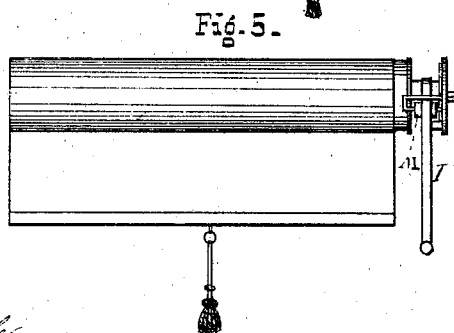
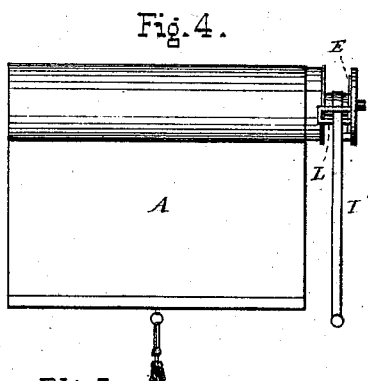
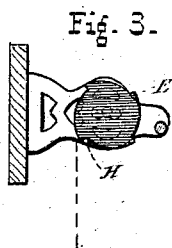
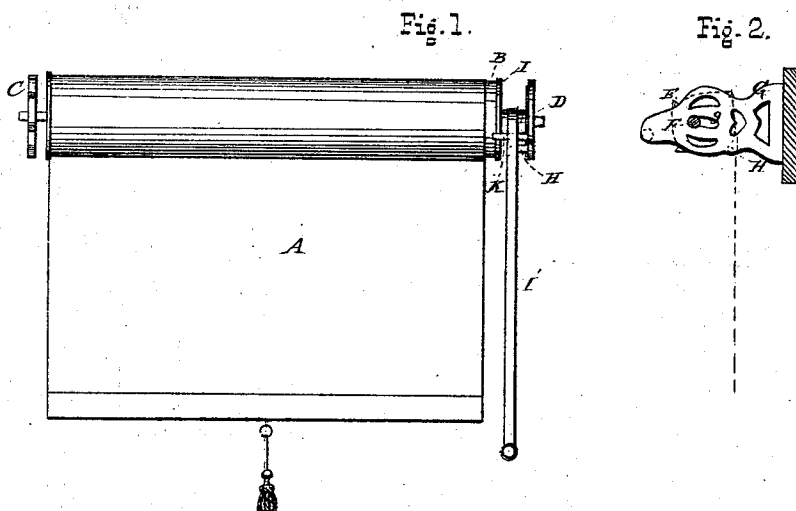


R. L. Smith,
Curtain Fixture.
No. 106416. Patented Aug. 16, 1870.



Witnesses.
Chas. H. Poole
Saml. J. Marr

Inventor.
Rodney L. Smith
by Phinckle & Gier
 Attys.

United States Patent Office.

RODNEY L. SMITH, DECEASED, OF WOLCOTTVILLE, CONNECTICUT; ELISHA TURNER, EXECUTOR.

Letters Patent No. 106,416, dated August 16, 1870.

IMPROVED CURTAIN-FIXTURE.

The Schedule referred to in these Letters Patent and making part of the same

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, RODNEY L. SMITH, of Wolcottville, in the county of Litchfield and in the State of Connecticut, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Curtain-Fixtures; and do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description thereof, reference being had to the accompanying drawing making a part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 is a front elevation of a curtain suspended and operated by means of my improved fixture;

Figure 2 is an end elevation of the same;

Figure 3 is an elevation of the inner side of the main bracket; and

Figures 4 and 5 show modifications of the device for changing the direction of the cord or tape.

My invention is an improvement upon a curtain-fixture for which Letters Patent No. 92,094 were granted to R. B. Prindle; and

It consists in extending the cord or tape from the spool over or around a suitable stud, or its equivalent, secured to the bracket in front of said spool, so that a downward pull upon said cord or tape shall draw forward the end of the roller, and thereby release the ratchet-wheel from engagement with the detent, as is hereinafter set forth.

In the annexed drawing—

A represents a curtain secured upon a roller; B, one end of which is pivoted, in the usual manner, within a bracket, C, while the opposite end is provided with a metallic spool, D, the flanges of which are formed by a cap, I, covering the end of the roller, and by a ratchet-wheel, E.

Secured to and projecting outward from the center, radially, of the ratchet-wheel E, is a pivot, F, which, resting within a suitable slot, *g*, within the bracket G, furnishes an axial bearing for the roller.

As seen in figs. 2 and 3, the slot *g* extends forward and slightly upward, so that the pivot F naturally inclines to its rear end, in which position the ratchet-wheel E engages with a detent, H, projecting inward from the inner side of the bracket, by which means the roller is prevented from turning to the rear; but if, however, said pivot F be drawn toward the forward end of said slot *g*, said ratchet-wheel E will be released from engagement, so as to permit the roller to turn freely in either direction. Upon being released, the inclination of the slot, together with the weight of the curtain, will cause said pivot to roll

backward, and bring said ratchet-wheel and detent into engagement again.

Although an upward inclination from the rear toward the front is preferably given to the slot *g*, it is found that a pivot will as readily roll backward, so as to cause the ratchet-wheel and detent to engage, if said slot is made horizontal.

In order that the roller may be thus released from engagement and operated when desired, the tape or cord I, from the spool D, is caused to pass over a stud, K, projecting horizontally outward from the face of the bracket G, at or near its front end, and a little below the level of the pivot F.

When thus arranged a slight downward pull upon the tape or cord will draw forward the end of the roller, and hold it in such position until the curtain is adjusted to the desired height, when, upon releasing said tape or cord, said roller returns to and is locked in position.

In fig. 4 is shown another form of stud for changing the direction of the tape, consisting of a loop, L, through which said tape passes, and by means of which it is held in place; while in fig. 5 is seen a roller, M, pivoted upon the lower portion of said loop, so as to receive and diminish the friction of said tape or cord, both of which modifications, however, are essentially the same as the stud K.

The especial advantages possessed by this device are that, while efficient in operation, it has a small number of parts, is not liable to get out of order, and can be produced at a moderate cost.

Having thus fully set forth the nature and merits of my invention,

What I claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

The stud K, secured to the bracket G, in front of the spool D, in combination with the horizontal or inclined slot *g* and tape I, or its equivalent, substantially as shown and described and for the purpose specified.

Also, the means employed for releasing the ratchet-wheel E from engagement with the detent H, consisting of the slot *g*, the tape I, or its equivalent, and the stud K, substantially as shown and described.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing, I have hereunto set my hand this 30th day of April, 1870.

Witnesses:

RODNEY L. SMITH.

O. H. CURTIS,
SARAH D. SMITH.