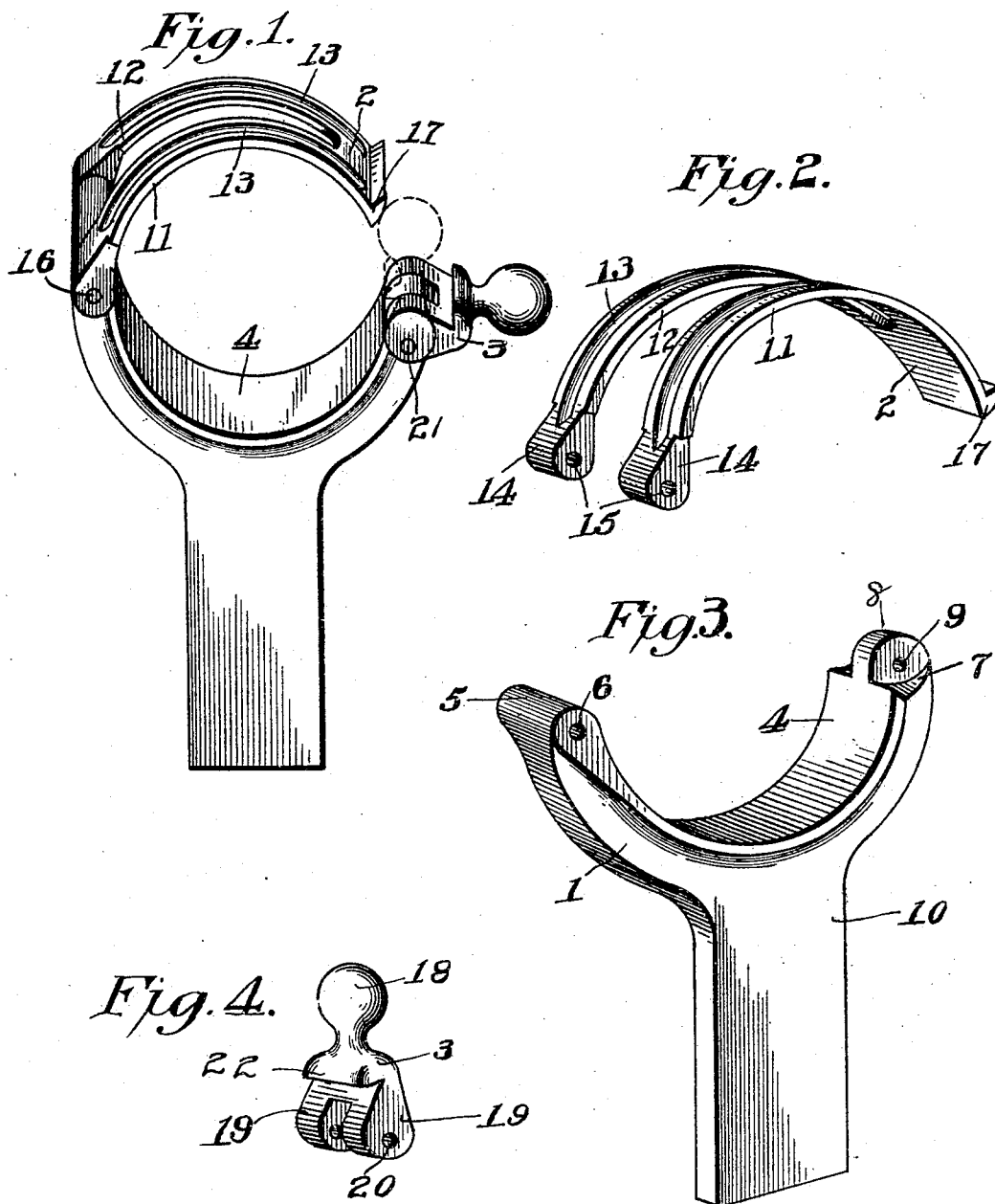


J. W. FITZ GERALD.
HOSE SUPPORT.
APPLICATION FILED JULY 31, 1908.

936,438.

Patented Oct. 12, 1909.



James W. Fitzgerald, Inventor

Witnesses

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JAMES W. FITZ GERALD, OF SAVANNAH, GEORGIA.

HOSE-SUPPORT.

936,438.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Oct. 12, 1909.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JAMES W. FITZ GERALD, a citizen of the United States, residing at Savannah, in the county of Chatham and State of Georgia, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Hose-Supports, of which the following is a specification, reference being had therein to the accompanying drawing.

My invention relates to hose supports, and more particularly to devices of this character which are adapted to suspend the hose from the ceilings or walls of a suitable structure.

Considerable difficulty has been experienced on boats, in fire houses, and public places in the manipulation of hose when the immediate use of the same is desired. For example, when the hose is retained in a rack or distended on the floor or the like of any given place it is subjected to rough usage, and in the case of a panic the crew or other attendants are unable to handle it freely.

