March 31, 1925. 1,531,746

L. FORT

HOOK

Filed May 22, 1923

Fig. 1.

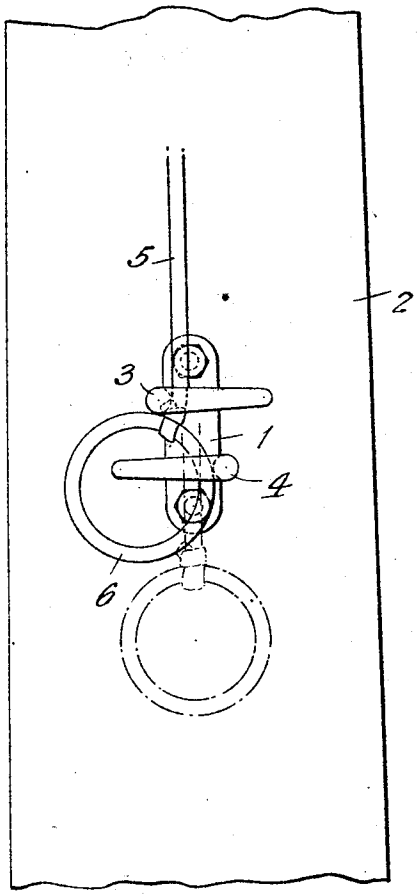


Fig. 2.

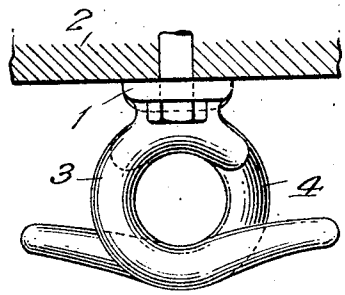
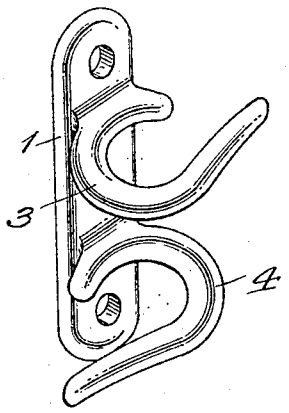


Fig. 3.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

LOUIS FORT, OF JERSEY CITY, NEW JERSEY.

HOOK.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, LOUIS FORT, a citizen of the United States, residing at Jersey City, in the county of Hudson and State of New Jersey, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Hooks, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description.

My invention relates to hooks used for the expeditious reception and release of the loose and depending ends of ropes, cables or the like, which are employed to raise and lower objects, such as awnings, curtains, arc or other electric street lamps, etc. Especially in the case of electric street lamps which are suspended from the end of an outstanding arm and are frequently lowered for renewal or cleaning purposes, it is essential that the free end of the rope be easily accessible and readily releasable, and at the same time that the retaining device hold the end of the rope against any possibility of accidental escape. It is the general practice to locate a hook for this purpose just high enough on the lamp post to be out of reach for the purpose of unauthorized tampering, and for the rope which suspends the lamp to run over pulleys and have its free end extend through the hook, a ring or the like on the end of the rope bearing on the underside of the hook and sustaining the lamp. The workman, usually with a hook on the end of a pole or rope, catches the ring and releases the rope from the retaining hook on the post, allowing the lamp to drop down. After he has attended to the lamp he again pulls it up and catches the rope through the hook with the ring below it.

While many hooks for this purpose have been and are being employed, I have not seen any which would not occasionally, under the influence of the wind or from other accidental cause, allow the rope to escape and many serious accidents have resulted therefrom.

My invention aims to produce a hook for this purpose which will not only be absolutely safe but which will receive and release the rope with the utmost facility when directed in the proper manner. Other objects are simplicity and inexpensiveness of construction. Still other objects and advantages of my invention will appear from the following description.

My improved device has two oppositely opening hooks side by side on a common attaching plate, the eyes being in line to receive the rope and the ends converging to partially close the openings while the upper end is then continued straight out to form a guiding finger to facilitate the weaving or threading of the rope into the hooks. The two hooks are sufficiently close together so that they cooperate and prevent the rope from escaping in either direction as it sways in the wind.

I shall now describe the illustrated embodiment of my invention and shall thereafter point out my invention in claims.

Fig. 1 is an elevation of a portion of a lamp post or other support with a hook embodying my invention appearing in elevation thereon and a portion of a rope secured in the hook;

Fig. 2 is a plan or end view of the hook and a fragmentary section of the post on an enlarged scale;

Fig. 3 is a perspective of the hook.

As shown the hook is all one integral member, preferably cast of suitable metal. The base plate 1 has a screw hole drilled in each end, or, in lieu thereof, it may have a single integral screw, and in Figures 1 and 2 is shown attached to a post 2 which may be a lamp post. The two oppositely disposed hooks 3 and 4 on the outer face of the plate 1 have their eyes aligned. While the eyes are large enough to allow a certain freedom to the rope, the hook openings are somewhat constricted although large enough to allow the rope to enter freely when properly guided. For this purpose the two ends are shown as converging in a circular direction for a substantial distance beyond the diameter normal to the plane of the base. From the opening the outer end of each hook is shown as extended out for some distance, thereby forming a guiding finger to catch and direct the rope within the hook. A rope 5 is shown in Figure 1 extending through the hooks and provided with a ring 6 on its end which is pulled by the lamp or other weight partially through the hook 4 and against the hook 3, the two hooks thus co-operatively serving as a stop for the ring.

It is manifest that, due to the weight of the lamp or other device, the rope is held taut and that the hooks cooperate to prevent the rope from escaping laterally in either direction. The workman, however, has only

to grasp the ring 6 and pull down slightly on the rope, substantially to the position shown in dot and dash in Figure 1, and bend the end to the left until it escapes from hook 4, and then twist it between the two hooks and release it from hook 3. To reengage the rope in the retaining device he has only to perform the reverse operation. He first catches the rope under the end of the guiding finger of hook 3 and slips it into that hook, and then twists the rope over to the other side of hook 4 and catches it under that guiding finger and so into that hook. Practice has shown that the hooking and unhooking operations can be very quickly performed.

It is obvious that various modifications may be made in the construction shown in the drawings and above particularly described within the principle and scope of my invention.

I claim:

1. A retaining device for ropes or the like comprising a base member designed for attachment to a support and having two reversely disposed hook members projecting from the same face thereof with the axis of their eyes aligned and with the planes of the eyes generally normal to their aligned axes and spaced along the length thereof.

2. A retaining device as described in claim 1 in which the ends of each hook member converge to form a relatively constricted opening and the outer end is extended substantially to form a guiding element.

In witness whereof I hereunto subscribe my signature.

LOUIS FORT.