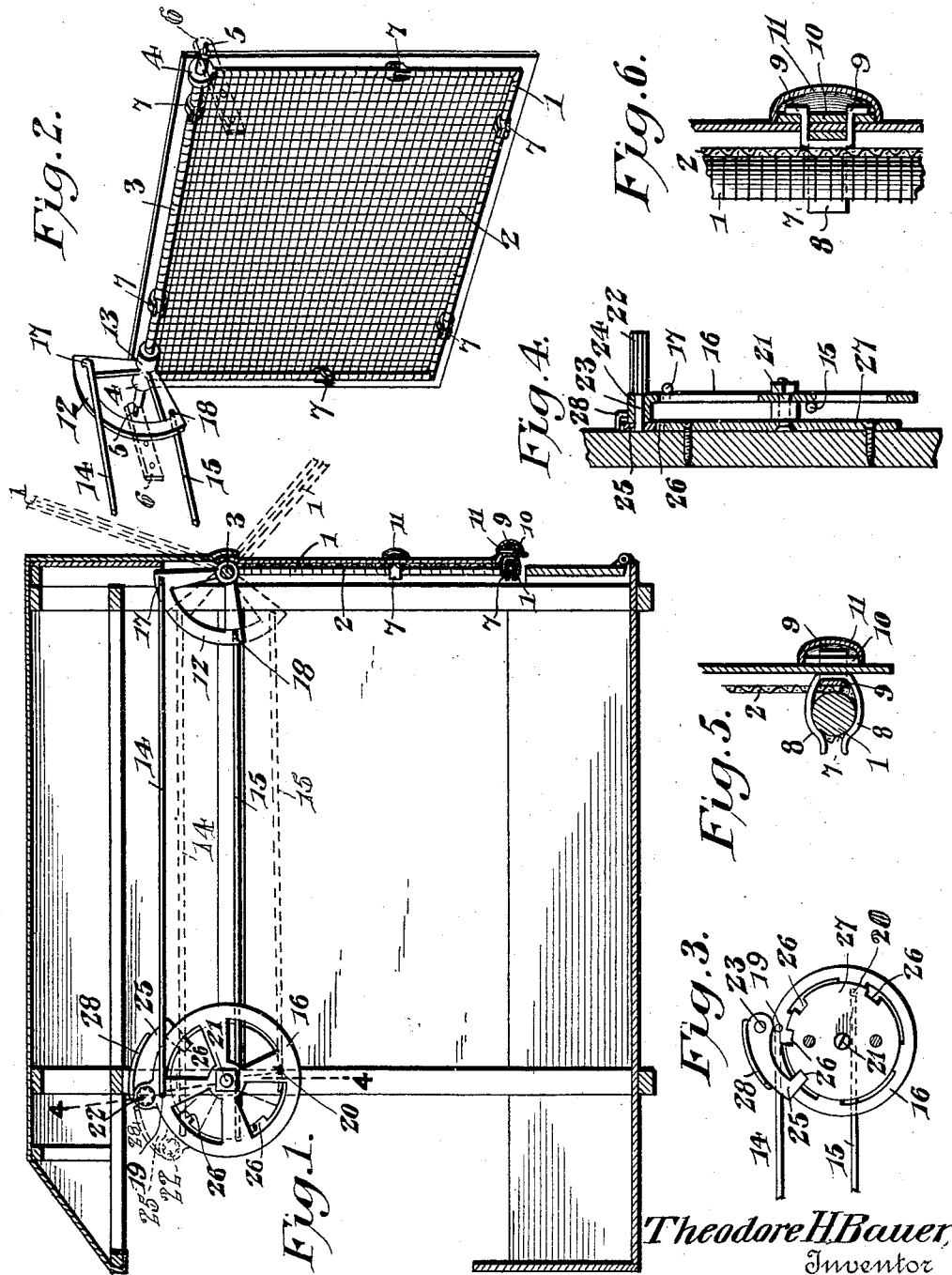


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PATENTED NOV. 5, 1907.

T. H. BAUER.
BACK CURTAIN RAISING DEVICE.

APPLICATION FILED MAY 31, 1906.



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THEODORE H. BAUER, OF MIDDLETOWN, OHIO.

BACK-CURTAIN-RAISING DEVICE.

No. 870,408.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Nov. 5, 1907.

Application filed May 31, 1906. Serial No. 319,597.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, THEODORE H. BAUER, a citizen of the United States, residing at Middletown, in the county of Butler and State of Ohio, have invented a new and useful Back-Curtain-Raising Device, of which the following is a specification.

The invention relates to devices for adjusting back curtains of vehicles.

The object of the present invention is to improve the construction of devices for adjusting the back curtains of vehicles, and to provide a simple, inexpensive and efficient device adapted to be readily applied to a vehicle, and capable of enabling the back curtain to be raised and held at any angle.

A further object of the invention is to provide a device of this character, which will present a neat appearance and which will occupy but a very small amount of space.

With these and other objects in view, the invention consists in the construction and novel combination of parts hereinafter fully described, illustrated in the accompanying drawing, and pointed out in the claims hereto appended; it being understood that various changes in the form, proportion, size and minor details of construction, within the scope of the claims, may be resorted to without departing from the spirit or sacrificing any of the advantages of the invention.

