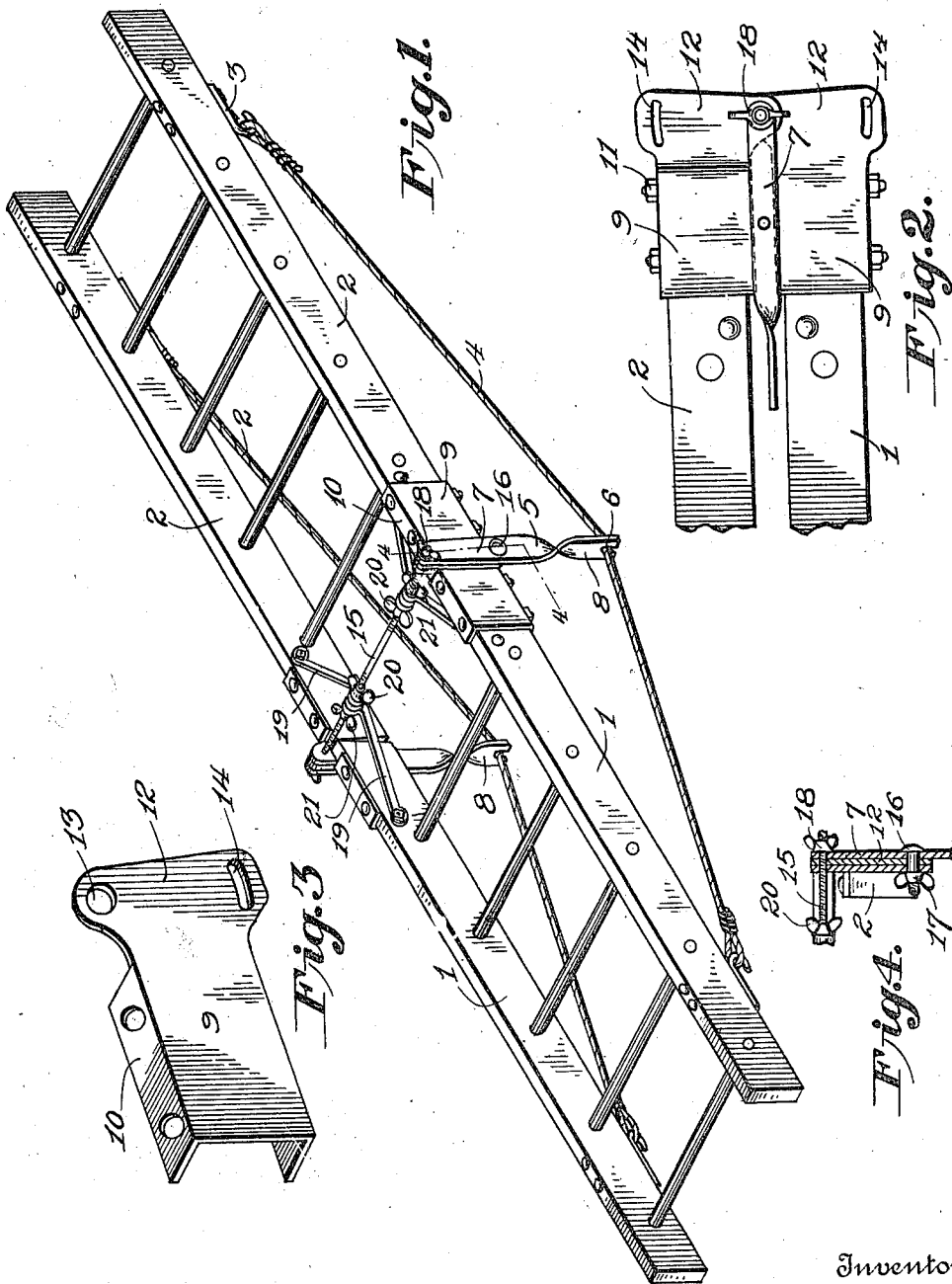


H. F. HARTMAN.
FOLDING SCAFFOLD LADDER.
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976,074.

Patented Nov. 15, 1910.



Witnesses
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

HUGO F. HARTMAN, OF MILWAUKEE, WISCONSIN.

FOLDING SCAFFOLD-LADDER.

976,074.

Specification of Letters Patent.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, HUGO F. HARTMAN, citizen of the United States, residing at Milwaukee, in the county of Milwaukee and State of Wisconsin, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Folding Scaffold-Ladders, of which the following is a specification, reference being had therein to the accompanying drawing.

10 This invention relates to foldable scaffolds and more particularly to a means for bracing the same.

Another object of this invention is the provision of means for facilitating the securing of the foldable sections of the scaffold together.

With these and other objects in view this invention consists of certain novel constructions, combinations and arrangements of parts as will be hereinafter fully described and claimed.

