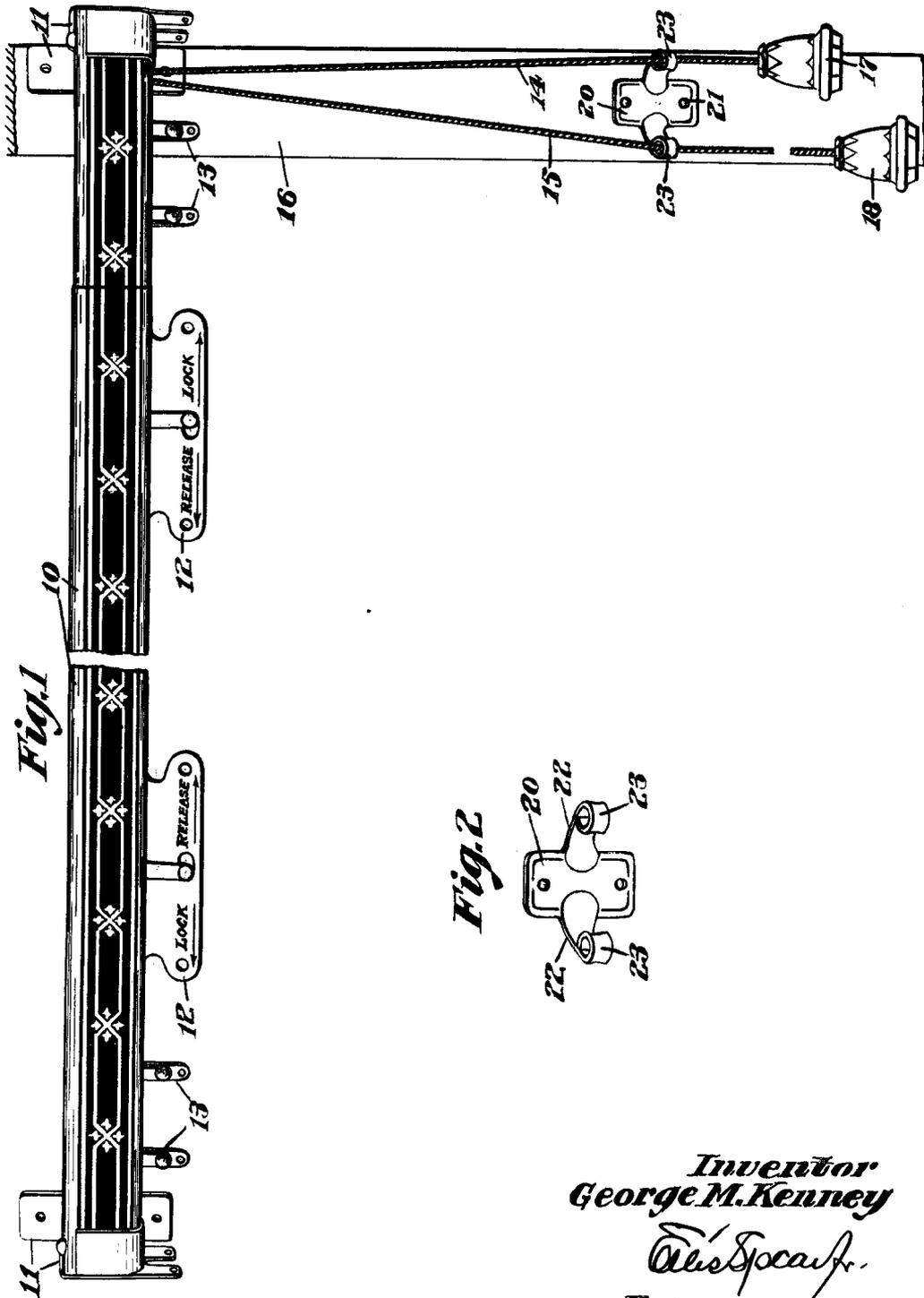


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G. M. KENNEY
DRAPERY FIXTURE

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

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DRAPERY FIXTURE

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This invention relates to a separator for maintaining separated the pendent manipulating ends of the operating cord by means of which the master and idler slides of a drapery traverse fixture are drawn towards and away from each other along such traverse fixture whereby to open or close the draperies which are suspended from said slides.

10 The operating cord is trained over pulleys mounted in the traverse rod adjacent each end thereof. The exposed manipulating ends of said cord hang vertically at one end of the rod, being usually provided at their terminal ends with ornamental weights by means of which the cord ends may be grasped and pulled downwardly when it is desired to manipulate the slides to open or close the draperies.

