

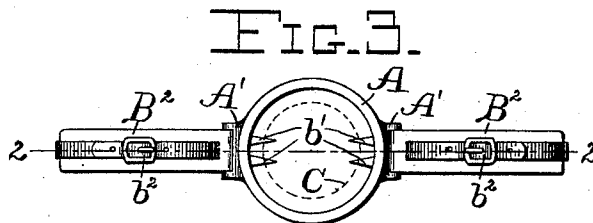
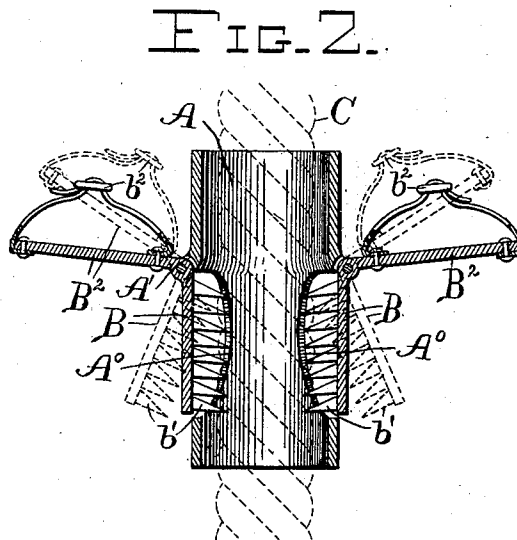
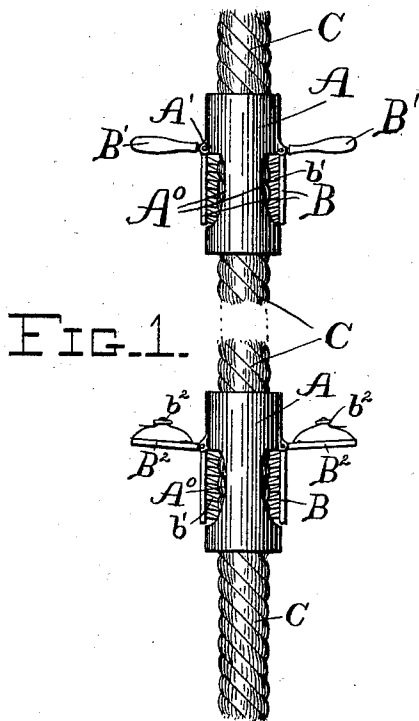
(No Model.)

E. N. MONEY.

ROPE CLIMBER OR COMBINATION FIRE ESCAPE, &c.

No. 580,794.

Patented Apr. 13, 1897.



WITNESSES

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ERNEST N. MONEY, OF JACKSONVILLE, FLORIDA.

ROPE-CLIMBER OR COMBINATION FIRE-ESCAPE, &c.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 580,794, dated April 13, 1897.

Application filed December 16, 1896. Serial No. 615,888. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ERNEST N. MONEY, a citizen of the United States, residing at Jacksonville, in the county of Duval and State of Florida, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Rope-Climbers or Combination Fire-Escapes and Rope-Climbers; 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 improvements in devices for use in ascending or descending a rope or cable, and is more particularly designed for use as a means of escape from a burning building.

My invention will be understood by reference to the accompanying drawings, wherein similar parts are indicated by similar letters throughout the several views.

Figure 1 is an elevation of my device as applied to a rope or cable, illustrating the same as to be used by both the hands and feet. Fig. 2 is a vertical section, enlarged, of the foot device shown in Fig. 1, the said section being taken on the line 2 2 of Fig. 3. Fig. 3 is a top plan view of the foot device shown in section in Fig. 2.

In Figs. 1, 2, and 3, A represents a hollow cylindrical casing having side openings A' at opposite points therein.

B represents a metallic plate pivoted at its upper end between lugs A' on the cylindrical casing A and provided upon its inner face with teeth or projections b'. There are two of these pivoted plates B, each provided with teeth or projections, as above described, and each of said pivoted plates has formed integral therewith or rigidly attached thereto at or near the pivotal point thereof a laterally-extending arm, which may be either in the form of a hand-grip, as shown at B' in Fig. 1, or in the form of a foot-rest, as shown at B² in Figs. 1, 2, and 3. This foot-rest should be provided with a strap to extend over the foot, as shown at b², for reasons hereinafter to be described.

In use for descending a rope or cable the person puts his feet upon the foot-rests B² beneath the straps b² in the foot-section of my device and with his hands grips the hand-grips

B' of the upper or hand section of the device. By an alternate releasing of the upper and lower sections, by lifting on the hand-grips and foot-rests, respectively, and thus withdrawing the teeth from the cable, the person may safely and quickly descend the rope, as will be easily understood. The strap b² above referred to allows the person to pull up on the foot-rests, as will be obvious, and thus release the foot-section readily.

It is not necessary in descending the rope to make use of the upper or hand section, as the person may take hold of the rope or cable itself, the principal weight being put upon the foot-section.

In ascending the rope the operation is simply the reverse of that in descending, the two sections being alternately released and raised, as will be obvious.

It will be seen that my climbers may be used upon a rope that has been placed permanently in position for use, or they may be used upon a rope that is kept stowed away near a window or balcony in readiness to be thrown out for use when desired.

As hereinbefore stated, the hand-climber is not absolutely necessary, as the rope may be grasped by the hands and held while the feet are raised or lowered, as the case may be.

The many advantages of the herein-described devices will be apparent to any practical mind.

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

1. In a rope-climber, the combination with a casing adapted to encircle the rope; of a pair of jaws pivoted at their upper ends to operate in openings in opposite sides of said casing; sharpened teeth provided upon the inner faces of said pivoted jaws, laterally-extending arms rigidly mounted upon said jaws, and means for inclosing the feet of a person provided upon said laterally-extending arms, substantially as described.

2. In a fire-escape, the combination with a rope or cable, of a gripping device for the hands consisting of a pair of pivoted jaws provided upon opposite sides of said rope and provided with sharpened teeth upon the inner faces and hand-grips rigidly mounted upon said jaws; and a foot-gripping device

consisting of a pair of pivoted jaws provided
upon opposite sides of said rope and provided
with sharpened teeth upon the inner faces and
laterally-extending foot-rests rigidly mount-
5 ed upon said jaws, and provided with means
for confining the feet of a person thereon, sub-
stantially as described.

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

ERNEST N. MONEY.

Witnesses:

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