In the drawing:—Figure 1 is a longitudinal sectional view of a vehicle body provided with a back curtain raising device constructed in accordance with this invention. Fig. 2 is a detail perspective view of the back curtain and means for mounting the same. Fig. 3 is a detail view illustrating the construction of the ratchet mechanism for locking the back curtain in its adjustment. Fig. 4 is an enlarged vertical sectional view taken substantially on the line 4—4 of Fig. 1. Figs. 5 and 6 are detail views illustrating the construction of the clamp for securing the back curtain to the oscillatory curtain carrying frame.

Like numerals of reference designate corresponding parts in all the figures of the drawing.

1 designates a substantially rectangular curtain carrying frame, which is preferably provided with a sheet 2 of wire gauze or other suitable material and which is mounted on a transverse shaft 3. The frame consists of sides and a bottom connecting portion, and the upper ends of the sides are provided with eyes 4 for the reception of a transverse shaft which completes the top of the frame. The ends 5 of the shaft are reduced to form journals, which are arranged in suitable bearings of the plates 6, and the latter are secured to the opposite sides of the top of the vehicle at the back thereof, whereby the oscillatory curtain carrying frame is pivotally mounted on the vehicle top.

The back curtain is provided at suitable intervals

with clamps 7, consisting of curved resilient jaws, which are adapted to embrace the frame and the shaft, whereby the curtain is detachably mounted on the said frame. The jaws of the clamps are constructed of a single piece of resilient metal, which is bent at opposite sides of the center to form the jaws and a connecting portion 8. The connecting portion 8 is secured to the curtain by means of a substantially U-shaped clip 9, through which the connecting portion 8 passes, as clearly shown in Fig. 6 of the drawing. The sides of the clip are passed through the curtain and are suitably secured to the same by any suitable means. A convenient means for securing the clips to the curtain consists of a plate 10, having opposite slots through which the sides of the clip are passed. The terminals of the sides of the clips are bent against the outer face of the plate 10, and the latter may be concealed within a cap or head 11, so that the clips will present the appearance of a button.

Mounted upon the shaft 3 at one side of the top of the vehicle is a sector 12, located within the top of the vehicle and provided with a hub or sleeve 13, which receives and is suitably fixed to the shaft 3. The sector is connected by a pair of parallel rods 14 and 15 with a pivoted member 16, which is arranged at the front of the vehicle at a point above the seat. The rods are located at the opposite faces of the sector and the front pivoted member, so that they may pass each other and not interfere with the free adjustment of the device. The rear terminals 17 and 18 of the rods 14 and 15 are bent at right angles to form pivots, which are arranged in suitable perforations of the sector 12. The front ends are provided with similar pivots 19 and 20, which are arranged in suitable perforations of the pivoted member 16. The ends of the parallel connecting rods 14 and 15 may, however, be pivoted to the front and rear rotary members 12 and 16 in any other desired manner.

The front pivotally mounted member 16 is shown in the form of a wheel, and is mounted on a central pivot 21. A sector, however, may be employed, as the front ends of the rods are arranged in the same relative position as the rear ends of the same. When the front pivotally mounted member 16 is oscillated, the rear pivoted sector or member 12 is simultaneously oscillated, the two members moving in unison. The oscillation of the rear member raises or lowers the back curtain, which may be arranged at any desired angle. The mechanism will also enable the curtain to be swung upward above a horizontal to the position illustrated by the upper dotted lines in Fig. 1, so that the back curtain will not interfere with the backing of a vehicle, when it is desired to load the latter.

The front pivoted member is provided with a milled operating handle or grip 22, extending from the inner

face of the pivoted member 16 and located at the front thereof when the back curtain is closed. The grip or handle 22 is provided with a stem or pivot 23, which passes through a bearing 24 of the pivoted member 16, and which is connected with a pawl or dog 25, whereby the latter is mounted on the pivoted member 16. The pivoted dog 25 is provided with a tooth, which is adapted to engage any one of a series of notches 26 of a ratchet disk or plate 27, and it is maintained in engagement with the disk or plate 27 by a spring 28, secured at one end to the bearing portion 24 of the pivoted member 16, and having its other end free and bearing against the pawl or dog near the outer engaging end thereof. The ratchet plate or disk is secured by screws, bolts, or other suitable fastening devices to the frame at the top of the vehicle, and in applying the device to a vehicle, it is only necessary to secure the ratchet plate and the rear bearing plates 6 to the vehicle top. This will also enable the device to be readily detached when desired. The pivot 21 on which the front member 16 is mounted is fixed to the ratchet plate or disk.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is:—

- 25 1. A device of the class described comprising a rear

pivotal member, a curtain carrying frame connected to and movable with the said member, a front pivoted member, parallel horizontal rods arranged one above the other and pivoted to the front and rear members for causing the same to move in unison, and means for operating the front member. 30

2. A device of the class described comprising a rear pivoted member, a curtain carrying frame connected to and movable with said member, a front pivoted member, parallel rods pivoted to the front and rear members for causing the same to move in unison, a pivoted dog connected with and operated by the pivoted handle, and a ratchet arranged to be engaged by the pawl or dog. 35

3. A device of the class described comprising a pivoted mounted curtain carrying frame provided at the top with a shaft, a sector mounted on the shaft, a front pivoted member, and parallel rods connecting the front pivoted member with the sector. 40

4. A device of the class described comprising a rear pivoted member, a curtain carrying frame connected thereto, a front pivoted member, a wheel having operating means, and parallel rods pivoted to the wheel and to the sector for causing the same to move in unison. 45

In testimony, that I claim the foregoing as my own, I have hereto affixed my signature in the presence of two witnesses. 50

THEODORE H. BAUER.

Witnesses:

BEN F. HARWITZ,
W. T. HARRISON.