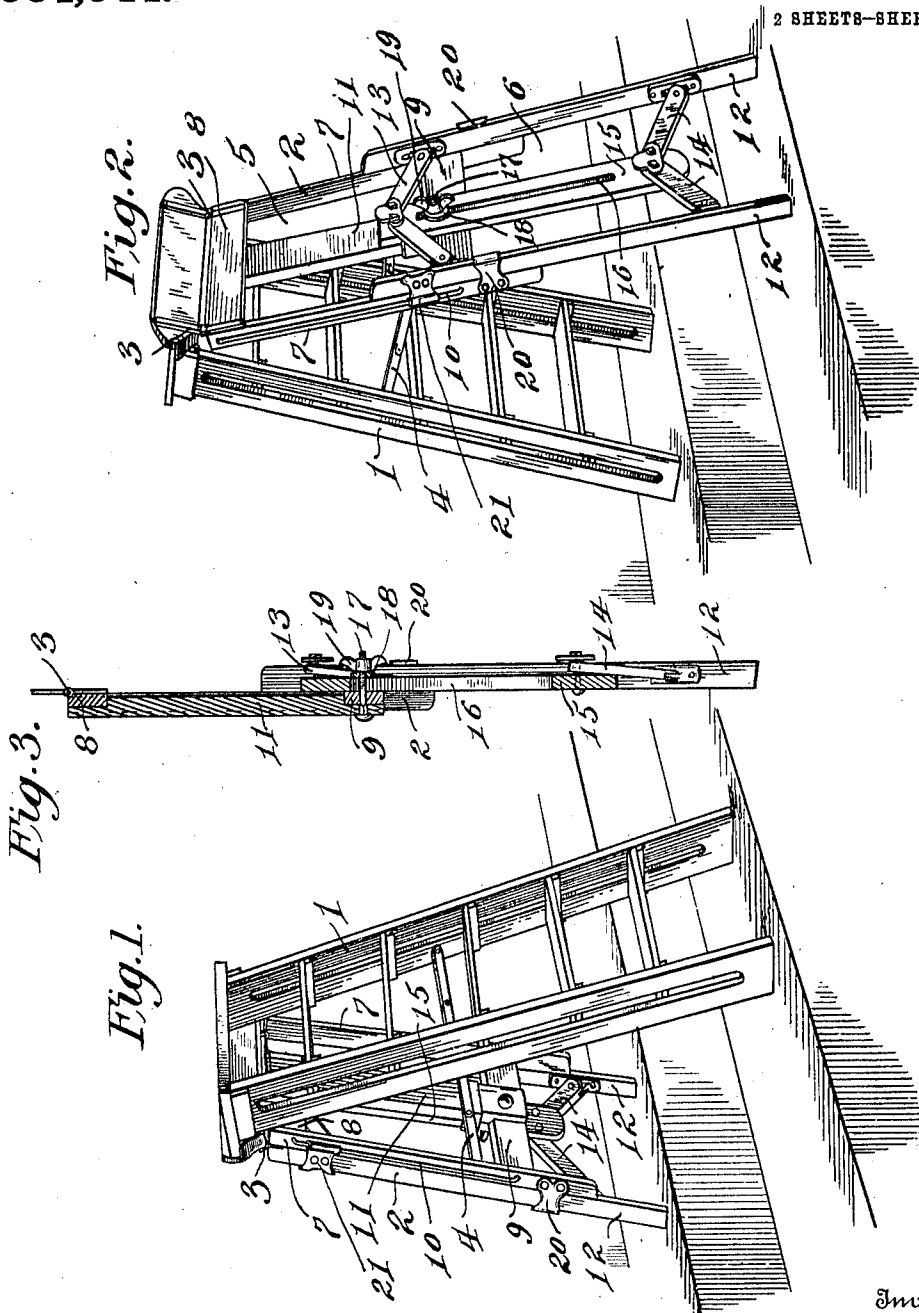


D. J. CUMMINGS.
ADJUSTABLE STEP LADDER.
APPLICATION FILED MAR. 1, 1910.

984,544.

Patented Feb. 21, 1911.

2 SHEETS-SHEET 1.



Witnesses

H. H. Lybrand
C. C. Hines.

Daniel J. Cummings

By Victor J. Evans

Attorney

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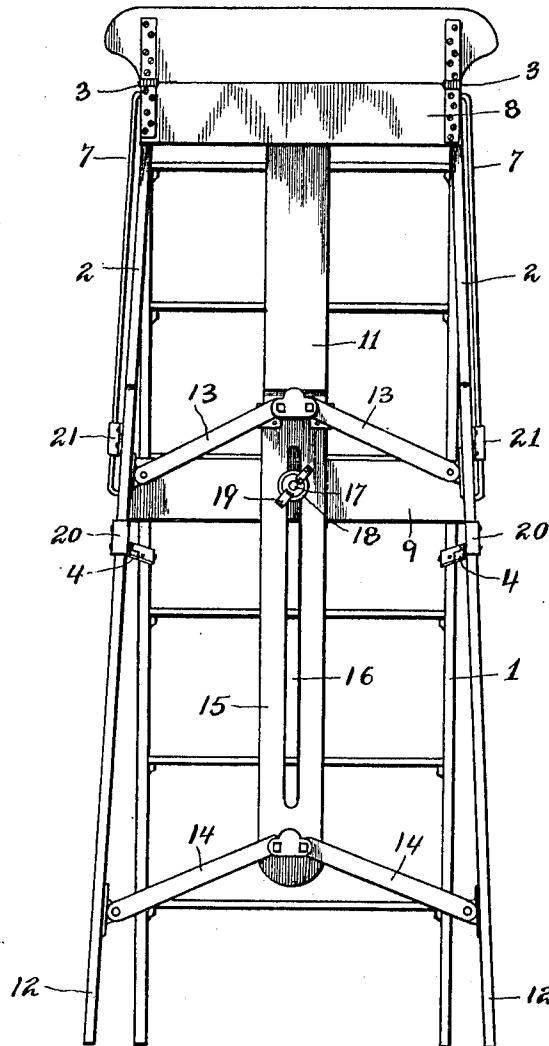


