

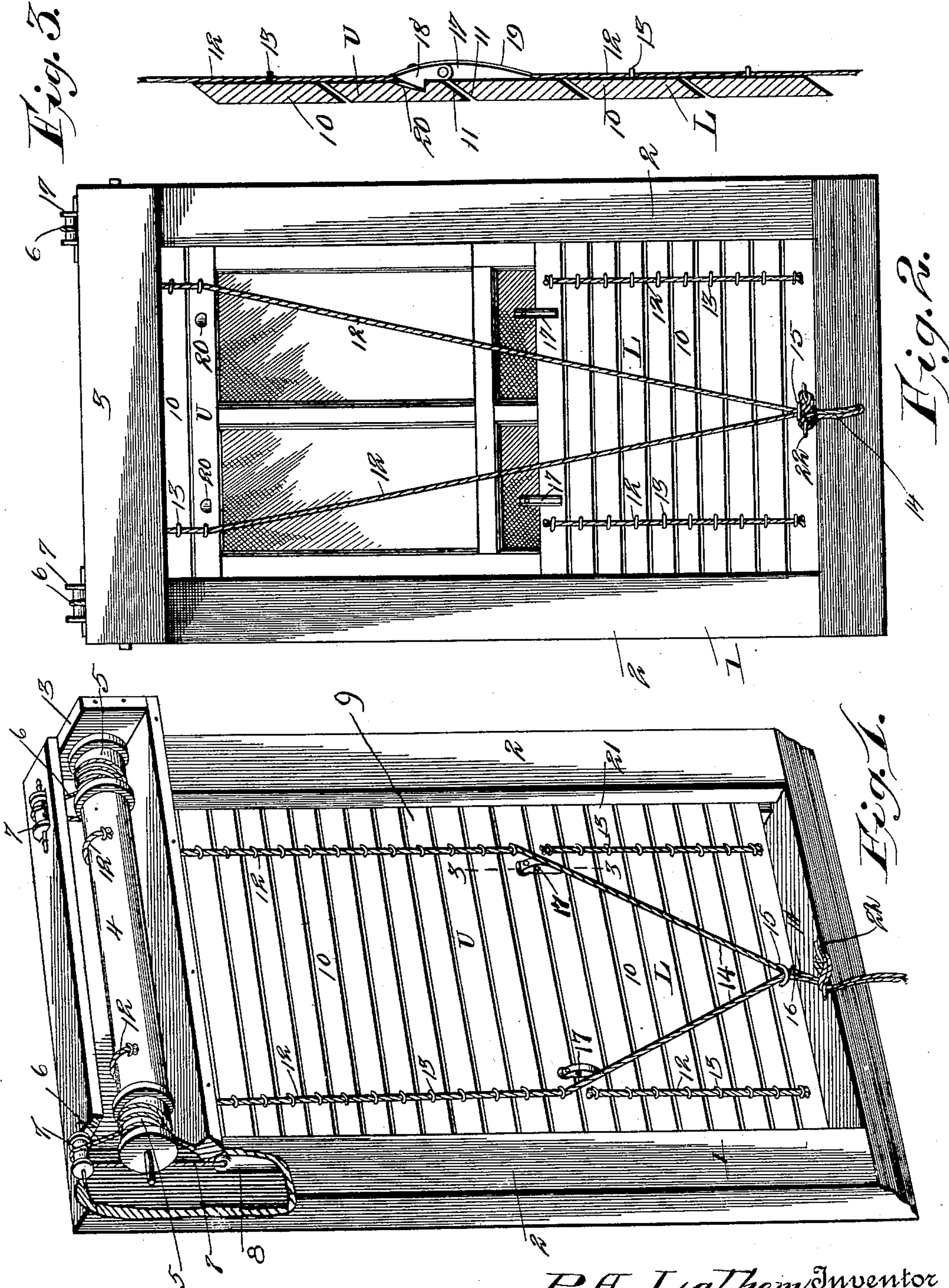
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P. A. LATHEM.  
WINDOW BLIND.

Application filed July 13, 1899.)

(No Model.)



Witnesses

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## WINDOW-BLIND.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 633,521, dated September 19, 1899.

Application filed July 13, 1899. Serial No. 723,708. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, PAGE A. LATHEM, a citizen of the United States, residing at Gainesville, in the county of Hall and State of Georgia, have invented a new and useful Window-Blind, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to window-blinds; and it has for its object to provide a new and useful construction of flexible blind designed to be mechanically operated to provide for covering and uncovering the opening of a window-frame and having means whereby the lower portion of the window-frame may be screened while the upper portion is left uncovered to provide for ventilation.

To this end the invention primarily contemplates a flexible blind constructed of slats arranged in such a way as to provide an effective screen for the window-opening, while at the same time permitting a free circulation of air therethrough; and the invention also contemplates constructing the blind in separate sections which are separably connected together to permit of separation for covering one portion of the window-opening while the other portion is left uncovered for ventilation.

With these and other objects in view, which will more readily appear as the nature of the invention is better understood, the same consists in the novel construction, combination, and arrangement of parts hereinafter more fully described, illustrated, and claimed.

The preferred embodiment of the improvements is shown in the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a perspective view, partly in section, of a flexible window-blind constructed in accordance with the present invention. Fig. 2 is an elevation thereof showing the two sections of the blind separated to provide for covering the lower portion of the window-opening and uncovering the upper portion of the opening for the purpose specified. Fig. 3 is a vertical sectional view on the line 3 3 of Fig. 1.

