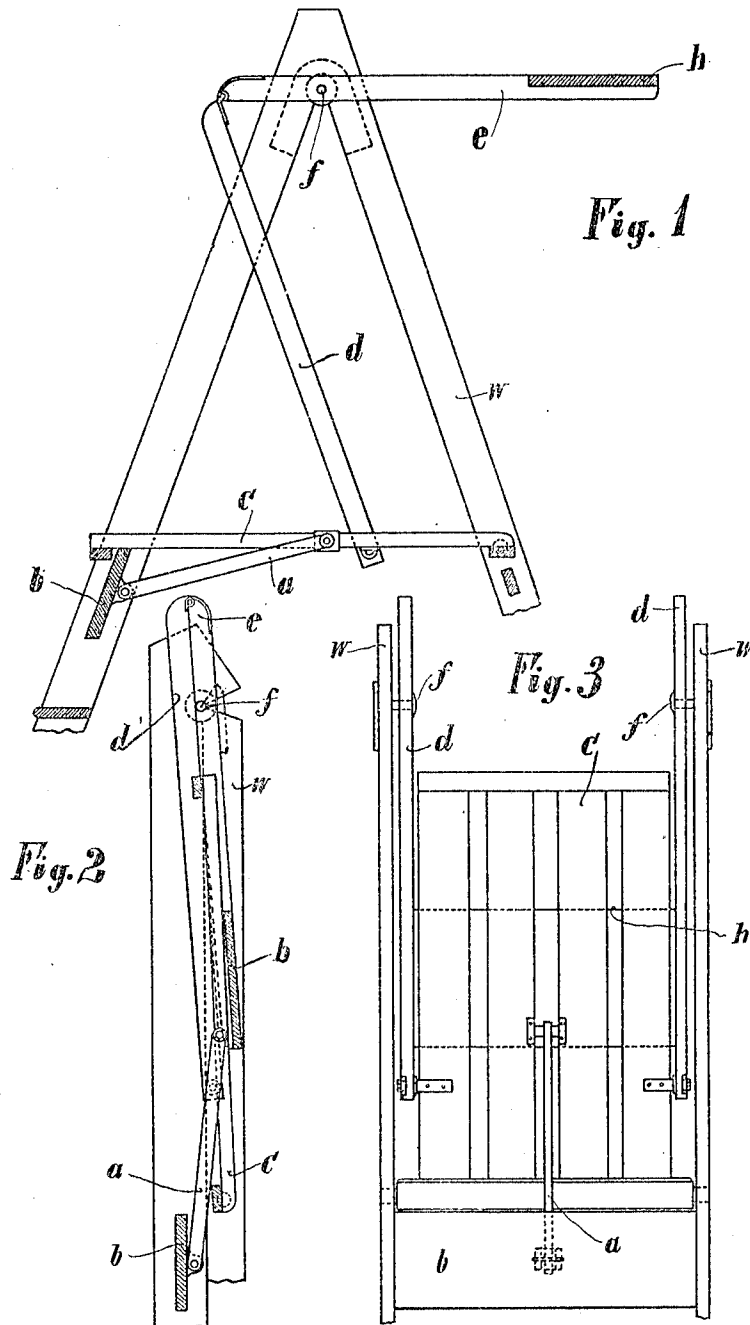


M. BARTH.
FOLDING LADDER.
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950,469.

Patented Mar. 1, 1910.



Witnesses:

C. H. Crawford
E. Schallinger

Inventor:
Moritz Barth

per *B. Linde*
Attorney.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

MORITZ BARTH, OF GRUNEWALD, NEAR BERLIN, GERMANY.

FOLDING LADDER.

950,469.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Mar. 1, 1910.

Application filed August 6, 1908. Serial No. 447,232.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, MORITZ BARTH, a subject of the King of Prussia, German Emperor, and residing at No. 9 Winklerstrasse, 5 Grunewald, near Berlin, Germany, manufacturer, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Folding Ladders, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to folding ladders 10 formed with a platform and with a safety railing or rest above and in front of the platform. It is already known to make folding ladders with such platforms and railings or rests. The latter being so connected to 15 the platform that when the ladder is folded up the rest either turns up or is folded downward together with the platform. In the first case the length of the ladder when folded is increased which is not desirable, 20 and moreover the weight of the platform and of the rest has to be lifted in folding up the ladder; in the latter case on the other hand, the weight of the platform and rest tends to hold the ladder in the closed position so that in both cases there was difficulty 25 either in the setting up or folding together of the ladder.

In the device according to the present invention these difficulties are avoided in that 30 the railing and the platform are so connected together that when the ladder is folded up the railing moves downward, while the platform moves upward, and these two parts fold together and come to lie completely 35 within the framework of the ladder.

The invention is illustrated by way of example in the accompanying drawings in which—

Figure 1 shows a view of the ladder when 40 opened out and Fig. 2 shows a side view of the folded ladder. Fig. 3 shows a front view of the folded ladder.

The platform *c* is pivotally supported in the leg *w* of the ladder. It is provided with 45 rods *d* which are pivotally attached thereto. The upper ends of these rods are hinged to the arms of the railing *e*, these latter being

connected to the frame of the ladder by pins *f*. The arms *e* carry a table *h*. A rod *a* is pivotally attached at one of its ends to the 50 platform. The other end of the rod *a* is hinged to a step *b*, supporting the free end of the platform, when the ladder is set up. During the folding up of the ladder the rod *a* forces the platform upward and at the same 55 time the weight of the railing and parts connected therewith in falling balances the platform and railing come to lie one upon the other in the folded position.

Having now particularly described and 60 ascertained the nature of my said invention and in what manner the same is to be performed, I declare that what I claim is:—

1. A folding ladder comprising a platform pivotally supported in and pivoted by 65 means of a rod to the legs of the ladder, a railing pivotally supported in the ladder and connected by means of arms with the platform, said platform and said arms when the ladder is folded moving upward and said 70 railing partly moving downward, to allow the said platform and railing to be folded one upon the other and to come to lie between the legs of the ladder, substantially as described. 75

2. A folding ladder comprising a platform pivotally supported in and pivoted by means of a rod to the legs of the ladder, a railing carrying a table and pivotally attached to the ladder and connected by means 80 of arms with the platform, said platform and said arms when the ladder is folded moving upward and said table moving downward, to allow said platform, table and railing to be folded one upon the other and to 85 come to lie between the legs of the ladder, substantially as described.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing as my own I have hereto affixed my signature in the presence of two witnesses.

MORITZ BARTH.

Witnesses:

WILLIAM MAYNER,
HENRY HASPER.