

A. H. McGHAN.
PORTABLE SCAFFOLD.
APPLICATION FILED SEPT. 29, 1910.

982,083.

Patented Jan. 17, 1911.

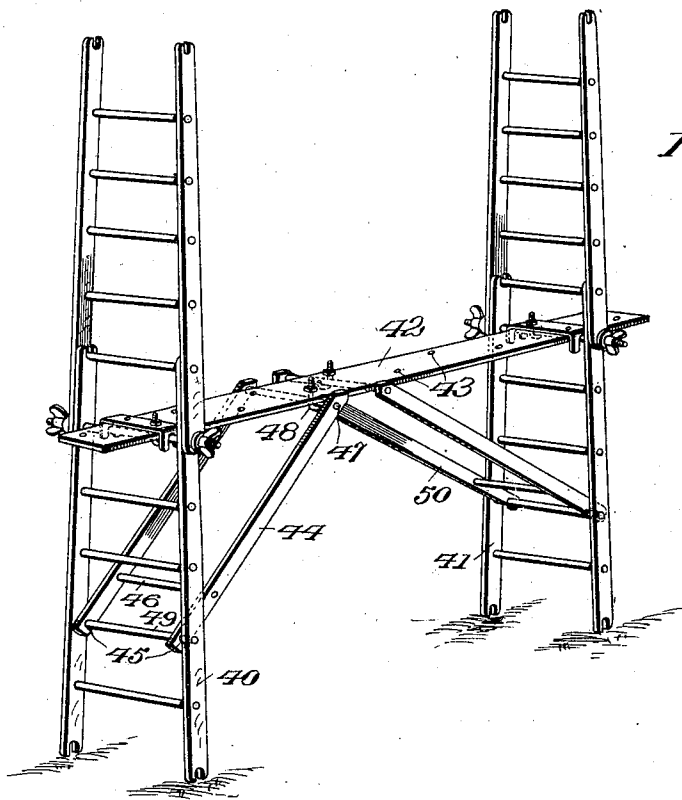


Fig. 1.

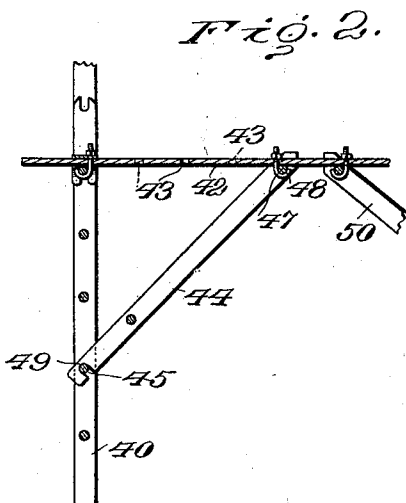


Fig. 2.

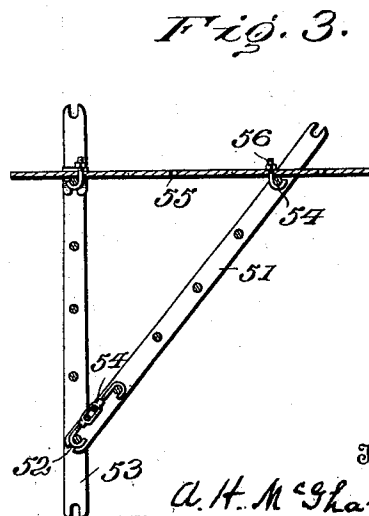


Fig. 3.

Witnesses
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ADDISON H. MCGHAN, OF WASHINGTON, DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, ASSIGNOR TO THE MCGHAN PATENT SCAFFOLDING COMPANY, OF WILMINGTON, DELAWARE, A CORPORATION OF DELAWARE.

PORTABLE SCAFFOLD

982,083.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Jan. 17, 1911.

Original application filed June 23, 1910, Serial No. 568,516. Divided and this application filed September 29, 1910. Serial No. 584,497.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ADDISON H. MCGHAN, of Washington, District of Columbia, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Portable Scaffolds, which invention is fully set forth in the following specification.

This is a division of my application for Patent Serial No. 568,516, filed June 23d, 1910, for portable scaffolds.

The present invention relates particularly to means for supporting and bracing platform boards at one or more points intermediate of ladder uprights between which such boards extend, and will be most readily understood by reference to the accompanying drawings, wherein,

Figure 1 is a perspective view illustrating the invention; Fig. 2 is a vertical sectional view through one end of the structure of Fig. 1; and Fig. 3 is a view similar to Fig. 2, showing the use of a ladder section or unit as a base.

