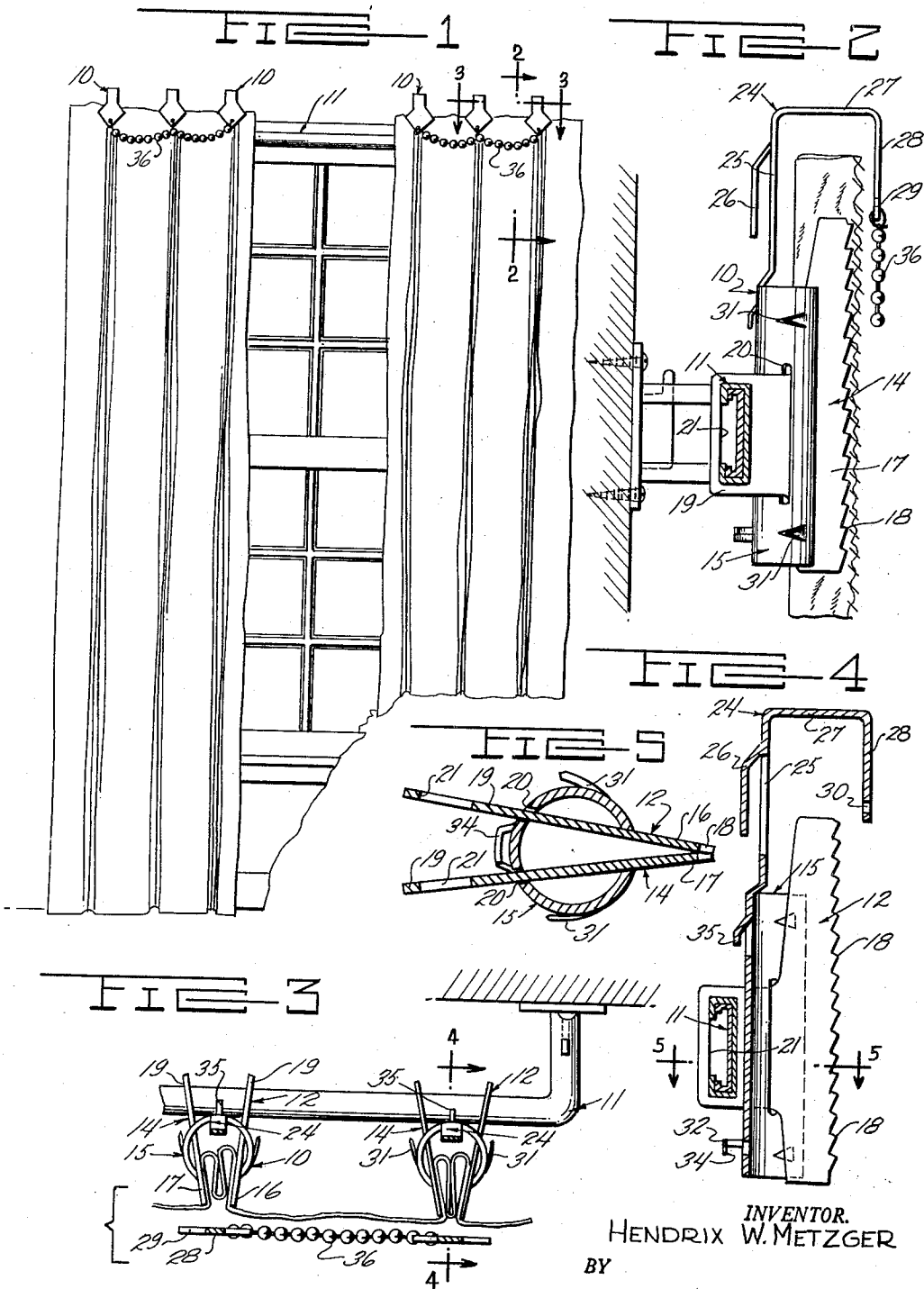


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H. W. METZGER
DRAPE SUPPORTING CLAMP

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INVENTOR.
HENDRIX W. METZGER

BY

McMorrow, Berman & Davidson
ATTORNEYS

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

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DRAPE SUPPORTING CLAMP

Hendrix W. Metzger, Boonville, Ind.

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2 Claims. (Cl. 160—348)

1 This invention relates to a clamp for supporting drapes and the like.

It is an object of this invention to provide a spring clamp for engagement with a curtain or drape supporting bracket for supporting a pleated drape from the bracket or curtain rod. The structure of the clamp is such that the pleated drape will be securely fastened on the clamp by the spring pressed jaws, thereby saving the drape from damage due to supporting hooks penetrating the fabric for supporting the weight of the drape.

