

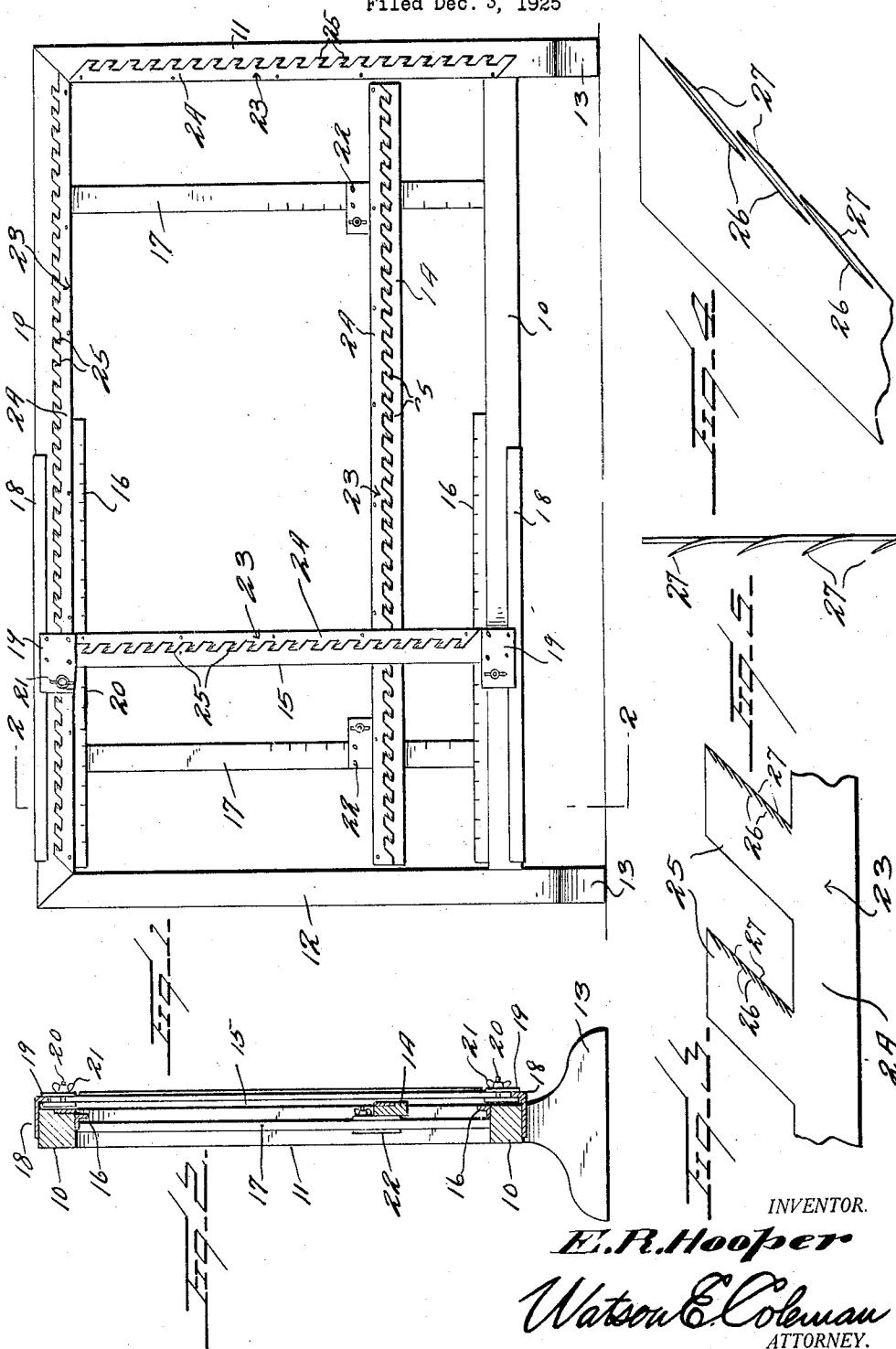
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CURTAIN HOLDER FOR CURTAIN STRETCHERS

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CURTAIN HOLDER FOR CURTAIN STRETCHERS.

