

(No Model.)

W. H. MILLETT.
PORTABLE FOLDING FIRE ESCAPE.

No. 499,792.

Patented June 20, 1893.

Fig. 2.

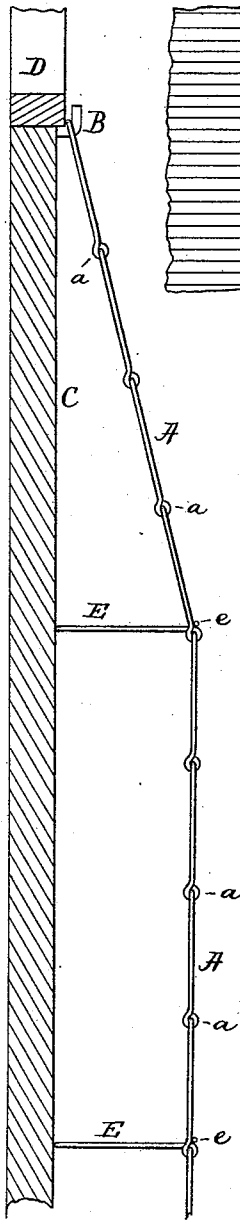


Fig. 1.

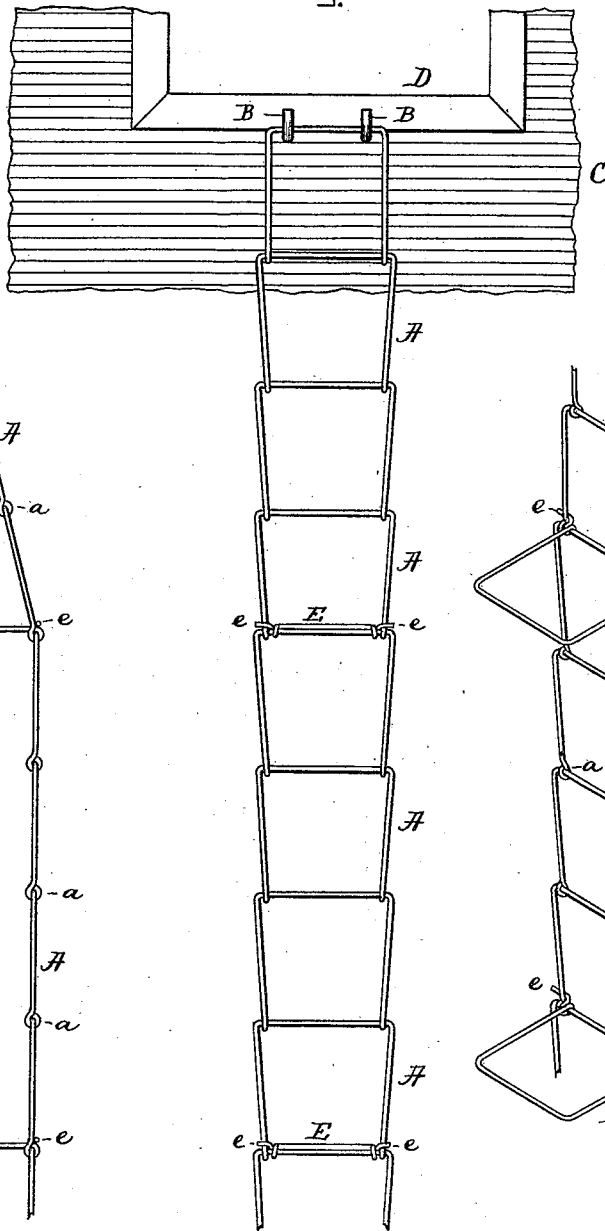


Fig. 3.

