J. Steger.

Hatchway.

No. 78,152. Patented May 19, 1868.

Fig. 1

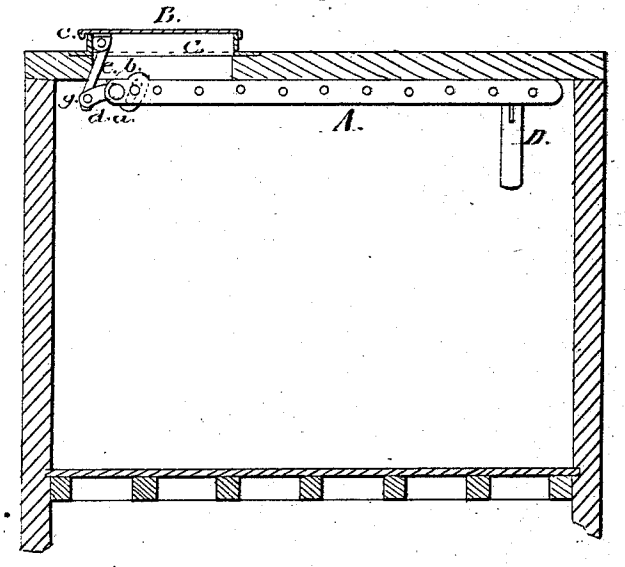
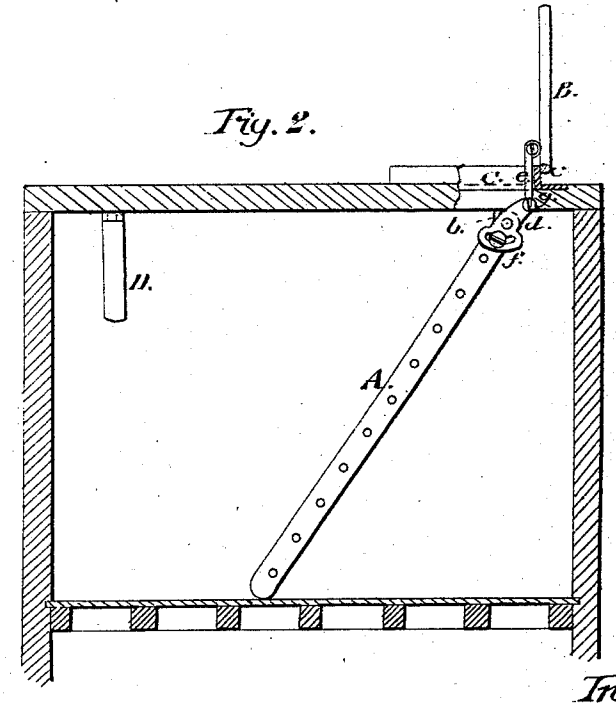


Fig. 2.



Witnesses:

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JOSEPH STEGER, OF NEW YORK, N. Y.

Letters Patent No. 78,152, *dated May* 19, 1868.

IMPROVED SCUTTLE-COVER AND LADDER.

The Schedule referred to in these Letters Patent and making part of the same.

TO ALL WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

Be it known that I, JOSEPH STEGER, of the city, county, and State of New York, have invented a new and improved Ladder and Scuttle-Cover combined; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description thereof, enabling those skilled in the art to make and use the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawing, forming part of this specification, in which drawing—

Figure 1 represents a longitudinal section of this invention when the ladder is up and the scuttle closed.

Figure 2 is a sectional side elevation of the same when the ladder is down and the scuttle open.

Similar letters indicate corresponding parts.

This invention consists in the arrangement of a lever extending from a hinged ladder to the hinged scuttle-cover of a house or vessel, in such a manner that by the act of turning down the ladder the scuttle-cover is raised, and by the act of raising the ladder the scuttle-cover is closed and locked.

When the ladder is up, it is locked by a suitable catch or fastening, and the throw or sweep of the ladder is adjusted by shifting the screw connecting said ladder to the scuttle-cover.

A represents a ladder, which is suspended from a rod, *a*, that has its bearings in suitable cars or brackets *b*, which are secured inside under the scuttle-cover B. The cover closes down over the scuttle or aperture C in the usual manner, and it is connected to the edge or rim of said scuttle by a hinge-joint, *c*, so that it can be turned down to the position shown in fig. 1, or up to the position shown in fig. 2.

From the end of the ladder extends an arm, *d*, to a lever, *e*, which is hinged to the cover B. The connection between the arm *d* and the ladder is effected by a set-screw *f*, and the connection of said arm with the lever *e* is effected by a pivot, *g*, and these connections are so adjusted that when the ladder is turned down, the cover will swing up, and if the ladder is turned up, the cover will close down.

By shifting the set-screw *f* closer to or farther from the rod *a*, which supports the ladder, the throw of the ladder can be adjusted to the height of the ceiling, or its motion can be so arranged that it swings up to the desired height, and that, when it is up, it can be reached conveniently by a person standing under the scuttle.

When the ladder is turned up, it is locked by a catch, D, and by these means the scuttle-cover is also locked down, so that it cannot be raised from the outside. The advantages of this arrangement are apparent.

In the first place, the ladder being suspended from the rod *a*, cannot be removed, and is always in position, if it is needed in case of a fire or any sudden emergency. Furthermore, when the ladder is turned up, it is out of the way, and it is secured in such a position that it cannot be reached by children; and, finally, by locking the ladder, the scuttle-cover is firmly locked against persons attempting to effect an entrance into the house from the roof.

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

1. The arrangement of a lever, *e*, connecting the ladder A and cover B, substantially as and for the purpose described.

2. The lock-catch D, in combination with the ladder A and scuttle-cover B, substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

JOSEPH STEGER.

Witnesses:

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E. F. KASTENHUBER.