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This invention relates to curtain stretchers, and particularly to a holding member adapted to engage the curtain and hold it upon the stretcher.

5 The general object of this invention is to provide a curtain holder of sheet metal which will engage the curtain securely and hold the curtain against the strain to which it is subjected.

10 A further object is to provide a sheet metal curtain holder which has great durability, which will permit the curtain to be readily engaged with it, and which will readily release the curtains without having to re-adjust the stretcher itself.

A still further object is to provide a cheap, efficient and simply operated curtain holder which may be applied to different forms of curtain stretchers.

20 My invention is illustrated in the accompanying drawings, wherein:—

Figure 1 is a side elevation of a curtain stretcher constructed in accordance with my invention;

25 Figure 2 is a vertical section on the line 2—2 of Figure 1;

Figure 3 is a detail elevation of one of the curtain holders;

30 Figure 4 is a like view of one of the extensions or arms of the curtain holder showing the manner in which the prongs are formed;

35 Figure 5 is an edge view of the structure shown in Figure 4 showing the manner in which the prongs are bent.

Referring to these drawings, it will be seen that I have shown a rectangular frame composed of the longitudinal members 10 and the end members 11 and 12. The end members 11 and 12 are uprights and are illustrated as being supported by bases 13. This frame may be constructed in any suitable manner.

45 Adjustable vertically between the members 11 and 12 and operating between the members 10 is a longitudinal beam or member 14, and extending at right angles to the beam 14 and to the beams 10 and operating on guides in the beams 10 is a vertical member 15. The curtain to be stretched is engaged between the uppermost beam 10 and the beam 14 and between the beam 11 and the beam 15. One of the members 10, the member 11, and the members 14 and 15, therefore, constitute an expansible frame

upon which the curtain is to be stretched. Scales 16 are mounted upon the lower longitudinal member 10 and upon the upper member 10 whereby the adjustment of the member 15 may be regulated, and like vertical scales 17 are provided by which the adjustment of the member 14 may be noted.

The member 15 at its upper and lower ends is operatively engaged with longitudinally extending guides 18. These guides 18 are in the form of angle irons attached to the top and bottom of the members 10 respectively. The ends of member 15 are provided with a pair of clamping plates 19 through which passes a bolt 20 having a wing nut 21. A like construction is used at opposite ends of this member 15. By this means the member 15 may be clamped anywhere along the guides 18. The same construction is used with relation to the member 14, only in this case the clamping plates 22 are engaged on each side of the vertical scale bars 17. These scale bars extend downward from the middle of the uppermost beam 10 of the frame to the median plane of the lowermost beam 10. It will be seen that the member 14 is inward of the member 15.

So far I have described a more or less ordinary construction of curtain stretcher, and it is to be understood that I do not wish to be limited to any particular form of curtain stretcher, that the curtain stretcher proper may be constructed in various ways, and that it is sufficient if it consists of longitudinally and transversely expansible members held in any adjusted position by any suitable means, and that Figures 1 and 2 are purely illustrative of one form of curtain stretcher to which my holding device may be applied.

The ordinary curtain stretcher is provided in many cases with hooks and in some cases with clamps with which the curtain is adapted to be engaged. These hooks are relatively large, they are liable to puncture the curtain or other material stretched on the frame, and after the curtain is stretched it is difficult to remove it from the hooks without straining the curtain. Where clamps are used, each clamp has to be separately released and no uniform engagement of the curtain is secured around its entire margin.