Fig. 4.

Witnesses:

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

DANIEL J. CUMMINGS, OF NEW HAVEN, CONNECTICUT.

ADJUSTABLE STEP-LADDER.

984,544.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Feb. 21, 1911.

Application filed March 1, 1910. Serial No. 546,598.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, DANIEL J. CUMMINGS, a citizen of the United States, residing at New Haven, in the county of New Haven and State of Connecticut, have invented new and useful Improvements in Adjustable Step-Ladders, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to an adjustable step ladder especially designed for the use of paper hangers, painters or other artisans in working upon level and irregular surfaces, the object of the invention being to provide a ladder which may be used upon a floor or other level surface, and also with safety upon stairways and other irregular or stepped surfaces, the prop portion of the ladder being provided with simple and effective means whereby it may be extended or contracted for the purposes described.

The invention consists of the features of construction, combination and arrangement of devices hereinafter fully described and claimed, reference being had to the accompanying drawing, in which:—

Figure 1 is a front perspective view of an adjustable ladder embodying my invention, showing the prop section contracted. Fig. 2 is a rear perspective view, showing the prop section extended. Fig. 3 is a vertical section through the prop section. Fig. 4 is a rear elevation of the ladder, showing the divergent relationship of the bars of the ladder sections slightly exaggerated.

Referring to the drawing, the numerals 1 and 2, respectively, designate the step and prop sections of the ladder, which are hinged at their upper ends as indicated at 3 and connected by the usual jointed folding braces 4. The step section 1 may be of any preferred construction, while the prop section 2 in accordance with my invention, is composed of upper and lower sections or members 5 and 6, the said upper section being connected by the hinges 3 to the top step of the step section and by the braces 4 to the side bars of the top section.

The member 5 of the prop section is composed of a pair of downwardly divergent side bars 7 connected at their upper ends by a cross bar 8 and adjacent their lower ends by a cross bar 9, the said bars being provided on their outer faces with longitudinal guide rods 10. Arranged between the bars 7 is a central, longitudinal bar 11 fastened

at its upper and lower ends to the cross bars 8 and 9.

The lower member or portion 6 of the prop section is formed of side bars 12 connected by upper and lower sets or pairs of 60 upwardly converging braces 13 and 14 which are pivotally attached to the side bars and to the upper and lower ends of a central longitudinal bar 15, said bar 15 being provided with a longitudinal slot 16. Through 65 this slot 16 passes a bolt 17 extending through the cross bar 9 and lower end of the longitudinal bar 11 of the section 5 and provided with a washer 18 and a wing nut 19, whereby the bars 11 and 15 are slidably connected 70 for vertical adjustment on each other and may be fixed in relatively adjusted position.

In order to guide the section 6 in its movements on the section 5, as well as to firmly connect said sections against undue movement, the lower ends of the bars 7 are provided with flanged plates or half cuffs 20 75 engaging the bars 12, while the latter are provided at their upper ends with guide sleeves 21 which fit and slide on the rods 10. 80

From the foregoing description, it will be apparent that the lower member 6 of the prop section may be adjusted longitudinally on the upper member 5 thereof, whereby said prop section may be extended and contracted to rest at a higher or lower elevation than the step section 1, in which adjusted position the section 6 may be firmly fastened by the clamping bolt 17, washer 18 and nut 19. The ladder will thus be found 90 of great advantage and convenience to paperhangers, painters and other artisans in working upon stairs and other level and unlevel surfaces.

As shown, the bars of the sections 5 and 6 95 diverge toward their free ends, in order to widen the prop section at the base, to give a wider tread or support for the ladder. Hence, the pivoted braces or links 13 and 14 will permit the bars 12 to have a relative 100 inward and outward movement, as the section 6 is adjusted upward and downward on the section 5, to prevent the sleeves 21 from binding on the rods 10.

Having described my invention, I claim:— 105

A step ladder comprising a step section, and a prop section, said prop section embodying relatively fixed and adjustable members slidably connected, the upper member being hinged to the step section and the 110

two members embodying outwardly diverging side bars, a central longitudinal bar upon the fixed section, a slotted central longitudinal bar upon the adjustable section, 5 upper and lower sets of inwardly converging links pivotally connected to said slotted bar with the side bars of said adjustable section, a bolt carried by the fixed section

and passing through the slot in said bar, and a clamping nut associated with said bolt: 10
In testimony whereof I affix my signature in presence of two witnesses.

DANIEL J. CUMMINGS.

Witnesses:

HYMAN JACOBS,
BARNETT BERMAN.