My invention therefore contemplates the elimination of these and other disadvantages, which will be apparent, and the provision of a hose support which will adapt the hose for instantaneous use, the hose being supported overhead and distended either at an inclination or in a horizontal position.

To the accomplishment of the recited objects and others coördinate therewith, preferred embodiment of the invention resides in that construction and arrangement of parts hereinafter described, illustrated in the accompanying drawings, and embraced within the scope of the appended claim.

In said drawings:—Figure I is a perspective view of the complete support. Fig. II is a perspective view of the upper jaw member. Fig. III is a perspective view of the lower jaw and shank portion of the device, and Fig. IV is a detail perspective view of the latch.

Similar reference numerals indicate corresponding parts throughout the several views.

Generally speaking, my invention comprises a stationary jaw (1), a relatively movable jaw (2), and a latch (3), carried by the former for locking the two jaws together. The stationary jaw (1) is preferably of semi-cylindrical contour having a bearing (4) which projects laterally a slight distance to each side of the body portion of

said jaw (1), one terminal being slightly enlarged as at (5), and provided with a transversely extending bore or aperture (6) the opposite terminal being rabbeted to present arcuate shaped shoulders (7) and a medially arranged substantially elliptical shaped projection (8), with a transversely extending aperture (9). The stationary jaw has integrally formed therewith a shank portion (10).

The movable jaw (2) comprises in its construction a bifurcated member, the members (11) and (12) constituting the bifurcations, being divergent from the front to the rear portion to define a maximum supporting surface and longitudinally ribbed as at (13) and being distally enlarged as at (14), the latter portions being provided with apertures (15), which, when the movable jaw (2) is placed in proper relative position to the stationary jaw (1), are in exact alignment or registration with the transversely extending aperture (6) of the portion (5) of the latter jaw, the pin (16) being inserted through the apertures of this assemblage to maintain a pivotal connection. The other extremital portion of the movable jaw is disposed at right angles to the movable jaw proper, as at (17) and thus provides a lip or engaging surface for the latch (3).

The latch or locking member (3) is provided on its upper terminal with a ponderous spherical shaped portion (18), the lower terminal portion being bifurcated and comprising substantially oval shaped portions (19) which are provided with apertures (20) and adapted to be placed in exact registration with the aperture (9) of the projection (8) and securely fastened thereto by the pin (21), the central portion of said latch being provided on one side, approximately the center thereof, with a projection (22), which considered conjunctively with the inclined sides of the portion (19) affords a cooperative locking surface with the member (17) of the movable jaw.

In use, and assuming that a series of the hose supports are secured to the wall so as to project laterally therefrom, the movable jaw (2) is thrown open and the hose inserted between said jaw and the stationary jaw (1), whereupon the movable jaw is oscillated until the beveled portion of the lip (17) thereof engages the underface of the normally inclined latch (3) the latter, owing to the preponderancy of the spherical por-

tion (18), gravitating and engaging the said lip at (22). In this locked position the weight of the hose will exert considerable pull on the movable jaw and thereby tend
 5 to lock both jaws more securely and positively. The divergent bifurcations of the movable jaw provide or insure an equal distribution of the supporting strength of said arm, in other words, compensate, in an economical way for the slight elimination of
 10 metal by having the bifurcations thereof diverging from the forward to the rear end and providing the same with longitudinally extending reinforcing ribs. It will also appear evident with the employment of the
 15 gravitating latch that any manual adjustment or manipulation of the locking means is unnecessary.

While I prefer to arrange the supports in
 20 series and at a slight inclined relation to a given wall to secure proper drainage of the hose it is obvious that the same may be disposed horizontally from the wall or vertically from the ceiling, or in any other position that convenience dictates.

My invention involves simplicity of construction and facility of operation, and consequently can be manufactured and marketed at a comparatively low cost.

30 It should be understood that in its

broader aspect the invention comprehends the employment not only of the various means described, but of equivalent means for performing the recited functions. While the arrangement shown is thought, at the
 35 present time, to be preferable, it is desired to reserve the right to effect such modifications and variations thereof as may come fairly within the scope of the appended claim. 40

Having thus described the invention, what is claimed, is:—

A device of the character described comprising a stationary jaw, a movable bifurcated jaw the members of which are hinged
 45 to one end of the stationary jaw, an outstanding latching lip extending transversely across the free end of the movable jaw, and a latch hinged to the stationary jaw and provided with a counterweighted head and
 50 an intermediate outstanding projection adapted to engage with the outstanding lip of the movable jaw.

In testimony whereof I hereunto affix my signature in presence of two witnesses.

JAMES W. FITZ GERALD.

Witnesses:

W. H. MURDOCK,
 FRANK G. BELL.