(No Model.)

C. W. RADFORD.

WINDOW BLIND.

No. 346,220. Patented July 27, 1886.

Fig. 1.

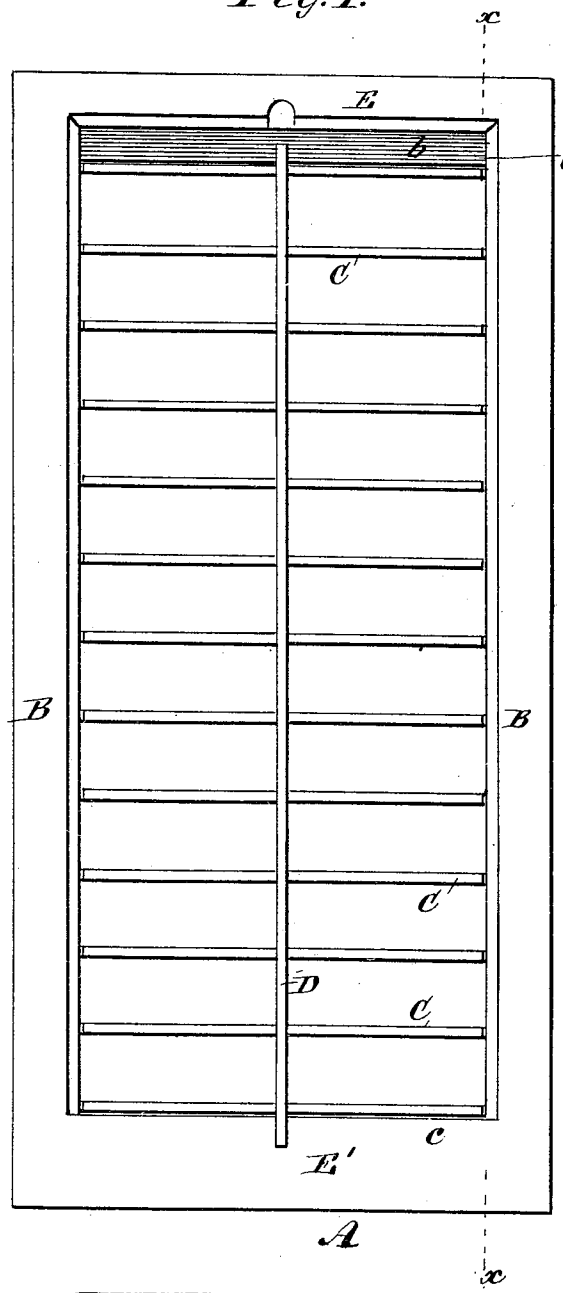


Fig. 2.

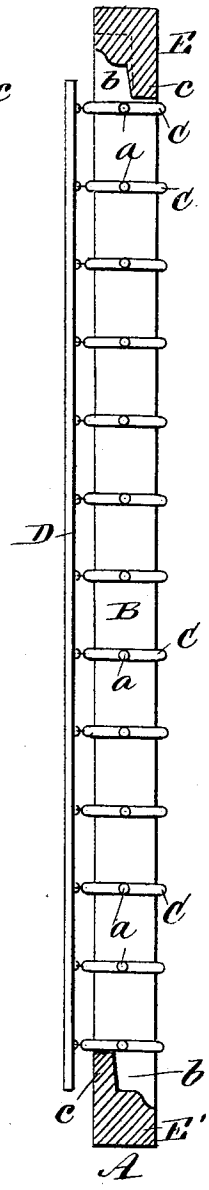
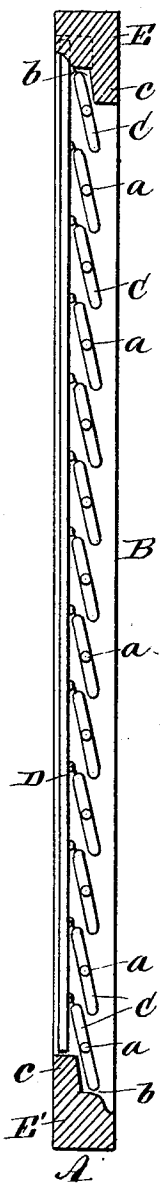


Fig. 3.



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CHARLES W. RADFORD, OF OSHKOSH, WISCONSIN.

WINDOW-BLIND.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 346,220, dated July 27, 1886.

Application filed December 21, 1885. Serial No. 186,414. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, CHARLES W. RADFORD, of Oshkosh, in the county of Winnebago and State of Wisconsin, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Window-Blinds, of which the following is a specification, reference being had to the annexed drawings, forming a part thereof, in which—

Figure 1 is a side elevation of a window-blind constructed according to my improvement. Fig. 2 is a vertical transverse section taken on line *x x* in Fig. 1, showing the blind-slats open. Fig. 3 is a vertical transverse section taken on line *x x* in Fig. 1, showing the blind-slats closed.

Similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts in the different figures of the drawings.

The object of my invention is to construct a window-blind with the bottom and top rails arranged to stop the blind-slats in a horizontal position, and prevent them from being closed by the weight of the slat-operating rod.

In blinds as ordinarily constructed the slats may be turned into a horizontal position by means of the rod, where they are retained by the friction of the slats in their bearings in the stiles; but when the blind becomes worn the slats will not be retained in this position if disturbed by wind or jarred in any way, as the slat-operating rod will fall and turn the slats so as to close the blind.

My invention obviates this difficulty by extending the upper and lower rails of the frame of the blind so that they will be engaged by the upper and lower slats when the slats are in a horizontal position.

The blind-frame A is provided with holes in its stiles B, for receiving the pivots *a* of the slats C. The slats C are connected by staples with the slat-operating rod D in the usual well-known way, so that by moving the rod D up and down the slats may be opened or closed.

The upper and lower rails, E E′, which connect the stiles B at the top and bottom of the frame of the blind, are each provided with a rabbet, *b*, leaving the tongue *c*, which in the case of the lower rail projects upward on the inner side of the blind-frame to a point near the pivot of the lower blind-slat, so that when the slats are open, as shown in Fig. 2, the lower blind-slat C will rest upon the upper edge of the tongue *c;* but in case of the upper rail, E, the tongue *c* belonging to it extends along the outer side of the blind-frame, so that when the blind-slats are opened the outer half of the upper blind-slat will rest against the tongue *c*, as shown in Fig. 2.

When the blind-slats are closed, the outer edge of the lower slat is received in the rabbet *b* of the rail E′, and the inner edge of the upper slat is received in the rabbet *b* of the upper rail, E, as shown in Fig. 3.

When the slats are closed, the rod D passes over the edge of the tongue *c* of the lower rail, E′, and serves to prevent the slats C from being accidentally turned.

It is obvious that if my improvement be applied to the lower rail only it will be effective in holding the slats in an open position. It is also obvious that where the blind is provided with one or more rails intermediate between its ends these rails should be formed with tongues *c*.

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

The blind having a rabbet and a tongue upon the top and bottom rails, at opposite inner edges or sides of said rails, in combination with the connected slats, substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

CHARLES W. RADFORD.

Witnesses:
A. W. WINSLOW,
F. C. STEWART.