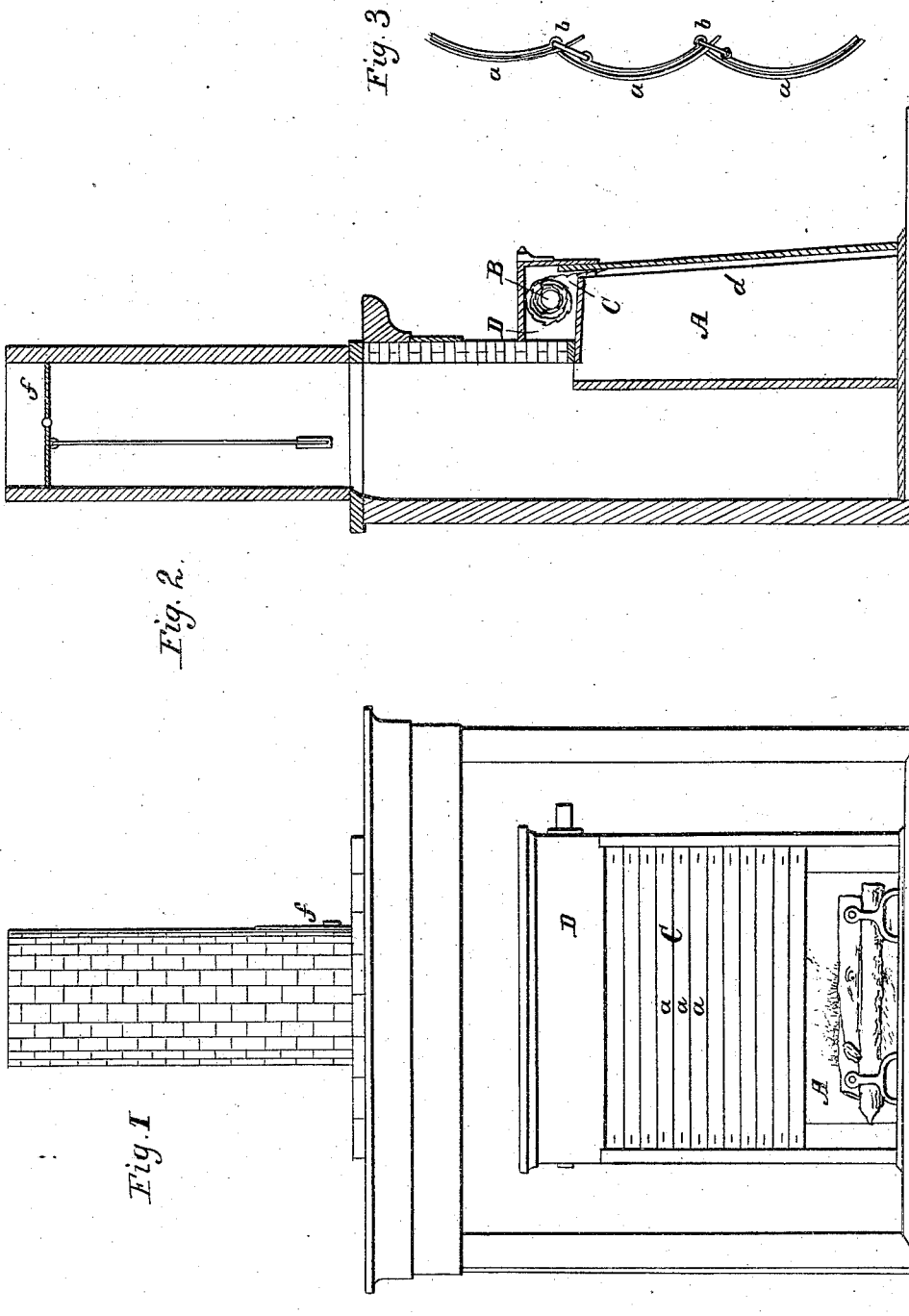


J. F. SNYDER.
Fireplace.

No. 11,340.

Patented July 18, 1854.



UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOHN F. SNYDER, OF CULPEPER, VIRGINIA.

