June 7, 1927. 1,631,567

R. T. WALTON

FLAG SUPPORT AND ACTUATING DEVICE THEREFOR

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Fig. 1.

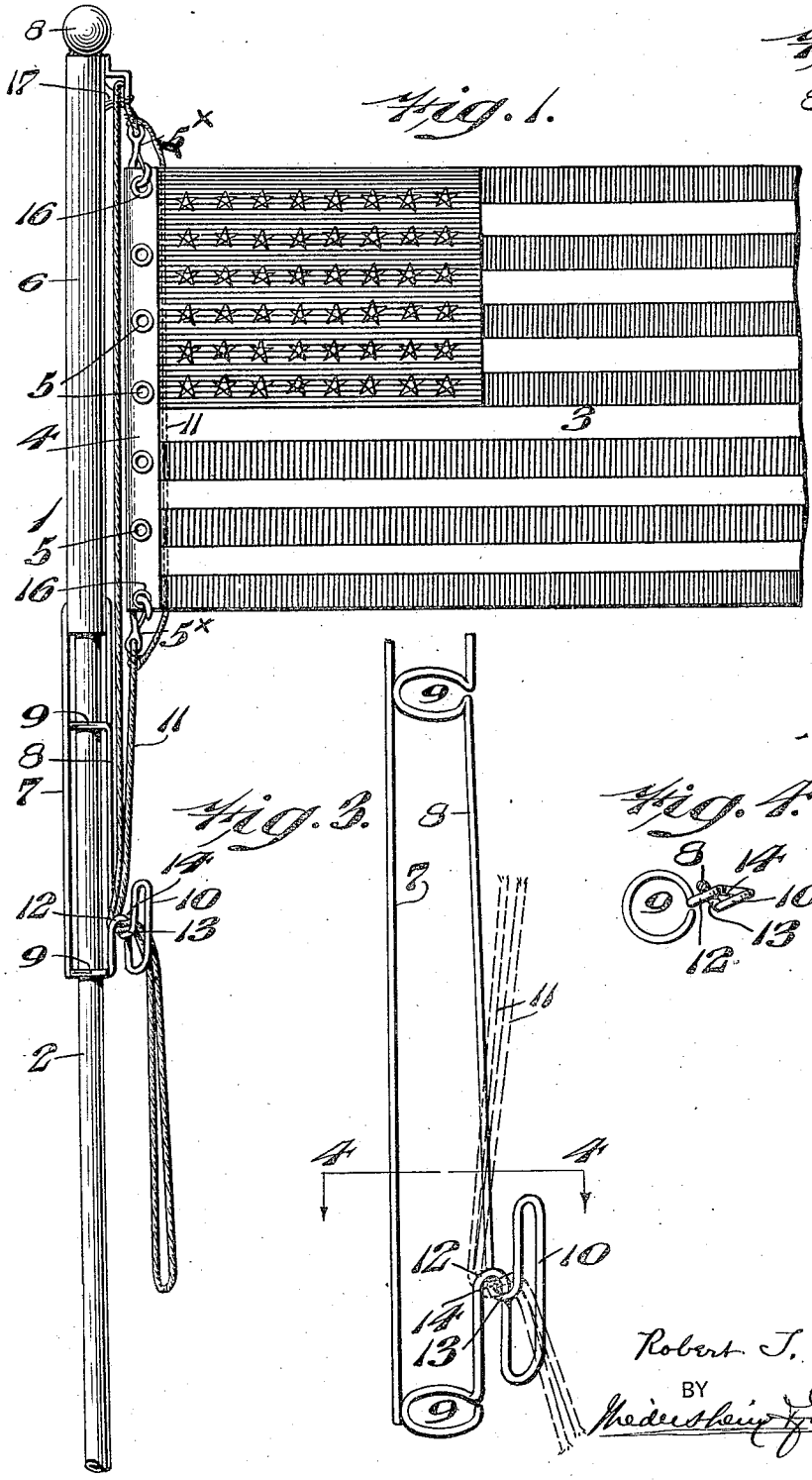


Fig. 2.

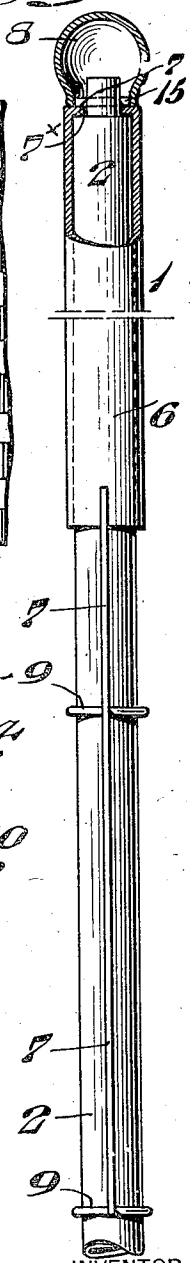


Fig. 3.

