J. J. BARRETT.

FIRE ESCAPE.

APPLICATION FILED JUNE 11, 1914.

1,169,760. Patented Feb. 1, 1916.

Fig. 1.

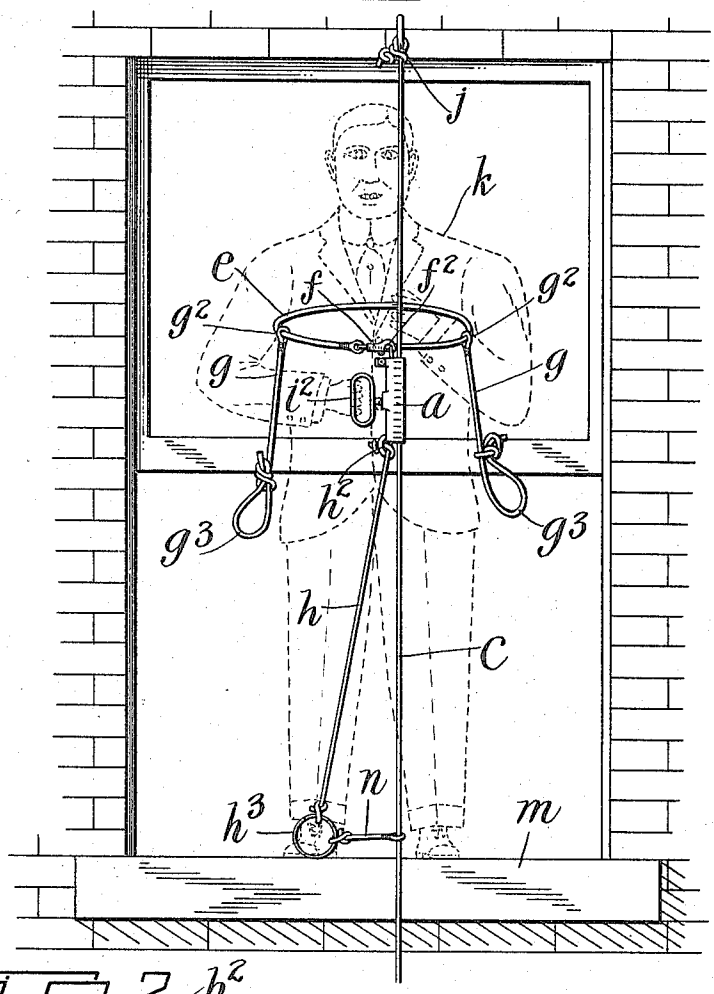


Fig. 2.

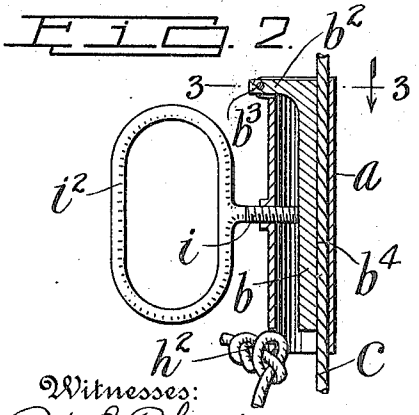
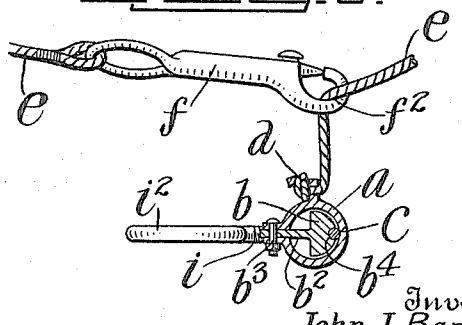


Fig. 3.



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FIRE-ESCAPE.

1,169,760. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Feb. 1, 1916.

Application filed June 11, 1914. Serial No. 844,391.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOHN J. BARRETT, a citizen of the United States, and residing at Brooklyn, in the county of Kings and State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Fire-Escapes, of which the following is a specification, such as will enable those skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same.

This invention relates to fire-escapes, and the object thereof is to provide an improved device of this class which can be compactly folded together and carried in a coat pocket, or in a handbag, or other small package, and which is particularly designed for use by a person in escaping from the window of a burning apartment or building; and with this and other objects in view the invention consists in a device of the class specified, constructed as hereinafter described and claimed.

