(No Model.) 2 Sheets—Sheet 1.

F. H. BASSETT.

CURTAIN FIXTURE FOR CAR WINDOWS.

No. 575,410. Patented Jan. 19, 1897.

Fig. 1.

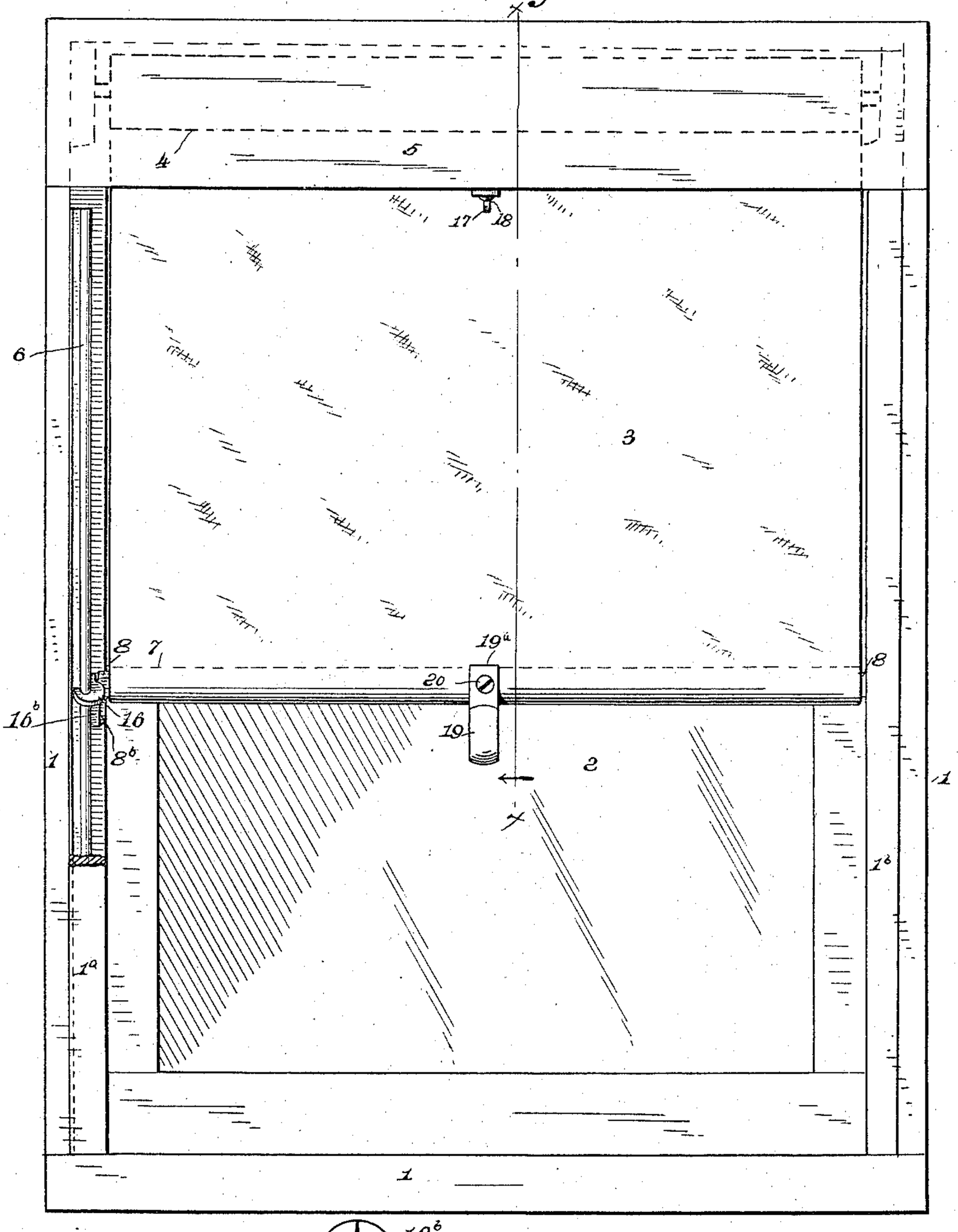

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Fig. 11.