My invention lies in the use in connection with the curtain stretching bars 10, 11, 14 and 15 or bars of equivalent character, of a curtain-engaging strip, a portion of which is shown in Figure 3 and which strip is designated 23. In the embodiment of my invention illustrated, this strip is cut out, punched or otherwise formed so as to provide a base portion 24 with obliquely inclined tongues 25, that is these tongues are obliquely inclined to the base portion. Each of these tongues is, therefore, formed with side margins which are obliquely inclined to the length of the base portion 24 and each tongue, as illustrated, is slitted inward, as shown exaggeratedly in Figure 4 at 26 at short intervals along the entire length of this inclined edge so as to provide a plurality of very small, fine and sharp-pointed spurs 27, these spurs extending nearly parallel to the edge of the tongue 25, as shown most clearly in Figure 3, and these spurs being preferably outwardly turned somewhat from the face of this portion 25, and, therefore, from the plane of the base, as shown in Figure 5. These spurs or prongs are formed, it will be noted from Figure 4, by a plurality of single straight cuts 26 nearly parallel with the edge into which the cuts are made, these cuts producing the adjacent edges of two spurs. It is to be understood that these spurs are very fine, the cuts 26 being ordinarily not longer than $\frac{1}{16}$ " or $\frac{1}{8}$ ", and the spurs are turned outward so that their points project beyond the surface of the portion 25 to an extent hardly greater than $\frac{1}{16}$ ".

As shown in Figure 1, the tongues 25 of the uppermost holding strip 23 which is attached to the bar 10 extend upward and obliquely. The tongues of the strip 25 which is attached to the upright 11 extend downwardly and obliquely. The tongues of the strip 25 which is mounted upon the slidable upright 15 extend upwardly and laterally away from the beam 11, while the tongues on the strip 25 which is attached to the beam 14 extend downwardly and laterally or obliquely. The prongs on these tongues, therefore, are adapted to engage with the margins of a curtain or other piece of textile fabric and hold this curtain throughout the length of its entire margin at very short intervals so that the curtain is uniformly held, the curtain is readily engaged with these spurs which catch almost automatically in the material of the curtain and readily disengaged therefrom, while at the same time the spurs hold the curtain firmly because there are so many of the spurs. One spur might bend under the strain but with a plurality of spurs along one margin of each tongue 25, it is obvious that the curtain will be held very securely and firmly at a

very great number of points by this very great number of prongs.

While I have illustrated a particular form of curtain holder in which the base strip 24 is provided with tongues 25, I do not wish to be limited to this as it is obvious that the base strip might be otherwise formed and yet be provided with these prongs which would engage the meshes of the curtain or other textile fabric and hold it firmly during the stretching operation. It will be understood that in the uppermost strip, the prongs will extend upwardly and obliquely. In the lowermost strip, the prongs will extend downward. In the strip attached to the member 11, the prongs will extend outward or away from the member 15 and where the strip is attached to the member 15 the prongs will extend upward and away from the member 11.

I am aware that prior to my invention curtain stretchers had been made with two adjustable and two fixed sides and having curtain stretching holders thereon. I, therefore, do not claim the expansible curtain stretcher by itself nor do I wish to be limited to the particular form of curtain stretcher shown.

I claim:—

1. As an article of manufacture, a curtain holder for curtain stretchers comprising a strip of metal having its edge formed with a plurality of prongs extending diagonally to the edge of the strip and the prongs extending outward from the plane of the strip, the prongs being defined by single straight cuts extending nearly parallel to the edge of the strip without removal of metal between the cuts of same.

2. As an article of manufacture, a curtain holder for curtain stretchers consisting of a strip of metal obliquely notched to provide a series of obliquely disposed tongues whose like edges lie parallel to each other, said oblique edges being provided with curtain attaching means whereby the curtain is securely but lightly held at a great number of places for the purpose of holding the curtains to stretch and dry in the process of laundering.

3. As an article of manufacture, a sheet metal curtain holder adapted to be used on curtain stretchers, the holder being obliquely notched to thereby provide a series of oblique tongues whose oblique edges lie parallel with each other, said oblique edges being cut to form projecting prongs, the points of which incline outward at an angle to the edge of the metallic strip, the line defining each of said prongs from the strip extending nearly parallel to the edge of the strip.

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