METALLIC FIREPLACE.

Specification of Letters Patent No. 11,340, dated July 18, 1854.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOHN F. SNYDER, of Culpeper, in the county of Culpeper, State of Virginia, have invented Improvements in
5 Metallic Fireplaces; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description of the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, forming a part of this specification, in which—

10 Figure 1. is a front elevation. Fig. 2. is a section taken in line *x x*. Fig. 3. is a detached end view of the blower.

The nature of my invention consists in constructing a blower which is to be used in
15 the ordinary fire place, or in "coal-grates" and in all places where it can be used to advantage. The blower is so constructed that it may be easily coiled around a cylinder or uncoiled as the case may require. Said cylinder receives a rotary motion from a crank
20 or otherwise, by uncoiling the blower which forms an apron, the lower edge passes down in front of the fire, and lessens the size of the flue—thus when the blower is raised up
25 and the flue is of the ordinary size, the draft is very light, but when the blower is down in a position to greatly diminish the size of the flue, the draft becomes very strong, and will assist greatly in kindling fires, &c. In
30 many instances fire places are liable to smoke, which is a very great annoyance, the reason of this is, because the flue is either too high or too low. I have proved by experiments that the flue of chimneys must be
35 of a height corresponding to the height of the chimney, or the size of the flue must be regulated to the other proportion of the work, and to circumstances, such, as the direction of the wind, and the position of the
40 building, it is impossible to build a fire place of solid masonry that can accommodate itself to all of these peculiarities, some chimneys will draw a great deal too hard, when the wind is in the south, but when the
45 wind is in the northwest they will smoke and become very troublesome, while another fire place in the same building may act very differently. These difficulties all arise from a want of proportion in the parts as before
50 described, my apparatus acts as a regulator, and will regulate any chimney however bad

it may be, and prevent it from smoking in the most effectual manner, also when it is desirable to shut off the draft and prevent
it from burning, the blower may be closed
55 or drawn down so as to stop the draft, and at the same time the heat may be retained by closing the valve, in the chimney flue above, by so doing a uniform heat may be preserved for many hours. 60

To enable others skilled in the arts to make and use my invention, I will proceed to describe its construction and operation.

I construct a metallic fire place A of a convenient size and form, and insert it in a
65 proper position in the flue of the ordinary fire place, as seen in Figs. 1 and 2. I also construct a windlass B around which I coil the apron or blower C, said windlass is placed in a trunk D, as seen in Fig. 2, which
70 is placed directly over the fire place.

The blower C is constructed of sheet metal in sections *a, a, a*, of a suitable width, and of a length sufficient to extend across
75 the fire place, as seen in Fig. 1. These sections are then bent into a concave form, as seen in Fig. 3, and united together firmly by means of joints "*b*," said joints being
so constructed as to admit of the apron or blower being easily coiled on the cylinder, 80 and at the same time when the blower is uncoiled it will effectually close all the crevices or apertures, as seen in Fig. 3. When the blower is let down or uncoiled from the windlass, it passes down in grooves *d* formed
85 in the jambs, seen in Fig. 2. I also construct (when circumstances will admit of it) chimneys of a circular form and provide them with a valve "*f*," which may be operated in any convenient manner, when the
90 valve is closed and the blower is drawn down so as to intercept the draft, the fire will burn very slowly, and thus maintain a uniform degree of heat as before described, for a great length of time. 95

There are many advantages gained by the use of this improvement, in addition to those previously mentioned, which I do not deem it necessary to explain here, as they will be readily seen on inspection. 100

I do not claim suspending a screen in front of a fire place which may be operated

by means of weights and pulleys as that is an old device; but

What I do claim as my invention and desire to secure by Letters Patent is—

- 5 Forming the screen with narrow metallic strips having a concave surface connected by links, making them flexible and easily coiled into a small space on a cylinder, the

whole being arranged and constructed in the manner and for the purpose set forth.

Signed and sealed on this thirtieth day of May 1854.

JOHN F. SNYDER. [L. s.]

Witnesses:

THOS. JAMESON,
H. F. WILLSON.