20 Where the cord ends hang freely, their tendency is to become entwined upon one another when released and particularly if released suddenly. They also tend to twist themselves into inaccessible positions, as for example, to move into positions behind the curtain itself when released and thus are difficult to locate and manipulate, especially in a darkened room.

30 To the end therefore of providing a separator of the class indicated which will not only be of slight appearance so as to harmonize with the traverse fixture itself but will be so constructed and located as positively to prevent entanglement of the cord ends while maintaining them at all times in conveniently accessible position, I have devised my present invention.

40 My separator is adapted to be fixed to the vertical stile of the window casing adjacent the pendent ends of the cord at a distance sufficiently below the traverse rod to insure against entwinement of the cord ends upon one another, under any and all conditions of use. Its construction is such that the cord ends are at all times positively maintained separated from each other. In addition, my separator offers certain advantages as regards appearance, manufacturing costs, and simplicity of installation and use.

50 I have illustrated in the accompanying

drawing a preferred embodiment of my separator which I have found extremely inexpensive of manufacture and highly satisfactory under actual service conditions.

In such drawing:—

Fig. 1 is a general view of a typical traverse installation equipped with a separator in accordance with my invention.

Fig. 2 is a detail view of the separator itself removed.

I have indicated generally by the reference numeral 10 a traverse rod of conventional structure. Such rod is adapted to be disposed horizontally across the window or other opening which is to be draped adjacent the upper end thereof, being parallel to and spaced from such opening. It is provided with any suitable brackets 11 or other attaching means for mounting it in such position.

In accordance with standard practice the operating cord by means of which the master slides 12 and idler slides 13 from which the draperies are suspended are manipulated back and forth along the trackway of the traverse rod are trained over suitable pulleys or sheaves mounted within the rod adjacent each end thereof. These pulleys are not shown in the drawing but it will be understood that in any standard traverse rod there are usually two of these pulleys (or a double pulley) at the right hand end of the rod in Fig. 1 and a single pulley at the left hand end of such rod. The operating cord is trained over these pulleys and looped through the master slides with the exposed manipulating ends 14 and 15 respectively of such cord depending from the pair of pulleys at the right hand end of the rod in Fig. 1 adjacent the vertical stile 16 of the window casing at this end of the rod. The terminal ends of the cord are provided with ornamental knobs or weights 17 and 18 by means of which these ends may be grasped to manipulate the draperies.

My separator is adapted to be fixed to the stile 16 at a distance well below the traverse rod. In practice this distance frequently amounts to as much as four feet below the rod. The separator itself consists of a flat

attaching base 20 adapted to be fixed to the vertical stile 16 in any suitable manner as by the attaching screws 21. Extending forwardly from said base is a pair of oppositely disposed arms 22. Preferably but not necessarily these arms diverge away from each other as they leave the base. Each arm is formed with a cord guiding element 23 which may be a simple loop or eye formed by simply bending the free end of each arm back upon itself.

In use, the attaching base 20 is screwed or otherwise fastened either to the one face of the stile, preferably the outer face thereof, at the desired distance below the traverse rod. The exposed manipulating ends of the operating cord are threaded through the eyes or loops 23 of the separator and are maintained by such eyes not only spaced apart from each other a distance equal to the spacing of the eyes themselves from each other but by reason of the forward projection of such eyes away from the base are also held definitely away from the face of the stile. The axis of each eye is disposed in the general line of pendency of the cord end which it is to receive so that in the region of the separator the cord ends are maintained substantially parallel to each other.

My separator is extremely simple and inexpensive of manufacture, being readily made from a single blank or stamping of material which is afterwards bent to form the arms 22 and guide edges 23. The arms 22 are preferably slightly concavo-convex in cross section so as to offer the maximum strength and rigidity.

Various modifications in the construction and operation of my device may obviously be resorted to if within the spirit and scope of my invention without departing from the limits of the appended claim.

What I therefore claim and desire to secure by Letters Patent is:—

The combination with a frame member having a vertical surface and a pair of operating cords extending along said surface and having enlarged pendant ends, of a device for maintaining said pendant ends separated and away from said surface, said device having a flat base attached to said surface and a pair of arms projecting from opposite edges of said base, said arms being outwardly divergent and lying in a plane substantially perpendicular to the plane of said base and central thereof, the terminal ends of said arms being inwardly turned to form closed loops the axes of which lie in a plane substantially parallel with the plane of the base, said loops being spaced apart a sufficient distance to maintain the enlarged pendant ends of the cord against contact, and being spaced from said vertical surface a suffi-

cient distance to prevent the enlarged pendant ends from striking said surface when said cords are freely hanging.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature.

GEORGE M. KENNEY.

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