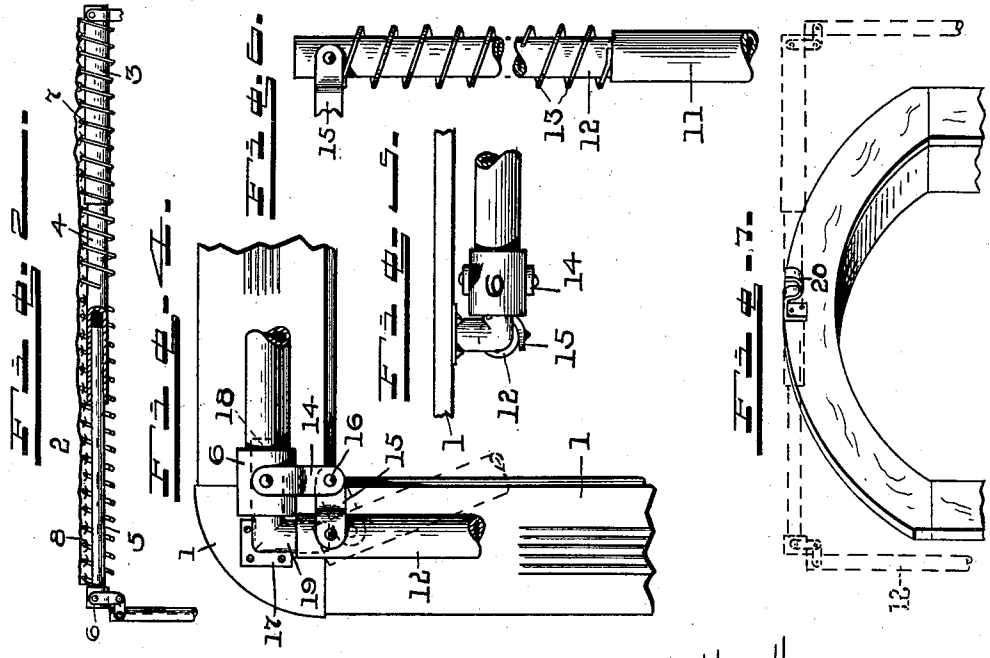
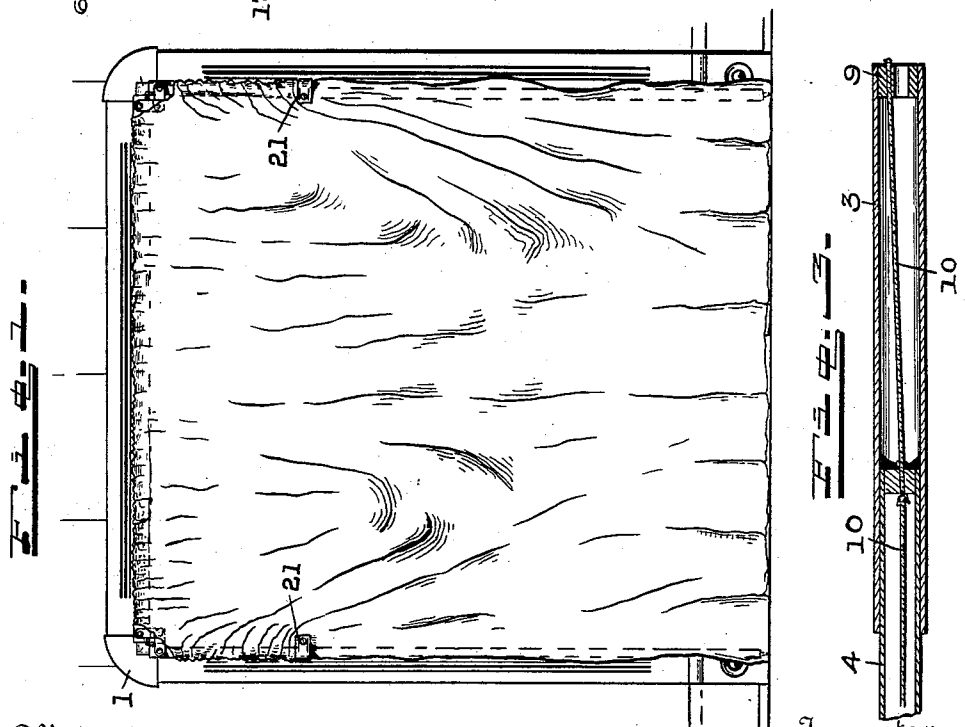
(No Model.)

