

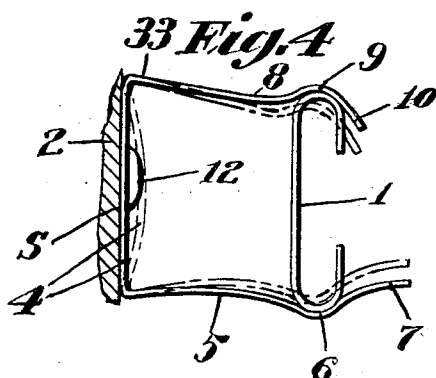
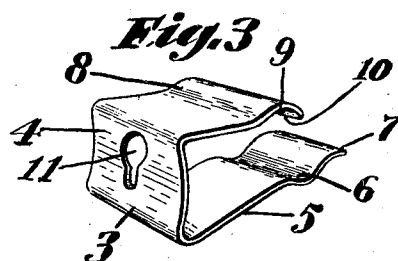
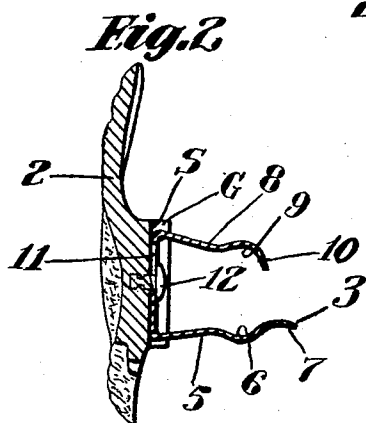
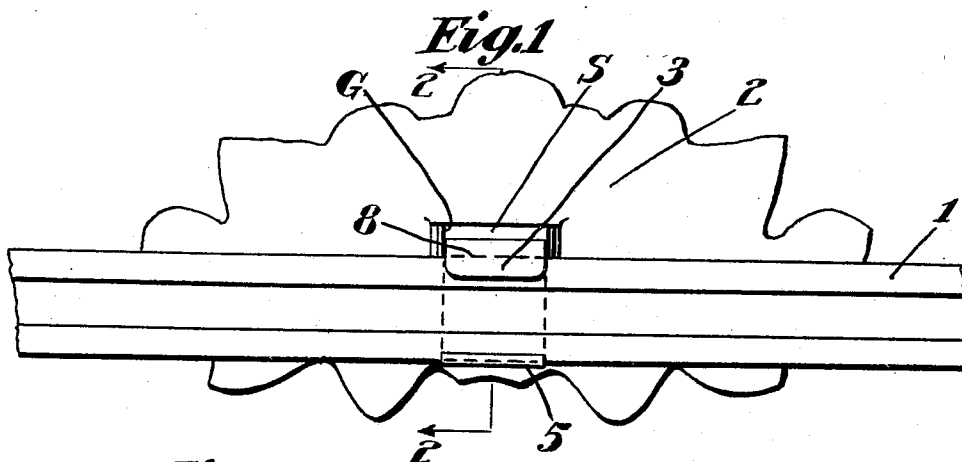
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CURTAIN FIXTURE

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

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CURTAIN FIXTURE

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The vogue of the ornamented curtain or drapery rod, and particularly that type of ornamented rod wherein the rod ornaments consist of end and center devices which are detachably fastened to the rod, has become quite definite and the sale of rods so equipped at the factory as well as the sales of the individual ornaments themselves for ultimate attachment to rods in stock or rods which are actually installed have attained considerable volume.

The attachment of the end ornaments presents no particular problem in that they simply telescope into the ends of the rod, but the attachment of the center ornament to the rod involves problems of its own.

In the first place, such center ornament is usually a casting of ornamental outline and surface decoration, and from the very nature of its use must be so attached to the rod as to occupy a position substantially parallel thereto whereby to give the appearance of being an integral part of the rod itself when viewed from the front.

