J. F. NAUFFTS.

FLUE DAMPER.

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1,203,036. Patented Oct. 31, 1916.

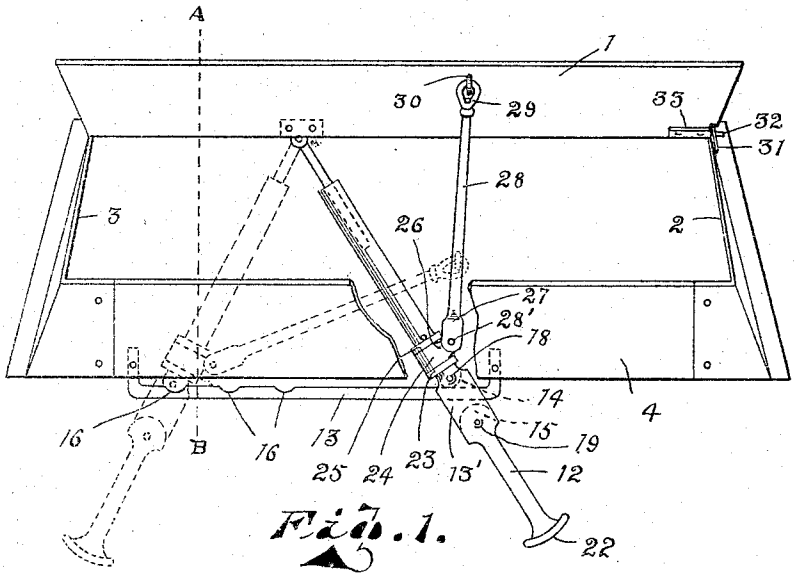


Fig. 1.

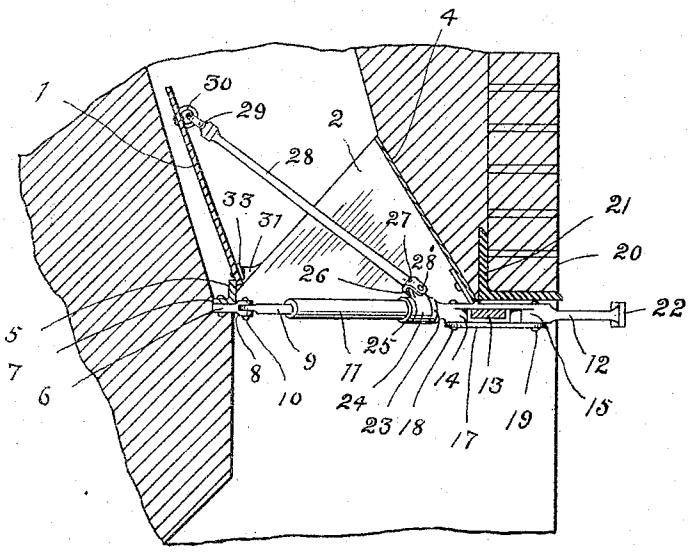


Fig. 2.

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FLUE-DAMPER.

1,203,036. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Oct. 31, 1916.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOHN F. NAUFFTS, a citizen of the United States, residing at Duluth, in the county of St. Louis and State of Minnesota, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Flue-Dampers, of which the following is a specification, reference being had therein to the accompanying drawing.

This invention consists of certain improvements in dampers and relates especially to dampers for fire place flues, such as are found in dwelling houses.

Some of the objects sought are to provide such a damper that may be readily manipulated from in front of the fire place without in any way marring the same or requiring any special form of mantel.

Another object is to provide such a damper that may be opened or closed vertically by a horizontal movement of the manipulating element and still other objects and advantages of my peculiar construction will be disclosed in the further description and drawings.

In the accompanying drawings forming part of this application and in which like numeral characters indicate like parts:—Figure 1 is a broken top plan view of the improved damper, and Fig. 2 is a vertical cross sectional view on the line A—B, Fig. 1.

The support or housing for the damper 1 is in the form of a rectangular shaped sleeve or thimble comprising the end walls 2 and 3 and side walls 4 and 5 and in cross section is preferably in the form of a scalene triangle in order that the lower face thereof may remain horizontal and rest upon the upper edge of the side walls or covings and back of the fire place and on a plane with the lower edge of the breast thereof and the throat of the housing inclined rearwardly to conform to the construction found in ordinary fireplace flues. However the exact form of housing shown is not essential to the working of the invention, but simply discloses the preferred embodiment of the invention.

6 represents a clip securely attached in any desired manner to the under side of the horizontal flange 7 of the rear wall 5, it having an inwardly projecting bifurcated portion 8 in which the rod 9 is pivotally fixed by means of a suitable pin 10. The rod 9 telescopically fits within the member 11 which is tubular for a portion of its length for such purpose and is designed to slidably support the innermost end of the member 11. The opposite, or handle end 12 of the member 11 is slidably carried upon the horizontal bar 13 depending from and extending beyond the lowermost edge of the housing wall 4 and is flattened at such point indicated by 13′ so as to rest firmly upon the bar, it having formed integral therewith and upon the under side thereof two projections 14 and 15. The ends of the projections 14 and 15 which oppose each other are circular in form as illustrated in dotted lines Fig. 1, to properly engage the edges of the bar 13 in the former's various positions thereupon and the projection 14, will, when the member is properly manipulated engage any of the notches 16 formed in the innermost edge of the bar 13 and thus hold the damper 1 in the position desired.