Like numerals of reference designate corresponding parts in the several figures of the drawings.

In the accompanying drawings, the numeral 1 designates the window-frame, of the ordinary rectangular configuration and provided with the usual hollow stiles 2 to form

pockets for the weights hereinafter referred to, and in carrying out the present invention the frame is further provided at the upper end thereof with a top casing or housing 3, in which is journaled a horizontal winding-roller 4, the spindle extremities of which are mounted in suitable bearings at the ends of the casing or housing 3. The said winding-roller 4 is provided at the ends thereof with the flanged spools 5, to which are connected one end of the weight-cords 6, passing over guide-pulleys 7, supported at the top of the casing or housing 3, and having suspended from their other ends the weights 8, working within the side weight-pockets of the frame and providing means, in connection with the weight-cords 6, for normally causing the winding-roller to rotate in a direction for winding or rolling up thereon the flexible blind, which is designated in its entirety by the reference-numeral 9.

The flexible blind substantially consists of a plurality of horizontal slats 10, duplicates of each other in size and shape and arranged in close parallel relation to provide an effective screen for the window-opening. The blind-slats 10 are provided with overlapping chamfered edges 11, which entirely cuts off the vision through the blind when lowered, so that the same will properly screen the window-opening, while at the same time permitting a free circulation of air through the blind, inasmuch as the slats are spaced slightly apart to permit of the blind rolling upon the roller.

The series of blind-slats 10 are flexibly connected together by the flexible suspending cords or tapes 12, arranged, respectively, near the ends of the slats and stapled to one side thereof by means of the staples 13 or equivalent fastenings, such mode of attaching the cords or tapes to the slats obviating the necessity of stringing the cords or tapes through holes in the slats, as is common in Venetian blinds and similar structures. The suspending cords or tapes 12 at the upper end of the blind are secured to the winding-roller 4 to provide a support for the blind, as well as a connection with the roller, which permits the blind rolling up thereon.

To provide for ventilating a room through the window, as well as screening a portion of the window-opening, the herein-described



flexible blind 9 is constructed in two sections—namely, an upper section U and a lower section L. The suspending cords or tapes of the two sections are disconnected to permit of their ready separation and the suspending cords 12 of the upper section U being extended at their lower ends and connected together to form a flexible pull connection 14, which loosely extends through a keeper 15 on the lower slat of the lower section L and is prevented from withdrawal from said keeper by means of a stop-pin 16, arranged at one side and close to the said keeper and adapted to be engaged by the bight of said pull connection.

Ordinarily the two sections U and L of the blind are connected together preferably by means of the catches 17 or any equivalent fastening that will separably connect the adjoining edges of the blind-sections. One or more, but preferably two, may be employed, and the same are fitted to the upper slat of the lower section L. The catch 17 shown in the drawings comprises a pivotal shouldered catch-dog 18, carried by the lower blind-section and normally pressed in one direction by an actuating-spring 19, so that when the adjoining edges of the blind-sections are drawn together the catch-dog will spring into engagement with a locking-notch 20, formed in the lower slat of the upper section U.

When the two sections U and L of the blind are coupled together by the catches 17, said blind-sections move together and are guided at their ends within the vertical guide-grooves 21 of the stiles 2 of the frame, and both of said blind-sections roll up together on the winding-roller 4.

To provide for raising and lowering the complete blind, it is simply necessary to manipulate the flexible pull connection 14, which when released permits the blind to be drawn up and rolled upon the roller and which when secured to a suitable fastening projection 22 on the frame provides for holding the blind at any elevation.

By unlocking the catches 17 the upper blind-section U may be released from the lower section L and permitted to roll up on the winding-roller without affecting the position of the lower blind-section L, which of its own weight rests within the lower part of the

window-frame and screens the same. In this use of the device the upper portion of the window-opening is left uncovered for ventilation, while the lower portion is screened. To couple the two sections together, it is simply necessary to draw upon the flexible pull connection, and thereby lower the upper blind-section into engagement with the catches 17.

From the foregoing it is thought that the construction, operation, and many advantages of the herein-described flexible blind may be readily apparent to those skilled in the art without further description, and it will be understood that changes in the form, proportion, and minor details may be resorted to without departing from the spirit or sacrificing any of the advantages of the invention.

Having thus described the invention, what is claimed, and desired to be secured by Letters Patent, is—

1. The combination with a window-frame, and a mechanically-operated elevating device, including a winding-roller, of a flexible blind formed in two sections separably connected together at their adjoining edges, and suspending cords or tapes for the blind-sections, the suspending cords or tapes for the upper blind-section being extended at their lower ends to form a flexible pull connection, substantially as set forth.

2. The combination with a window-frame, and a mechanically-operated elevating device, including a winding-roller, of a flexible blind formed in two sections and substantially consisting of a plurality of parallel slats, and suspending cords or tapes flexibly connecting the slats together, the suspending cords or tapes for the upper blind-section being extended at their lower ends to form a flexible pull connection loosely connected with the lower blind-section, and spring-actuated catches fitted to the lower section and adapted to engage the upper section and separably connect the two blind-sections together, substantially as set forth.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing as my own I have hereto affixed my signature in the presence of two witnesses.

PAGE A. LATHEM.

Witnesses;

W. S. HUBBARD,  
J. M. C. MABRY.