

(No Model.)

F. R. MERRELL.

CARRIAGE TOP.

No. 390,387.

Patented Oct. 2, 1888.

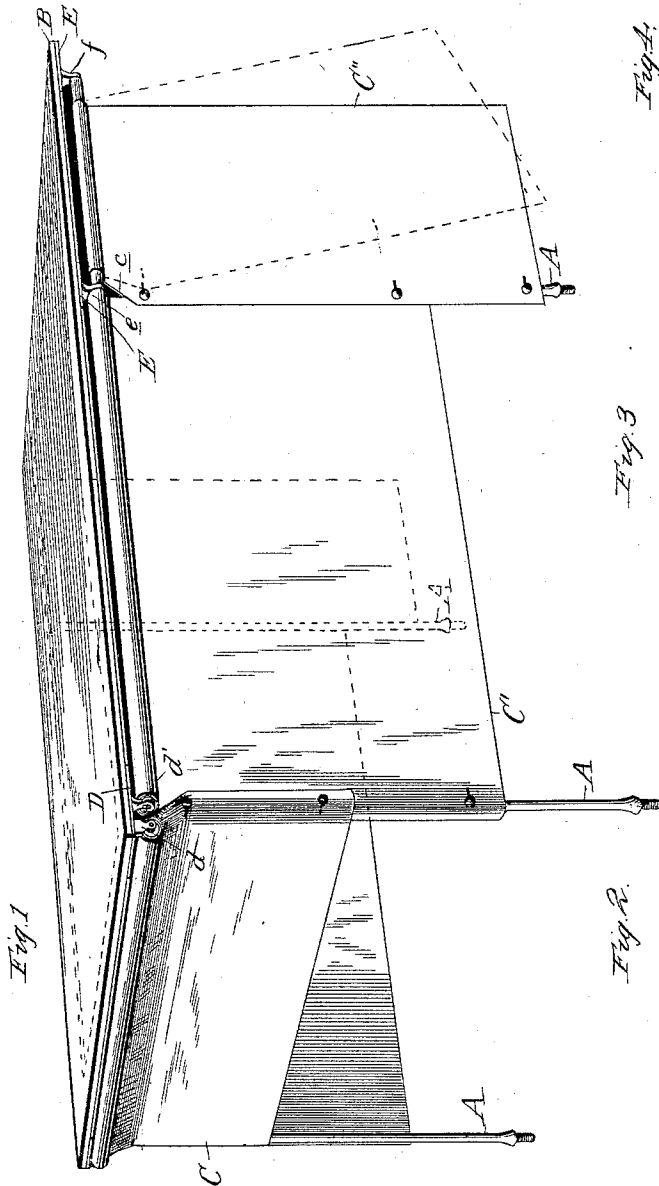


Fig. 1.

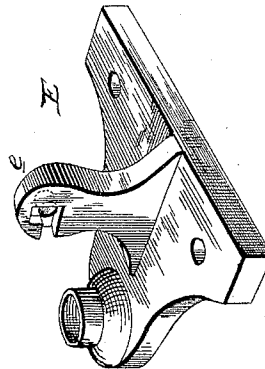
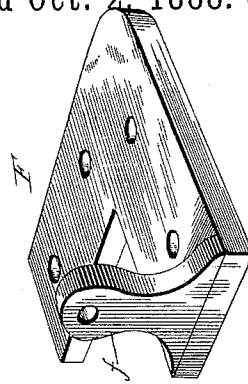


Fig. 3.

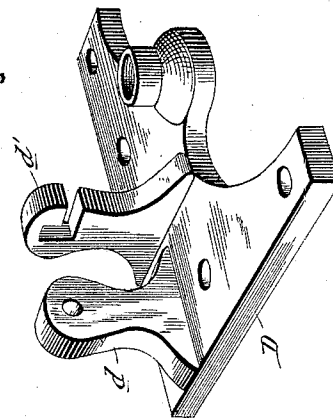


Fig. 4.

WITNESSES:
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FREDUS R. MERRELL, OF VERSAILLES, OHIO, ASSIGNOR TO THOMAS & MERRELL, OF SAME PLACE.

CARRIAGE-TOP.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 390,387, dated October 2, 1888.

Application filed December 6, 1887. Serial No. 257,147. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, FREDUS R. MERRELL, a citizen of the United States, residing at Versailles, in the county of Darke and State of Ohio, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Carriage-Tops, of which the following is a specification, reference being had therein to the accompanying drawings.

This improvement relates to that class of carriage-tops known as "canopy-tops," some of which are provided with rolling curtains; and the invention consists in the peculiar construction, arrangement, and combinations of parts, hereinafter more particularly described, and then definitely pointed out in the claims.

