

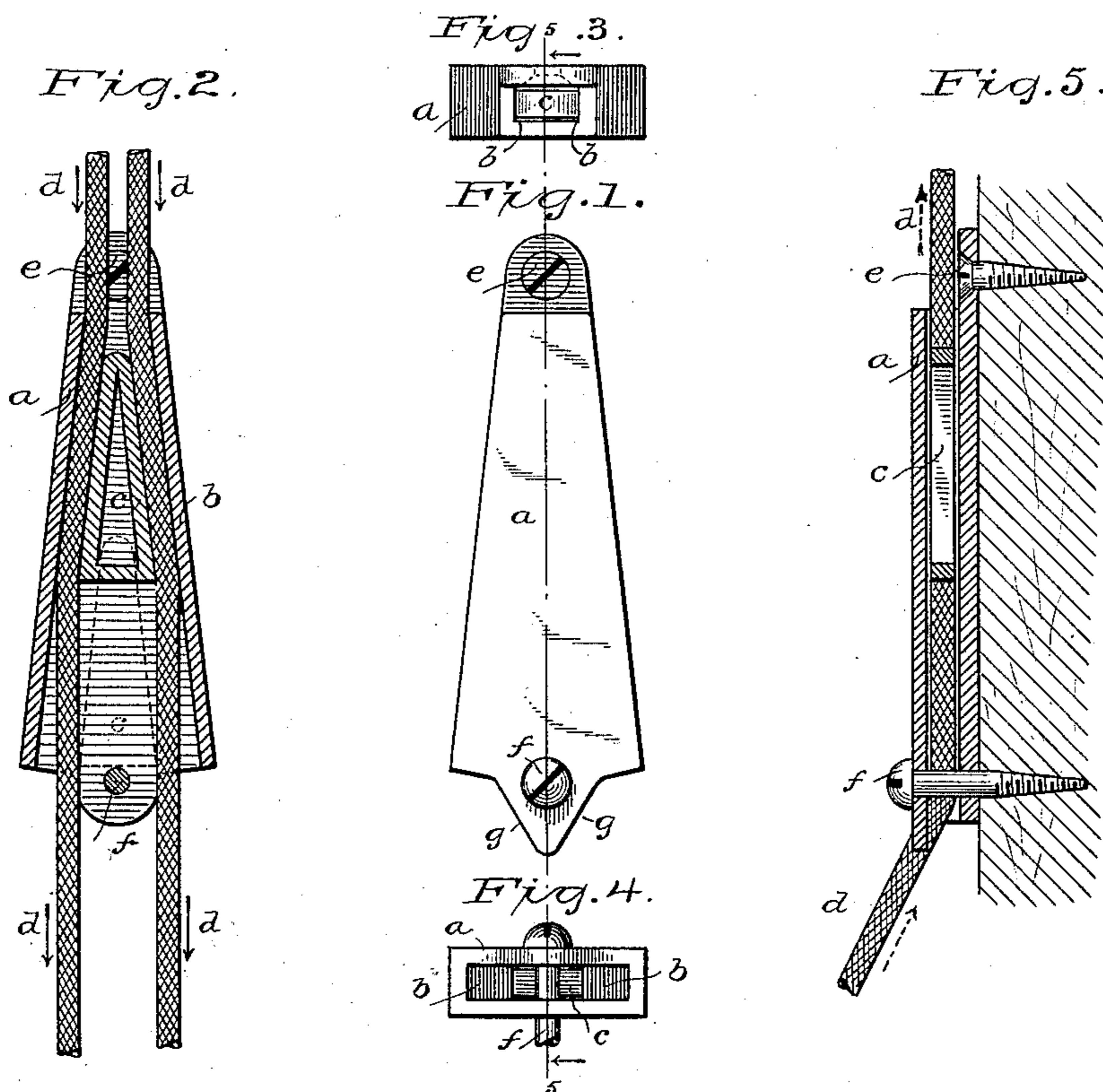
(No Model.)

J. R. EARNSHAW.

CORD HOLDER FOR VENETIAN BLINDS, &c.

No. 387,499.

Patented Aug. 7, 1888.



Witnesses.

H. A. Lamb.

Stephen D. James.

Inventor.

JOHN ROBERT EARNSHAW,

By his Attorney

R. L. Ewin.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOHN ROBERT EARNSHAW, OF MANCHESTER, COUNTY OF LANCASTER,
ENGLAND.

