May 1, 1928.

1,667,788

F. JOVIEN

SAFETY DEVICE FOR SCAFFOLDS

Filed Sept. 2, 1927

Fig. 1.

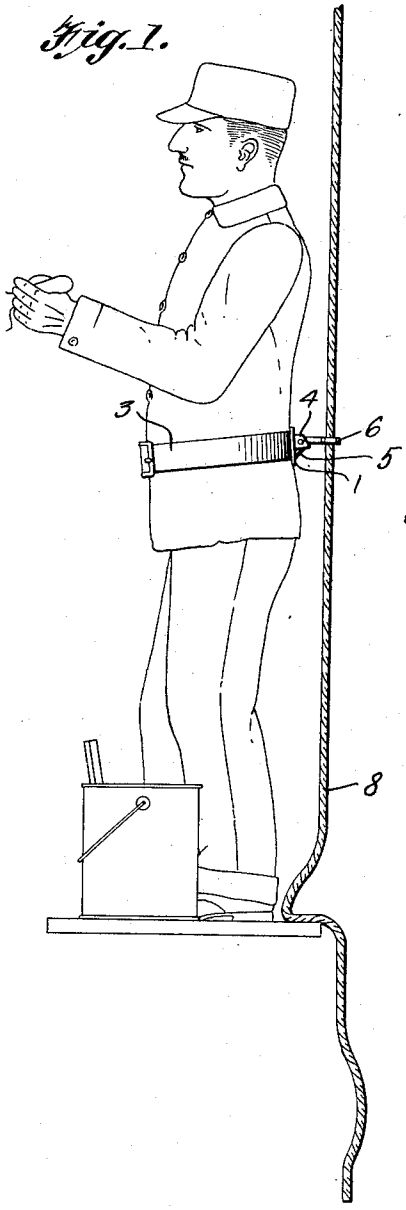


Fig. 2.

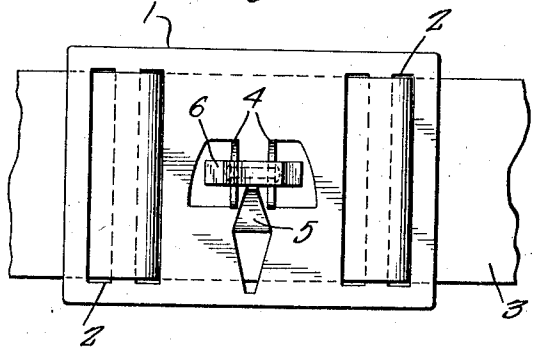


Fig. 3.

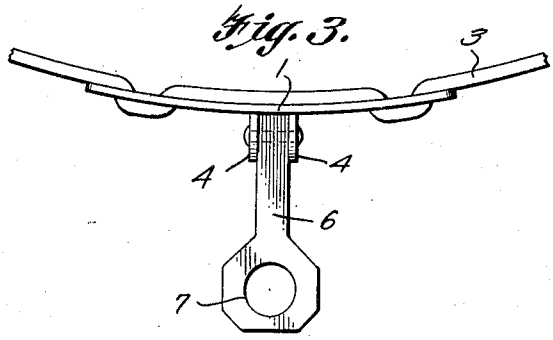
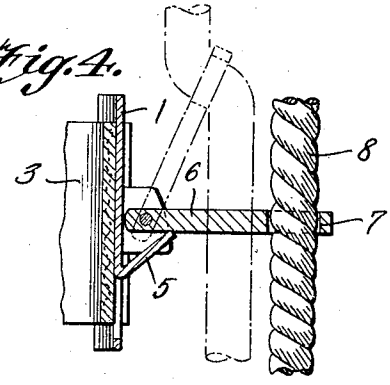


Fig. 4.



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WITNESS:

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

FRANK JOVIEN, OF CHICAGO, ILLINOIS.

SAFETY DEVICE FOR SCAFFOLDS.

Application filed September 2, 1927. Serial No. 217,235.

This invention relates to a safety device for preventing a workman falling off a scaffold or the like, the general object of the invention being to provide a device which is adapted to be fastened to a belt on the workman and which includes a lever having a hole therein through which a rope is passed, with means whereby the lever will grip the rope if the device is moved downwardly but which will slide up the rope when the workman pulls the scaffold upwardly.

This invention also consists in certain other features of construction and in the combination and arrangement of the several parts, to be hereinafter fully described, illustrated in the accompanying drawings and specifically pointed out in the appended claim.

In describing my invention in detail, reference will be had to the accompanying drawings wherein like characters denote like or corresponding parts throughout the several views, and in which:—

Figure 1 is a view showing the device in use.

Figure 2 is a rear view of the device, showing a portion of the belt.

Figure 3 is a top plan view of Figure 2.

Figure 4 is a sectional view showing in dotted lines how the device grips the rope if the workman should fall.

In these views, 1 indicates a plate which is curved to fit the back of the wearer and which is provided with a pair of slots 2 adjacent each end thereof through which a belt 3 is threaded in such a manner that the belt covers practically the entire inner face of the plate and thus acts as a cushion to prevent the plate from injuring the back of the user. A pair of ears 4 and a tongue 5 are struck from the plate and a lever 6 is pivoted between the ears, the tongue 5 acting as a stop to limit the downward movement of the lever and to hold it in horizontal position. The outer end of the lever is enlarged and this enlarged part is provided with a hole 7 through which passes a cable or rope 8 which is adapted to have its upper end fastened to a strong support well above the workman.

From the foregoing it will be seen that when the belt 3 is placed around the body of the workman, the lever will remain in a horizontal position during the ordinary movements of the workman and it can slide up the rope as the workman raises the scaffold or passes from a lower plane to a higher plane. However, if the workman should fall, the friction of the rope on the lever would cause the lever to move upwardly and thus kink the rope, as shown in dotted lines in Figure 4, so that the lever would lock itself to the rope and thus prevent the workman from falling.

If the workman wishes to descend, he would reach behind him and grasp the lever and hold it in horizontal position so that it could slide down the rope without gripping the rope. If he should fall while holding the lever horizontally, he would naturally reach for something, thus releasing the lever so that it could swing upwardly and thus bind itself to the rope so that the device would support the workman.

It is thought from the foregoing description that the advantages and novel features of my invention will be readily apparent.

I desire it to be understood that I may make changes in the construction and in the combination and arrangement of the several parts, provided that such changes fall within the scope of the appended claim.

What I claim is:—

A device of the class described comprising a plate having slots adjacent its ends through which a belt is adapted to be threaded, a pair of ears extending from the rear face of the plate, a lever pivoted between the ears and having a hole in its outer end which is adapted to receive a rope and a tongue on the plate acting as a stop for limiting the downward movement of the lever and holding it in a horizontal position, the lever moving upwardly if the wearer should fall and thus gripping the rope.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature.

FRANK JOVIEN.