In the accompanying drawings, which show what I now consider the preferable way of carrying out my invention, Figure 1 represents a perspective view of a canopy-top having my improvement attached; Fig. 2, a rear corner iron; Fig. 3 one of the middle irons, and Fig. 4 one of the front irons. In all of the last three figures the irons are represented in a reversed position, the better to show their form or shape.

Referring now to the details of the drawings, A A A A represent the four posts, such as are ordinarily used with canopy-tops; B, the frame and its top-covering, which rests on the posts; C, the back curtains; C', the rear side curtain, and C'' the front side curtain. These are all rolled upon ordinary spring curtain-rollers, upon which nothing new is claimed and no description is therefore necessary.

Underneath the frame of the canopy is attached a series of irons, D E F, three on each side, one-half of which are shown upon a larger scale by the Figs. 2, 3, and 4. The back and middle irons are each formed with a socket to receive a post, and all of them are provided with hangers to receive the journals of the spring-rollers. These irons and the hangers carried by them are so arranged that the curtains may be lapped one over the other at their contiguous edges. To enable this to be accomplished, I hang the back curtain so as to project beyond the end of the rear side curtain, C', and cut and hang the front side curtain, C'', in a peculiar manner, as will be hereinafter more fully explained.

To enable me to hang the back curtain so

that it will lap over the side curtain, I cast or attach to the iron D a hanger, *d*, for the back curtain at a point outside of the center of the hanger *d'*, as shown in Figs. 1 and 2.

To enable the rear and side curtains to lap, I make one hanger perform the function of two on the center or side iron, and for this purpose make the angular slot usually required with spring-rollers in one side of the hanger *e*, and a round hole on the other side of the same, as clearly shown in Fig. 3, so that this single hanger receives the fixed journal of one spring-roller and the revolving journal of another.

The front iron, F, I prefer to make in angular form, so as to extend around the corner of the canopy-frame, and thus securely fasten together the parts of the front corner of said frame. On this iron I also cast or attach a hanger, *f*, which has a slot or hole (as the case may be) for the curtain-roller.

The roller for the front curtain is made of considerably greater length than the width of the curtain C'', and the curtain itself is cut off at an angle at *e*, so that a part of the side of the curtain hangs under the hanger E, and will thus lap and button over the curtain C'.

When it is desired to roll up the curtain C'', it is drawn slightly to one side, as shown by dotted lines, and it can thus be readily rolled up, as the rear edge of the curtain will then pass inside of the hanger *e*, and as the roller is made considerably longer than the curtain is wide the front edge of the curtain will roll up on the front end of the roller, which has been made especially long for that purpose.

In practice there is an ornamental covering with fringe, &c., attached to the canopy, which drops down over and hides the rollers, &c.; but as this a common feature I have not shown it.

In some cases I may make the curtain C'' to slide sidewise on the roller, which may be accomplished in different ways, and when this is done I slide the curtain over toward the front end of its roller before rolling it up. When the curtain is unrolled and it is desired to button the same, I slide the curtain to the rear end of its roller, when it will of course readily lap on the rear side curtain.

The hangers in the irons can have the holes

and slots alike for each side of the carriage-top if the spring-rollers are especially made to suit this arrangement of the hangers; but as spring-rollers are usually constructed it will
5 be necessary for the hangers to be made "rights and lefts"—that is to say, if the hanger on one side of the carriage has a round hole the corresponding hanger on the opposite side will have to be provided with an angular slot, and
10 if the hanger has an angular slot the corresponding hanger on the other side will have a round hole.

By the above construction and arrangement a canopy-top is made which is provided with
15 lapped curtains that will readily roll up, and yet have all the curtains in a line, which is a necessity with flat-top canopies, and thus the objections hitherto found to canopy-top curtains have been avoided.

20 What I claim as new is—

1. The combination, with a carriage top, of two curtains hung on rollers turning on bearings in the same horizontal plane and in line

with each other, one of which curtains has a projecting edge adapted to lap on the other, 25 substantially as described.

2. The combination, with a carriage-top, of two curtains, one of which has a projecting edge adapted to lap on the other, and one of its upper corners cut away to clear the hanger 30 on which it is suspended, substantially as described.

3. The combination, with a canopy-top and the curtain-rollers therefor, of the irons D E F, each carrying a hanger for the rollers, and 35 the rear iron, D, carrying two hangers, one of said hangers being attached outside of the center of the hanger for the side-curtain roller, substantially as described.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature, in 40 presence of two witnesses, this 5th day of December, 1887.

FREDUS R. MERRELL.

Witnesses:

WM. T. ROBERTSON,
JULIUS SOLGER.