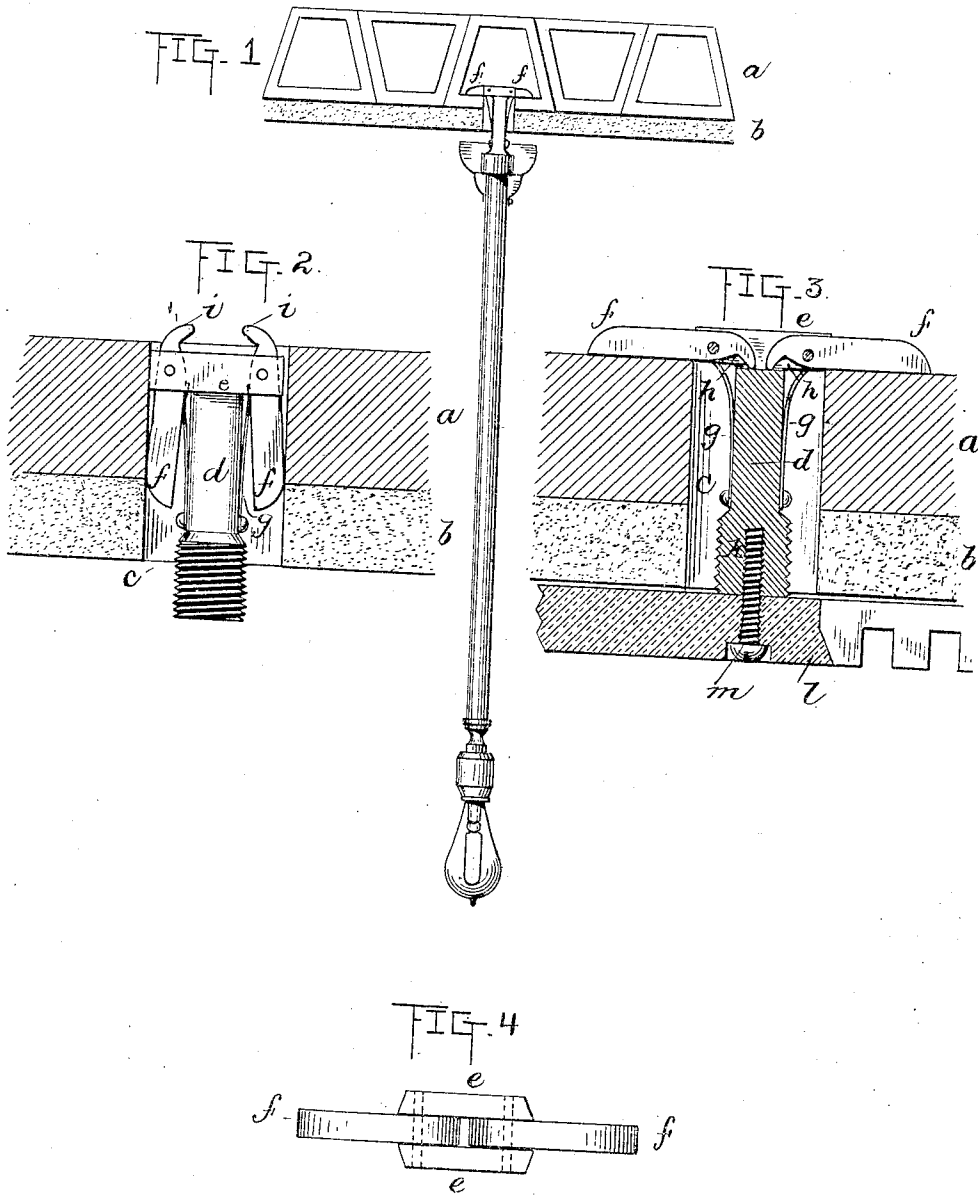


(No Model.)

J. T. ROBB.
DEVICE FOR SUPPORTING FIXTURES.

No. 480,744.

Patented Aug. 16, 1892.



WITNESSES:

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JAMES T. ROBB, OF MOUNT VERNON, ASSIGNOR TO BERGMANN & COMPANY
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DEVICE FOR SUPPORTING FIXTURES.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 480,744, dated August 18, 1892.

