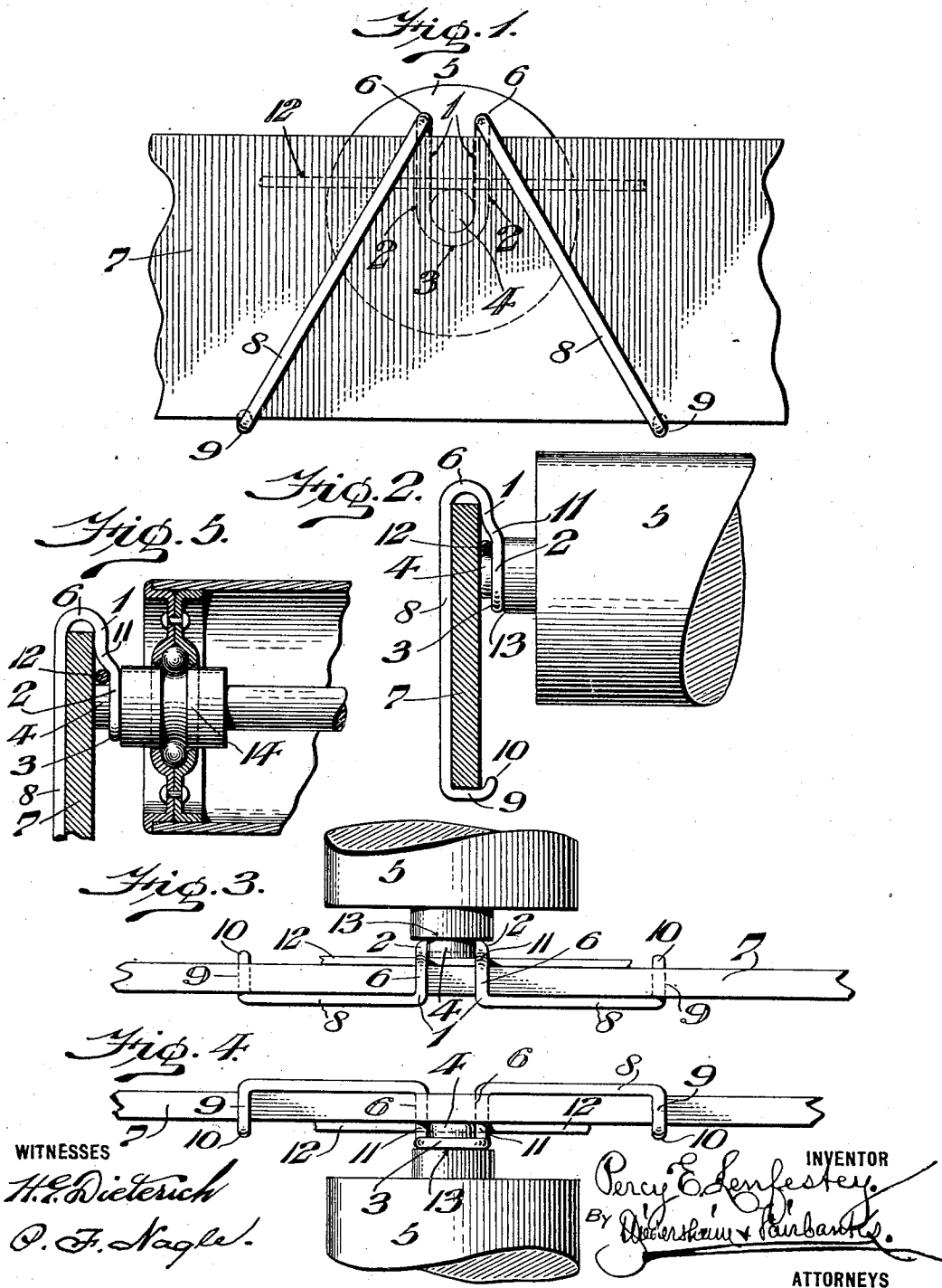


P. E. LENFESTEY.
ADJUSTABLE SHAFT HANGER.
APPLICATION FILED JULY 11, 1913.

1,111,474.

Patented Sept. 22, 1914.



UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

PERCY E. LENFESTEY, OF PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA.

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Specification of Letters Patent.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, PERCY E. LENFESTEY, a citizen of the United States, residing in the city and county of Philadelphia, State of Pennsylvania, have invented a new and useful Adjustable Shaft-Hanger, of which the following is a specification.

My invention consists of a shaft hanger for a conveyer or other article which is adapted to be easily and firmly connected with a rail or other support and held automatically thereon and which may be conveniently adjusted on said support relatively to the requirement of a roller, pulley, idler, or other rotatable member employed for said conveyer or other article.

The invention is satisfactorily illustrated in the accompanying drawing, but the important instrumentalities thereof may be varied, and it is to be understood that the invention is not limited to the specific arrangement and organization shown and described.

Figure 1 represents a side elevation of a shaft hanger embodying my invention. Fig. 2 represents a side elevation thereof at a right angle to Fig. 1, including a vertical section of the rail or support of the device. Fig. 3 represents a top or plan view thereof. Fig. 4 represents a bottom plan view thereof. Fig. 5 represents another embodiment of the invention.

Similar numerals of reference indicate corresponding parts in the figures.

Referring to the drawings, 1 designates a stirrup formed of the side members 2 and the bend 3 at the bottom, said bend forming the bearings for the journal or shaft 4 of the pulley or idler 5. The side members 2 are continued upwardly and rearwardly forming the bends 6 which are adapted to be hooked upon the rail 7 and thus suspend the stirrup 1 therefrom, said rail being supported in any suitable manner.