40 and 41 are two ladder uprights resting upon the ground, or they may be parts of uprights having lower single stile supports, such as illustrated in my above mentioned patent application. A platform-board 42 extends between the ladder uprights and is fastened to its supporting rungs by clamps, such as shown in my aforesaid application, each clamp having a hooked bolt engaging the ladder rung and passing through one of a series of holes 43 in the board. The holes 43 are equi-distant and preferably arranged in two rows positioned respectively near opposite edges of the board. Furthermore, the holes are preferably staggered; that is to say, the holes of one row are located between the holes of the other row, so that a line drawn across the board through a hole of one row will pass midway between two holes of the other row. Where such a platform-board, used in a scaffold of the character illustrated in Fig. 1, or of the character illustrated in my aforesaid application, is called upon to support unusual weight, such as a number of workmen on a single board, or in addition to the weight of a workman the weight of heavy materials, such as brick, it may be found desir-

able to relieve the strain upon the board and upon the rungs upon which it rests by the provision of means for also supporting the board at one or more points intermediate of the uprights between which it extends. To that end, 44 is an obliquely positioned brace consisting of two side bars each notched at 45 near one end to hook over a rung 49 of the ladder upright 40; a rung 46 connects the side bars near one end and a rung 47 connects them near the other end and crosses under the board near its middle or intermediate of the uprights. A hooked bolt 48 embraces the rung 47, and passes through one of the holes 43 of the board to securely fasten the board and rung together. The brace 44 therefore not only provides an additional support for the board, but relieves the rung of ladder upright 40 upon which the board rests by throwing some of the burden upon another rung 49. The brace 44 is of such dimensions with relation to the positioning of the holes 43 in the board and of the rungs of the upright as to form an approximate right-angle between the board and the upright. The brace may be engaged with a rung above or below rung 49, and the bolt 48 engaged with a corresponding hole 43, the right-angle relationship between the board and upright being still maintained. Figs. 1 and 2 show another brace 50, similar to brace 44, extending from ladder upright 41 to the board.

Instead of providing a special construction of brace, such as 44 and 50, I may use for this purpose one of the ladder units or sections, like those used in the uprights; but ladder sections used for this purpose are less desirable because they project above the board presenting obstructions in the way of workmen. As shown in Fig. 3, 51 is a brace consisting of a ladder section or unit having the slotted ends of its side bars engaged with a rung 52 of a ladder upright 53 and locked in such engagement by a turn-buckle connection 54. The rung 57 at the other end of the brace 51 crosses under the board 55 and is fastened thereto by a hooked bolt 56 passing through one of the holes in the board. The dimensions of the parts, posi-

tioning of the rungs and of the holes in the platform-board, are such as to give a right-angle between the board and upright.

What I claim is:—

- 5 1. The combination of two upright ladders; a platform-board extending between said ladders and supported by rungs thereof; means for fastening the platform-board to each of its supporting rungs; an obliquely
10 positioned brace consisting of two side bars having notches at one end engaging a rung of one of the upright ladders, a rung connecting the side bars at their other end and crossing beneath the platform-board inter-
15 mediate of its supporting ladders; and means for fastening the platform-board directly to said rung of the brace.
2. The combination of two upright lad-
20 ders; a platform-board extending between said ladders and supported by rungs thereof, said board having therethrough a series of holes extending lengthwise thereof; means for fastening the platform-board to each of
25 its supporting rungs, said means at each supporting rung engaging one of said holes in the board; an obliquely positioned brace consisting of two side bars having notches at one end engaging a rung of one of the up-
30 right ladders, and a rung connecting the side bars at their other end and crossing beneath the platform-board intermediate of

its supporting ladders; and means for fastening the platform-board directly to said rung of the brace, said means engaging one of the holes in the board.

3. The combination of two upright lad- 35
ders; a platform-board extending between said ladders and supported by rungs there-
of, said board having therethrough a series of holes extending lengthwise thereof; 40
means for fastening the platform-board to each of its supporting rungs, said means at each supporting rung engaging one of said holes in the board, an obliquely positioned
45 brace consisting of two side bars having notches at one end engaging a rung of one of the upright ladders, and a rung connecting the side bars at their other end and crossing beneath the platform-board inter-
50 mediate of its supporting ladders; and a bolt or pin having a hooked end embracing said rung of the brace and passing through one of said openings in the board to fasten the same to said rung.

In testimony whereof I have signed this 55
specification in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

A. H. McGHAN.

Witnesses:

J. D. YOAKLEY,
M. A. WOOD.