Another object of this invention is to provide a drape supporting clamp for use with drapes which are not formed with channels or looped hems along the upper marginal edge thereof through which the curtain rod is adapted to be engaged. With the use of drape supporting clamps formed according to an embodiment of this invention, the formation of tubular hems on the drape is not necessary for the support of the drape.

Still another object of this invention is to provide a drape clamp of this kind the use of which will save considerable time in the mounting of the drapes and will provide a support for ornaments along the upper edge of the drape.

With the above and other objects in view, my invention consists in the arrangement, combination and details of construction disclosed in the drawings and specification, and then more particularly pointed out in the appended claims.

In the drawings:

Figure 1 is a front elevation of a drape supported on a curtain rod by drape supporting clamps constructed according to an embodiment of my invention.

Figure 2 is a fragmentary vertical section taken on the line 2—2 of Figure 1.

Figure 3 is a fragmentary horizontal section, taken on the line 3—3 of Figure 1.

Figure 4 is a vertical section taken on the line 4—4 of Figure 3.

Figure 5 is a transverse section, taken on the line 5—5 of Figure 4.

Referring to the drawings, the numeral 10 designates generally a spring pressed clamp for supporting drapes or curtains on a curtain rod or bracket 11. The clamp 10 is particularly designed for supporting the drape in a manner to preserve the folds thereof and to support the drapes on the curtain supporting rod or bracket 11 or separate rod normally used for supporting drapes on the sides of windows and the like.

The clamp 10 is formed of a pair of confronting jaw members 12 and 14. The jaw members 12 and 14 are carried by a tubular clamping member 15 for pressing the jaws, or extreme outer ends 16 and 17 respectively together. The jaw members 12 and 14 are carried by the split

2 tubular member 15 in a forwardly, or outwardly, convergent relation. The forward ends of the jaws 12 and 14 extend outwardly beyond the terminal ends of the tubular member 15, and the outer edge of each of the jaws 16 and 17 is formed with upwardly inclined, saw teeth 18.

A handle 19 is formed on the rear end of each of the jaw members 12 and 14, and extends inwardly from the inner end of the tubular spring member 15. The handles 19 extend through openings 20 on the front side of the spring member 15, the openings 20 being spaced apart and providing pivots for the jaw members 12 and 14.

Each of the handles 19 is formed with a rectangular opening 21 adjacent the front end thereof, forwardly of the front edge of the tubular member 15. The curtain rod 11 is adapted to be slidably engaged through the openings 21 for supporting the clamp 10 thereon.

The tubular member 15, being formed in the manner of a tube split along one side thereof normally presses the jaws 12 and 14 together at their outer end. The free ends of the tubular member 15 are adapted to engage the outer surface of the jaw members 12 and 14 forwardly of the extreme end thereof, substantially midway along the length of the forward portions 16 and 17.

An upwardly extending U-shaped arm 24 is fixed to or formed integral with the tubular member 15, and extends upwardly beyond the upper edge thereof. The U-shaped member 24 is adapted to engage over the extreme upper end of the jaws 12 and 14, and extends forwardly therefrom for securing adjacent clamping members together, or for securing ornamental devices forwardly of the upper end of the drape. The U-shaped arm 24 includes an upwardly extending side arm 25 extending upwardly from the tubular member 15, from that portion of the tubular member between the openings 20 therein. A downwardly opening hook 26 is struck from the arm 25 for attaching the supporting clamp to a second supporting rod or bracket, not shown in the drawings, which is normally disposed above the curtain rod 11, described herein. The bight portion 27 of the U-shaped arm 24 extends forwardly from the upper end of the arm 25 and is adapted to engage over the upper end of the jaw members 12 and 14, spaced upwardly above the extreme upper edge thereof. A depending side arm 28 extends downwardly from the forward end of the bight portion 27, and is preferably formed with a decorative element 29 on the lower end thereof, the extreme lower end of the arm 28 being formed with an opening 30 therein.

Rearwardly directed hooks 31 are fixed to or formed on the tubular member 15 above and below the openings 20 therein through which the

3 handles 19 extend. The hooks 31 are adapted to penetrate the drape or curtain on the side of the supporting clamp for securing the drape in the selected folds about the spring pressed clamp 10. Pointed hooks 32 and 34 are struck from the forward side of the tubular member 15, below the handles 19 and disposed in confronting relation, one to the other. The hooks 32 and 34 are adapted to clamp the drape on the forward side of the supporting clamp. Another pointed hook 35 is struck forwardly from the center portion of the tubular member 15 above the arms 19 and is also adapted to penetrate a portion of the drape.

