

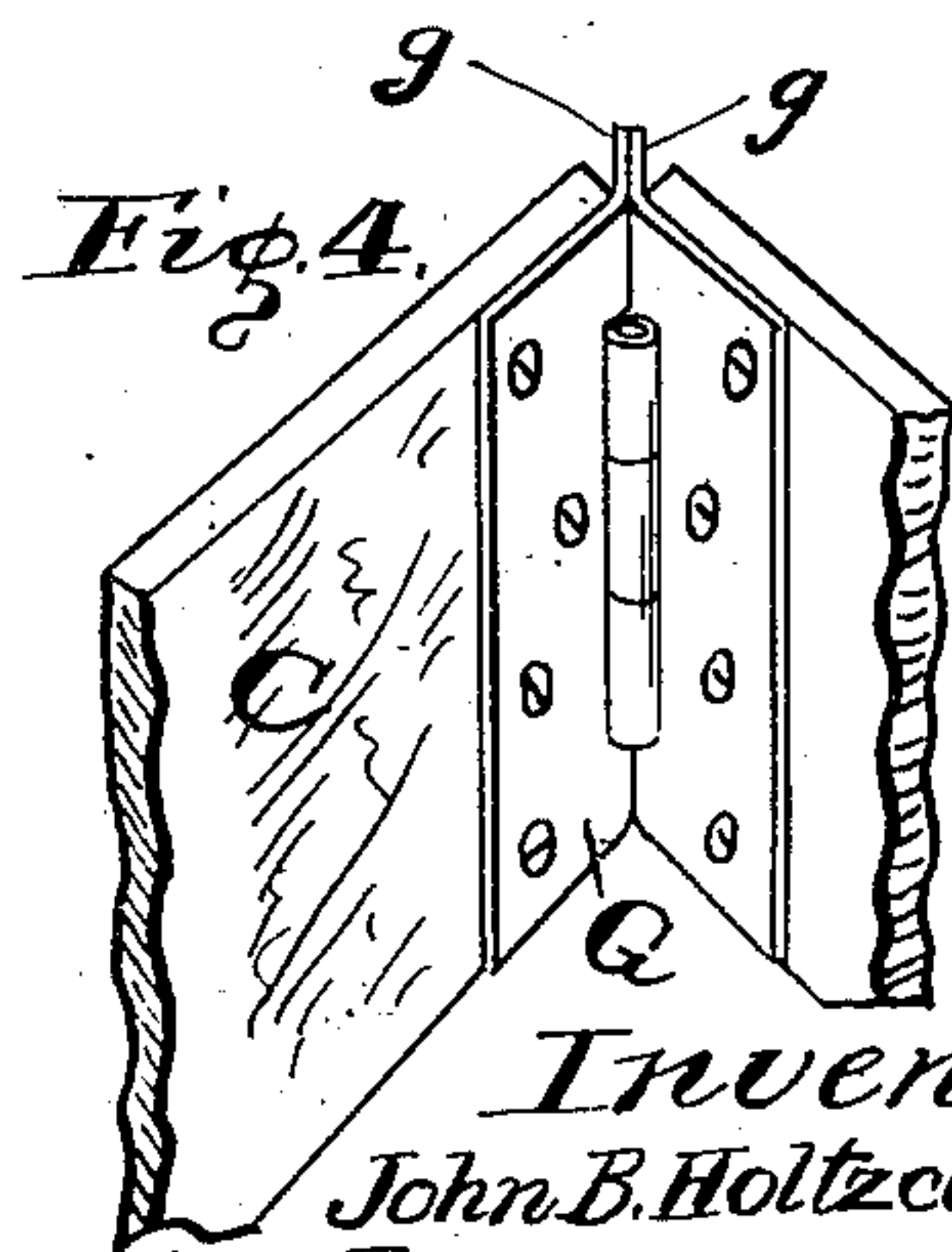
