(No Model.)

C. MEYER.

FIRE ESCAPE.

No. 279,175. Patented June 12, 1883.

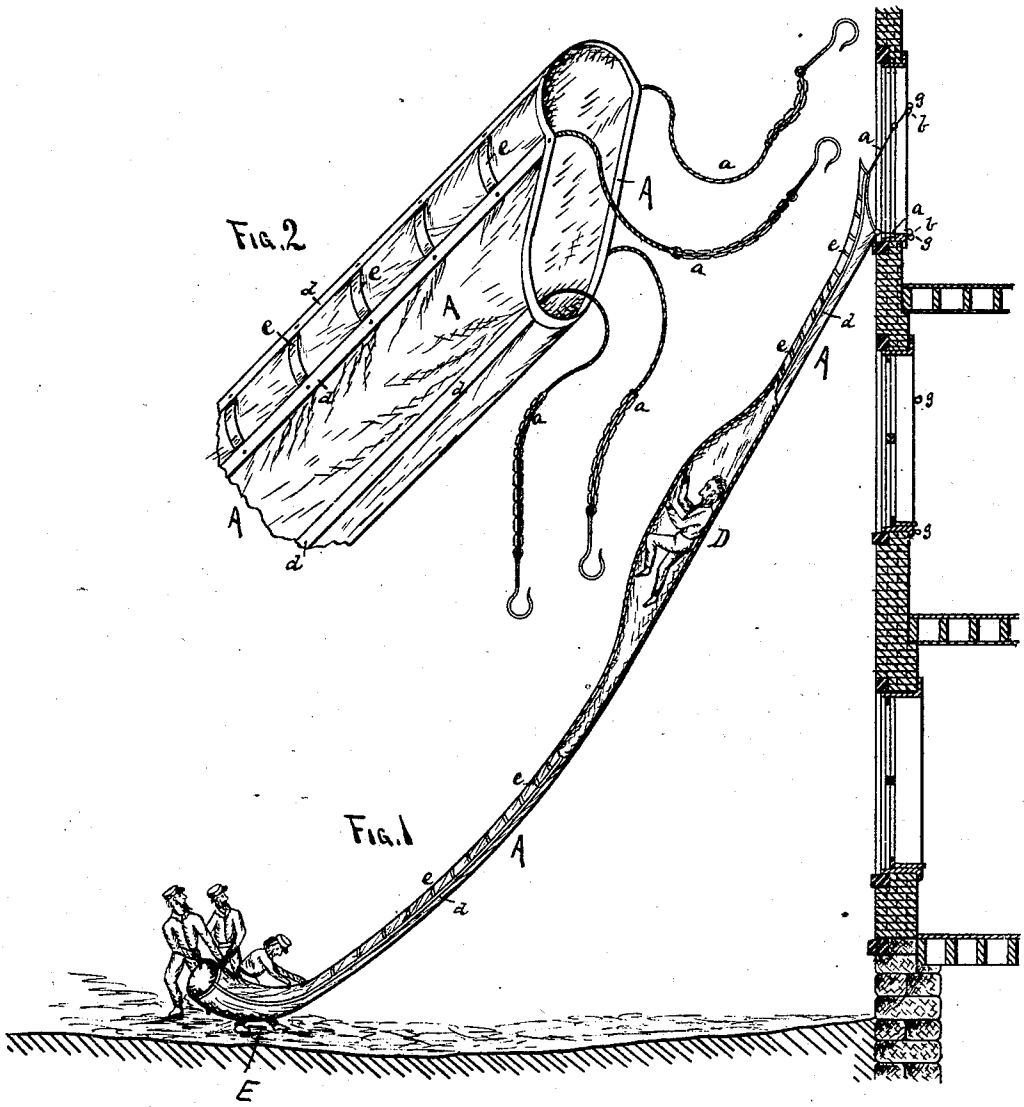
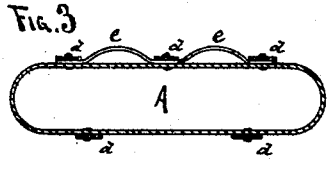


Fig. 3



WITNESSES.

H. V. Rutherford

Louis Fraser Jr.

Christian Meyer,

INVENTOR, By

Louis Fraser & Bro.

Attys.

N. PETERS. Photo-Lithographer. Washington, D. C.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

CHRISTIAN MEYER, OF ST. PAUL, MINNESOTA.

FIRE-ESCAPE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 279,175, dated June 12, 1883.

Application filed January 29, 1883. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, CHRISTIAN MEYER, a citizen of the United States, and a resident of St. Paul, in the county of Ramsey, in the State of Minnesota, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Fire-Escapes, of which the following specification is a full, clear, and exact description, reference being also had to the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a sectional view of a portion of a building, showing my improvement arranged thereon. Fig. 2 is an enlarged perspective view of a portion of the upper end of the apparatus. Fig. 3 is a cross-sectional view of the same.

This device consists in a cloth or canvas tube, A, somewhat longer than the height of the building to which it is to be attached, open at both ends, with the upper end provided with suitable chains or ropes, *a*, and hooks *b*, by which it may be fastened onto the outside of an open window, on the building, and with the lower end adapted to be held outward away from the building by persons on the ground, as shown in Fig. 1, or attached securely to a post or other object at a suitable distance away from the building. Then persons placing themselves inside this tube and sliding down within it, as shown at D in Fig. 1, will gradually come to a stop at the point E by means of the natural sagging form of the cloth tube when held firmly outward away from the building, and can then easily exit from the tube uninjured. This is the ordinary form of flexible tubular fire-escapes, the tubes being usually formed of canvas or heavy cloth sufficiently strong to bear the weight of several persons at once, and to strengthen these tubes and render them less liable to become worn or weakened by straining or tearing is the principle object of my invention, which consists in securing to the tube lengthwise leather, canvas or other suitable stay-strips, *d*. Thus, even if the cloth of the tube becomes broken or torn, the stays will support and hold it. The stays also prevent the strains from coming upon the cloth entirely. The stays *d* upon one side of the tube will be connected to each other at regular intervals by cross stays or straps *e*, which not only serve as additional supports, but also as ladder-rounds, by which persons may ascend and descend upon the tube, in the same manner as by an ordinary rope ladder.

Hooks or eyebolts *g*, or other suitable devices, will be attached permanently to the window frames or casings, to which the tube may be secured when it is to be used.

When not in use the tube will be rolled up into a small space, and then when it is to be used the upper end is connected to the hooks or eyes *g* by the hooks or chains *a b*, as before described, and the tube thrown out and the lower end allowed to fall to the ground.

The tube A may be made fire-proof by chemical means, if desired.

Having described my invention and set forth its merits, what I claim is—

In a fire-escape, a tube, A, of cloth, canvas, or other flexible material, one or more stays, *d*, secured to said tube lengthwise, and loops *e*, connecting said stays crosswise of said tube, substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand in presence of two subscribing witnesses.

CHRISTIAN MEYER.

Witnesses:

C. N. WOODWARD,

LOUIS FEESER.