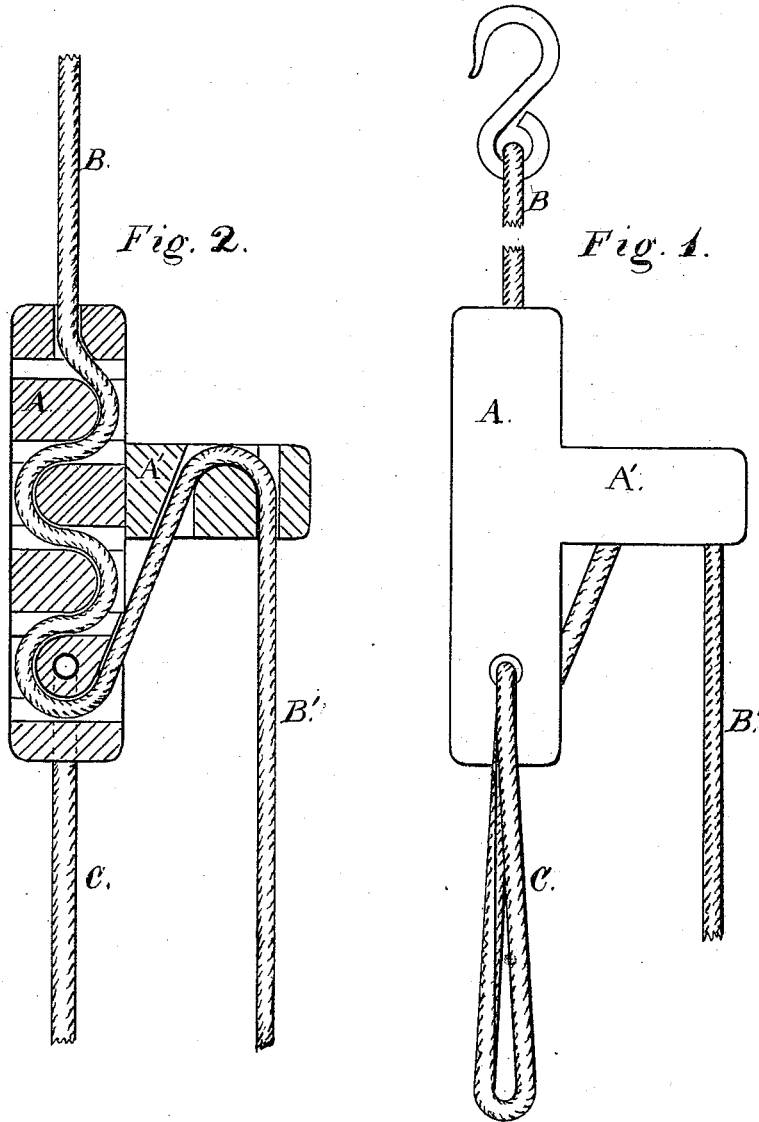


D. B. EWING.
FIRE-ESCAPE.

No. 191,125.

Patented May 22, 1877.



Witnesses.

O. F. Mayhew
A. J. York.

David B Ewing
Inventor.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

DAVID B. EWING, OF INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA.

IMPROVEMENT IN FIRE-ESCAPES.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **191,125**, dated May 22, 1877; application filed May 4, 1877.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, DAVID B. EWING, of Indianapolis, county of Marion and State of Indiana, have invented certain Improvements in Fire-Escapes, of which the following is a specification:

This invention relates to that class of fire-escapes in which a rope is employed, by which persons may, with comparative safety, lower themselves from the upper stories of a burning building; and it consists in a brake-block of certain form and construction, to which a rope or strap is attached, in which persons may sit or otherwise attach themselves, and through which a rope passes in such a manner that the brake-block will, with ease and certainty, slide down the rope, and at the same time be conveniently regulated in its descent.

In the accompanying drawing, Figure 1 is a side view, and Fig. 2 a vertical section, through the fire-escape embodying my invention.

A A' is the brake-block, through which the rope B passes, as shown. C is a rope or strap attached to the lower end of the brake, in which the person descending may sit or be otherwise attached.

The arm A' of the brake affords the facility for passing the rope in front of the person into convenient position to be handled. It will

be understood that the upper end of the rope may be furnished with a hook or other appliance, by which it may be made fast to any convenient object. The person descending will get into the strap C and take hold of the lower end B' of the rope. The weight will cause the brake to slide down the rope while the latter is held loosely in the hand; but if a very little portion of the weight is thrown upon the portion of the rope B' by the hands its tension upon the brake will retard or altogether stop the descent, as may be desired.

The brake-block may be made of wood or metal, and may be so small as to occupy very little space in a traveling-bag, even though accompanied with fifty to a hundred feet of sufficiently strong cord.

The great simplicity, cheapness, portability, reliability, and safety of operation of this device is too apparent to require further description.

I claim as my invention—

The fire-escape composed of the brake A, strap or rope C, and rope B, constructed, arranged, and operated substantially as set forth.

DAVID B. EWING.

Witnesses:

O. F. MAYHEW,
A. J. YORK.