No. 632,867. Patented Sept. 12, 1899.

H. A. BOOK.

CURTAIN STRETCHER.

(Application filed Feb. 6, 1899.)

(No Model.)

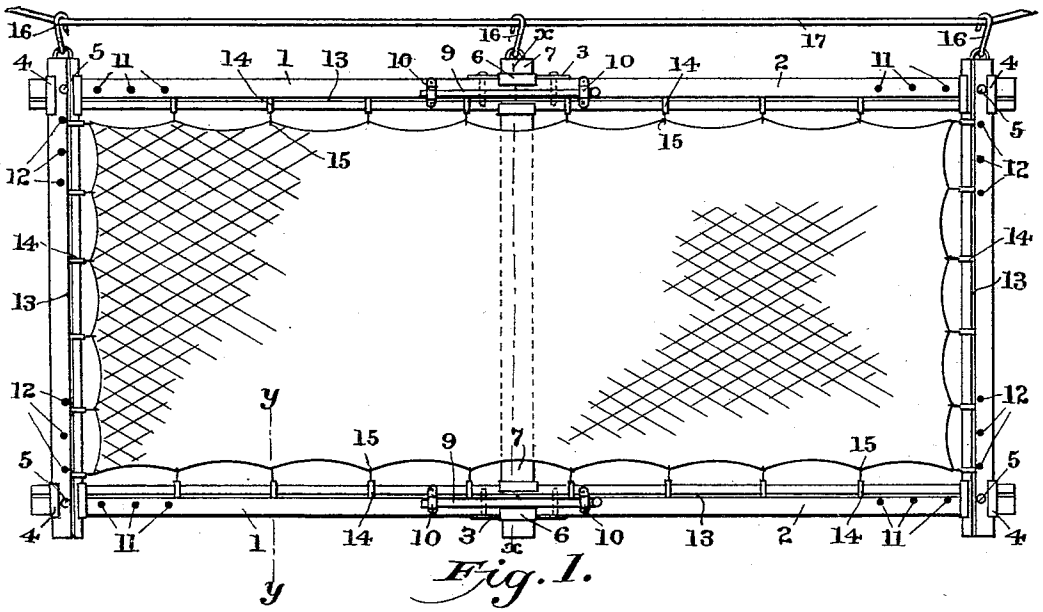


Fig. 1.

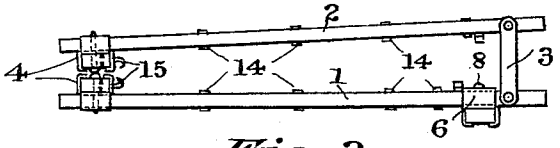


Fig. 2.

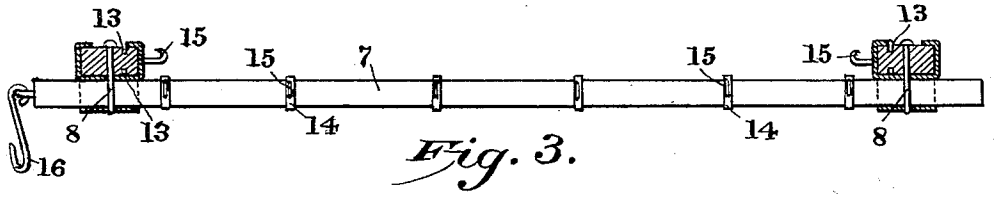


Fig. 3.

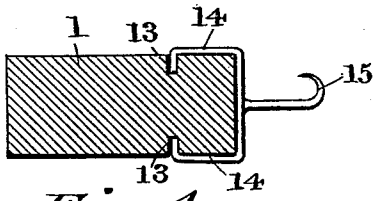


Fig. 4.

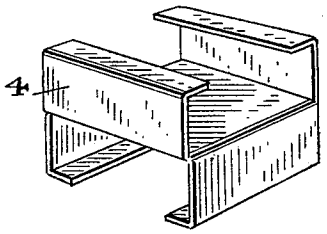


Fig. 5.

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CURTAIN-STRETCHER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 632,867, dated September 12, 1899.

Application filed February 6, 1899. Serial No. 704,728. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, HELENA A. BOOK, a citizen of the United States, residing at Waterbury, in the county of Fairfield and State of Connecticut, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Curtain-Stretchers; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same.

My invention relates to certain new and useful improvements in curtain-stretchers, and has for its object to provide a device of this description in which the hooks that hold the curtain shall be capable of a sliding adjustment, while the stretcher-frame itself may be readily taken apart and put together and at the same time be capable of folding for the sake of convenience when not in use.

