

W. B. GAROUTTE.
Fire-Escape.

No. 200,387.

Patented Feb. 19, 1878.

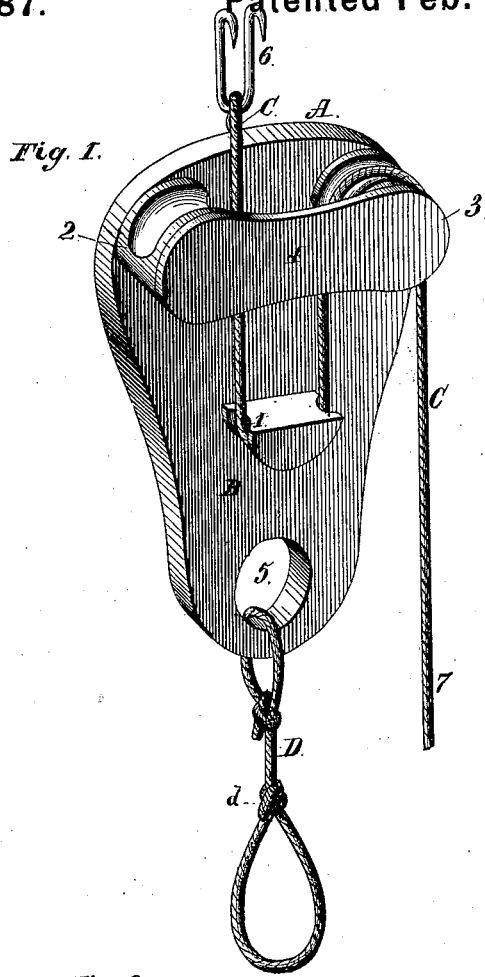
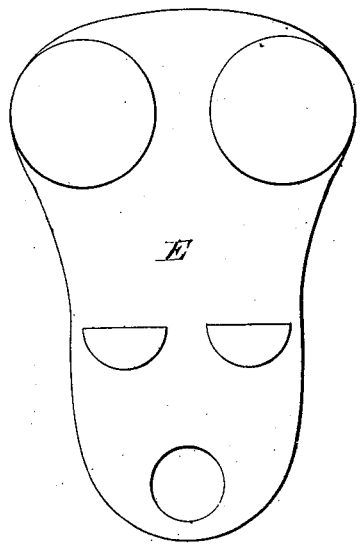


Fig. 2.



Attest.

E. W. Goff.
C. C. Logan.

Inventor.

Wm B Garoutte.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLIAM B. GAROUTTE, OF GREENE COUNTY, MISSOURI.

IMPROVEMENT IN FIRE-ESCAPES.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **200,387**, dated February 19, 1878; application filed May 1, 1877.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM B. GAROUTTE, of the county of Greene and State of Missouri, have invented a new and useful apparatus for the purpose of facilitating the escape of persons from burning buildings, and lowering persons and things from lofty positions.

My invention consists of a peculiarly-constructed friction-pulley, with a rope or belt, loop, noose, and double-pointed hook, all constructed, arranged, and operated as set forth in the following specification and annexed drawings, referred to by letters and figures.

Figure 1 is a perspective view of my apparatus ready for operation. Fig. 2 is an elevation of the brake-pulley without the cross-plate.

B is a pulley, made of metal, wood, or other solid substance, having three or more vertical brakes, with semicircular grooves 1 2 3, a cross-plate, 4, covering said brakes 2 and 3, and cast or otherwise secured thereon, to confine the rope C, hereinafter referred to, and an eye, 5, wherein to secure the rope D, hereinafter mentioned.

As the grooved brakes are used to cause friction to check the speed of the pulley in passing down the rope, and the amount of friction desired depends somewhat upon the size of the rope used and the weights suspended, I make the grooves deep or shallow, according to the amount of friction desired, and increase the number of brakes when I wish to further increase the friction, as shown in block E, Fig. 2.

C is a rope, attached at the upper end to a window-frame or other projection or crevice by a double-pointed hook, 6, so constructed as to be easily withdrawn from the wood or other substance in which it may be embedded, when used, by making one point act as a fulcrum to draw the other out, and passing downward between the grooved brakes 2 and 3, around the grooved brake 1, thence back between brakes 1 and 2, and thence to the ground.

D is a rope or strap, on which a loop is formed to pass around the body, the strap or rope being secured to the eye 5.

When I wish to descend from a building I secure the hook 6, with the rope C attached, to any suitable projection or crevice, and let the

other end of the rope descend toward the ground. I then adjust the rope D, having the loop *d* in its end, around my body by passing the pulley B through the loop *d*, thus forming a noose. I then double the rope C at a convenient place in the form of a loop, pass the loop through between the brakes 2 and 3, under the cross-plate 4, and adjust it around brake 1, as shown in the drawing. I then seize in one or both hands the rope C, at or about 7, and, holding it firmly, swing myself into the air, and, allowing the rope to slip gently through my hands as my weight draws the rope through the pulley, descend to the ground.

By pulling upon the rope I can regulate the velocity of my descent, or check it abruptly at any point where I wish to stop.

If the person who desires to descend is too feeble or too timid to hold the rope, the same may be held and operated by another person standing below; or a second person, occupying the same position aloft as the first, can lower the other by drawing up the lower end of the rope, and paying it out as the other descends; but in this latter case the rope must be twice as long as in the former.

After one person has descended, the rope and pulley may be drawn up and the operation repeated indefinitely; or, if the rope is sufficiently strong, two persons may descend at the same time, one being secured to the other.

This apparatus may also be used for lowering baggage or other property.

If I wish to detach the rope after descending, I give it a sudden jerk, so as to cause a spiral motion, and thus draw out the points of the hook by causing one point to act as a fulcrum to raise the other, and vice versa.

I claim as my invention and desire to secure by Letters Patent—

A fire-escape consisting of a single disk, having grooved projections on one side, as shown, and a rope, C, whereby the said rope may be instantly rove upon the pulley, substantially as specified.

WM. B. GAROUTTE.

Witnesses:

E. W. GOFF,
C. C. LOGAN.