(No Model.)

G. W. HIBSCH.

FIRE ESCAPE.

No. 368,396. Patented Aug. 16, 1887.

Fig. 1.

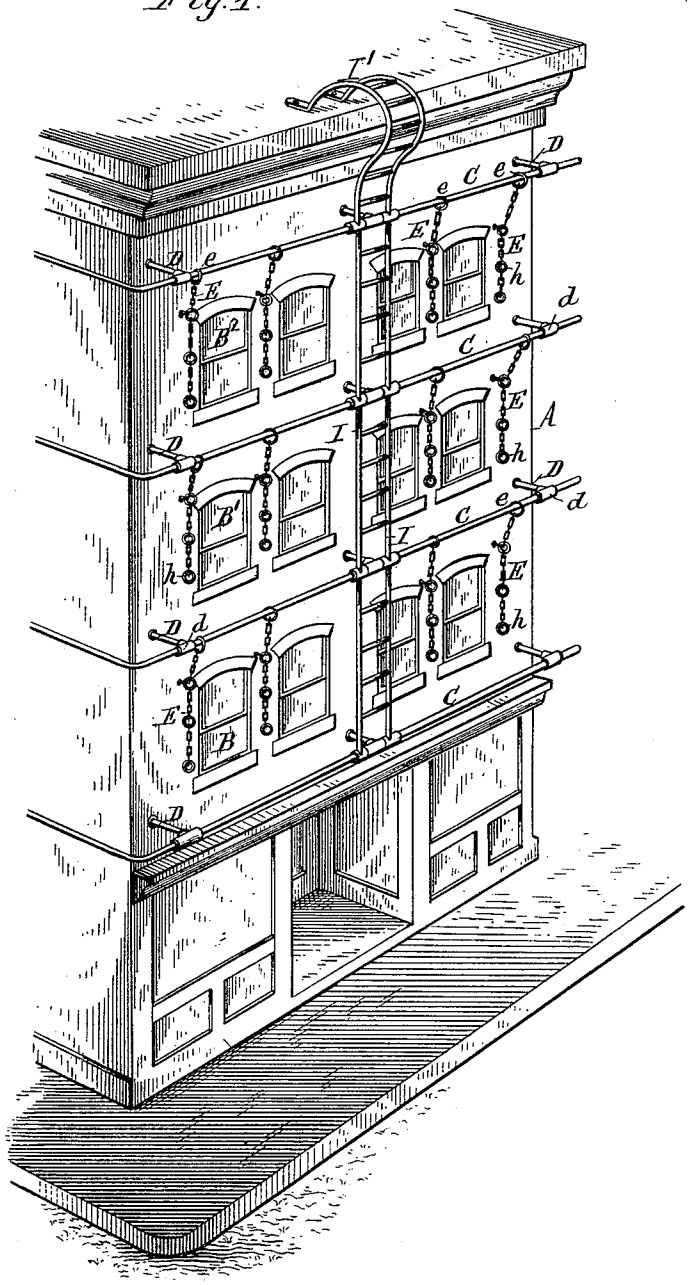


Fig. 2.

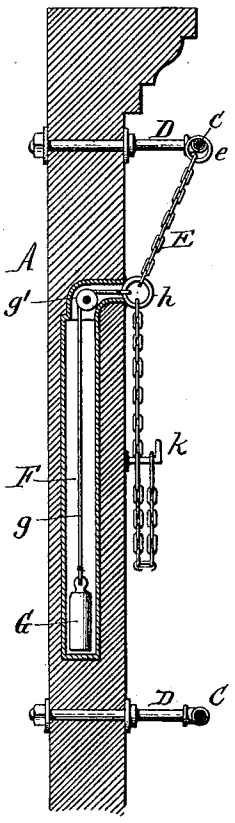
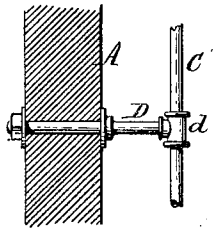


Fig. 3.



Witnesses.
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

GEORGE W. HIBSCH, OF BUFFALO, NEW YORK.

