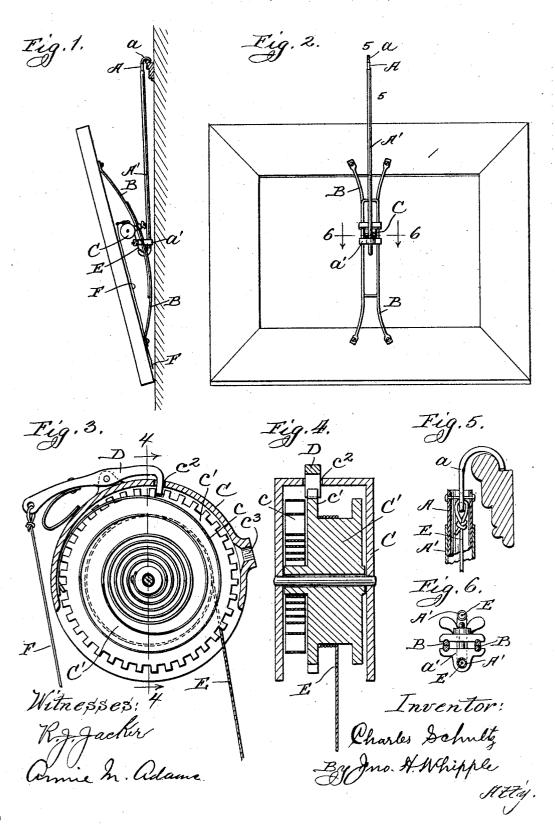
C. SCHULTZ.

PICTURE HANGER.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

CHARLES SCHULTZ, OF CHICAGO, ILLINOIS.

PICTURE-HANGER.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, Charles Schultz, of Chicago, in the State of Illinois, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Picture-Hangers, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to adjustable hangers for wall-pictures and the like; and the objects of the improvement are to provide means for adjusting the suspended article to different elevations on the wall and for lowering the same for dusting without detachment from the wall, and to provide a suitable hanger for this purpose which will automatically secure the suspended article in the desired position and adapt it to be conveniently handled in this regard. I attain these objects by the hanger constructed as illustrated in the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a side view showing the hanger of my invention as applied to a picture-frame and its relation with the wall. Fig. 2 is a rear view of the same. Fig. 3 is a detail showing in enlarged view a detached part. Fig. 4 is a detail showing a section on the line 4 4 of Fig. 3. Fig. 5 is a detail showing in fragment an enlarged section on the line 5 5 of Fig. 2. Fig. 6 is a detail showing a screw-clamp in plan and the part to which it is applied in section at the line 6 6 of Fig. 2.

The invention comprises telescoping parts, one of said parts being provided with a hook adapted to engage the wall-molding and the other part being provided with a bridge or piece for suitably attaching it to the picture-frame, and a cord or cable having one end attached to the hook part and the other end attached to a spring-pressed ratchet spool or drum mounted in connection with the bridge for winding and unwinding the cord and securing it so as to bear the weight of the picture at any point within the telescopic range.

In the drawings a tube A, provided with a hook a, extends through the straight portion of a tube A' and is fitted to slide therein. The tube A' is provided near its lower end with a screw-clamp a', by means of which it is secured to a bridge B, adapted to be attached to the upper and lower sides of the picture-frame, as illustrated in Figs. 1 and 2. Said bridge is preferably made in two separable slotted parts which lap over each other, one end of each part being provided with screw-holes for attaching it to the frame and the lapping parts being held together by a clamp a', so that the

bridge shall be adapted to different sizes of frame.

Inclosed within a casing C is a spool C', mounted to rotate on a shaft and provided with a coiled spring c, having one end fastened to the casing and the other to the spool in the usual manner required to compress the spring when the spool is rotated in one direction, so as to cause the spool to be turned back when released. The spool has a toothed radial flange c', which is arranged opposite to an opening c2 in the casing. D is a spring-pressed pawl pivoted to the outside of the casing and adapted to strike the teeth of the spool-flange through said opening in the casing. The casing is provided with a perforated lug e^3 , through which a screw-bolt with a large head is passed out, the head fitting against the interior of the casing by means of which a clamp like or similar to the clamp a' is applied to the bridge just above the clamp a' to attach said casing firmly to the bridge.

E is a cord or wire cable having one end attached to the hook a and the other end attached to the spool C', being passed down through the tube A and up through the upturned portion of the tube A' at its lower end, as seen in Fig. 1, and thence through the slot of the bridge to the spool. The pressure of the spring c is in the proper direction to wind said cord upon the spool, and the unwinding of the cord tends always to put said spring

under increased tension.

The connection of the tube A' with the bridge B is rigid and such as to hold said tube at an inclination to the face of the picture and perpendicular to the bottom line of the frame, so as to steady the picture and keep its bottom line level while the picture is being moved up and down on the cord, which bears in the upturned or curved cord-bearing part at the bottom of said tube to carry the weight of the picture by the tension of the cord, while the telescoping parts keep the frame in its level position during its movement up or down the cord.

F is a cord attached to the free end of the pawl and extended down behind the picture to about the bottom of its frame, by means of which the engagement of the pawl with teeth of the spool-flange may be released.

When the pawl is released, the weight of the picture will cause the cord E to be unwound, lowering the picture, and if the picture be raised the spring will wind the cord upon the spool, so that when the pawl is reengaged the picture will be suspended at any required elevation within the telescopic range of the tubes A A'.

What is claimed is—

1. A picture-hanger comprising telescoping parts, one of which parts has a hook and the other of which parts has means for attaching it to a picture-frame, in combination with a spring-actuated ratchet-spool connected with one of said telescoping parts, a pawl for said ratchet-spool, and a cable connecting said ratchet-spool and the other of said telescoping parts, substantially as specified.

2. In a picture-hanger the combination of telescoping tubes provided with a hook and bridge, respectively, a ratchet-spool mounted on the bridge, a spring and pawl in connection with the ratchet-spool, and a cable extended through the tubes connecting the hook

and spool as specified.

3. In a picture-hanger a pair of telescoping tubes, one having a hook and the other being curved at one end, a bridge connected to said curved tube and adapted to be secured to a picture-frame, a winding-drum with ratchet and pawl mounted on the bridge and

a cord passing through said tubes and connecting the hook and winding-drum, the curved part of the tube serving as a bearing for the cord under tension, as specified.

4. In a picture-hanger a spring-actuated ratchet-spool in combination with a suspension-cord connected with said spool, supporting means consisting of telescopic parts connected with said cord and means for rigidly connecting said supporting means with the picture-frame, a spring-actuated pawl engaging the ratchet of the spool and an operating-cord in connection with the pawl, as specified.

5. In a picture-hanger a pair of telescoping tubes one having a hook, and the other having a bridge for its attachment to a picture-frame and a cord-bearing part at one end, in combination with a suspension-cord, said tubes operating as a means for steadying the frame and keeping its bottom line level while permitting movement of the picture up or down on the cord as specified.

CHARLES SCHULTZ.

Witnesses:
ANNIE M. ADAMS,

RACHEL ELIASSOF.