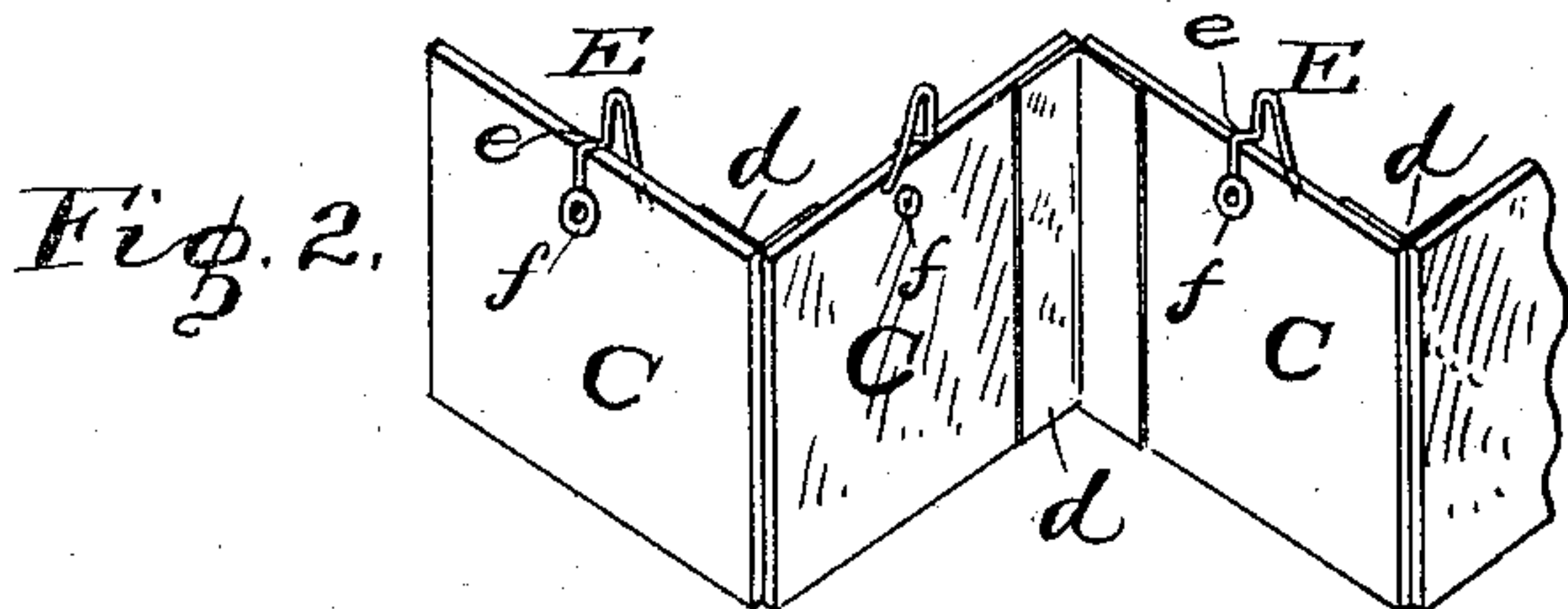
