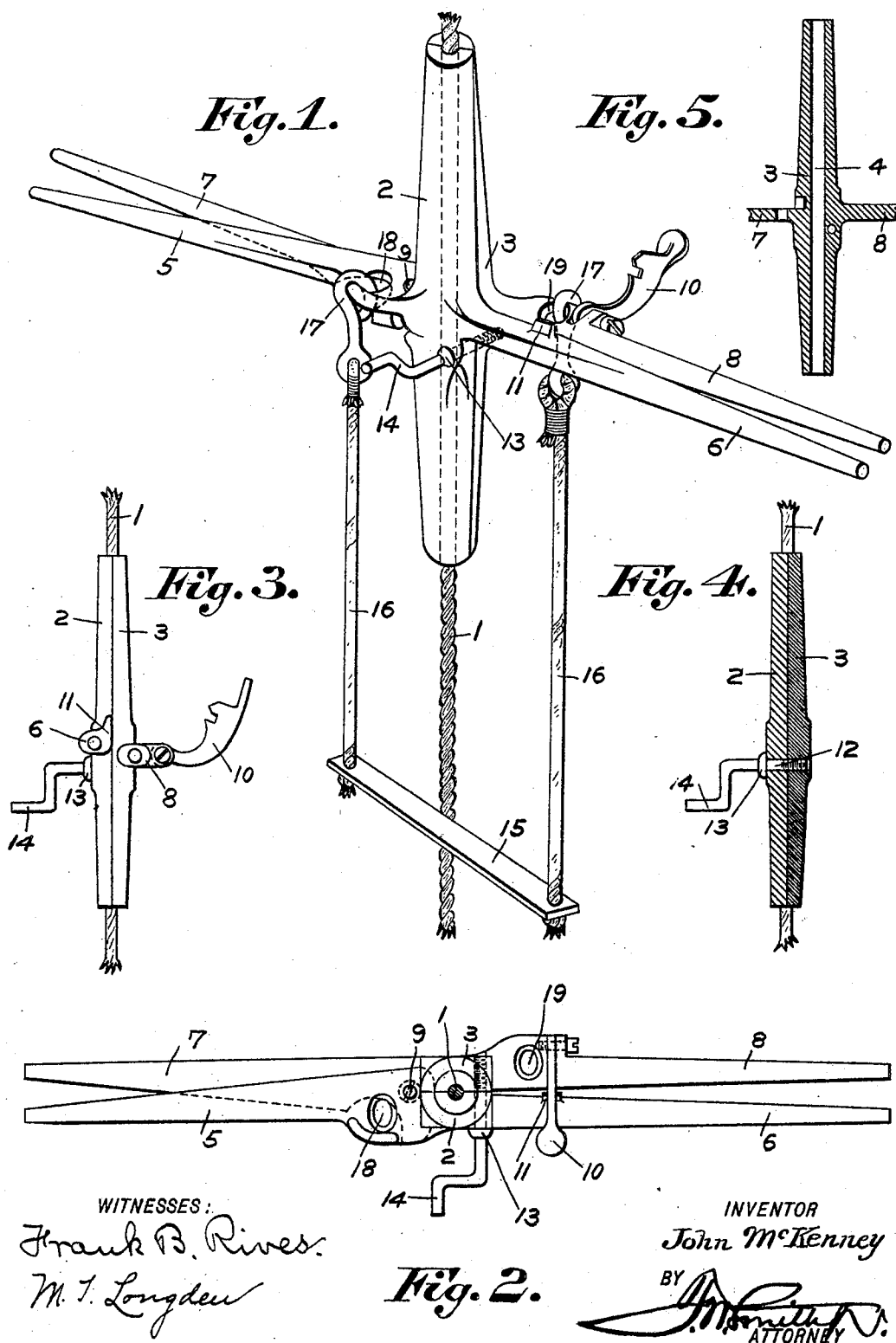


J. McKENNEY.
ROPE CLAMP.

APPLICATION FILED APR. 4, 1905.



WITNESSES:
Frank B. Rives.
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Fig. 2.

INVENTOR
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOHN McKENNEY, OF DANBURY, CONNECTICUT.

ROPE-CLAMP.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 794,732, dated July 18, 1905.

Application filed April 4, 1905. Serial No. 253,881.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOHN McKENNEY, a citizen of the United States, residing at Danbury, in the county of Fairfield and State of Connecticut, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Rope-Clamps; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same.

My invention relates to rope-clamps; and it consists of certain parts and combination of parts, such as will be hereinafter fully explained, and particularly pointed out by the concluding claims.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is a view in perspective illustrating my improvement as applied in position for use; Fig. 2, a plan view; Fig. 3, an end view; Fig. 4, a vertical section taken longitudinally through the clamping-jaws and lock-bolt, and Fig. 5 a detail sectional elevation of the inner face of one of the jaws with the handles broken away.