The means whereby the center ornament is attached to the rod must be such as to enable the ornament easily and quickly to be applied to the rod and when applied reliably and positively to maintain the relatively heavy ornament in the desired position thereon. Moreover, such attaching means in itself must be so inexpensive of manufacture and assembly as not materially to increase production cost and should be of such construction and operation as not to require the use of screw drivers, wrenches or other tools in assembling the rods and their ornaments.

Heretofore it has been the usual practice to drill and tap the center ornament to receive a screw and to assemble the rod-engaging clip or bracket on such screw. The matter of drilling and tapping, however, represents a considerable item in production costs, and besides being slow and painstaking, involves an expensive factory inspection against defective pieces, due to the fact that the diameter of the tap is so small that in volume production a certain percentage of defects is practically unavoidable. Moreover, with such a small screw it is very easy

to strip the thread by tightening the screw too tightly in assembling the clip thereon, thus rendering the ornament useless.

To the end therefore of providing a means of attaching center ornaments to curtain rods which will avoid the objections to previous methods and at the same time will embody all of the features of advantage heretofore indicated as desirable in a device of this character, I have devised my present invention.

According to it I cast a rivet, stud or other headed anchoring element with the ornament itself during the process of casting such ornament, whereby the ornament and anchoring element are in effect one integral piece. The head of such anchoring element projects sufficiently beyond the plane of the rear face of the ornament to constitute an exposed end on which is assembled a spring clip of special construction by means of which the ornament is mounted on the curtain rod.

Such clip is applied to the headed end of the anchoring element under tension so that when assembled thereon and the clip sprung over the rod the greater the load imposed on the clip the tighter will be the engagement of clip and anchoring element. The design of the clip is such as to permit it to be sprung quickly and easily over the rod and automatically locked thereon without scratching or otherwise marring the finish thereof and when applied to the rod firmly holds the ornament in proper positional relationship thereon against all displacement shocks which it is likely to meet in the normal use of the rod.

By my construction, I effect a substantial saving in production costs over the ordinary method of drilling and tapping the casting to receive a screw. Both the necessity for an expensive factory inspection for defective pieces and the necessity for using a screw driver, wrench or other tool in assembling the clip and ornament are avoided. Production and assembly are speeded up and all possibility of ruining the ornament by tightening up the clip and screw so tightly as to strip the threads is obviated.

A satisfactory commercial embodiment of

my invention is described in the accompanying specification and illustrated in the drawings.

In the drawings:—

Fig. 1 is a rear view of my improved clip holding an ornament in place on a curtain rod.

Fig. 2 is a section on the line 2—2 of Fig. 1.

Fig. 3 is a perspective view of the clip removed, and

Fig. 4 shows in full lines the position assumed by the clip after it has been assembled on the ornament and rod and in dotted lines the position of the clip before it was assembled thereon.

I have indicated at 1 a curtain rod of flat or C-shaped type, and at 2 a center ornament of any desired design and surface decoration.

Preferably the ornament 2 is a casting presenting on its rear face a flat bearing surface S which is channelled as shown at G to provide an open-ended guideway within which the base of an attaching clip, indicated generally at 3 is adapted to be entered and clamped under tension.

The clip 3 is made of spring material and its assembling base 4 is slightly concaved, as shown in Fig. 3, for a purpose hereinafter described.

Extending rearwardly from the concaved base 4 is a pair of spaced oppositely disposed rod-clamping jaws 5 and 8. The lower jaw 5 is preferably longer than the upper jaw 8 and is bent upon itself intermediate of its ends to afford a transversely extending groove or bearing 6 for the lower rounded edge of the rod 1. Beyond such bearing the jaw terminates in an upwardly rounded lip 7.

The upper jaw 8 is bent upon itself opposite the groove 6 to provide a cooperating transverse rod bearing 9 and beyond such bearing terminates in a downwardly rounded lip 10. The rounded lips 7 and 10 avoid scratching or otherwise marring the finish of the rod when the clip is sprung thereon.

The concave base 4 of the clip is formed with a restricted opening as a keyhole slot 11 which is adapted to engage the projecting headed end of an anchoring element 12 as a stud or rivet which is cast with the ornament 2 when the same is poured.

