

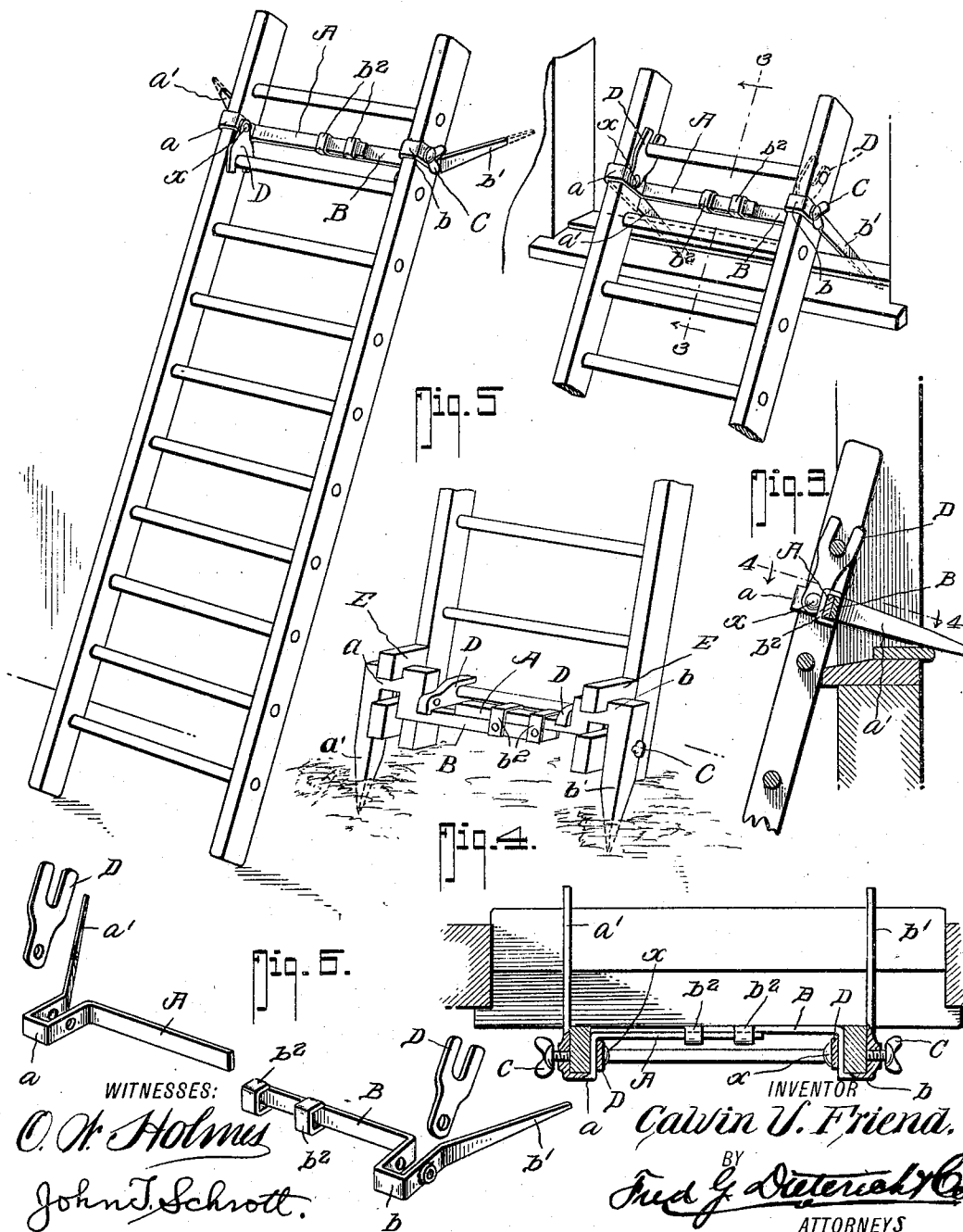
No. 783,259.

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C. V. FRIEND.
LADDER ATTACHMENT.
APPLICATION FILED DEC. 12, 1904.

Fig. 1.

Fig. 2.



UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

CALVIN V. FRIEND, OF ALTONA, ILLINOIS.

LADDER ATTACHMENT.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 783,259, dated February 21, 1905.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, CALVIN V. FRIEND, residing at Altona, in the county of Knox and State of Illinois, have invented a Ladder Attachment, of which the following is a specification.