Similar numbers of reference denote like parts in the several figures of the drawings.

My improvement may be utilized as a rope-clamp in many ways; but for purposes of a clear understanding of my invention I have illustrated the same as applied to a construction suitable for a fire-escape.

Referring to the drawings, 1 is any suitable rope or cable, the upper extremity of which is to be secured to any suitable object or fixture within a room or upon a building.

2 3 are elongated jaws each of which has a groove extending lengthwise of its inner face, as shown at Fig. 5 in the instance of the jaw 3, where the groove is denoted by the numeral 4. Extending laterally and in opposite directions from the middle portion of the jaw 2 are handles 5 6, and similarly extending from the jaw 3 are handles 7 8, the corresponding handles of said jaws being close together and substantially parallel.

9 is a pivot screw or pin which extends through the inner portions of the handles 5 7, whereby the manipulation of said handles

will cause the jaws to open and close. When the handles 5 7 are squeezed together, the jaws will relax or open, and when the handles 6 8 are squeezed together said jaws will be closed in clamping position.

10 is a latch pivoted to one of the handles 8 and adapted to engage a shoulder 11 to lock the jaws in clamped position, if desired.

12 is a lock-bolt having a shouldered portion 13 and provided with a crank extension 14, which bolt is threaded and passes through the jaws from side to side. By turning this bolt until the shoulder bears firmly against the adjacent jaw both jaws will be closed and held in this position, and by relaxing said bolt said jaws will be opened.

The operation of my improvement is as follows: Any suitable sling or stirrup is suspended from my improvement, and in the present instance I have shown a sling having a bottom rest 15, suspended from ropes 16, which latter are provided at their upper ends with hooks 17, that are engaged with eyes 18 19 in the handles 5 and 8, respectively. The jaws are first placed around the rope 1, and either the latch 10 or lock-bolt 12 are operated to hold the jaws firmly clamped against said rope. A person now gets into the sling, firmly grasps the handles 6 8, squeezing them together, and then throws off the latch or relaxes the lock-bolt, as the case may be. By slightly relaxing the squeezing action against the handles 6 8 the jaws will slide down the rope 1 and the occupant of the sling can thus descend. The degree to which this squeezing action is relaxed determines the speed of descent, and such speed can be instantly checked and the jaws locked in clamped position, if desired.

I prefer to utilize the latch 10 in connection with my improvement when used as a fire-escape; but when my invention is adapted for use for lowering painters' scaffolds and the like the lock-bolt will be found the most convenient and serviceable for this purpose.

While I have shown my improvement as applied for use as a fire-escape, nevertheless my invention is essentially a rope-clamp and can therefore be used as suggested for vari-

ous purposes, and I therefore do not wish to be limited in this respect.

I claim—

1. In a rope-clamp, the combination of the
5 elongated jaws grooved in their inner faces
throughout their lengths, handles extending
laterally in opposite directions and in paral-
lelism from each of said jaws, a pivot con-
necting two of these parallel handles where-
10 by the jaws may be opened and closed by ma-
nipulating the handles on both sides of said
jaws, and means carried by said jaws for lock-
ing the latter in clamped position.

2. In a rope-clamp, the combination of the
15 two elongated jaws grooved in their inner
faces throughout their lengths, each jaw hav-
ing two diametrically opposite handles ex-
tending therefrom in a plane at right angles
to the length of the jaws, the handles of one
20 jaw being close to and parallel with the cor-
responding handles of the other jaw, a pivot
connecting the two handles at one side of
said jaws whereby the latter may be opened
and closed, a sling suspended from said jaws,
25 and a shouldered lock-bolt driven through

said jaws whereby the latter may be held in
clamped position.

3. In a rope-clamp, the combination of the
elongated jaws grooved in their inner faces
throughout their lengths, each jaw having 30
two diametrically opposite handles extend-
ing therefrom in a plane at right angles to the
length of the jaws, the handles of one jaw be-
ing close to and parallel with the correspond-
ing handles of the other jaw, a pivot connect- 35
ing the two handles at one side of said jaws
whereby the latter may be opened and closed
by manipulation of the several handles, the
inner portions of two diametrically opposite
handles extending from separate jaws hav- 40
ing eyes therethrough, a sling suspended
from said eyes, and means carried by said
jaws for locking the latter in clamped posi-
tion.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature 45
in presence of two witnesses.

JOHN McKENNEY.

Witnesses:

WILLIAM H. CABLE,
HENRY M. ROBINSON.