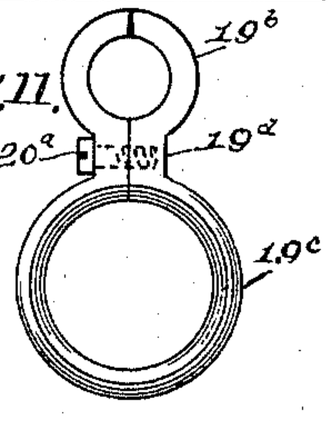
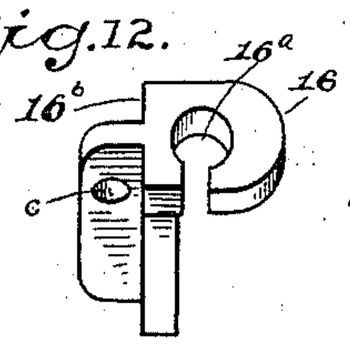


Fig. 12.



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(No Model.) 2 Sheets—Sheet 2.

F. H. BASSETT.

CURTAIN FIXTURE FOR CAR WINDOWS.

No. 575,410. Patented Jan. 19, 1897.

Fig. 2.

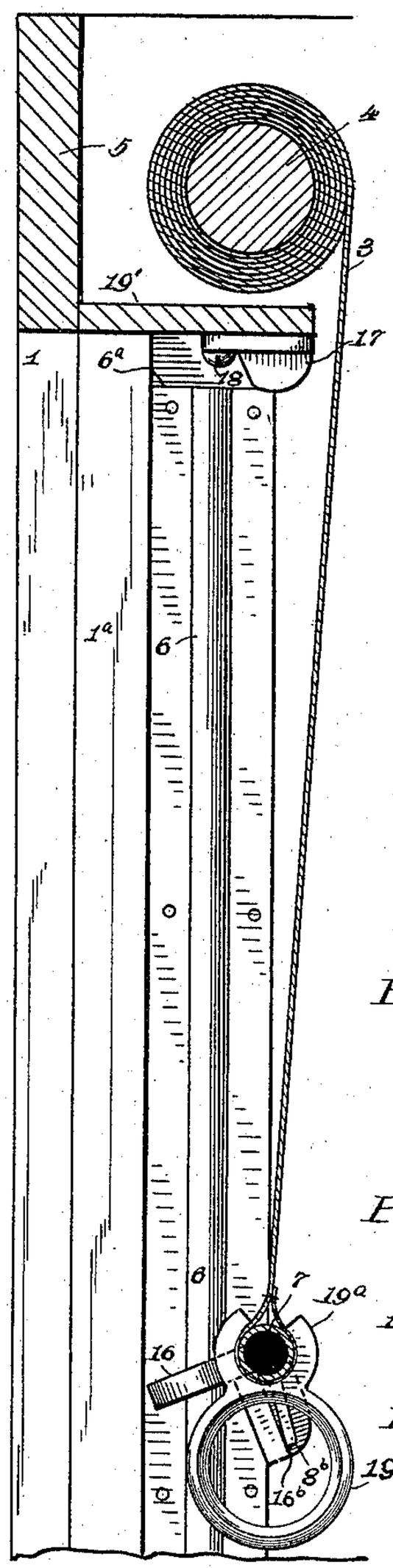


Fig. 3.