Fig. 4.

INVENTOR:
Robert T. Walton.
BY
Middleton Fairbanks.
ATTORNEYS

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ROBERT T. WALTON, OF PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA.

FLAG SUPPORT AND ACTUATING DEVICE THEREFOR.

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My invention relates to a new and useful flag support and actuating device therefor, especially adapted for flaps, pennants, standards and the like, and it relates more particularly to a new and useful construction of such support, whereby a flag pennant or the like may be rotatably mounted thereon, so as to be maintained in an unfurled condition at all times.

My invention further relates to a new and useful flag support and its adjuncts, whereby a flag, pennant or the like, may be quickly, easily and detachably secured to the flag staff in an effective manner, and readily raised and lowered when desired.

It has been the practice heretofore, in mounting flags and the like, to secure the vertical inner edge of such flag or pennant to an endless rope or cord passing over a sheave or pulley at the upper end of such staff, raising the flag to the desired height and finally tying the lower extremity of said cord to the staff, a suitable distance above the ground. Obviously, in constructions of this character, it is not possible for the flag or pennant to rotate around the pole as the direction of the wind changes, and consequently, such flag or pennant will frequently be wrapped around the upper portion of the staff carrying the same, and in the absence of sufficient wind, such flag will be drooping and unsightly. It is therefore evident that in such cases, a flag or pennant will be in full view only when the wind is blowing in one particular direction, thus minimizing the usefulness and beauty of such flag or pennant and necessitating frequent lowering of the flag for adjustment, which is not always possible or convenient.

To overcome these objectionable conditions, the object of my invention is to provide a novel flag support, whereby a flag or the like, may be easily and detachably mounted or supported and whereby the same will be maintained in an unfurled condition at all times, thus eliminating the unsightly appearance, a flag presents when drooped, or wrapped around the staff or otherwise entangled therewith, and affording a maximum visibility of such flag since the same will always be completely unfurled and streaming in whatever direction the wind is blowing, thus enhancing the usefulness and decorative value thereof.

With the above ends in view, my invention consists of a flag staff of any conventional construction, adapted to have its lower end secured in any desirable manner, a rotatable sleeve slipped over and loosely encasing the upper portion of said staff, means detachably to maintain said sleeve in its uppermost position on said staff, a sheave or pulley carried by the uppermost end of said sleeve over which the continuous cord carrying the flag is adapted to pass, means for detachably securing the flag to said cord, a flat elongated continuous metallic clamp in which the inner vertical edge of the flag is permanently secured, vertical brace rods or arms pendant from said sleeve along opposed sides of said staff and means thereon for securing the lower terminal of said continuous cord.

For the purpose of illustrating my invention, I have shown in the accompanying drawings, forms thereof which at present are preferred by me since they will give in practice, satisfactory and reliable results, although it is to be understood that the various instrumentalities of which my invention consists can be variously arranged and organized and that my invention is not limited to the precise arrangement and organization of these instrumentalities as herein shown and described.

In the accompanying drawings,

Figure 1 represents a side elevation of a flag support embodying my invention.

Figure 2 represents, partly in section, an end elevation of the same.

Figure 3 represents on an enlarged scale, the bracing rods and guide members, forming part of my invention.

Figure 4 represents a sectional view on line 4—4 of Figure 3.

Referring to the drawings, in which like reference characters indicate like parts, 1 designates a flag support embodying my invention, and comprising the flag pole or staff 2 and flag, pennant or other emblem 3, supported thereby. The flat metallic clamp 4 consists of a strip of sheet metal bent over upon itself to form a narrow U shaped clamp in which the inner vertical edge of the flag 3 is permanently secured by means of the eyelets or similar fastening devices 5. The sleeve 6 is of a slightly larger diameter than the upper portion of the staff 2, and is adapted loosely to slip over and encase the same, so that said sleeve may

readily rotate around the upper portion of said staff under the influence of the wind blowing on the flag 3. The upper terminal of the sleeve 6 is bent inwardly to form the annular flange 7, which rests on the shoulder 7× of the staff 2, thus maintaining said sleeve 6 in proper position on said staff and preventing the downward movement of the former with respect to the latter. The transverse pin 15, in the upper end of the staff 2, serves to prevent the upward movement of said sleeve 6 with respect to said staff. 8 designates an ornament of spherical or other contour, usually placed on the upper extremity of flag staffs for decorative purposes.

