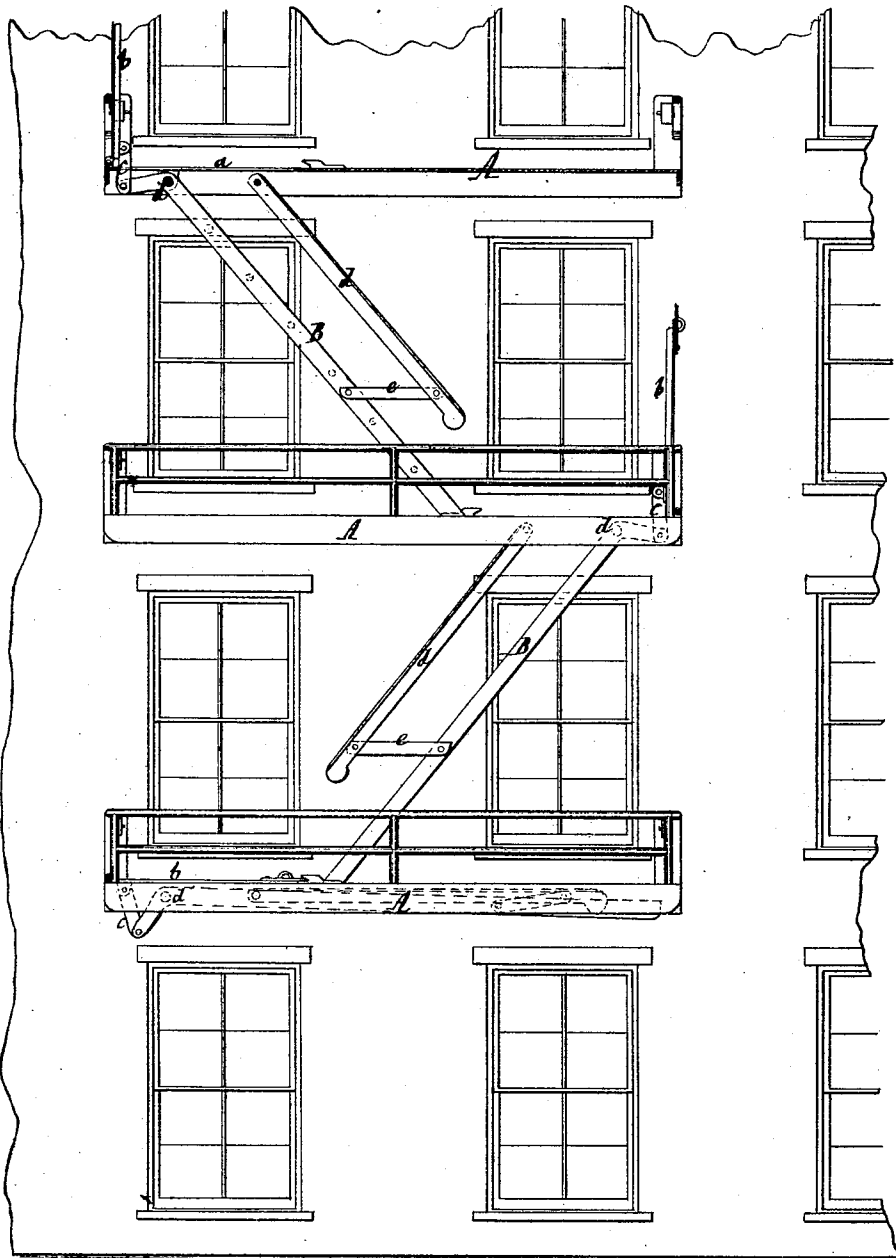


J. Steger,

Fire Escape.

No. 101,393.

Patented Mar. 29, 1870.



Witnesses.

*W. Mahler
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United States Patent Office.

JOSEPH STEGER, OF NEW YORK, N. Y.

Letters Patent No. 101,393, dated March 29, 1870.

IMPROVED FIRE-ESCAPE.

The Schedule referred to in these Letters Patent and making part of the same.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOSEPH STEGER, of the city, county, and State of New York, have invented a new and improved Fire-Escape; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description thereof, which will enable those skilled in the art to make and use the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawing forming part of this specification, which drawing represents a front view of this invention, showing its application to a building.

My invention consists in combining with a balcony a ladder and trap-door, the two latter being connected together by means of links, to which the extended sides of the ladder are pivoted.

In the drawing—

The letter A designates a balcony, which is so constructed that it can be readily secured to the front of a house, as indicated in the drawing. This balcony is provided with a hatchway, *a*, which can be opened or closed by means of a hinged cover, *b*. This cover connects, by a link, *c*, with a ladder, B, that has its fulcrum on a pivot, *d*, secured in the bottom rails of the balcony, in such a manner that, when the cover *b* is closed down, the ladder will be caused to swing up under the bottom of the balcony, and, when the cover is raised, the ladder is turned down to the balcony below or to the ground.

The connection between the cover *b* and the ladder may, however, be changed in various ways; for instance, toothed segments may be used; and I do not wish to confine myself to the peculiar connection shown in the drawing.

To the outside bottom rail of the balcony is pivoted a railing, *e*, which connects with the side piece of the ladder by a link, *e*, so that when the ladder is turned down the railing will turn up, and *vice versa*.

When the cover *b* is closed and fastened by a suitable catch or bolt, the ladder is firmly locked under the bottom of the balcony, so that it cannot be turned down, and access from below is prevented.

In practice, I propose to secure one of my balconies under the windows in the several stories of a building, as shown in the drawing, so that, in case of a fire, the ladder can be readily lowered from one balcony to the other; and, if the ladders are lowered, they afford the means of escape for women and children, as well as for strong men, and all danger of losing one's foothold and falling down to the ground is prevented.

When the ladders are up and the covers *b* closed, the balconies are rendered perfectly secure, and the danger of falling down through the hatchways is prevented.

It will be noticed that the combination of the ladder with the cover *b* is the same as that described in Letters Patent granted to me May 19, 1868, and I disclaim in my present application everything shown and described in these Letters Patent.

I disclaim any of the parts the subject matter of the Letters Patent of JOSEPH STEGER, granted May 19, 1869.

What I claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

The combination, with a balcony A, of the ladder B and trap-door *b*, the latter being connected together by means of links *c* and the sides of the ladder, which are extended beyond the point *d*, where the ladder is pivoted and suspended, substantially as and for the purpose described.

JOSEPH STEGER.

Witnesses:

W. HAUFF,
E. F. KASTENHUBER.