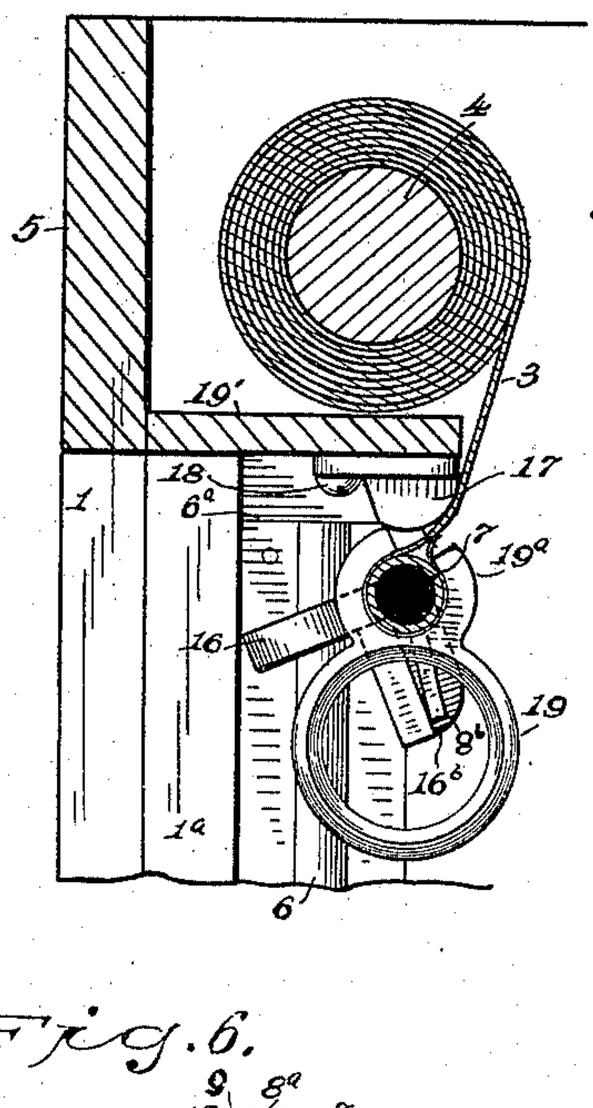


Fig. 4.

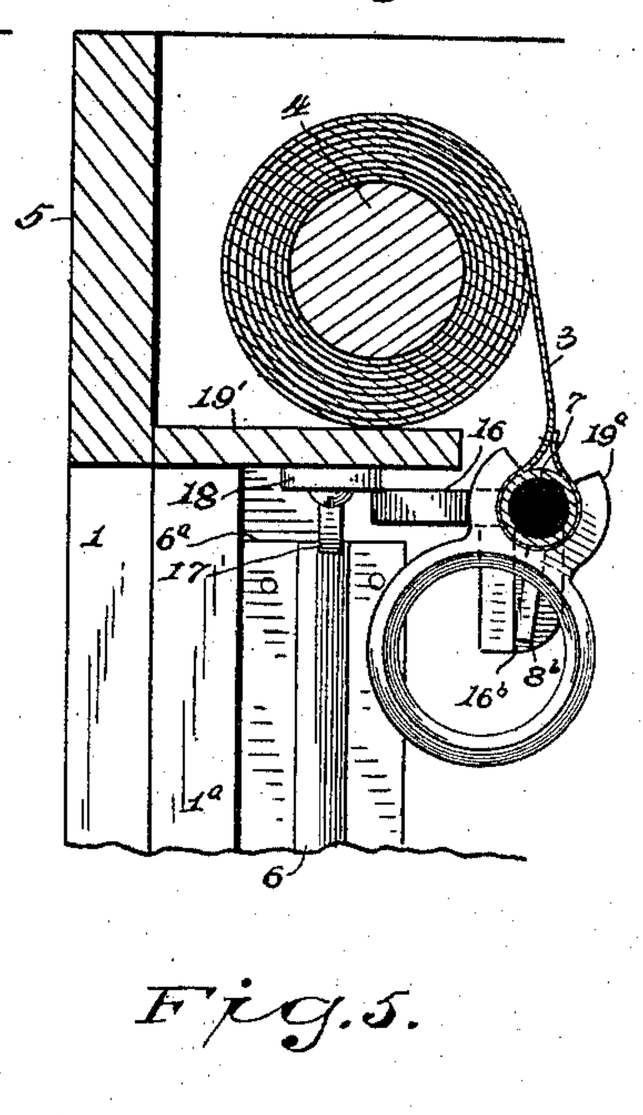


Fig. 5.

Fig. 6.

