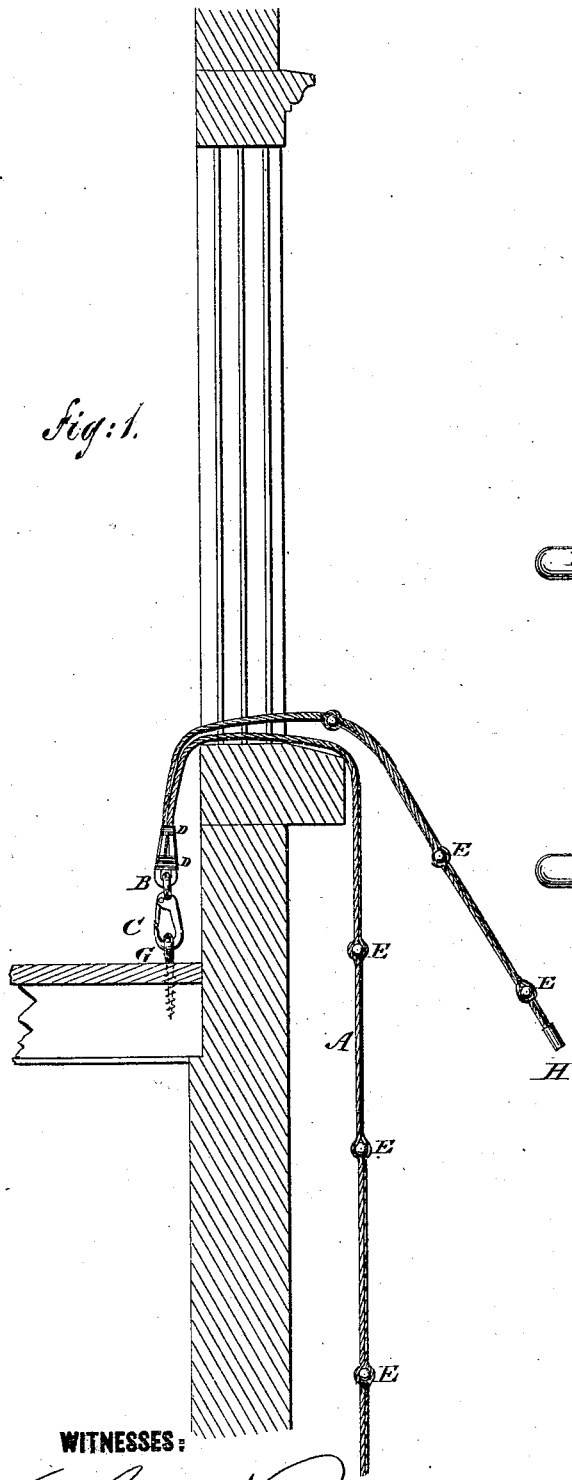


H. R. HOUGHTON.

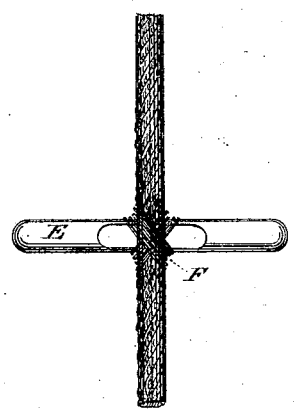
FIRE-ESCAPE.

No. 183,568.

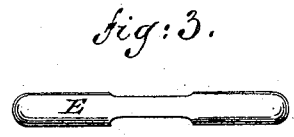
Patented Oct. 24, 1876.



*Fig: 1.*



*Fig: 2.*



*Fig: 3.*

WITNESSES:

*Chas. Nigg*  
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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

HERBERT R. HOUGHTON, OF NEW YORK, N. Y.

## IMPROVEMENT IN FIRE-ESCAPES.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **183,568**, dated October 24, 1876; application filed October 2, 1876.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, HERBERT R. HOUGHTON, of the city, county, and State of New York, have invented a new and Improved Fire-Escape, of which the following is a specification:

The nature of this invention consists in constructing a fire-escape capable of being rolled up in the smallest possible compass, so that the same may be carried conveniently by travelers, the construction and operation being described as follows:

Figure 1 represents a sectional view of a building, showing my invention as applied. Fig. 2 is a detail view, showing connection of cross-pieces. Fig. 3 is a detached view of cross-piece.

Similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts.

In the case here presented, A represents a wire-ropé, having any desired number of strands to give it requisite strength, the said wire to be either plain or galvanized. At a distance of about ten feet from one end of the said wire-ropé it is bent over so as to form a loop, B, in which the spring-hook C is held. The said loop is covered with leather or other suitable wrapping to prevent chafing. The end forming the loop is securely lashed with wire, as shown at D D. E E represent a series of cross-bars or rests, situated at intervals of eighteen inches, more or less. These cross-bars are made of round iron, having a

portion of their surface flattened near their centers, on one or both sides. The said cross-bars are inserted evenly through the strands of the rope, and are then securely fastened in place with wire lashing F.

The above-described invention can be gotten ready for use in a moment's time, as all that is necessary is to screw the eye G into the wood-work or flooring of the room, connect the snap-hook C thereto, then lower the escape out of the window. For convenience of getting out of the window, I have a loose end, H, formed by the extension end of loop, as shown in the drawing. I propose having this loose end about ten feet in length, and the whole length of fire-escape to range from fifty to one hundred feet.

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

A portable fire-escape, consisting of a wire-ropé having a series of cross-bars or rests interlaced and lashed thereto, the said rope having a loop formed at its upper end, with an extension end, H, for convenience of escape upon the main rope, the whole being suspended by a snap-hook caught in an eye, which is screwed to the wood-work or floor of a room, substantially as shown and described.

HERBERT R. HOUGHTON.

Witnesses:

CHARLES H. NASH,  
C. SEDGWICK.