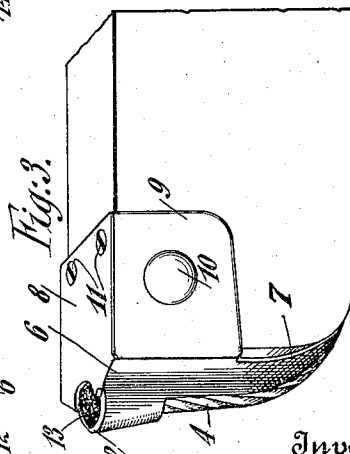
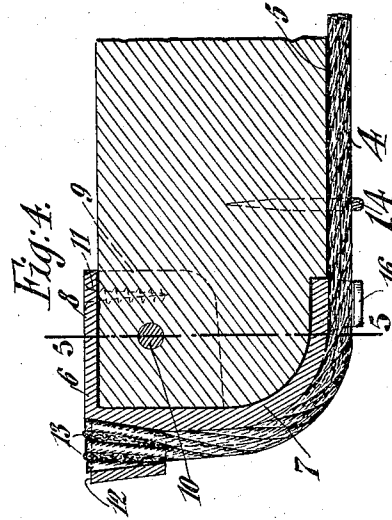
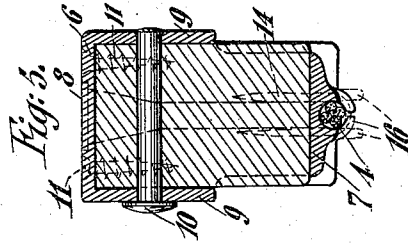
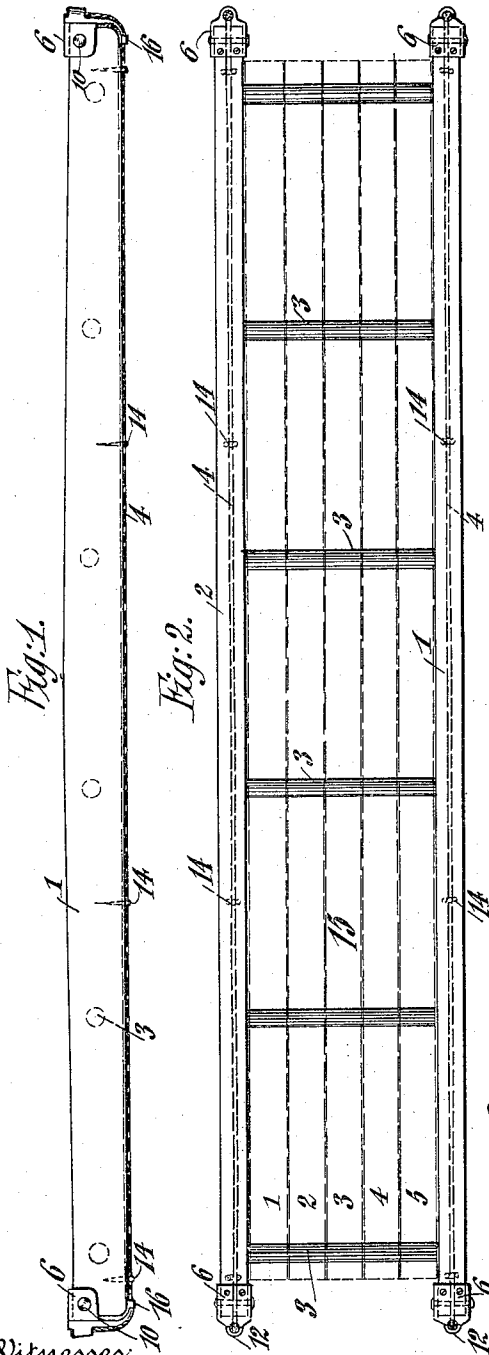


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SCAFFOLD.
APPLICATION FILED NOV. 20, 1914.

1,167,988.

Patented Jan. 11, 1916.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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SCAFFOLD.

1,167,988.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Jan. 11, 1916.

Application filed November 20, 1914. Serial No. 873,142.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ALBERT N. FAULKNER, a subject of the King of England, and a resident of New York, in the borough of Manhattan, county and State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Scaffolds, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to scaffolds, and has for its object to provide an improved device, which may be used for a platform of a scaffold, or a step or other ladder, as the case may require.

In the construction of scaffolds, platforms are provided therefor, which carry a very heavy weight, and in building platforms, to stand the strain exerted thereupon, it has been necessary to build them of metal or large timbers, which makes the same very heavy, and consequently not easy to handle.

One of the objects of the present invention is to construct a platform for scaffolds of light material, which may be reinforced to strengthen the same, whereby considerable weight may be placed thereupon, and the danger of the same giving away is overcome.

The invention also seeks to provide a device of this character which will be neat in appearance, durable when in use, and comparatively inexpensive in the cost of manufacture, thereby rendering the same commercially desirable.

With the above and other objects in view, the invention consists of the novel features of construction, combination, formation and arrangement of the parts, as will be hereinafter fully described, and more particularly pointed out in the appended claims.