In assembling the clip and ornament, the jaws of the clip are compressed to flex the concaved base 4 to substantially straight position as shown in full lines in Fig. 4, and the base is then entered flatly within the guideway G and adjusted until the restricted portion of the keyhole slot is lodged beneath the projecting head of the stud 12. In this position, the clip is under tension and is maintained under tension by the engagement of its clamping jaws with the edges of the rod with which it is assembled by springing its upper jaw over the upper rod edge, and then forc-

ing the clip and ornament towards the rod until the lower jaw springs over the lower rod edge and the rod edges are lodged in the rod-receiving grooves 6 and 9 of the jaws.

During the interval which elapses between assembling the clip to the ornament and assembling the ornament to the rod, the compression on the spring jaws is of course released, and the clip springs back to the position of Fig. 3, but such action simply causes the edge of the restricted portion of the keyhole slot 11 to grip the stud head the more tightly. When the clip is assembled to the rod by springing its jaws over the rod edges, as shown in full lines in Fig. 4, the clip is thereby again put under tension whereby firmly to grip the rod.

Although I have described my invention in its adaptation to the mounting of center ornaments on curtain or drapery rods in which use it finds a field of immediate application, it will be understood that this treatment is purely illustrative and in no way limiting. As will be obvious, the principles of my invention may be adapted to a wide variety of uses. Similarly, my clip, as a clip, is not necessarily limited to use in connection with a cast ornament or with a cast rivet or stud, but is capable of wide and varied use independent of the particular type of article of support to which such article is to be attached.

Various other modifications in the construction and operation of my device may obviously be resorted to without departing from the spirit of my invention if within the limits of the appended claims.

What I therefore claim and desire to secure by Letters Patent is:

1. In combination with an object having a headed pin projecting therefrom, a clip inclusive of a base portion provided medially with a slot to receive the shank of said pin, a portion at least of said slot being of less width than the head of said pin, said base portion being adapted by lateral movement thereof to have the shank of said pin entered in said slot with the head of the pin engaging the outer face of said base portion, said base portion being inherently resilient and being normally bowed outward medially whereby the clip is retained by its inherent resiliency in engagement with said object, and means carried by said clip for effecting connection thereof with another object.

2. In combination with an object having a headed pin projecting therefrom, a clip inclusive of a base portion provided medially with a slot to receive the shank of said pin, a portion at least of said slot being of less width than the head of said pin, said base portion being adapted by lateral movement thereof to have the shank of said pin entered in said slot with the head of the pin engaging the outer face of said base portion, said base por-

tion being inherently resilient and being normally bowed outward medially whereby the clip is retained by its inherent resiliency in engagement with said object, means to prevent relative rotation between the clip and the object, and means carried by said clip for effecting connection thereof with another object.

3. In combination with an object having a headed pin projecting therefrom, a clip inclusive of a base portion provided medially with a slot to receive the shank of said pin, a portion at least of said slot being of less width than the head of said pin, said base portion being adapted by lateral movement thereof to have the shank of said pin entered in said slot with the head of the pin engaging the outer face of said base portion, said base portion being inherently resilient and being normally bowed outward medially whereby the clip is retained by its inherent resiliency in engagement with said object, means to prevent relative rotation between the clip and the object, said means comprising a rib on the object for engagement with an edge of the clip, and means carried by said clip for effecting connection thereof with another object.

4. In combination with an object having a headed pin projecting therefrom, a clip inclusive of a base portion provided medially with a slot to receive the shank of said pin, a portion at least of said slot being of less width than the head of said pin, said base portion being adapted by lateral movement thereof to have the shank of said pin entered in said slot with the head of the pin engaging the outer face of said base portion, said base portion being inherently resilient and being normally bowed outward medially whereby the clip is retained by its inherent resiliency in engagement with said object, and a pair of spaced arms extending outward from said base portion constituting means for effecting connection of said clip with another object, said arms being disposed for movement towards one another to effect straightening of the base portion to facilitate engagement and disengagement of the base portion of the clip with and from an object.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature.
WILLIAM C. KENNEY.