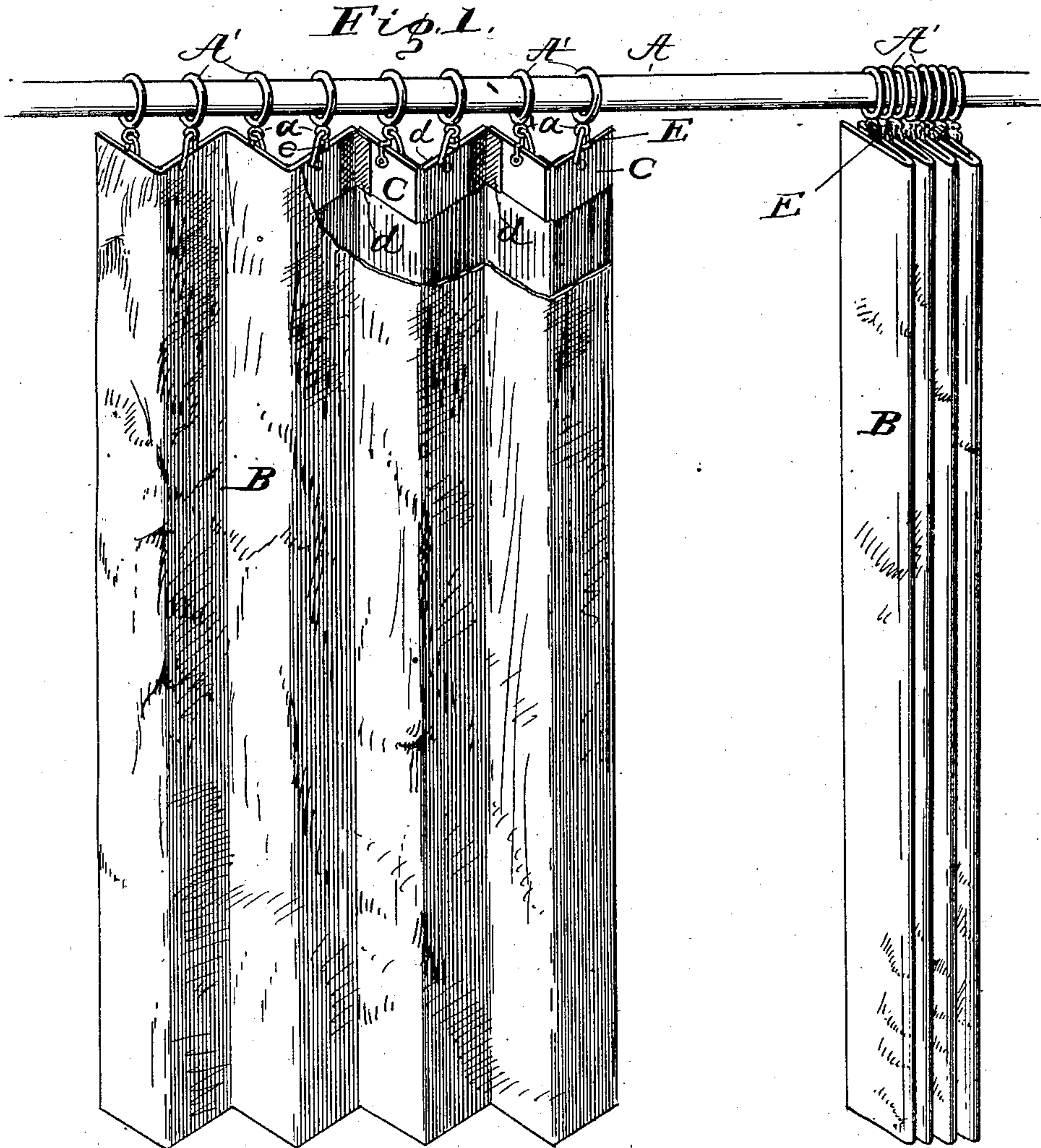
No. 661,608.