The invention will be best understood by having reference to the following detailed description, when taken in connection with the accompanying drawing, in which—

Figure 1 is a side elevation of a platform embodying my invention; Fig. 2 is a plan view of the same; Fig. 3 is a detailed perspective view of one corner of the platform; Fig. 4 is a detailed longitudinal section; and Fig. 5 is a detailed transverse section taken on the line 5—5 of Fig. 4.

Similar reference numerals indicate corresponding parts throughout the various figures of the drawings.

Referring to the drawings, the side rails 1 and 2 of the platform are arranged in parallel relation, and connected together by

means of a plurality of rounds 3. The platform when in use is generally supported at each end thereof, and the greatest stress is upon the medial portions of the side rails, and to help to overcome this strain, the medial portions of the side rails are broadest, and from there the rails taper toward their ends. In the manufacture of platforms for scaffolds, it is necessary to construct them of very light material, so that they will carry as little weight as possible, but at the same time, they should be very strong, so as to undergo the strains which they are subject to.

The platform forming the subject matter of the present invention is preferably made of wood or similar light material, and the side rails thereof are reinforced by means of wired cables 4, which rest within the grooves 5, formed within the lower walls of the rails. The extremities of the cables are connected to the rails by means of the brackets 6. These brackets are arranged at the ends of the rails, as better shown in Fig. 2 of the drawings. Formed integral with each bracket is a top portion 8 and side wings 9, which rest upon the rails, and are permanently connected thereto. Passing through the side wings and the rails are rivets 10, and the top portions of the brackets are secured in place by means of the screws 11. The ends of the cables 4 pass over the body portion of the bracket, and rest within the grooves formed therein, but terminate within the inverted truncated conically-shaped sockets 12, formed within the brackets adjacent the upper ends thereof.

The ends of the cables are spliced when placed within the sockets 12, and solder or suitable filling 13 is placed within the socket, thereby forming a rigid connection between the brackets and the cables. By having inverted cone-shaped sockets 12, it is obvious that the greater the pull upon the cables, the ends thereof will be more securely wedged within the sockets, and thereby form a more rigid connection.

The lower extremities of the brackets are provided with a pair of spaced lugs or projections 16, which, before applied to use, are in the position as shown in dotted lines in Fig. 5, and when in use, they are bent over upon the cables, so as to grip the same, which also helps to make a more rigid connection between the brackets and the cables.

To retain the cables within the grooves 5 of the rails, the staples 14 may be driven within the rails in spaced relation as shown.

When the device is being used as a plat-
5 form for a scaffold for painters, builders, or the like, the planking 15, as disclosed in dotted lines in Fig. 2, may be placed upon the rounds 3, but the device may also be used as a step-ladder, when the planking is
10 removed. By making the device out of timber, with the exception of the main reinforcing means, a very light structure is provided, which will not only be inexpensive to make, but can be easily handled, owing to
15 its lightness in weight.

Whereas, I have shown one embodiment of the present invention for carrying out the purpose of the same, it is, of course, to be understood that other changes, as to form,
20 or modifications, may be resorted to, that come within the scope of the invention without departing from the spirit of sacrificing the efficiency of the same.

What I claim as new and desire to secure
25 by Letters Patent is:

1. In an improved scaffold, the combination with side rails, and means for connecting the same, the lower walls of the side rails having grooves therein, of brackets secured
30 to the ends of said side rails, having rounded portions engaging the lower portions of the ends of the said side rails, and provided with grooves registering with the grooves of said side rails, and extending to the upper edge
35 of the said rails, each having an inverted, truncated, conically-shaped socket extending substantially to the upper side of said side rails, and formed continuous with the said grooves, cables resting within said grooves
40 and extending over said brackets, the ex-

tremities of the cables being enlarged and resting within the sockets to form a rigid connection between the cables and the brackets, and lugs carried by the brackets at the lower ends thereof adjacent the grooves 45 of the said side rails, for gripping the cables, and preventing dislodgment of the same from the said grooves.

2. In an improved scaffold, the combination with side rails and means for connect- 50 ing the same, the lower walls of the side rails having grooves therein, of brackets secured to the ends of said side rails, having rounded portions engaging the lower portions of the ends of the said side rails, and provided with 55 grooves registering with the grooves of said side rails, and extending to the upper edge of said rails, each having an inverted, truncated, conically-shaped socket extending substantially to the upper side of said side 60 rails, and formed continuous with the said grooves, cables resting within said grooves and extending over said brackets, the extremities of the cables being unraveled and adapted to rest within the said sockets, a 65 filling adapted to rest within the sockets for the forming of a rigid connection between the cables and the brackets, and lugs carried by the brackets at the lower ends thereof adjacent the grooves of the said side rails, 70 for gripping the cables, and preventing dislodgment of the same from the said grooves.

In testimony, that I claim the foregoing as my invention, I have signed my name in presence of two subscribing witnesses.

ALBERT N. FAULKNER.

Witnesses:

F. HOGG,
JOS. BISBANO.

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