Fire-Escape, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description.

The object of the invention is to provide a new and improved fire escape, arranged to permit a person to safely lower another person or a number of persons successively from a burning building to the ground or sidewalk, and to allow persons to lower themselves, and without danger of injury by falling or by striking the ground or sidewalk on being lowered, or in case the person should loosen his grip.

For the purpose mentioned, use is made of a rope for attachment at the upper end to a fixed holder, located at or adjacent to a window or other opening, and a supporting harness permanently secured to the lower end of the rope and adapted to be attached to the person intending to escape from the burning building.

A practical embodiment of the invention is represented in the accompanying drawings forming a part of this specification, in which similar characters of reference indicate corresponding parts in all the views.

Figure 1 is a perspective view of the improved fire escape as applied; Fig. 2 is a perspective view of the lower end of the rope provided with the harness; Fig. 3 is a perspective view of the upper end of the rope and the holder for the same; and Fig. 4 is a perspective view of the means for shortening the rope at the lower end thereof. A rope or cable A is provided with spaced hand holds B, and on the upper end of the rope A is arranged a snap hook C, adapted to engage a holder D attached to the building at or adjacent to a window E or other opening, so that the rope A can be thrown out of the window or other opening to hang down on the outside of the building toward the ground or sidewalk. On the lower end of the rope A is secured a seat bar F, connected at its ends by flexible braces F' with the rope A a distance above the seat bar F, as plainly indicated in Fig. 2, and from the lower end of the rope A at the middle of the seat bar F extends a back strap G, provided at its free end with a waist band H, adapted to pass around the waist of the

person seated on the seat bar F. The free ends of the waist band H have suitable fastening devices H' for closing the waist band on the person. The front of the waist band is adapted to be engaged with a hook I, slidable on the rope A above the connection of the braces F' with the rope A, so that when a person is seated on the seat bar F and the waist band H is attached to the waist of the person and hooked onto the hook I, then the person is safely held in place in the harness thus provided, and can be readily lowered from a window or other opening, or the person can slide down the rope A and when the person reaches the lower end of the rope the person will be within a short distance of the ground or sidewalk.

It is to be understood that when a person is to slide down a rope, the rope is doubled upon itself as shown in Fig. 1, so that a person seated in the sling can by taking hold of the rope let himself down. As the rope does not reach to the ground or sidewalk, should the person lose his hold on the rope, he will be prevented by the sling, from striking the ground or sidewalk.

In case the rope is too long, that is long enough to reach to the ground or sidewalk the lower end thereof is shortened, and for this purpose a flexible connection J, in the form of a rope or cable, is attached at the middle to a knot A' made in the rope a distance above the lower end of the rope, so as to be within convenient reach of the person making use of the fire escape at the time. The free ends of the flexible connection J are provided with snap hooks K one of which is adapted to engage the rope A above one of the hand holds B, so that the rope is shortened at the lower end, as will be readily understood by reference to Fig. 4, that is, a portion of the lower end hangs loose. It is of course to be understood that the connection J is to be engaged with the rope A for shortening the same before using the fire escape. Now by the arrangement described a person cannot possibly strike the ground or sidewalk when lowered by another person, or in gliding down the rope, even if such person should lose the grip on the rope, and hence such person is not liable to forcibly strike the ground or sidewalk and become injured. The other hook K is designed to be engaged with the rope above one of the hand holds when a person de-

scending desires to stop and rest on the way down.

It is understood that the rope is kept in a room of the building, and one rope may be used repeatedly on different windows, each of which is provided with a holder D for engagement by the snap hook C of the rope A.

The rope A is preferably rendered fire-proof, so as not to burn by flames escaping from a lower window or other part of the building.

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

1. A fire escape, comprising a fixed holder, attached adjacent to a window or other opening of a building, a rope for attachment at its upper end to the said holder, a supporting harness permanently attached to and forming part of the lower end of the said rope, the said harness being arranged for attachment to the person intending to escape from the building, and means for shortening the said rope.
2. A fire escape, comprising a fixed holder, attached adjacent to a window or other opening of a building, a rope for attachment at its upper end to the said holder, and a supporting harness permanently attached to and forming part of the lower end of the said rope, the harness having a seat bar attached to the lower end of the rope, a back strap extending from the middle of the seat bar, and a waist band at the free end of the said back strap for engagement with the person seated on the said seat bar.
3. A fire escape, comprising a fixed holder attached adjacent to a window or other opening of a building, a rope for attachment at its upper end to the said holder, a supporting harness permanently attached to and forming part of the lower end of the said rope, the harness having a seat bar attached at its center to the lower end of the rope and having its ends connected with the

rope by flexible braces, a back strap extending from the middle of the seat bar, and a waist band at the free end of the said back strap for engagement with the person seated on the said seat bar, and a hook on the rope for engagement with the waist band.

4. A fire escape, comprising a fixed holder, attached adjacent to a window or other opening of a building, a rope for attachment at its upper end to the said holder, a supporting harness permanently attached to and forming part of the lower end of the said rope, the said harness being arranged for attachment to the person intending to escape from the building, and means for shortening the rope adjacent to the harness.

5. A fire escape, comprising a fixed holder, attached adjacent to a window or other opening of a building, a rope for attachment at its upper end to the said holder and provided with hand holds, a supporting harness permanently attached to and forming part of the lower end of the said rope, the said harness being arranged for attachment to the person intending to escape from the building, a flexible connection attached to the rope adjacent to the harness, and hooks at the ends of the said connection to engage the said rope above a hand hold.

6. In a fire escape, the combination of a rope having hand-holds thereon, a harness attached to the lower end of the rope and adapted to be secured to the body of a person, and a short rope secured to the main rope above the harness and provided with a snap hook at its free end for engagement with the said main rope above a hand-hold thereof, whereby provision is made for shortening the said main rope.

In testimony whereof I have signed my name to this specification in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

MARCUS FINK.

Witnesses:

THEO. G. HOSTER,
PHILIP D. ROLLHAUS.

Copies of this patent may be obtained for five cents each, by addressing the "Commissioner of Patents, Washington, D. C."