

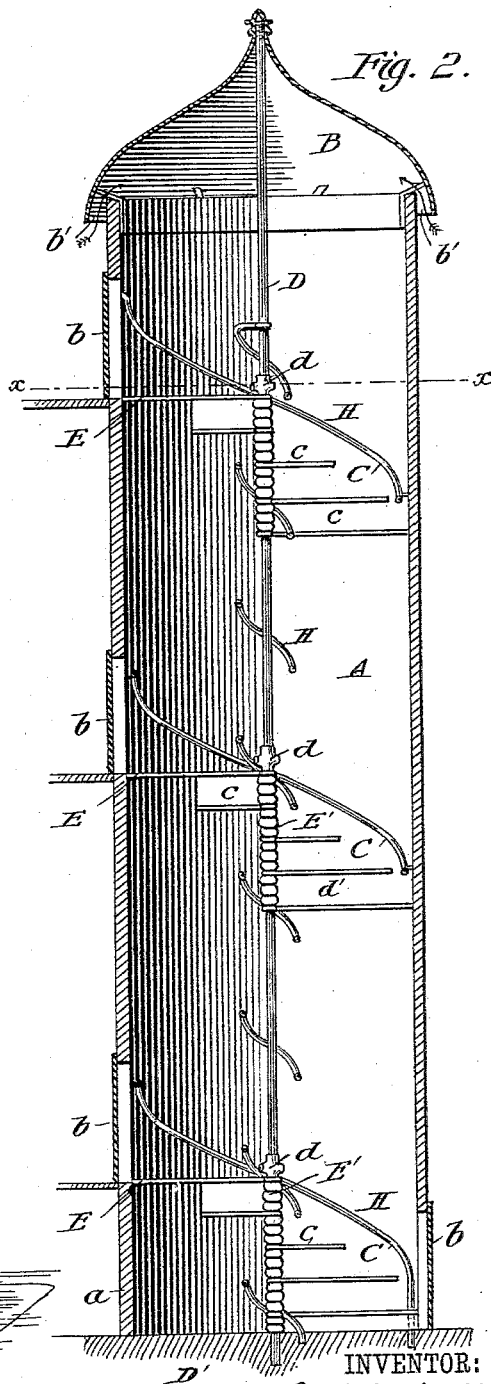
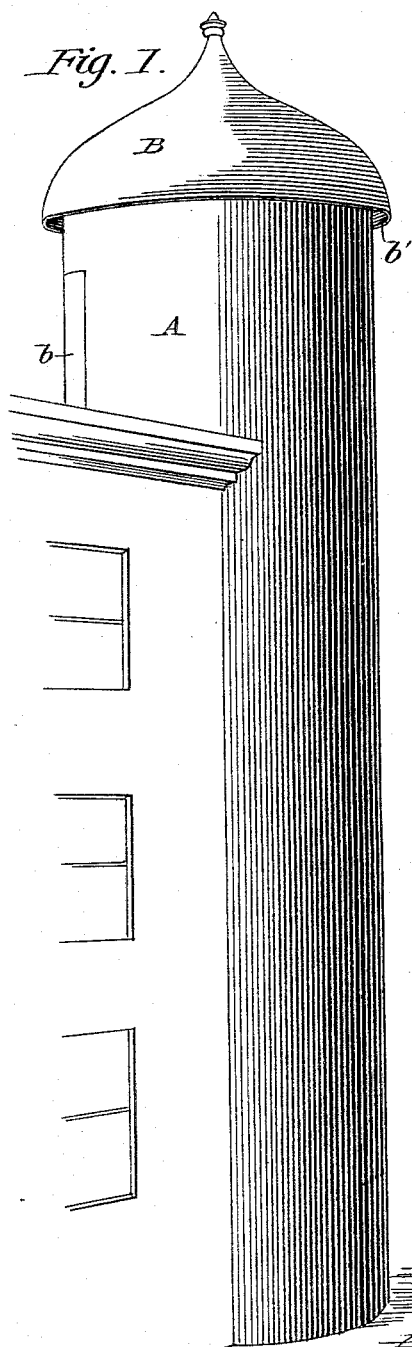
(No Model.)

2 Sheets—Sheet 1.

W. McMULLIN.
FIRE ESCAPE.

No. 384,376.

Patented June 12, 1888.



WITNESSES:

J. E. Clark.
W. C. Bagwick

INVENTOR:

W. W. Mullin.
BY *Munn & Co.*

ATTORNEYS.

(No Model.)

2 Sheets—Sheet 2.

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Fig. 3.

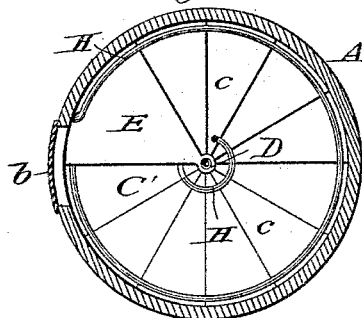


Fig. 4.