From the lower end of the sleeve 6, extend the substantially parallel, pendant brace rods or arms 7 and 8 respectively, which may be integral with or rigidly secured to the lower end of said sleeve 6, in any conventional manner. The brace rod 8 (see Figure 3) has formed therein, at suitable points along the length thereof, the guide loops 9 through which the staff 2 is adapted to pass (see Figures 1 and 2), thus more perfectly to maintain said sleeve 6 upon said staff and to give additional strength and stability to the structure as a whole. The brace rod 8 is further deflected upon itself, at a point near the lower end thereof, to form the vertical elongated loop 10, which serves as a stud around which the lower terminal of the cord 11, carrying the flag 3, may be tied. The lower end of the cord 11 is further tightly secured in the spring clamp 14, formed by the portions 12 and 13 of said brace rod 8, which are bent into the contour shown, during the formation of the loop 10. Thus, if desired, the lower extremity of the cord 11 may be wedged in between the portions 12 and 13, and then the excess of said cord 11 can be loosely wrapped around the elongated loop 10, which serves as a stud for that purpose, thus obviating the necessity of tying and knotting the cord which becomes difficult to undo, when the same has been moistened or when it has been tied for a long time, thus effecting a considerable saving in time and effort and adding to the life of such cord.

The clamp 4, in which is secured the inner vertical edge of the flag 3, is detachably secured to the cord 11, by means of the snap fasteners 5× or the like, provided at suitable points along said cord, which are adapted to snap into the eyelets or other openings 16 in the upper and lower ends of said clamp. The cord 11, thus carrying the flag 3, is then passed over the upper sheave or pulley 17, carried by the upper end of the cylindrical sleeve 6. The operation of raising and lowering of the flag 3 is effected by pulling the cord 11 in the proper direction in the well known manner.

By making the loop 10 around which the excess cord can be wrapped and in which it may be secured, integral with the loops 9 and brace rods 7 and 8, which in turn are integral with or rigidly secured to the rotatable sleeve 6, I provide a unitary flag support, which is compact and closely coordinated, and which will rotate as a unit around the flag staff 2, whenever the flag 3, carried thereby is subjected to the influence of the wind blowing thereon. Furthermore, by securing the inner vertical edge of the flange 3 in the rigid upright clamp 4, the flag 3 is prevented from drooping in the absence of sufficient wind, thus keeping the flag in substantially full view even in the absence of a strong wind.

The number of guide loops 9 may be increased or decreased at will, two being sufficient for the purpose of my invention. It is also to be noted that while I have illustrated my invention as applied particularly to a flag, the same may be equally well used on pennants, advertising banners and signs, club and fraternity colors and the like.

It will now be apparent that I have devised a new and useful flag support and actuating device therefor, which embodies the features of advantage enumerated as desirable in the statement of the invention and the above description, and while I have, in the present instance shown and described preferred embodiments thereof, which will give in practice, satisfactory and reliable results, it is to be understood that such embodiments are susceptible of modification in various particulars without departing from the spirit or scope of the invention or sacrificing any of its advantages.

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

1. The combination with a flag staff of a sleeve rotatably mounted upon the upper end thereof, an upper pulley carried by said sleeve, pendant rods secured to the bottom of said sleeve, a flag, means for keeping the inner end of said flag taut, a cord having its ends secured to the upper and lower portions of said flag, the upper portion of said cord passing over said pulley, and means on one of said rods for fastening said cord.

2. The combination of a flag staff, a sleeve rotatably mounted on the upper end thereof which upper end is of relatively large diameter and the lower end of which is of relatively small diameter, a pulley carried by the upper end of said sleeve, pendant rods the tops of which are secured to the bottom of the upper portion of the sleeve and the bottoms of which rods are secured to the lower part of said sleeve, a flag, a clamp in which the inner edge of said flag is secured, a cord having its ends secured to the upper and lower portions of

said clamp, the upper portion of said cord passing over said pulley, and means, on one of said rods for fastening said cord.

3. The combination of a flag staff, a sleeve rotatably mounted on the upper end thereof, an upper pulley carried by said sleeve, pendant rods secured to the bottom of said sleeve, a flag, a clamp in which the inner edge of said flag is secured, a cord having its ends secured to the upper and lower portions of said clamp, the upper portion of said cord passing over said pulley, and means on one of said rods for fastening said cord, in combination with integral guide rings formed on one of said rods, and adapted to engage said flag staff.

4. In a flag support of the character stated, the combination of a flag staff, a sleeve loosely and rotatably encasing the upper portion of said staff, means for preventing longitudinal movement of said sleeve with respect to said staff, a sheave carried at the upper end of said sleeve, a cord passing over said sheave, a pair of snap fasteners carried by said cord at suitable intervals, a flag having its inner vertical edge permanently clamped in a U shaped metallic strip, said snap fasteners detachably engaging the upper and lower portions of said flag, pendant brace members rigidly secured to the lower end of said sleeve and cooperating therewith, one of said brace members being formed into a series of horizontal guide loops encircling the lower portion of said staff, for maintaining said sleeve in position upon said staff, and an elongated loop and spring clamp in which the lower extremity of said cord may be secured, said sleeve and brace members being rotatable around said staff, as a unit.

ROBERT T. WALTON.