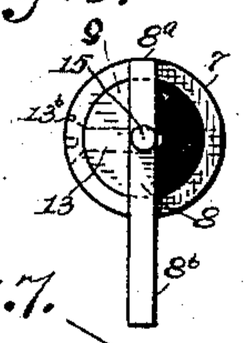


Fig. 7.

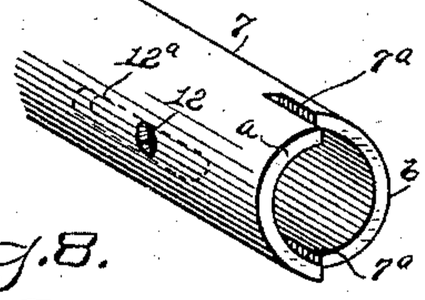


Fig. 8.

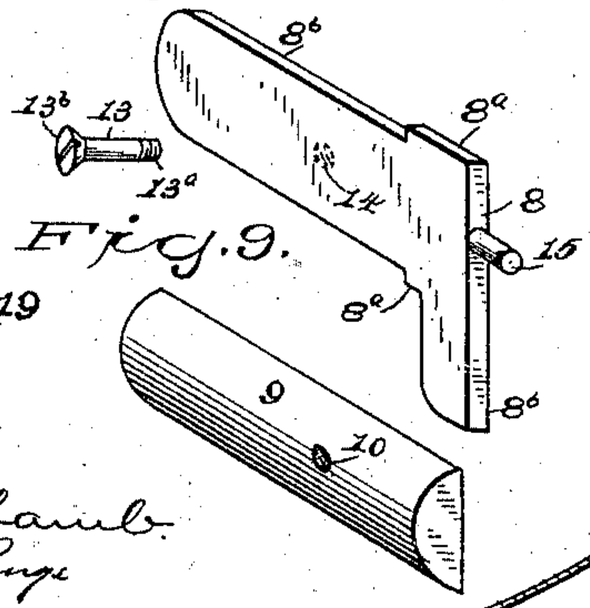
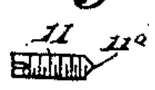


Fig. 9.

Fig. 10.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

FRED H. BASSETT, OF WATERBURY, CONNECTICUT.

CURTAIN-FIXTURE FOR CAR-WINDOWS.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 575,410, dated January 19, 1897.

Application filed November 1, 1895. Serial No. 567,662. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, FRED H. BASSETT, a citizen of the United States, and a resident of Waterbury, in the county of New Haven and State of Connecticut, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Curtain-Fixtures for Car-Windows, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to an improvement in curtain-fixtures adapted for car-windows; and it consists in certain details of construction to be more fully set forth in the following specification.

To enable others to understand my invention, reference is had to the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 represents a front elevation of a window with curtain attached thereto and partially rolled, showing also the side casing broken away, exposing to view the guide-rod and clutch. Fig. 2 is a vertical section through line *x* of Fig. 1 and broken view of the lower part of the casing. Fig. 3 is a broken view of the casing and a sectional view of the upper part of the same and curtain-roller and tubular rod or lower slat through line *x* of Fig. 1, showing the curtain drawn up to the stop located at the upper part of the casing. Fig. 4 is a view similar to Fig. 3, except that the stop to limit the upward movement of the curtain is turned and the curtain withdrawn from its engagement with the side guide-rods. Fig. 5 is a view similar to Fig. 4, showing the curtain disengaged from the guide-rods and drawn out from the casing, so that the reverse side can be dusted. Fig. 6 is a detail end view of the tubular rod for the lower end of the curtain with the trip-plate inserted in the end. Fig. 7 is a detail perspective view of the end of the tubular curtain-rod. Fig. 8 is a detail perspective view of one of the trip-plates and fastening-screw therefor. Fig. 9 is a detail perspective view of the packing-block used between the longitudinal face of the trip-plate and interior wall of the tubular curtain-rod. Fig. 10 is a detail view of a headless pointed screw for securing the trip-plate to the tubular curtain-rod. Fig. 11 is a detail modified construction of the finger-ring attached to the center of the tubular curtain-rod for operating the same. Fig. 12 is a detail perspective view of one of the guide-rod clutches.

