

P. H. MAHER.

GUARDS FOR WINDOWS AND DOORS.

No. 173,979.

Patented Feb. 22, 1876.

Fig. 1.

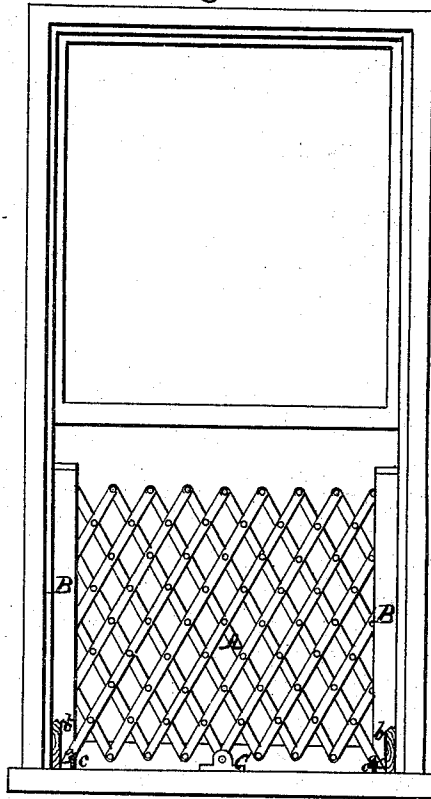
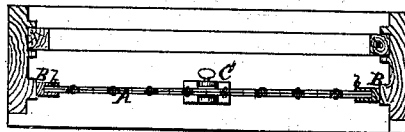


Fig. 2.



Witnesses.

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PATRICK HENRY MAHER, OF NEW YORK, N. Y.

IMPROVEMENT IN GUARDS FOR WINDOWS AND DOORS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 173,979, dated February 22, 1876; application filed July 21, 1875.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, PATRICK HENRY MAHER, of the city, county, and State of New York, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Guards for Windows and other places, which improvement is fully set forth in the following specification, reference being had to the accompanying drawing, in which—

Figure 1 represents a front view in section. Fig. 2 is a horizontal section.

Similar letters indicate corresponding parts.

This invention consists in the combination of grooved guide-posts with a frame composed of strips of metal or other material united in the form of lazy-tongs, two of said strips being made to form toes which engage with retaining-lips formed at the bottom ends of the guide-posts in such a manner that, when said guide-posts are secured in or adjusted to the width of the opening to be protected, the frame can be readily extended or contracted so as to fit the position of the guide-posts, and by setting said frame in the grooves of said posts a guard is obtained for preventing children from falling out of a window or down a flight of stairs. The extension guard-frame, after having been adjusted in the guide-grooves, may be fastened in position by means of a screw-clamp.

In the drawing, the letter A designates a frame, which is constructed of a series of strips of metal or other suitable material, that are united in the form of lazy-tongs, so that the frame can be extended or contracted to suit the width of the opening in which the same is to be used. Those two strips, which are united in the middle of the frame A at their top ends, are provided at their bottom ends with toes *a a*, which project beyond the bottom ends of the remaining strips.

With the frame A are combined two posts, B B, which are provided with guide-grooves *b b* to receive the edges of the frame A. On the bottom end of the guide-groove in each of the posts B is formed a lip or flange, *c*, to engage with or to retain the toes *a a* of the frame A. Said lips or flanges

may be formed by metal bands extending round the bottom edges of the posts B B, or they may be formed by any other suitable means.

When my guard is to be used on a window, I secure the posts B B permanently on the outside of the window-frame, so that they do not interfere with the motion of the sashes, and that they allow of closing the shutters in the usual manner. I then extend or contract the frame A to such a position that I can introduce one of its edges in the guide-groove of one of the posts, and, after placing the opposite edge of the frame in line with the guide-groove of the other post, I extend said frame, so that its free edge will engage with this second guide-groove, while the toes *a a* are made to catch behind the lips *c c*. When the frame A has been brought in this position it cannot be contracted, unless it is raised so that the toes *a a* clear the lips *c c*.

In order to prevent a strong child from raising the frame, and from removing it out of the guide-grooves in the posts B B, I secure on the middle of the window-sill a screw-clamp, C, or any other suitable fastening, which serves to fasten the frame A and to prevent it from being raised. This clamp also serves to strengthen the guard.

When my guard is to be used on the head of stairs, I adjust the frame A to the width of the opening to be guarded; then I cause the toes *a a* to engage with the lips *c c* of the posts B B, and secure the edges of the frame in the guide-grooves of said posts by means of set-screws. One of the posts is then provided with hinges and the other with a suitable latch, so that the whole forms a door or gate which is hung in the opening to be guarded, the latch being so arranged that it can only be reached by grown persons.

It will be seen that the same frame and posts can thus be readily adjusted for openings of different width.

What I claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. The combination of grooved guide-post B B with a lazy-tongs frame A, provided with

toes *a a*, to engage with retaining-lips *c c* on the posts *B B*, substantially as shown and described.

2. The combination of a clamp or fastening, *C*, with the lazy-tongs frame *A*, toes *a a*, guide-posts *B B*, and retaining-lips *c c*, substantially as set forth.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing I

have hereunto set my hand and seal this 15th day of July, 1875.

PATRICK HENRY MAHER. [L. S.]

Witnesses:

W. HAUFF,

E. T. KASTENHUBER.