My invention is in the nature of an attachment for the ordinary ladder, adapted to be detachably and adjustably connected to the upper end of the ladder, whereby to serve as a means for preventing the ladder moving sidewise, as a ladder-hook, and also adapted for connection with the lower end of the ladder to hold it from slipping.

With the above objects in view my invention consists in an appliance of the character stated comprising certain peculiar arrangement and coöperative combination of parts, all of which will be hereinafter described, and pointed out in the claims, and illustrated in the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of a ladder, showing my improvement adjusted to hold the upper end of the ladder from moving sidewise. Fig. 2 is a similar view showing the improvement adjusted to serve as a ladder-hook. Fig. 3 is a longitudinal section of the upper end of the ladder on the line 3 3 of Fig. 2. Fig. 4 is a transverse section thereof on the line 4 4 of Fig. 3. Fig. 5 illustrates a slightly-modified arrangement of my invention and showing the same connected to the lower end of the ladder to hold it from slipping. Fig. 6 is a perspective view of the several parts that constitute my invention separated.

My improved ladder attachment is composed of two sections A and B, which are slidably connected with each other, so that they can be readily adjusted to provide for connecting the attachment to ladders of different widths. Each of the sections A and B is formed of a single metal bar that is bent at *a b* to form loops to fit over the edge of the side bars of the ladder, and the outer ends of the said loop portions *a b* are extended to form prong-like fingers *a' b'*, the purpose of which will presently appear.

The inner end of the bar B has loops or keepers *b² b²*, through which the inner end of the member A slides and which form the ad-

justable connection between the members A and B.

C C designate clamp-screws that engage threaded apertures in the finger portions *a' b'* and are so disposed relatively to the loops *a b* as to engage the side beams of the ladder to hold the attachment to its adjusted positions. D D designate a pair of forked arms that are pivoted to the sections A and B at X X to project at right angles therefrom.

So far as described the manner in which my improved ladder attachment is used is as follows: When it is desired to use the same for bracing the upper end of the ladder from slipping sidewise, the attachment is set with its finger-prongs *a' b'* projected upwardly, as shown in Fig. 1, and when in this position the finger-prongs engage the wall or other abutment against which the ladder is placed, and thereby steady the upper end of the ladder and materially reduce the danger of said upper end moving sidewise.

When the attachment is used as a ladder-hook, the said attachment is set on the side bars or beams of the ladder to project downwardly and forwardly from the ladder end, as shown in Figs. 2 and 3, and is made fast by the set-screws C and is prevented from slipping or turning from its adjusted position by the forked fingers D D, which under the adjustment shown engage the rung of the ladder above the attachment.

In Fig. 5 I have shown a slightly-modified form of my invention, in which the flat U-shaped loops *a b* are mounted in iron brackets E E, secured upon the lower ends of the ladder-beams or side bars, and when thus adjusted the attachment acts as a means for bracing the lower ends of the ladder to hold it from slipping.

By pivotally connecting the forked fingers D D to the members A and B the said fingers can be readily swung to the desired position to engage the ladder-rung during different adjustments of the members A and B on the ladder sides.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. A ladder attachment comprising a body

portion adapted to extend across the ladder having loops at the opposite ends for straddling the edge of the ladder beams or sides, and having its extremities extended at right angles to the cross portion to form finger-prongs, and means for clamping the loop portions on the ladder sides for the purposes described.

2. A ladder attachment, which comprises a body portion formed of two sections, means for slidably connecting said sections to permit of lengthening or shortening the attachment, each section having a loop portion adapted to straddle the outer edge of the ladder, and finger-prongs that project at right angles to the cross portions thereof and means for clamping the said sections to their adjusted positions on the ladder-beams' edges as set forth.

3. A ladder attachment, which comprises a body portion adapted to extend crosswise over the ladder and having loops at the opposite ends to straddle the front edge of the ladder sides, the ends of the loop portions be-

ing extended at right angles to the cross portion to form prongs, means for clamping the loop portions to the ladder sides, and a second means for engaging the prongs of the ladder for the purposes specified.

4. The hereinbefore-described improved ladder attachment, which consists of a body portion formed of two sections, slidably connected with each other to permit of lengthening or shortening the attachment, each of the said sections having a loop portion adapted to straddle the outer edge of the ladder sides and having their extremities bent at right angles to the cross portion to form projecting prongs, means for clamping the loop portions to the ladder sides, and forked arms pivotally connected to the body sections projected at right angles therefrom and adapted to engage the prongs of the ladder for the purposes specified.

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Witnesses:

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