(No Model.)

J. CREMER.

CURTAIN FIXTURE.

No. 376,143. Patented Jan. 10, 1888.

FIG 1

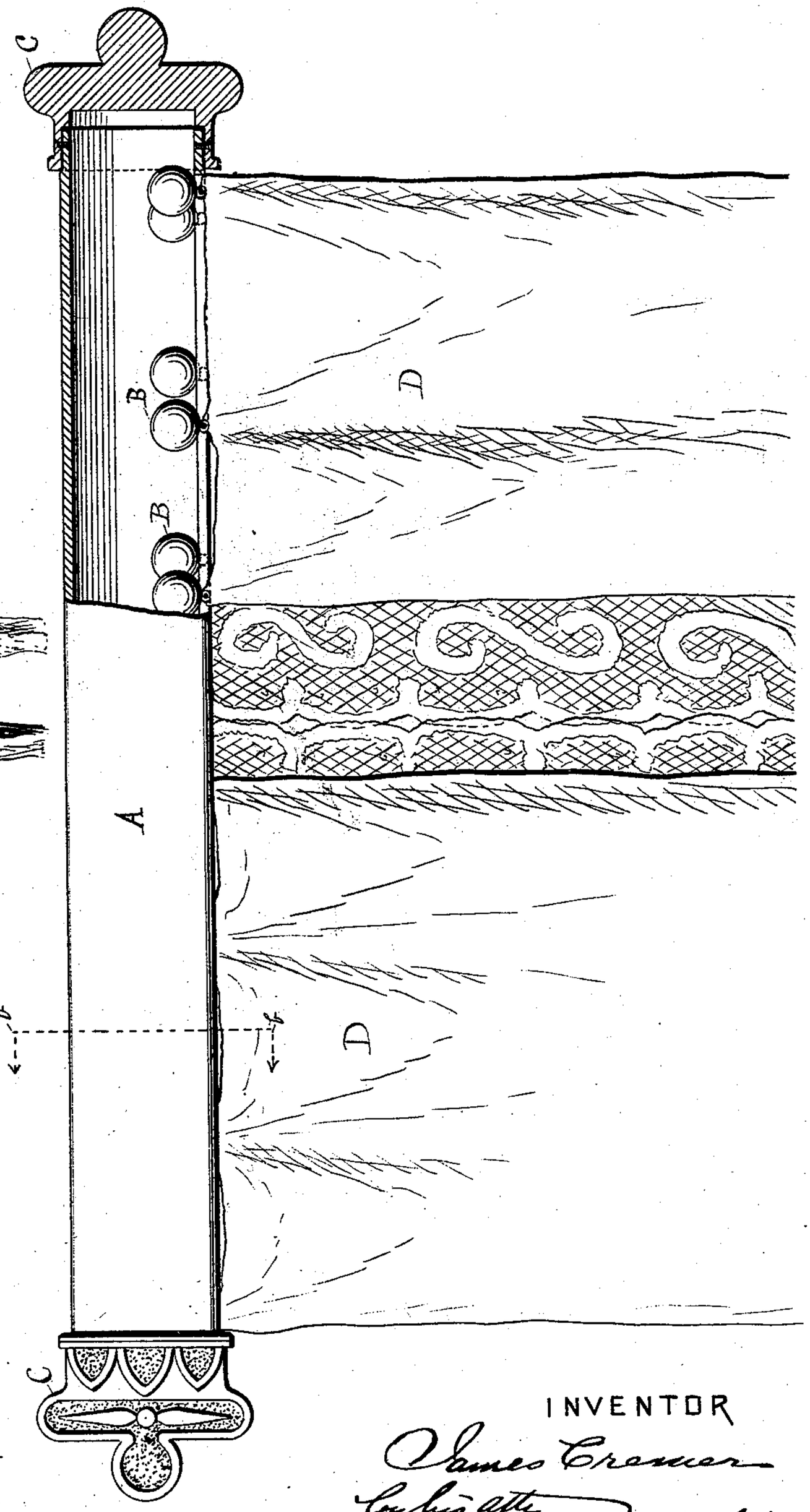
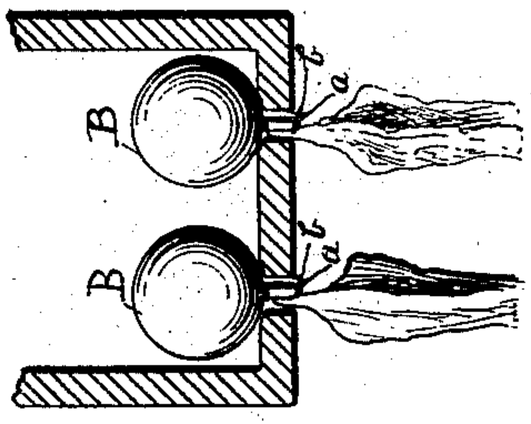


FIG 2



WITNESSES

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JAMES CREMER, OF PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA.