A strap 17 is securely attached by bolts or screws 18 and 19 to the underside of the projections 14 and 15 to form a suitable mounting about the bar 13.

The end 12 of the member 11 may extend any desired distance beyond the bar 13 so as to be conveniently operative from in front of the fireplace wall 20, which latter is preferably mounted upon a suitable metal lintel such as the angle iron bar 21, and the extreme outer end of the member may be provided with any form of suitable knob or handle 22 for convenient manual manipulation.

An annular shoulder or flange 23 is formed upon the end 12 of the member adjacent the flattened portion 13′ and against which the hub 24 of the damper rod connection abuts. A removable collar 25 surrounds the member 11 and forms the opposite abutment or thrust bearing for the hub 24. This collar may be held in position in

any desired manner or a pin through the shaft may be employed in place of a collar; or if preferred, the tubular portion of the member 11 may be screw threaded upon the innermost end of the portion 12 and the hub 24 held from longitudinal movement by being confined between the end of the portion 11 and the flange 23. The hub 24 is loose upon its bearing and has formed integral therewith a projecting lug 26 which pivotally engages the bifurcated end 27 of the damper rod 28, they being connected by means of the pin 28'. The opposite end of the rod 28 has mounted thereupon a swivel 29 which interlocks with the eye bolt 30 projecting from the inner face of the damper 1.

The object of connecting the two ends of the rod pivotally is to provide for its changing position in relation to the damper when being operated.

The rear wall 5 of the housing projects upward somewhat above the uppermost edge of the ends 2 and 3 to form a stop for the lower edge of the damper as it rests upon the end walls and thus requires a hinged member only at one corner thereof and which corner is determined by the trend of the rod 28 as the latter should always be inclined toward such corner that there may be a natural tendency toward the hinged end.

An upwardly projecting lug 31 is formed upon the end wall 2, and through which a spindle 32 passes, the latter being securely fixed to the lowermost corner of the damper as at 33 and which forms the hinge for the damper. The damper thus being hinged only at one corner provides means whereby it may be readily removed or adjusted in the event of obstacles falling upon or in back of it.

From the foregoing it is evident that the damper may be raised or lowered completely or only partly, as desired, by the horizontal movement of the operative end of the controlling lever, which extends beyond the face of the fireplace.

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

1. A fire place damper of the character described comprising a support, a hinged cover carried upon the support, a horizontally movable operating member pivotally attached to the support, a second member pivotally attached to the cover and to the operating member, and means whereby the operating lever may be moved longitudinally of the lintel of the fire place for opening or closing the damper.

2. A fire place damper of the character described, comprising a support, an operable damper carried upon the support, an operating rod pivotally carried by the support, a second rod attached to the damper and to the operating rod whereby the damper may be raised and lowered by the operation of the latter longitudinally of the lintel of the fire place.

3. A device of the character described, comprising a support, an operable damper carried upon the support, an operating member attached to the rear under side of the support and extending beyond the front side thereof, a guiding member adjacent the front of the support, connecting means between the damper and the operating means and means whereby the damper may be raised or lowered to a plurality of predetermined positions by the transverse movement of the operating means longitudinally of the lintel of the fire place.

4. The combination with a fireplace flue, of a thimble placed therein adjacent the breast of the fireplace, an operable cover resting upon the upper face of the thimble, a rod hinged to the lowermost rear face of the thimble and operative longitudinally of the lintel of the fireplace and means connecting the cover with the rod whereby the former may be opened and closed.

5. A fire place damper, comprising a supporting frame, a damper hinged at its rear edge to the frame and designed to act as a closure therefor, an operating telescopic member pivotally attached to the rear edge of the frame and extending beyond the front edge thereof, a rod connecting the damper with the operating member, a guide fixed to the front edge of the frame for supporting the operating member whereby the latter is moved transverse the breast of the fireplace for operating the damper.

6. A draft control for fire places comprising a frame, a damper hinged at its rear edge to the frame, an operating telescopic member, pivotally attached to the rear edge of the frame and extending beyond the front edge thereof, means attached to the front edge of the frame for supporting the free end of the telescopic member and permitting of its being moved transverse the breast of the fire place and a rod pivotally connected to the damper and to the telescopic member as and for the purpose described.

7. The combination with a hinged damper for a fireplace flue having a supporting frame and means carried by the frame for operating the damper, of a horizontal bar fixed to the front of the frame longitudinally of and below the lintel of the fireplace and having notches therein whereby the operating means may be set to engage any one of the notches in regulating the extent of movement of the damper.

8. The combination with a damper for a fire place flue, having a supporting frame and telescoping means carried by the frame for operating the damper, of horizontally disposed guiding means longitudinally of the breast of the fire place and engaging the operating means whereby the damper may be raised and lowered by transverse movement of the operating means in respect to the fireplace.

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

JOHN F. NAUFFTS.

Witnesses:
S. GEO. STEVENS,
W. H. DENHAM.

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