Depending from and continuous of the bends 6 are the legs 8 which are adapted to occupy a position on the side of the rail 7 opposite to the stirrup 1, said legs diverging from said bends and having on their lower ends the grips 9 which pass laterally under the rail 7 and have their terminals deflected upwardly forming the guards 10 which embrace the side of the rail 7 below the stirrup and so assist in retaining the device in position on the rail, and prevent lateral displacement therefrom.

The rear portions of the stirrup have

thereon the offsets 11 which project from the rail 7 so as to set out said portions of the stirrup from contact with the rail and avoid frictional contact therewith.

Interposed between the rail 7 and offset portion of the stirrup is the rod or bar 12 for purposes to be hereinafter explained.

It will be seen that as the legs are resilient and divergent or spread in their nature as has been stated, they may be brought together whereby as they describe their circles from the upper bends 6, the grips 9 with their guards 10 move from the lower end of the rail and so are released therefrom. The device may now be moved to the right or left on the rail so as to adjust the roller or idler to the desired place, the device sliding on the top of the rail as its support in accomplishing the adjustment. Then the legs are let-go when they spring apart and the grips rise and engage automatically with the bottom of the rail and take firm hold thereof, thus again firmly supporting the device on the rail, it being evident that the stirrup and guards 10 prevent lateral displacement of the device from the rail.

Owing to the offsets 11 of the stirrup the end of the journal or shaft 4 is held sufficiently from the side of the rail 7 to remove it from contact therewith or severe thrust thereagainst, this action being assisted by the rod or bar 12 which while serving to retain the device in set position serves to prevent the stirrup from being bent or deflected toward the rail and also to preserve the shape of the stirrup, it being noticed also that the journal or shaft 4 has a shoulder 13 which is adapted to bear against and rotate on the inner faces of the side member of the stirrup whereby the said journal or shaft will run true on the stirrup and any possible deflection of the latter is prevented by the rod or bar which is interposed between said stirrup and the rail 7 as has been stated to sustain the stirrup on the back thereof.

Attention is particularly directed to the fact that should there be any side motion of the journal or axle 4, the offsets 11 of the stirrup will receive the direct thrust of the same, and so obviate the use of any other means for steadying said journal or axle in its bearings on the stirrup. Again, should the pulley or idler 5 be mounted on ball bearings on the cone 14 on the journal or axle as in Fig. 5, any side motion of said pulley or idler may be transmitted to said cone, and

the latter have its thrust on the stirrup thus steadying the pulley or idler on its ball bearings. Attention is furthermore directed to the rod or bar 12 which while possessing the advantages hereinbefore stated serves to lock the journal or axle on the stirrup from above and prevent it from rising therefrom. Again should the device be overturned, said rod or bar will prevent the dropping over or displacement of the roller or idler from the stirrup.

The rod or bar may be locked in any desired position on the rail, as for instance, by a pin passing through an opening in said bar or rod and entering said rail, or by other suitable means.

When the rod or bar is properly moved, any one of a series of devices, or the rollers or idlers thereon that may be employed may be displaced, adjusted, or replaced without disturbing the others. Should the shaft 4 be used without the shoulder 13 any end thrust of said shaft will be taken by the rail 7 and so obviate any other means for preventing endwise motion of said shaft.

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

1. An adjustable shaft hanger embodying a stirrup on which a shaft may have its bearing and which is adapted to be suspended movably from a rail member, and laterally-resilient means which are pendant from and connected with said stirrup and adapted to engage with said rail and lock the device automatically in adjusted position thereon.

2. An adjustable shaft hanger embodying a stirrup on which a shaft may have its bearing and which is adapted to be suspended movably from a rail member, and laterally-resilient legs continuous of said stirrup adapted to be interlocked with said rail and sustain the stirrup in adjusted position.

3. An adjustable shaft hanger embodying a stirrup which may be suspended movably from a rail member, laterally-resilient legs pendant from said stirrup, and means on said legs for connecting the same with said rail opposite to said stirrup.

4. An adjustable shaft hanger of the character stated composed of a vertically extending stirrup member, vertically extending leg members, the latter being pendant from the upper portions of the former, and resilient in their nature, means for connecting said leg member and said stirrup member, the same being adapted to form the means of suspending the device from a rail member, and means on said legs for engaging the same with said rail member.

5. A stirrup on which a shaft may be mounted adapted to be sustained on a rail member, divergent legs of resilient material pendant from the upper portions of said stirrup, and grips on said legs, said grips being adapted to be held removably on said rail member.

6. A stirrup on which a shaft may be mounted adapted to be sustained adjustably on the top of a rail member, legs of resilient material pendant from the upper portion of said stirrup and divergent therefrom, and grips on said legs adapted to engage the bottom of said rail and having upwardly deflected guards which are adapted to removably embrace the side of said rail above said bottom.

7. An adjustable shaft hanger embodying a stirrup on which a shaft may have its bearing and which is adapted to be suspended from a rail member, and laterally-resilient means continuous of said stirrup adapted to interlock the device with said rail, said stirrup having an offset thereon above the portion adapted to be occupied by the shaft.

8. An adjustable shaft hanger embodying a stirrup on which a shaft may have its bearing and which is adapted to be suspended from a rail member, and means divergent continuous of said stirrup adapted to interlock the device with said rail, and a member adapted to be interposed between said stirrup and rail to sustain the former on the back of the latter, and interlock said shaft in its position on said stirrup.

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Witnesses:

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Copies of this patent may be obtained for five cents each, by addressing the "Commissioner of Patents, Washington, D. C."