CORD-HOLDER FOR VENETIAN BLINDS, &c.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 387,499, dated August 7, 1888.

Application filed July 20, 1887. Serial No. 244,818. (No model.) Patented in England March 19, 1887, No. 4,171.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOHN ROBERT EARNSHAW, a subject of the Queen of Great Britain and Ireland, residing at Manchester, in the
5 county of Lancaster, England, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Cord-Holders for Venetian Blinds, &c., patented to me in Great Britain and Ireland by Letters Patent No. 4,171, dated March 19, 1887, of which the
10 following is a specification.

The primary object of this invention is the construction of a self-acting cord holder or catch whereby the two cords of a Venetian blind may be securely grasped simultane-
15 ously to hold the blind at any desired height, and which is equally applicable for holding the cords of a ventilator or bird-cage or for any analogous purpose.

Another object of the invention is to facilitate freeing the cords from the action of the
20 holder at will for lowering the blind or permitting the cords to run through unobstructedly.

A last object is to facilitate making and
25 uniting the parts of the holder.

The invention consists in certain novel combinations of parts, as hereinafter set forth and claimed.

Figure 1 of the accompanying drawings is a
30 front elevation, and Fig. 2 a sectional front view, of my improved cord-holder. Figs. 3 and 4 are end views representing the upper and lower ends of the holder, respectively; and Fig. 5 represents a longitudinal section on the line 5 5.

35 In producing my improved cord-holder I use, by preference, a hollow metallic socket or casing, *a*, which on the inside is provided with upwardly-converging side walls, *b b*, while its
40 front and back walls are parallel with each other. Inside this socket *a*, I insert a correspondingly-tapered wedge, *c*, adapted to freely travel lengthwise in said socket. Sufficient space is left on either side of the wedge *c*
45 within the socket for one of the cords *d*, so that both cords may run through freely when the wedge is in the larger end of the socket, as shown in dotted lines in Fig. 2.

50 The socket-casting *a* is attached in a vertical position, with its small end uppermost, by

means of screws *e f*, one of which, *f*, passes through the extended and perforated front wall of the socket and prevents the escape of the wedge *c*, which normally rests upon this
55 stop-screw, as represented by dotted lines in Fig. 3. The parts are thus securely united without additional fastenings. Said extended front wall of the socket-casting *a* is provided at its lower end, on the respective sides of the
60 stop-screw *f*, with a pair of inclines, *g*, and by holding the cords *d* forward in contact with these inclines, as represented in Fig. 5, they are spread and kept far enough apart to run
65 through freely either downward, as represented by arrows in Fig. 3, or upward, (backward,) as represented by dotted arrows in Fig. 5; but when the cords are held back by the hand which grasps them, so as to be un-
70 affected by said inclines *g*, they are naturally parallel with each other or converging between the hand and the wedge *c*, and thus in contact with the wide lower end of the wedge in either of its positions. Consequently when
75 the cords *d* are permitted to run upward parallel or converging, as aforesaid, they carry the wedge *c* between them to its elevated effective position, where it clamps both cords against the converging sides *b* of the socket,
80 as illustrated by Fig. 2. If the wedge be in said effective position, any downward pull on the cords carries the wedge with them until it drops or rests upon the stop-screw *f*, as illustrated by dotted lines in the same figure.

Having thus described my said improvement in cord-holders for Venetian blinds, &c.,
85 I claim as my invention—

1. A cord-holder having a socket constructed with upwardly-converging side walls and a correspondingly-tapering wedge which travels
90 freely up and down within said socket, in combination with a pair of cords interposed between said wedge and the respective side walls, substantially as herein specified.

2. In a cord-holder, a socket constructed with upwardly converging side walls and pro-
95 vided at its lower end with a stop and a pair of inclines, in combination with an upwardly-tapering wedge which travels freely up and down within said socket, and a pair of cords interposed between said wedge and the re-
100

spective side walls, substantially as herein specified.

3. The combination, in a cord-holder, of a
5 and parallel front and back walls, an upwardly-
tapering wedge which travels up and down
within said socket, and an attaching-screw
which passes through said front wall and be-
neath said wedge at the lower end of the

socket, substantially as herein specified, for the purpose set forth.

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

JOHN ROBERT EARNSHAW.

Witnesses:

JOHN G. WILSON,
JOHN SLATER.