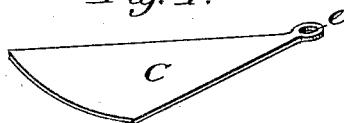


Fig. 5.

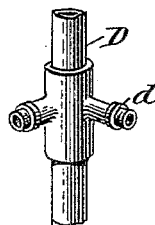
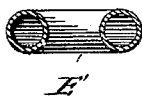


Fig. 6.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLIAM McMULLIN, OF CHICAGO, ILLINOIS.

FIRE-ESCAPE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 384,376, dated June 12, 1888.

Application filed December 12, 1887. Serial No. 257,700. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM McMULLIN, of Chicago, in the county of Cook and State of Illinois, have invented a new and Improved Fire-Escape, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description.

My invention relates to an improvement in fire-escapes, and has for its object to provide a cheap, durable, permanent, and simple escape, whereby firemen may ascend to any floor, being fully protected in the ascent, and wherein parties may make their escape from a burning building without danger of falling or suffocation.

The invention consists in the construction and combination of the various parts, as will be hereinafter fully set forth, and pointed out in the claim.

Reference is to be had to the accompanying drawings, forming a part of this specification, in which similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts in all the figures.

Figure 1 is a perspective view of the escape; Fig. 2, a central vertical section through the same. Fig. 3 is a transverse section on line *x* of Fig. 2. Fig. 4 is a detail view of one of the steps. Fig. 5 is a section of the central tubular support, and Fig. 6 is a section through one of the spacing-rings.

In carrying out the invention, the escape consists of a well, A, built partially in the wall and partially outside, as illustrated in Fig. 1. The well is provided at the base *a* with a fire-proof door, *b*, and also with others of a similar nature, leading out upon each floor of the upper stories. The well is built preferably of common hard-burned brick and mortar, with or without an interior coating, and the doors may be made of cast or malleable iron, preferably the latter.

The walls of the well A are adapted to rise about six feet above the roof with a door leading out thereon, and the said well at the top is provided with a hood or covering, B, also fire-proof, of greater diameter at the base than the diameter of the well, the said hood being attached to the well in such manner that an opening, *b'*, is left between the top of the well and the sides of the hood, as shown in Fig. 2, to permit a circulation of air and an exit of any smoke which may accumulate. Centrally

in the well a water-pipe, D, is vertically supported, adapted to rest upon a stone or other hard base, D'. The pipe D is to be of a size usually employed by the fire-department, provided with nozzles *d* at each floor, to which nozzles the lines of hose are applied. A series of stop-cocks are also provided the stand-pipe at suitable points in its length to control the supply of water.

C, Fig. 4, represents one of a series of steps or treads wherewith a spiral stairway, C', is constructed around and about the pipe D. Each step is more or less triangular in shape and provided at the reduced end with an integral eye, *e*, adapted to be entered over the central supporting-pipe, D, as shown in Fig. 2, and E represents the platform used at each landing, which is supported in similar manner to the steps.

The rise of the steps and platforms are both regulated by metal rings E', having an inside diameter equal to the outside diameter of the pipe D, one or more rings, as the case may demand, encircling the pipe D, and intervening each step and the steps and platforms, the wide end of the step being supported in the wall of the well.

A railing, H, is provided the steps at each side, the better to facilitate ascent and descent, which railing is preferably made of ordinary gas or water pipe. It will be thus observed that the narrow ends of steps are supported on the center pipe, as on a newel in ordinary winding stairs, and the wide end in the wall. The fact of resting one end of the steps upon or in the wall imparts strength to the structure, each step acting as a dovetail, bracing the walls of the well at little cost. Thus the well being independent of the walls of the building, should the latter fall the former will stand intact. The well in private dwellings may be built in any convenient place and utilized as a back or servant's stairway.

It is evident that the escape may be readily attached to old buildings at a very small cost, and need not necessarily be erected with the building.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

The combination, with the fire-proof well A,

built partly in a dwelling, having fire-proof doors *b*, a stand-pipe, *D*, centrally secured in said well, provided with nozzles *d*, a hood or top, *B*, secured centrally to the upper end of the pipe *D* and resting over the upper end of the well and secured thereto, as shown, and an air-opening, *v*, formed between said hood and top of the well, of a spiral stairway composed of triangular steps supported at the inner ends on said pipe *D* and having their outer ends project in the wall of the well, and the platforms *E*, secured at their inner ends to the pipe and at their outer ends in the wall of the well, substantially as shown and described.

WILLIAM McMULLIN.

Witnesses:

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W. J. FAIRMAN.