J. B. LOFLAND.

LADDER.

No. 184,395. Patented Nov. 14, 1876.

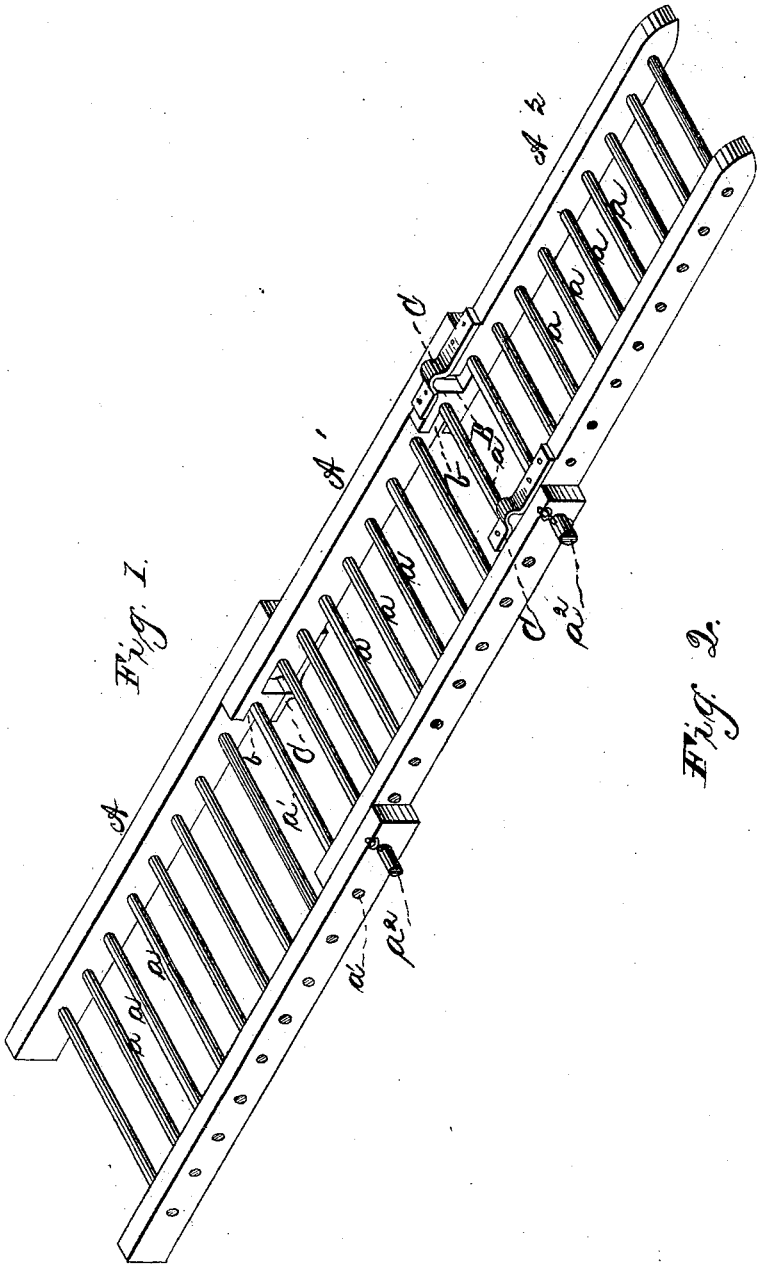

Fig. 1.

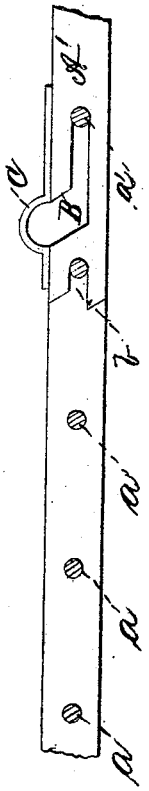

Fig. 2.

WITNESSES

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JASPER B. LOFLAND, OF MEXICO, MISSOURI.

IMPROVEMENT IN LADDERS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **184,395**, dated November 14, 1876; application filed September 9, 1876.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JASPER B. LOFLAND, of Mexico, in the county of Audrain, and in the State of Missouri, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Extension Builder's Ladder; and do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description thereof, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and to the letters of reference marked thereon, making a part of this specification.

The nature of my invention consists in the construction of an extensible ladder, as hereinafter more fully set forth.

In the accompanying drawings, forming a part of this specification, Figure 1 represents a perspective view of a ladder of three sections; and Fig. 2 represents a sectional view, showing the manner of connecting one section to the other.

My ladder is composed of two, three, or more sections, A A^1 A^2, as shown in Fig. 1. Each section is composed of side rails and rounds *a a*, as usually constructed. Each of the upper sections A^1 A^2, &c., have an open-ended slot, *b*, in their side rails, at their lower ends, which are intended to pass over the stationary top round a^1 on each section below. Just above this open-end slot in each side rail of each upper section is an L-shaped slot, B, the outer end of which is covered by a metallic plate, C, having an outward bulge directly over the outer or side end of the slot. a^2 represents detachable pins, which are passed between the side rails of each of two adjoining sections, and through the L-shaped slots B, for connecting one section of the ladder to the other.

These pins are suitably keyed on one side, and can be detached at will, so as to easily allow one section of the ladder to be taken from the other, so as to shorten or lengthen the ladder, as may be required.

It will be seen in my invention that the L-shaped slots B and the metallic bulged plates C in one section are on one side, while in the next section they are on the other side of the side pieces. By this formation the ladder-sections can be folded flat together, inasmuch as the upper section will fold flat between the bars of the one below, and so on to the base or lower section.

The upper sections are each of less width than those immediately below, respectively; hence, when the sections are folded down, the one lies flat on the other by means of the L-shaped slots and bulged plates described; but when the ladder is extended for use, the open-end slots *b* grasp the upper stationary rounds a^1, and the slots B grasp the movable (but then stationary) rounds a^2, so that the extended ladder is held rigid in position.

Having thus fully described my invention, what I claim is—

The combination, in an extensible ladder, of two, three, or more sections, having side rails with open-ended slots *b*, L-shaped slots B above the same, and metallic bulged plates C, covering the side openings in the slots, all constructed substantially as and for the purposes herein described.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing I have hereunto set my hand this 25th day of August, 1876.

JASPER B. LOFLAND.

Witnesses:

ISAAC A. ARNOLD,

THOMAS HART.