Its construction and operation are as follows:

1 represents the window-casing; 2, the window; 3, the curtain or shade; 4, the curtain-roller. 5 is a front piece or cap extending across the front upper face of the casing and projecting vertically a short distance below the curtain-roller 4, sufficient to hide such roller from view, and also for a purpose to be hereinafter more fully described, the roller 4 being journaled in suitable stationary bearings at the upper part of the casing.

6 is one of two guide-rods hidden from view by the strips 1^a and 1^b, the one on the left being partially broken away, so as to expose such rod to view. As the rod on the opposite side of the casing is similar to the one shown at the left, and the clutches presently to be described, which engage the side guide-rods, being alike, a description of one will answer for both.

7 is a tubular rod attached to the lower end of the curtain 3. This rod carries in each end a trip-plate 8, similar to the one shown at Fig. 8. The end of the rod 7, Fig. 7, is provided with the slots 7^a, to receive the projections 8^a of this trip, while the tailpiece 8^b will extend into the interior of the rod 7. It will be observed that the end *a* of rod 7 is longer than the part *b*. When, therefore, the trip is inserted in the end of the tubular rod 7, (see also Fig. 6,) it is prevented from rotating therein by reason of the slots 7^a in such rod and is also permitted to have a horizontal adjustment therein to accommodate window-casings of different widths. The longer projecting end *a* of the rod 7 will thus afford an extra bearing for the trip-plate when so extended, as well as give a better resistance and support for the plate.

9, Figs. 6 and 9, is a semicircular blocking-piece inserted in the end of rod 7 and alongside of the trip-plate 8.

Two modes of fastening the trip-plate in any position within the limit of its longitudinal adjustment are shown, one consisting of the threaded hole 10, extending through the block 9 to receive the headless screw 11, Fig. 10, 12 being a threadless hole provided in

the side of the rod 7 to admit such screw. When, therefore, the screw 11 is inserted, as described, its pointed end 11^a will sink into the side of the tailpiece of the trip-plate and retain it firmly in any of its adjusted positions, preventing any accidental longitudinal movement. When the other method is adopted, the screw 13, Fig. 8, has simply a threaded end 13^a to be inserted in the threaded hole 14, (shown in dotted position,) in the trip-plate 8. In this case the hole 12 of the rod 7 will be elongated, as shown by dotted lines 12^a. This slot will also be outwardly tapered to permit the tapered head 13^b of the screw 13 to enter and bring such head flush with the outer surface of the rod 7. The hole 10 in the block 9 will in this case be threadless to receive the body of the screw 13. Now when it is necessary to adjust the trip-plate 8 the screw 13 is loosened sufficient to move such plate, when such screw is tightened to secure the plate firmly in its adjusted position. When this latter method is used, the block 9 can, if desired, be dispensed with. It will be understood, however, that the adjustable feature above described need be applied to only one end of the curtain-rod. The trip-plate in the opposite end can be rigidly secured in place, while the other is made adjustable for casings of different widths.

15 is a clutch-journal projecting from the end of the trip-plate, which journal passes through the hole *c* of the clutch 16, Fig. 12, the end of such journal being preferably headed to prevent the clutch dropping off. The opening 16^a of the clutch engages with the guide-rod 6. (See also Figs. 1, 2, and 3.) The flange portion 16^b of the clutch is adapted to engage with the trip projection 8^b, whereby the clutch is tilted, so as to release its grip on the guide-rod, as fully described and illustrated in the application filed contemporaneously herewith.

17 is a stop pivotally supported on the screw 18, attached to the strip 19, projecting laterally from the front strip or cap 5. This stop serves to limit the normal upward movement of the curtain, as shown at Fig. 3, through the medium of the finger-ring 19, attached to the central portion of the tubular rod 7, which has the clamping-head 19^a, which head will strike against the stop 17. When, therefore, it is desired to disengage the curtain from the side guide-rods, so as to dust the surface nearest the window, a necessary and important feature in car-window shades, the stop is turned, as shown at Fig. 4, allowing the clutches to be disengaged from their guide-rods, which rods are shortened for that purpose, so that there will be sufficient space between the top 6^a of the guide-rod 6 and the under side of the strip 19′ to permit the disengaged clutch to be carried toward the window, when it can be pulled out, as shown at Fig. 5, and the reverse side dusted. A forward movement of the curtain-rod, when in the position shown at Fig. 4, will cause the clutches to automatically reëngage the guide-rod.