FIRE-ESCAPE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 368,396, dated August 16, 1887.

Application filed May 19, 1887. Serial No. 238,733. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, GEORGE W. HIBSCH, of the city of Buffalo, in the county of Erie and State of New York, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Fire-Escapes, of which the following is a specification.

The object of this invention is to provide a simple and durable fire-escape for public and private buildings, whereby egress from the different floors and from any window on the front or side of the building on which the fire-escape is arranged can be readily had in case of fire in the building.

The invention consists of the improvements, which will be hereinafter fully set forth, and pointed out in the claims.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 represents a perspective view of a building provided with my improved fire-escape. Fig. 2 is a fragmentary vertical section of the front wall of the building. Fig. 3 is a fragmentary horizontal section thereof.

Like letters of reference refer to like parts in the several figures.

A represents the front wall of the building; and B B′ B^2, the windows arranged, respectively, on the second, third, and fourth floors of the building.

C represents horizontal rails arranged above the windows on the different floors and extending across the entire width of the building. These rails C are preferably formed of metal tubing and secured to metal brackets or supports D, which extend through the front wall, A. The supports D may be secured to the wall A in any suitable manner, and are preferably provided at their outer ends with T-shaped couplings *d*, to which the rails are connected. The rails C are arranged at a suitable distance from the wall of the building and below the windows on each floor, so as to permit a person to conveniently reach the rail nearest to the bottom of the window.

E represents a series of chains or cables suspended from the rails C by rings *e*. Each rail C is provided with as many chains, E, as there are windows on each floor. The chains E are suspended from the rails above the windows on each floor and hang downwardly on one side of each window to within reach of the rail next below.

F represents a hollow tube or chamber formed in the wall A, with its upper bent end opening outwardly through the outer face of the wall A, as shown in Fig. 2. A chamber, F, is arranged on one side of each window, and may be secured in the side of the window-casing or on the inside of the wall A, if desired. Each chamber F is provided with a weight, G, which is suspended from a cord or cable, *g*, passing over a pulley, *g′*, in the top of the chamber and out through the open upper end of the chamber. The chains E are each connected with a cord or cable, *g*, whereby the chains are prevented from being drawn from the window a greater distance than the length of the cords *g*. The chains E are provided with rings *h*, which form convenient handles for grasping hold of the chains.

I represents a ladder, which is preferably arranged in the center of the wall A and extends vertically from the lower rail C, arranged below the windows B, to the upper rail C, arranged above the windows B^2. The ladder I is provided with a curved extension, I′, which extends from the rail above the upper row of windows to the roof of the building, as shown in Fig. 1.

Upon stepping onto the rail below the window from any floor, and by grasping the chains E successively, a person can guide himself from either side of the building toward the ladder I. By means of the rings *e* the chains are permitted to slide along the rails until the next succeeding chain can be grasped by the hand, and as soon as released the chains are returned to their required position near the side of the window by means of the cords *g* and weights G. When not in use, the ends of the chains are preferably hung upon hooks *k*, within convenient reach of each window.

I claim as my invention—

1. In a fire-escape, the combination, with the horizontal rails C, secured to the wall of the building above and below the windows, of chains or cables E, suspended from the rails C by rings *e*, and hanging downwardly between the windows, substantially as set forth.

2. In a fire-escape, the combination, with the horizontal rails C, of chains or cables E, suspended from the rails C by rings *e*, and cords *g*, attached to the chains E, and provided with

weights G, arranged in chambers F, secured to the wall of the building, substantially as set forth.

3. In a fire-escape, the combination, with the horizontal rails C, arranged above the windows, of chains or cables E, suspended from the rails C by rings *e*, and provided with handles *h*, cords *g*, secured to the chains E, and provided with weights G, arranged in chambers F, and a ladder, I, secured to the lower rail and extending to the roof of the building, substantially as set forth.

Witness my hand this 26th day of April, 1887.

GEORGE W. HIBSCH.

Witnesses:
JNO. J. BONNER,
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