The invention is fully disclosed in the following specification, of which the accompanying drawing forms a part, in which the separate parts of my improvement are designated by suitable reference characters in each of the views, and in which:—

Figure 1 is a view showing the method of using my improved fire-escape; Fig. 2 a sectional front view of a tube or tubular casing which forms the main operative part of the apparatus; and, Fig. 3 a section on the line 3—3 of Fig. 2 and showing other parts of the apparatus.

In the practice of my invention, I provide a tube or tubular casing a which may be of any desired length, preferably from three to six inches, and in which is placed an oblong clamping jaw b, the top end of which is provided with a radial projection b^2 pivoted in the front top portion of the tube a as shown at b^3. The clamping jaw b is semi-circular in form in cross section, and in the back thereof is a longitudinal groove b^4 and passing loosely through the tube a and between the jaw b and the back of said tube is a cord or rope c which normally fits in said groove. Connected with the top and inner side portion of the tube a as shown at d is a cord or rope e adapted to be passed around the body under the arms and the free end of which is provided with a snap hook f adapted to engage the cord or rope e as shown at f^2 and automatically adjust itself to the wearer's body. Other cords or ropes g of suitable length are connected with the cord or rope e, as shown at g^2, and are provided at their free ends with loops g^3; and another cord or rope h is connected with the bottom of the tube a as shown at h^2 and is provided at its free end with a loop h^3. A screw i is passed through the front central portion of the tube a and bears on the jaw b as shown in Fig. 2, and said screw is provided at its outer end with an oblong link-shaped handle grip i^2.

In the use of this device, the cord c is secured at the top of a window as shown at j in Fig. 1, and the cord or rope e is passed around the body under the arms and a man or other person k in order to escape from the window in case of fire, raises the lower sash and steps on the window sill m and passes one foot through the loop h^3 of the lower end of the cord or rope h, and after passing the cord or rope e around his body, grasps the handle grip i^2 of the screw i with his right hand and holds onto the cord or rope c above the tube or tubular casing a with his left hand. He then swings himself free of the window, with his weight suspended by the cords or ropes c and h, and by turning the screw i slightly in the desired direction, the pressure of the jaw b on the cord or rope c in the tube a is released and the tube or tubular casing a slides down said cord or rope c, and this descent may be regulated as will be understood by turning the screw i and increasing or decreasing the pressure thereof on the jaw b.

Only a slight turn of the screw i is necessary in either direction and the man or party may thus descend quickly and easily to the ground. It will be understood that the cord or rope c may be of any desired length and in the above described operation a child or children may be suspended from the cord or rope e where it passes around the body by means of the supplemental cords or ropes g, the nooses g^3 being passed around the body or bodies of said child or children and automatically adjusting themselves to said body or bodies or shoulders.

This device is simple in construction and efficient in operation, and may be compactly rolled up and carried in a pocket, or in a small handbag, or in any other package, and while I have described the parts c, e, g and h as cords or ropes any suitable flexible devices may be employed, and other changes in and modifications of the construction

herein described may be made, within the scope of the appended claim, without departing from the spirit of my invention or sacrificing its advantages.

In practice, I connect the ring h^3 with the cord or rope c by means of a loop or similar device n through which said cord or rope is freely passed and by means of which the ring h^3 and cord or rope h are held in proper position relative to the cord or rope c, or vice versa in the operation of the device or apparatus as hereinbefore described.

Having fully described my invention, what I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is:—

A fire escape device comprising a tubular casing, a rope passed loosely through said casing and adapted to have one of its ends secured to a stationary support, manually controlled means in said casing for clamping said rope, a flexible body supporting device having one of its ends connected to said casing and having its opposite end provided with a snap hook, through the loop of which said body supporting device passes, subsidiary supporting devices having certain of their ends secured to said body supporting device and having their other ends provided with slip nooses, a flexible foot supporting device having one of its ends connected to said casing and having its opposite end provided with a foot ring, and a guiding device connecting said ring and said rope.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing as my invention I have signed my name in presence of the subscribing witnesses this 9th day of June, 1914.

JOHN J. BARRETT.

Witnesses:
C. MULREANY,
H. E. THOMPSON.

Copies of this patent may be obtained for five cents each, by addressing the "Commissioner of Patents, Washington, D. C."