G. G. F. BOSWELL.

ADJUSTABLE CURTAIN.

No. 588,390. Patented Aug. 17, 1897.





Witnesses
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

GEORGE G. F. BOSWELL, OF INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA, ASSIGNOR TO VALENTIA E. FITHIAN, OF SAME PLACE.

ADJUSTABLE CURTAIN.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 588,390, dated August 17, 1897.

Application filed March 26, 1897. Serial No. 629,424. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, GEORGE G. F. BOSWELL, of Indianapolis, county of Marion, and State of Indiana, have invented a certain new and useful Adjustable Curtain; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description thereof, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, in which like figures refer to like parts.

The chief object of this invention is to provide ready and attractive means for closing openings, especially doorless openings, of varying dimensions between rooms in houses. This is desirable to prevent dust while sweeping or cleaning house from passing from one room to another, to shut off one room from another in times of sickness or while cleaning a part of the house or for any other purpose. It is so constructed that it can be readily put in place and will cover an opening the size of an ordinary door or a large opening, whether with an arched or straight top. Incidental to the chief object above mentioned it can be used to cover fine window-curtains, paintings, or other things while a room is being swept or cleaned or at any other time or for any other purpose.

The full nature of my invention will appear from the accompanying drawings and the description and claims following.

In the drawings, Figure 1 represents the curtain in place over a square opening. Fig. 2 is a longitudinal section of the upper curtain-pole and curtain, the right-hand end of the pole, however, not being in section. Fig. 3 is a section of the right-hand end of the pole shown in Fig. 2 without the curtain or wire. Fig. 4 is a detailed view of the connection between the side and top poles and their attachment to the casing. Fig. 5 is a plan view of the part shown in Fig. 4. Fig. 6 is an elevation of the upper portion of a side pole, the same being broken away, as shown. Fig. 7 shows the means for attaching the curtain to an arched opening.

In detail, 1 is the casing of an opening between two rooms in a house. The curtain attachment comprises three telescoping poles, one above and one on each side. The side poles are hinged or otherwise joined to the ends of the upper pole, as will hereinafter be shown. On these poles the curtain 2 is placed by providing along its upper and side edges a casing large enough to slip the poles through. The curtain is, when stretched, large enough to cover the largest opening that may probably be desired, and the poles are likewise so constructed as to be long enough to provide for the covering of such large opening. The covering of smaller openings is accomplished by contracting the length of the poles which causes the curtain to gather on the poles. This permits the height or width or both to be adjusted.

The poles adopted are telescoping. The upper one shown is composed of three telescoping tubular sections 3, 4, and 5, respectively. The tube 4 is smaller than the tube 3 and slides in it, while the tube 5 is smaller than the tube 4 and slides in it. The outer end of the tube 5 is enlarged at 6. Then the whole upper pole is surrounded by a spiral wire 7, extending from one end to the other. The diameter of this spiral wire is such as to permit it being easily slipped over the larger section 3. The casing of the curtain 2 surrounds the spiral wire 7 and is secured to it by threads or cords 8, that loop under each coil of the wire. The purpose of this is to secure the curtain to the wire and to cause it to move with the wire when the latter is contracted or expanded, and this will cause the curtain to be equably distributed and prevent its collecting in bunches when the upper pole is lengthened or shortened. The larger tube 3 of the upper pole has in its outer end a block or plug 9, and the other tubes 4 and 5 are likewise provided with such a plug, to which a cord or rope 10 is secured. The purpose of this cord or rope is to limit the telescoping movement of the sections, so that they cannot escape from each other, and yet it permits such tubes to be moved freely one in the other for nearly their whole length.