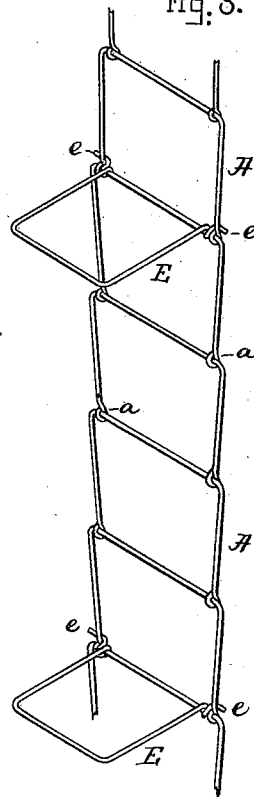
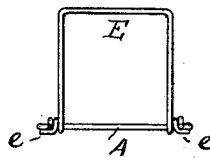


Fig. 4.



Witnesses.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLIAM H. MILLETT, OF BEVERLY, MASSACHUSETTS.

PORTABLE FOLDING FIRE-ESCAPE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 499,792, dated June 20, 1893.

Application filed March 31, 1893. Serial No. 468,493. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM H. MILLETT, a citizen of the United States, and a resident of Beverly, in the county of Essex and State of Massachusetts, have invented new and useful Improvements in Portable Folding Fire-Escapes, of which the following, taken in connection with the accompanying drawings, is a specification.

10 This invention relates to improvements in portable folding fire escapes for the purpose of saving lives in case of fire, and it is carried out as follows, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, wherein—

15 Figure 1 represents a front elevation of the improved fire escape, showing it in position for use. Fig. 2 represents a side elevation of the invention in the same position. Fig. 3 represents a detail perspective view of the same; and Fig. 4 represents a top view.

20 Similar letters refer to similar parts wherever they occur on the different parts of the drawings.

In the drawings A, A, represent a series of 25 [] shaped links having loops or eyes *a, a*, for receiving the horizontal portion of the next link in the series as shown in the drawings. The upper end of the folding ladder is adapted to be hung or otherwise suspended 30 from hooks B, B, preferably secured to the wall C, at or near the window or other wall opening D, as shown in Figs. 1 and 2; but if so desired the ladder may be hung from the inside of the building in any convenient manner as circumstances may require.

35 For the purpose of causing the ladder to hang at a proper distance away from the wall C, so as to permit persons to go down or up easily without touching the wall, I hinge one 40 or more bails, arms, or projections E, E, preferably to the horizontal part of the links as shown, and for the purpose of automatically holding such bails or arms in a horizontal or nearly horizontal position when the ladder is 45 used, I provide said bails or arms with stop projections *e, e*, adapted to bear against the vertical portions of the links A, A as shown in the drawings.

When the fire escape is not in use it may be folded together in a very small compass, 50 and if so desired it may be packed away in a case or box in the room, and is ready for use at any time by simply hooking it on to the wall, window sill, &c., and throwing its loose end out, when the bails or arms E, E, will automatically assume the position shown in the 55 drawings, thus holding the fire escape in a convenient position to enable persons to descend or ascend as the case may be.

The device is very simple in construction, 60 strong and durable, not liable to get out of order, and can be adjusted for use instantly in case of danger by any ordinary person, and when placed in position as described, it affords a ready means for saving persons im- 65 periled by fire. If so desired, it may be provided with a rope or other hoisting device so as to enable it to be raised from the street in case it should not be located in the building on fire. 70

Having thus fully described the nature, construction, and operation of my invention, I wish to secure by Letters Patent and claim—

1. A portable folding fire escape consisting of a series of [] shaped metal links A, A, 75 pivoted together, combined with one or more bails or arms E, E, pivoted to said links and adapted to automatically hold the ladder at a proper distance from the wall of the building, substantially as and for the purpose set forth. 80

2. A portable folding fire escape, consisting of a series of [] shaped metal links pivoted together, combined with one or more bails or arms, E, E, pivoted to the said links, and having stop projections *e, e*, for the purpose of 85 automatically holding the ladder at a proper distance from the wall of the building, substantially as herein set forth and described.

In testimony whereof I have signed my name to this specification, in the presence of 90 two subscribing witnesses, on this 21st day of March, A. D. 1893.

WILLIAM H. MILLETT.

Witnesses:

ALBAN ANDRÉN,
EDWARD L. MILLETT.