CURTAIN-FIXTURE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 376,143, dated January 10, 1888.

Application filed March 24, 1887. Serial No. 232,216. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JAMES CREMER, a citizen of the United States, residing in the city of Philadelphia, in the State of Pennsylvania, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Curtain-Fixtures, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, forming a part of this specification.

My invention relates to fixtures for supporting curtains or other hanging drapery, and to enable the latter to be drawn across the window or door-frame by means of sliding balls moving laterally in the interior of a hollow slotted rod or pole; and my improvement consists of a hollow pole or bar with two or more parallel longitudinal slots facing downward when the bar is in position on the window or door-frame, in order that balls or buttons provided with hooks or pins to be attached to the curtain may be retained within the hollow bar, but free to slide therein, the shank or pin of the ball or button projecting through the longitudinal slot and so attached to the curtain, whereby two or more curtains, maps, trays, or other dependent objects may be supported and moved one over the other on the same pole or bar independently of each other.

In the accompanying drawings, illustrating my invention, Figure 1 is a front elevation, partly in section; and Fig. 2 a vertical cross-section thereof through the line *b b*.

Ordinary pole-fixtures for curtains are usually solid and the curtain is fastened to rings, which embrace the pole and are movable along the same. With such poles and rings for curtain-hangings it is well known that the rings catch in the pole when the curtain is pulled from the lower end in the attempt to move it and its supporting-ring along the pole. Such difficulty has been obviated by making the pole hollow with interior sliding cylindrical rollers or buttons connected with the curtain through a slot in the pole. Neither of said devices is successfully applicable where, as is common, two pairs of curtains are hung one over the other on the same pole; nor can such devices be used for the supporting and lateral moving of two or more maps hung one over the other, or for supporting and moving on the same pole two or more trays or other dependent objects, as is common in store-windows. My invention is therefore distinct from either of these devices, and accomplishes a purpose for which neither of them is capable.

Referring to the drawings, A represents the hollow pole or bar, which may be round or flat, as desired, the flat form being particularly desirable where space would not permit of the usual round form. It is slotted longitudinally, facing downward when the bar is in position, the slot (shown at *a*, Fig. 2) extending from one end of the bar to a point near the other end, in order that balls or buttons B, inserted into the hollow part of the pole and free to slide therein, may have their shanks or hooks *b* project in whole or in part through said slot, and to such shanks or hooks the curtain is secured in the ordinary manner, as it would be to the hook of the ring as now used, and the number of such balls would about equal the number of rings as now usually employed. The sizes of the parts relatively to each other are such that the ball will easily slide in the hollow of the pole, while it is greater in diameter than the longitudinal slot thereof, the latter being sufficiently wide to permit the lateral movement therein of the shank or hook of the ball. The balls or buttons being secured to the curtain D, they are inserted in the hollow of the rod or pole, to the open ends of which removable knobs C are secured by any known means.

It is apparent that my improvement enables two curtains or other dependent objects to be hung over each other on the same pole and slid along the same independently of each other, and that it is applicable not only to curtains, but to any kind of hanging drapery, hanging maps one over the other that slide laterally instead of roll up, or to supporting in like manner sliding trays, and for other analogous uses.

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

1. A supporting device for laterally-sliding curtains or other analogous purposes, consisting of a hollow pole or bar provided with two or more parallel longitudinal slots or openings extending from end to end of the bar, or nearly so, and facing downward when the bar is in

position, in combination with two or more series of balls or buttons adapted to slide freely within the interior of said bar, and provided with shanks or hooks projecting into or through said longitudinal slots, substantially as described.

2. A curtain-supporting device consisting of the hollow pole or bar A, provided with two or more parallel longitudinal slots, *a*, facing downward when the bar is in position, and sliding buttons B, with projecting hooks or shanks *b*, adapted to be secured to a hanging curtain, and with one or more removable knobs, C, substantially as set forth.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto affixed my signature this 21st day of March, A.D. 1887.

JAMES CREMER.

Witnesses:
HENRY A. MCMURROW,
FRANCIS S. BROWN.