With these ends in view my invention consists in certain details of construction and combination of parts, such as will be hereinafter fully set forth and then specifically designated by the claims.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is an elevation showing my improvement suspended from an ordinary line and with the curtain stretched thereon; Fig. 2, an elevation showing my improvement in folded condition; Fig. 3, a section at the line $x\ x$ of Fig. 1, with the upper bolts omitted; Fig. 4, a section at the line $y\ y$ of Fig. 1, and Fig. 5 a detail perspective of one of the clips.

Similar numbers of reference denote like parts in the several figures of the drawings.

My improved stretcher-frame is made of sections 1 2, hinged together at their middle or abutting portions by means of plates 3, which are pivoted near their extremities to opposite sides of these sections in any ordinary manner, so that said sections may be easily folded, as shown at Fig. 2. The corners of each section are held together by means of clips 4, each formed of a single piece of sheet metal, the upper and lower portions of such clips being in reality housings that are disposed in opposite directions, so that the side and end pieces which compose the sections 2 may be held in their proper rectangular relation. At the four corners of the frame the parts are held together as against displacement by means of pins 5, passed through the clips and the ends and sides of the sections 1 2. 6 are also clips similar to the clips 4, but in their upper portions embracing the sides of the frame and overlapping the same, so as to slide freely thereon, while in the lower portions of these clips is held a cross-piece 7, which of course extends underneath the frame. These clips 6, carrying this cross-piece 7, are normally adjusted, so as to extend athwart the sections 1 2 at the point where they are hinged together, so that the frame will be stiffened and prevented from collapsing at that point, and pins 8 are passed between these sections down through the clips 6 into the cross-piece 7, whereby the latter will be held in such adjusted position.

I prefer to provide bolts 9 on top of the sections 1 2, while sockets 10 are secured upon such sections for the purpose of accommodating these bolts, the object of this construction being to still further stiffen the frame at the point of hinging, while at the same time the bolts may readily be drawn out of the way whenever the clips 6 are displaced for the purpose of permitting the folding up of the sections 1 2. The side pieces of the sections 1 2 are perforated from top to bottom at various places, as shown at 11, so that the end pieces can be moved along the same and secured in various adjustments by means of the pins 5 for the purpose of accommodating curtains of different lengths, while the end pieces are perforated from top to bottom at various locations, as shown at 12, so that the sides may be contracted more or less and held in such contracted position by means of said pins 5 to accommodate curtains of different widths. The upper and lower faces of the side and end pieces of these sections 1 2 are provided with grooves 13, and I employ hooks whose body portions 14 embrace the inner edges of these side and end pieces and extend within said grooves, so as to be capable of a free sliding movement therealong, while the spur portions 15 of said hooks extend inwardly.

In utilizing my improvement the curtain is fastened to these spurs, the latter being adjusted so as to grasp the curtain at suitable

locations, and after the side and end pieces of the sections 1 2 have been properly adjusted the curtain is allowed to dry in this position. Should it be discovered that during the process of drying the curtain was being improperly drawn or distorted, the hooks may be readily disengaged and shifted to other and more proper positions prior to again engaging with the curtain, so that it will be readily understood that my improvement possesses what might be called a "universal adjustment."

I attach suspension-hooks 16 to the frame at suitable locations, so that such frame may be hung upon an ordinary line 17 for the purpose of facilitating the drying.

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

1. In a curtain-stretcher, the combination of the two sections each composed of side pieces hinged together at their inner ends and end pieces adjustably secured to said side pieces at the corners, said side and end pieces provided with grooves in their upper and lower faces, the movable clips supported on said side pieces and overlapping the same, the cross-piece carried in the under portions of said clips, a pin passed through said cross-piece and clips whereby the latter may be held in a position overlapping said side pieces at their point of hinging, and the hooks having body portions which embrace the inner edges of said side and end pieces and which extend within said grooves, said hooks also provided with spurs which project inwardly from said body portions, substantially as set forth.

2. In a curtain-stretcher, the combination of the clips 4 having upper and lower portions disposed in opposite directions, the side pieces formed in two sections, the plates pivoted at their ends to the lateral edges of said side-piece sections whereby the latter are hinged together, the end pieces, said side and end pieces housed within said clip portions and capable of sliding freely therein and having grooves in their upper and lower faces, the clips supported by said side pieces and with their upper portions overlapping said pieces and capable of free sliding movements therealong, the cross-piece supported within these last-named clips and capable of a sliding movement therein, a pin whereby said cross-piece and the last-named clips are secured in position with the latter overlapping the side pieces at their point of hinging, the pins whereby the side and end pieces are secured in their several adjustments, and the hooks having body portions which embrace the inner edges of the side and end pieces and extend within said grooves and provided with spurs which extend inwardly, substantially as set forth.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature in presence of two witnesses.

HELENA A. BOOK.

Witnesses:

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