In the use and operation of the drape supporting clamp 10, a plurality of supporting clamps will be used for supporting the upper end of the drape to the supporting rod or arm 11. A flexible element, as the chain 36, will be secured between the forward ends of the arms 24 for loosely connecting adjacent clamping members together. The chain 36 also constitutes a portion of the design for decorating the upper marginal edge of the drapes. The drapes may be folded along the length thereof and the folds inserted between the clamping members or jaws 12 and 14. The teeth 18 on the forward end of the clamping members 12 and 14 will penetrate the surface of the drapes for securing the drapes against sliding movement downwardly out of the jaw members 12 and 14. With the folds of the drape clamped between the arms 12 and 14, other folds may be folded about the outer surface of the clamp 10 and secured in the hooks 31, 34 and 35 as desired. With the use of clamping members of this kind, it is not necessary to damage the upper edge of the drapes for securing them to the drape supporting rods 11, and therefore the length of life of the drapes is extended, and the further handling of the drapes as in laundering and cleaning may be anticipated as the drapes are not damaged by their engagement with the clamping members 10. Further the use of the clamping members 10 provides for the speedy installation and removal of the drapes from the supporting rod 11, as the drapes may be adjusted vertically along the lengths of the clamps as desired, without further modification of the drape or the supporting means therefor.

The drape clamp 10 is designed for use in supporting drapes on curtain rods having provision for sliding the drapes along the lengths of the rods. Such rods are provided with openings or slots along the length thereof. In the use of the clamp 10 on such rods, the arm 24 is cut off above the hook 26, the clamp 10 is turned upside down and the hooks 32 and 34, which are made to be used left or right, are engaged in the drape for holding the drape next to the window facing, between the rod 11 and the window. The hook 35 is slidably engaged in a lower rod for sliding and the hook 26 is engaged over a rod above for supporting the clamp against tilting inwardly at the top. The drape is supported for sliding, as by draw cords or the like, along the length of the rods.

I do not mean to confine myself to the exact details of construction herein disclosed, but claim all variations falling within the purview of the appended claims.

I claim:

1. A support for dependingly mounting a drape comprising a horizontally disposed curtain rod adapted to be secured to a wall surface, a plurality of drape clamps arranged in side by side

spaced relation with respect to each other and slidably supported on said curtain rod, each of said drape clamps comprising a pair of vertically disposed jaw members arranged in confronting converging relation with the converging ends in contacting relation with each other, tube fabricated of resilient material disposed transversely of said jaw members intermediate the ends thereof and provided with a longitudinally extending slot, said tube being circumposed about said jaw members with the converging ends of the latter extending through said slot and the diverging ends thereof extending through an opposite portion of said tube to thereby resiliently mount said jaw members in said tube for movement out of contacting relation for the insertion therebetween of a portion of said drape, an inverted U-shaped arm positioned above said tube having one leg fixedly secured to the upper end of said tube and having the other end adapted to overlie said drape, and means extending between adjacent ones of said drape clamps for spacing the latter at select points along said curtain rod and for interconnecting said clamps together.

2. A support for dependingly mounting a drape comprising a horizontally disposed curtain rod adapted to be secured to a wall surface, a plurality of drape clamps arranged in side by side spaced relation with respect to each other and slidably supported on said curtain rod, each of said drape clamps comprising a pair of vertically disposed jaw members arranged in confronting converging relation with the converging ends in contacting relation with each other, a tube fabricated of resilient material disposed transversely of said jaw members intermediate the ends thereof and provided with a longitudinally extending slot, said tube being circumposed about said jaw members with the converging ends of the latter extending through said slot and the diverging ends thereof extending through an opposite portion of said tube to thereby resiliently mount said jaw members in said tube for movement out of contacting relation for the insertion therebetween of a portion of said drape, an inverted U-shaped arm positioned above said tube having one leg fixedly secured to the upper end of said tube and having the other end adapted to overlie said drape, means extending between adjacent ones of said drape clamps for spacing the latter at select points along said curtain rod and for interconnecting said clamps together, and hook means carried by said tube for securing a portion of said drape about the periphery of said tube.

HENDRIX W. METZGER.

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