

No. 171,167.

Fig. 1.

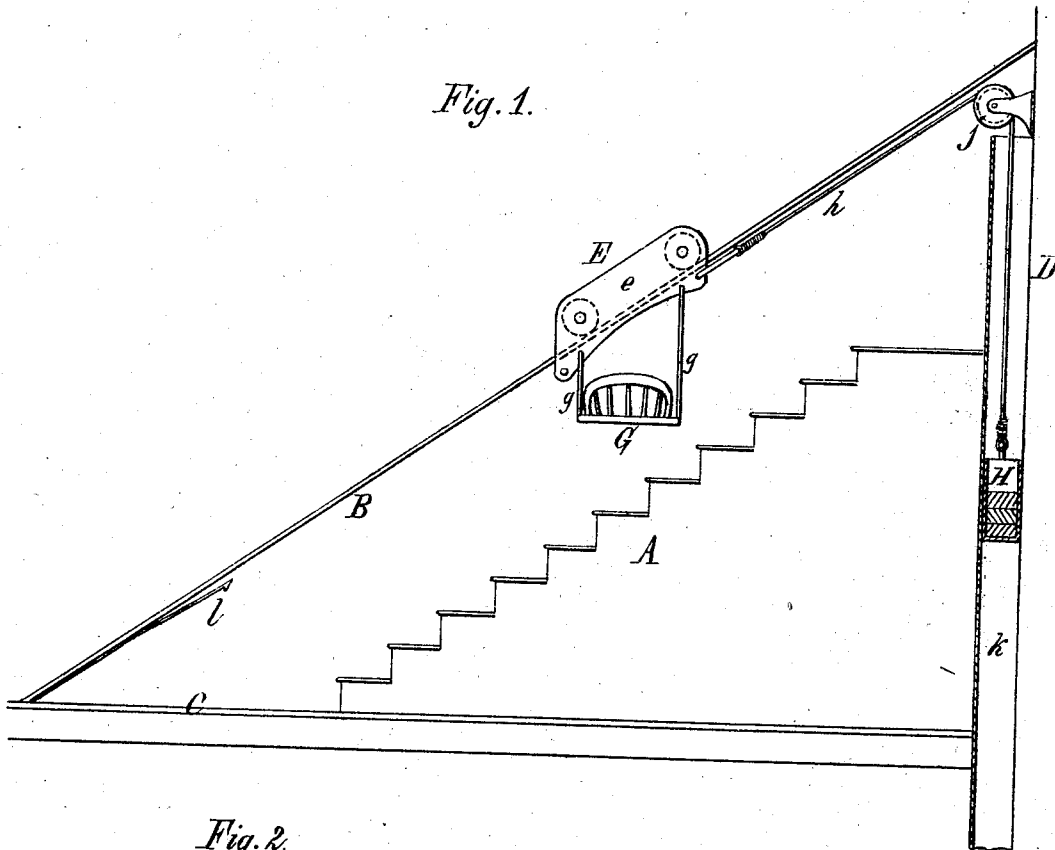


Fig. 2.

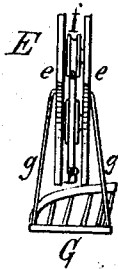
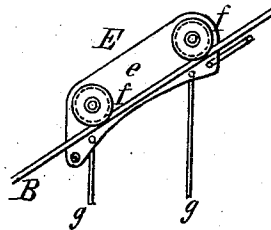


Fig. 3.



Edward Wilhelm }
Chas J Bushheit } Witnesses

George R. Potter, Treasurer
 Wm. Jay's Heirs, Attys

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

GEORGE R. POTTER, OF BUFFALO, NEW YORK.

IMPROVEMENT IN ELEVATORS FOR DWELLINGS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **171,167**, dated December 14, 1875; application filed December 1, 1875.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, GEORGE R. POTTER, of the city of Buffalo, in the county of Erie and State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Elevators for Dwellings, which improvements are fully set forth in the following specification, reference being had to the accompanying drawing.

My invention relates to a device adapted to be used in dwellings and other buildings, in the open space above a flight of stairs, for raising and lowering persons, goods, &c., to and from different floors.

The nature of my invention will be fully understood from the following description.

In the accompanying drawing, Figure 1 is an elevation of my improved device. Fig. 2 is a side elevation of the carriage and seat. Fig. 3 shows the carriage with one of its side pieces removed.

Like letters of reference refer to like parts in each of the figures.

A represents a flight of stairs, and B an inclined rail, rod, or cable, arranged in the open space above the flight of stairs, near one side thereof, with its ends to the floor C and wall D, or suitable supports, no intermediate supports being required. E represents a movable carriage running on the rail B, as shown in the drawing. It consists of two side pieces, *e e*, connected by suitable stays, and inclosing two grooved wheels, *f f*, running on the rail B. G is a seat, attached to the under side of the carriage E by means of two pairs of rods or hangers, *g*, the carriage being above the rail and the seat below the same, while each pair of hangers is arranged on opposite sides of the rail, thereby retaining the carriage in its proper position thereon. *h* is a cord or cable attached to the upper end of the carriage, passing over a sheave or guide-roller, *j*, and connecting with a weight, H, moving in

any suitable space or vertical chamber, *k*. The weight H consists, preferably, of a hollow case or box, in which are placed detachable blocks or weights of the required gravity, thereby rendering the weight adjustable. *l* is a spring-catch, arranged near the lower end of the rail B, so as to engage with the carriage when in its lowest position, and securely lock the same therein. The weight H is so adjusted as to be somewhat in excess of the average load to be raised.

Upon placing the person to be raised in the seat G and disengaging the catch the weight H will draw the carriage and seat upward, by means of the rope *h*, until the landing is reached, when the weight strikes a suitable stop in the chamber *k*, thereby arresting its movement and that of the carriage and seat. The latter are then returned to their lower position by a servant or other attendant.

If desired, a rope or cord may be attached to the rear end of the carriage, so as to enable the attendant to draw the carriage down without requiring him to ascend the stairs for the purpose.

My improved elevator is of great convenience in dwelling-houses, in enabling invalids to pass from one floor to another with great ease, and in many other respects, while it can be readily arranged in the space above the stairs without interfering with the ordinary use thereof.

What I claim as my invention is—

The combination, with the inclined rail or cable B, of the carriage E, suspended seat G, hangers *g*, and actuating weight and cord H *h*, constructed and operating substantially as and for the purpose hereinbefore set forth.

GEO. R. POTTER.

Witnesses:

EDWARD WILHELM,
C. J. BUCHHEIT.