Application filed December 20, 1890. Serial No. 334,439. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JAMES T. ROBB, a subject of the Queen of Great Britain, residing at Mount Vernon in the county of Westchester and State of New York, have invented a certain new and useful Improvement in Devices for Supporting Fixtures, of which the following is a specification.

The object of my invention is to provide a simple and effective device for hanging electric-light fixtures from ceilings formed of hollow brick and in places where the usual gas-pipe is located in an undesirable part of a room.

In carrying my invention into effect I first form a hole through the plaster of the ceiling and into the hollow brick. Into this opening I insert a short stem or shank having two cross-pieces at the top, between which are pivoted two short arms held at right angles to the stem by springs and prevented from tilting upward—*i. e.* at is, above a horizontal line—by reason of the inner ends of the arms resting on the top of the stem. The two arms while the device is being inserted into the opening are forced downward against the pressure of the springs until close enough to the stem to allow it to be pushed upward through the opening. When the ends of the arms clear the opening, they are caused to rise by the spring-pressure and again stand at right angles to the stem. The two arms will rest on the inside of the hollow brick and the stem will be held in position. The lower end of the stem has an external screw-thread for coupling the main pipe of a fixture to it when used for that purpose, and has also a screw-threaded hole at its lower end for receiving a screw when it is desired to support a center-piece or other covering for the opening before the electric-light fixture is put in place or after the fixture is taken down.

My invention is illustrated in the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is an elevation of a simple electric-light fixture embodying my invention. Fig. 2 shows the device while being inserted into the ceiling. Fig. 3 shows the device, partly in section and supporting a center-piece or other covering for the opening; and Fig. 4 is a top view of the device.

a represents a section of a ceiling formed of hollow brick, *b* the plaster placed thereon, and *c* the opening for receiving the fixture-supporting device.

d is a metal stem or shank having cross-pieces *e*, and between which are pivoted the arms *f*, held at right angles to the stem *d* by springs *g*, working on the inclines *h*. As the stem *d* is passed up through the opening *c* the arms *f* are forced downward against the stem *d* and held in such position until the ends of the arms clear the opening *c*, when the springs *g* will force them upward, so that when the stem *d* is released or drawn downward the arms *f* will rest on the inside of the hollow brick. The arms *f* are prevented from rising above the horizontal position by means of the finger *i*, extending from the inner end of each arm, and which rests on the top of the stem *d*.

When the device is used to support a fixture the stem *d* is preferably coupled to the pipe or insulating joint before passing it through the opening in the ceiling, or the stem or shank *d* may be extended downwardly any desired distance by screwing to it a pipe or rod, so as to bring its lower end in the proper position for the attachment of the fixture thereto.

I prefer to provide the stem *d* with a screw-threaded opening *k*, so that a center-piece or other covering *l* may be supported therefrom by the screw *m* to conceal the opening if the fixture is not to be put in place immediately or after the fixture is removed.

The supporting device described is designed especially for use in positions where it will be a permanent fixture; but it can be removed at any time by raising the stem and pressing the springs toward the body of the stem by any suitable tool, thereby allowing the pivoted arms to assume a position parallel with the stem.

What I claim is—

1. The combination, in a supporting device of the character described, of a stem, arms pivoted thereto at its upper end, springs secured to the body of the stem and holding said arms at approximately right angles to the stem, and means to prevent further movement of said arms, substantially as described.

2. A device for suspending electric-light fixtures from hollow ceilings, having, in combination, a stem or shank, two arms pivoted thereto, springs for keeping said arms extended, means for preventing said arms from rising above a horizontal point, and a screw-threaded opening at the lower end of said stem, substantially as set forth.

3. In a device for supporting fixtures from hollow ceilings, the combination of the stem or shank *d*, pivoted arms *f*, springs *g* for

keeping said arms at right angles to the stem, fingers *i*, preventing said arms from rising above the horizontal point, and screw-threaded opening *k* at the lower end of stem *d*, substantially as set forth. 15

In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand this 14th day of December, A. D. 1889.

JAMES T. ROBB.

Witnesses:

JNO. F. GEIDEL,
W. E. MOORE.