In the drawings: Figure 1 is a perspective view of the scaffold showing the sections in an extended position. Fig. 2 is a side elevation of the connecting brackets carried by the sections of the scaffold, showing the scaffold or sections in a folded position. Fig. 3 is a perspective view of one of the connecting brackets. Fig. 4 is a section taken on line 4-4 of Fig. 1.

Referring to the drawings by numerals, (1) designates the primary section of the scaffold and (2) the auxiliary section. To each of the side members of the primary and auxiliary sections are secured hooks (3) to which hooks are attached guy ropes or brace members (4). The brace members (4) are also engaged by a depending arm (5). The arm (5) is provided upon its lower end with a notch (6) through which passes the brace or guy member (4). The top portion (7) of the depending arm (5) is bent at right angles to the lower portion (8) thereof and the top portion (7) is secured to the connecting brackets as hereinafter described.

To the adjacent ends of the primary and auxiliary sections are secured bracket members (9) which are provided with a substantially U-shaped body portion which straddles the side members of the primary and auxiliary sections. The flanged portions (10) of the U-shaped body portions of the brackets (9) are engaged by bolts (11) which pass through the side members

of the primary and auxiliary sections and secure the bracket members thereto. The bracket members are provided with enlarged ends (12) which enlarged ends extend or protrude from the adjacent ends of the primary and auxiliary sections. One side of the enlarged ends (12) is provided with apertures (13) and the other side is provided with longitudinally extending slots (14). The enlarged ends (12) of the bracket members (9) carried by the auxiliary section (2) are offset so as to overlap the enlarged ends of the brackets carried by the primary section.

A transversely extending member (15) which is oppositely threaded at its respective ends connects the brackets carried by the primary section with the brackets carried by the auxiliary section, the ends of the rod (15) passing through the apertures (13) of each of the connecting brackets. A bolt (16) which is connected to the top portion (7) of the connecting arm (5) passes through the slots (14) in the bracket members and the sections are clamped together by means of a thumb nut (17) threaded upon the outer end of said bolt (16). Thumb nuts (18) are threaded upon the respective ends of the bolt or rod (15) and firmly clamp the upper ends of the depending arms (5) to the bracket members. It will therefore be obvious that by having the two securing means as, for instance, the rod (15) and the bolts (16) in connection with the guy members (4) and the depending arm (5) that the sections will be thoroughly braced when held in an extended position. Brace members (19) are secured to the inner sides of the side rails of the primary and auxiliary sections near the adjacent ends of same and are engaged at their outer ends by means of the rod (15). The outer ends of the brace members (19) are held or clamped in a set position by means of thumb nuts (20) and (21). By means of the brace members (19) the side members of the primary and auxiliary sections will be braced and will be prevented from spreading laterally.

It will be obvious that by having the bracket members provided with longitudinally extending slots near the lower ends of the enlarged ends (12), the longitudinally extending braces or guys (4) can be easily removed from the hooks (3) by releasing the thumb nut (17) upon the bolt (16) and

allowing the bolts (16) to work within the slots (14) thereby allowing the sections to be bowed slightly upward.

What I claim as my invention is:

- 5 1. A scaffold of the class described comprising a pair of sections, connecting brackets, said connecting brackets comprising a body portion substantially U-shaped in cross section, said brackets provided with enlarged ends, adapted to overlap, said enlarged ends
10 provided upon one side thereof with an aperture, and upon the other side thereof with a longitudinally extending slot, a depending arm, means passing through said
15 depending arm and said apertures and slots for connecting the depending arm and brackets together, and means connected to the sections and engaging the depending arms for preventing the sections from being
20 folded in an upward direction.
2. A scaffold of the class described comprising a pair of sections, brackets carried thereby and provided with enlarged ends adapted to overlap, a transversely extending
25 rod passing through said enlarged ends for connecting the same, and brace means carried by the primary and auxiliary sections and engaging said transversely extending rod for preventing the sides of said
30 section from spreading.

3. A scaffold of the class described comprising a pair of sections, brackets secured thereto and provided with apertured ends, being adapted to overlap, said ends provided with apertures and longitudinally extending slots, a depending arm, a transversely extending member passing through the upper ends of said depending arms and through said apertures in the ends of said brackets, a bolt passing through said depending arm and working in said slots in the ends of said brackets and longitudinally extending brace means carried by said primary and auxiliary sections and adapted to be engaged by said depending arms.

4. A scaffold of the class described, comprising a pair of sections, brackets carried thereby, a rod connecting said brackets, braces secured to the sides of said sections and engaging said rod, thumb nuts threaded upon said rod and adapted to hold said braces in a set position upon said rod for preventing the sides of said sections from spreading.

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

HUGO F. HARTMAN.

Witnesses:

LOUIS MEIER,
PAUL SCHLESNER.