Patented Nov. 13, 1900.

J. B. HOLTZCLAW.  
PORTIÈRE.

(Application filed Mar. 12, 1900.)

(No Model.)



Witnesses, *Fig. 3.*  
S. M. L. Unger, *E*  
L. A. McInturn, *e*  
*f*

Inventor,  
John B. Holtzclaw,  
By Joseph A. McInturn,  
Attorney.



# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOHN B. HOLTZCLAW, OF INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA, ASSIGNOR OF ONE-HALF  
TO OSCAR A. JOSE, OF SAME PLACE.

## PORTIÈRE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 661,608, dated November 13, 1900.

Application filed March 12, 1900. Serial No. 8,297. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, JOHN B. HOLTZCLAW, a citizen of the United States, residing at Indianapolis, in the county of Marion and State of Indiana, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Portières, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to improvements in portières and other curtains; and the object is to support the upper edge of the hanging curtain in a manner to keep it from sagging between the points of suspension. The object also is to compel the curtain to fold in well-defined and uniformly-equal folds.

The further object of the invention is to provide a simple, inexpensive, and durable hook attachment for fastening the curtains to the pole-rings.

I accomplish the objects of the invention by the mechanism illustrated in the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a front perspective view of a curtain-pole and a pair of portières, one of which is folded and the other is unfolded. The unfolded one is broken away in part to show the stiffening-strip at the top. Fig. 2 is a detail in perspective of the stiffening-strip. Fig. 3 is a detail in vertical section of the stiffening-strip, showing the manner of attaching the suspensory hook; and Fig. 4 is a perspective view of a modified hinge connecting the several sections of the stiffening-strip.

Like letters of reference indicate like parts throughout the several views of the drawings.

A is the pole from which the portière is suspended. It has the rings A', with eyes *a*, all of usual and well-known construction.

B is the portière, which it has been the custom to make of a double thickness of material, which custom best suits the purpose of this invention, although not necessarily essential in carrying it into practice. Between the two thicknesses of the portière, adjacent to its upper edge, a stiffening C is inserted. This stiffening will be made out of a strong and stiff material, like binders' board, of suitable width—say from three to nine inches, according to the size of the portière—and cut transversely into sections equal in

length to the width of fold to be given to the curtain or portière. These several sections are hinged together, so as to fold in alternate opposite directions, the hinges being of any suitable tough and flexible material, as cloth, leather, or paper, (shown at *d*.)

E is a hook by means of a number of which the portière is removably secured to the rings on the horizontal pole by passing the hook through the eye of the ring. The hook will preferably be made of wire, which is bent at its lower end to form an eye, through which an eyelet-fastener *f*, passing through said eye in the hook and through a hole in the stiffening C, is passed and secured by riveting the parts of the eyelet together in the usual manner. The hook E lies against the stiffening-board and passes up to the top edge of same, where it is bent close across said edge to form the part *e*, which will keep the hook from swinging around its eyelet-fastening, and then the hook end is extended suitably above the edge of the stiffening-board and is then bent down and made to terminate at one side of and below the top edge of the board to in a manner lock the eye of the pole-ring A' in the hook when the hook is inserted through the eye *a* in the manner as is shown in Fig. 1.

In the modification shown in Fig. 4 the stiffening-sections are connected by the metal hinge G, and to keep the hinge from opening out too far, and thereby flattening the folds to an extent which destroys their effectiveness, I provide the middle extensions *g*, which contact with each other at a predetermined angle of the leaves of the hinge and prevents a farther opening of the hinge. These extensions are long enough to allow them to be grasped by pliers and adjusted by bending toward or from each other to change their angular relation to the leaves of the hinges and regulate the maximum opening of the hinge. The stiff unbending character of the stiffening-strip gives an unyielding support along the whole top edge of the curtain, thereby effectually keeping the latter from sagging, and the hinged joints in the stiffening-strip give folds which are positive and certain at the desired intervals.

Having thus fully described my invention, what I claim as new, and wish to secure by Letters Patent of the United States, is—

1. The combination with a portière or other  
5 curtain of a stiffening and fold-forming strip at its top edge, said strip being formed of a plurality of strong and stiff sections equal in length to the width of the desired folds and said strips being hinged together to fold in  
10 alternately opposite directions, a horizontal pole, curtain-rings sliding thereon having eyelets to engage curtain-hooks, and curtain-hooks fastened to the stiffening and fold-forming strips intermediate their ends, said  
15 hooks being bent transversely of the strips to which they are fastened across and against the top edge thereof, and being continued thence upwardly and then down to form a hook with its loose end at one side of and be-

low the edge of the strip, substantially as described and shown. 20

2. The combination with a portière or other curtain of a stiffening and fold-forming strip incorporated therein substantially as described, said strip being formed of a plural- 25 ity of stiff sections hinged together as described and shown, said hinged sections having adjustable extensions *g, g*, to limit the extent of their opening, substantially as specified. 30

In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and seal, at Indianapolis, Indiana, this 9th day of March, A. D. 1900.

JNO. B. HOLTZCLAW. [L. S.]

Witnesses:

JOSEPH A. MINTURN,  
OSCAR A. JOSE.