The finger-ring 19 is used as a means for tilting the curtain-rod to release, as before mentioned, the clutches from the guide-rods, so that the spring (not shown) in the curtain-roller 4 will draw such curtain up until the finger-ring is released, whereupon the clutches will reëngage with their guide-rods. The screw 20, Fig. 1, passes through the upper part 19^a of the finger-ring and the tubular rod 7 to connect it to such rod.

In the modification, and preferable form, shown at Fig. 11, which consists of the double ring 19^b and 19^c, the former adapted to embrace the curtain-loop and the rod, the latter for the finger to enter and manipulate the rod, the upper ring or body portion 19^d being split so that, in connection with the screw 20^a, a firm grip can be maintained on the curtain-rod, and thus avoid putting the screw through such rod. I prefer that the screw-hole in the body 19^d does not extend entirely through, so that an unbroken surface is presented when attached to the curtain-rod.

I do not wish to be confined to the use of side guide-rods for locating the bottom end of a curtain in connection with the adjustable-stop feature at the top of the casing, whereby the curtain is limited in its upward movement or removed entirely from its side supports, as this feature is applicable to any device or construction that may be employed to locate the lower end of the curtain and guide it in a vertical path.

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

1. In a curtain-fixture, of the character described, the combination with the curtain—whose roll is journaled at the upper part of the casing—of an adjustable stop, a support therefor, said stop adapted to limit the upward movement of the curtain, when desired to retain it in its normal operative position, or adjusted so as to permit a temporary removal of the same, for the purpose set forth.

2. In a curtain-fixture whose roll is journaled at the upper part of the casing and carrying a curtain whose lower free end is maintained in its vertical position by suitable side guides located along the side uprights of the casing, and adapted to sustain such curtain in any position within its vertical range, of a stop adapted to limit the upward movement of said curtain, in its normal operative position, or adjusted so as to permit a temporary removal of such curtain, for the purpose specified.

3. The herein-described curtain-fixture, comprising in combination, a curtain-roll carrying a curtain, said roll journaled at the upper part of the casing, side guide-rods, clutches, and trips, as shown, an adjustable stop to limit the upward movement of the cur-

tain, or be adjusted to temporarily release the said curtain from its guide-rods, for the purpose set forth.

4. The herein-described curtain-fixture, comprising in combination, a curtain-roll journaled at the upper part of the casing, the free end of the curtain carrying trips and clutches to engage the side guide-rods, said rods shortened sufficient to permit the disengagement of the clutches, temporarily, therefrom, combined with a stop adapted to limit the upward movement of the curtain, or adjusted so as to permit the curtain to extend its upward travel sufficient to disengage the clutches from the guide-rods, as described.

5. In a curtain-fixture, of the character described, comprising in combination, the tubular curtain-rod, slotted ends therefor, a trip-plate adapted to enter said rod and slots to prevent rotation; one of said trip-plates made longitudinally adjustable to accommodate windows of different widths, and means connected with said trip-plates for locating the shade in any position within the limit of its travel, substantially as shown.

6. The combination with the curtain-rod, of the trip or bearing plates, one in each end thereof, a slot in the end of such rod to admit such plates, the end of the rod having a step face so as to give a better support for the bearing-plate, in the longitudinal adjustment, a tightening-screw to exert a transverse pressure on said bearing-plate so as to secure it in any of its adjusted positions, substantially as set forth.

Signed at Waterbury, in the county of New Haven and State of Connecticut, this 21st day of October, A. D. 1895.

FRED H. BASSETT.

Witnesses:
WM. E. WACKLEY,
GEO. W. LOVEJOY.