The side poles consist of two sections. The larger one, 11, is below and rests upon the floor, while the smaller section 12 is above and enters and reciprocates within the tube 11. The spiral spring 13 surrounds the smaller tube and abuts at one end against the larger tube 11 and is secured at the other end to the tube 12, so that the tendency of such

spring is to lengthen such pole, and when the upper pole is secured to the casing or made stationary it always forces the lower section 11 of the side pole down on the floor. The lower section 11 may have a spike in the lower end to enter the floor or not, as desired. The spring 13 has also the additional function of holding the curtain material away from the end of the tube 11 when the side poles are shortened, so as to prevent such material from being cut or injured.

The side poles are secured to the ends of the upper poles preferably by hinging. The means shown consist of the section 14 of the hinge being secured to the end of the upper pole and the other section 15 secured to the upper end of the side pole. The two sections are pivoted at 16.

This attachment is secured to the casing preferably in the following ways: If an opening be square, I place at each upper corner of the casing a bracket 17, that has a horizontal lug 18, extending toward the opposite corner to receive the end of the upper curtain-pole and another lug 19, that extends downward to receive the upper end of the side curtain-pole. The attachment is placed on these two brackets in the following manner: The upper pole is shortened and the two ends placed over the two lugs 18. Then first one side pole and then the other is held in the first place in a folded position, as shown in dotted lines in Fig. 4, and in such position that its upper end will pass or extend over the lug 19 when the pole is moved downward into a vertical position, as shown in said Fig. 4. The side poles at their lower ends are placed on the floor close against the casing, so that the whole opening is tightly closed. If, however, an arched opening is desired to be covered, I use a hook 20, centrally located on the arch. Over this I centrally place the upper pole of the curtain and then place the two side poles in a vertical position against the wall. The one hook 20 will thus hold the whole curtain structure in place.

The curtain is caught up on the side poles by the clamps 21, that are placed about the curtain and the upper end of the lower section 11 of the side poles, as shown in Fig. 1. These are so placed that from them the curtain will hang gracefully to the floor, but above them it will gather as it is compressed or extended, but the curtain is made of such dimensions that it cannot extend so far upward as to permit the smaller section 12 of the side poles from escaping out of the larger lower sections 11.

In this description it is seen that the curtain can be adapted to openings of different sizes and forms and will cover them completely, that it is readily put in place or removed, and when removed can be put into a bundle of very small dimensions, as both side poles can be folded against the upper pole.

What I claim as my invention, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. An adjustable curtain comprising an upper horizontal pole, consisting of telescoping tubes with a wire coiled about them of a diameter as great as the outside tube, a vertical telescoping pole secured to each end of the upper pole, and sufficient curtain material secured to said poles to permit enlargement or diminution of the curtain.

2. The combination with the casing of an opening or object to be covered, of an adjustable curtain comprising an upper horizontal telescoping pole, a vertical telescoping pole hinged to each end of the upper pole and sufficient curtain material secured to said poles to permit appropriate adjustment of size, and means for detachably securing said poles to the casing.

3. The combination with a casing of an opening or object to be covered, of an adjustable curtain comprising a tubular telescoping horizontal pole, a vertical pole hinged at each end of the horizontal pole, a bracket secured to the casing at each end of the horizontal pole and having a lug extending horizontally inward to receive the horizontal pole and another lug extending downward to receive the ends of the vertical pole, and suitable curtain material secured to such poles, substantially as set forth.

In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand this 18th day of March, 1897.

GEORGE G. F. BOSWELL.

Witnesses:
V. H. LOCKWOOD,
ZULA GREEN.