No. 781,296. PATENTED JAN. 31, 1905.

A. L. PARKER.

CURTAIN RING.

APPLICATION FILED MAR. 10, 1904.

FIG. 1.

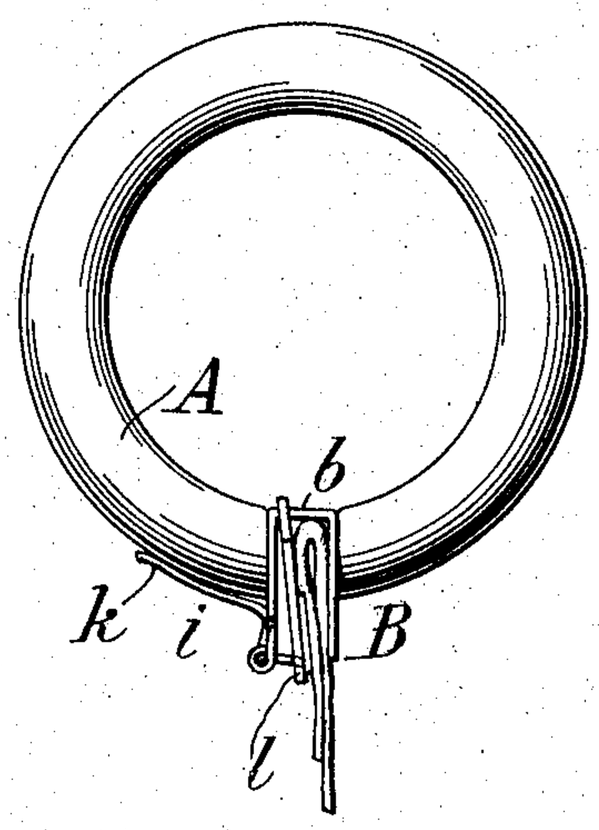


FIG. 2.

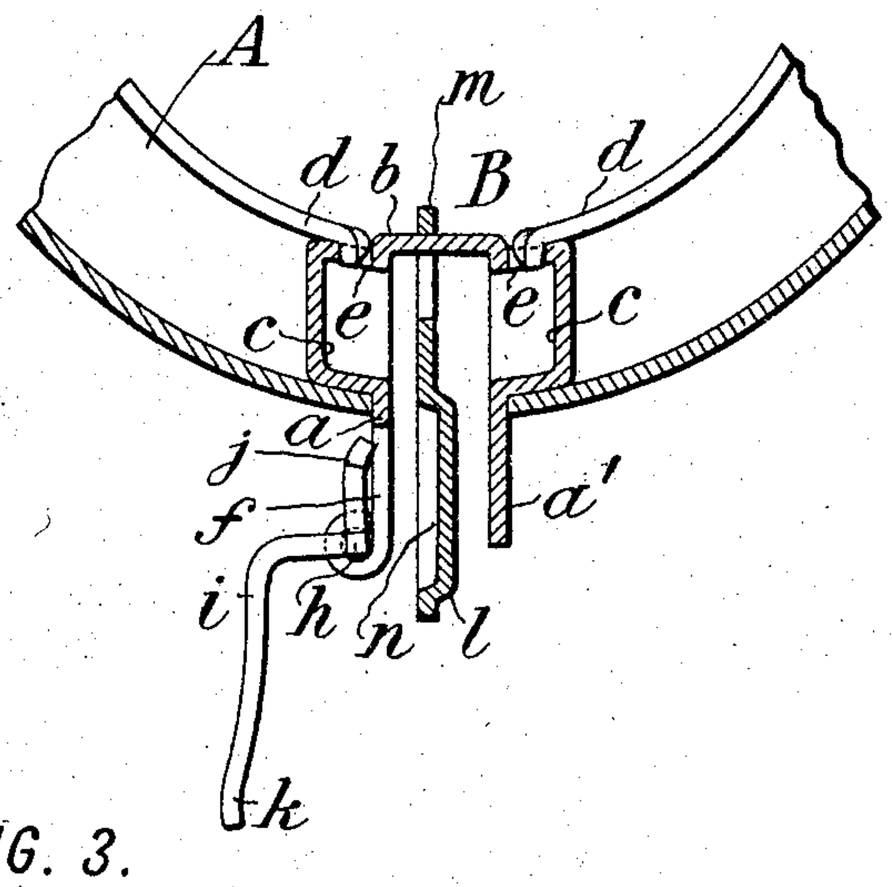


FIG. 3.

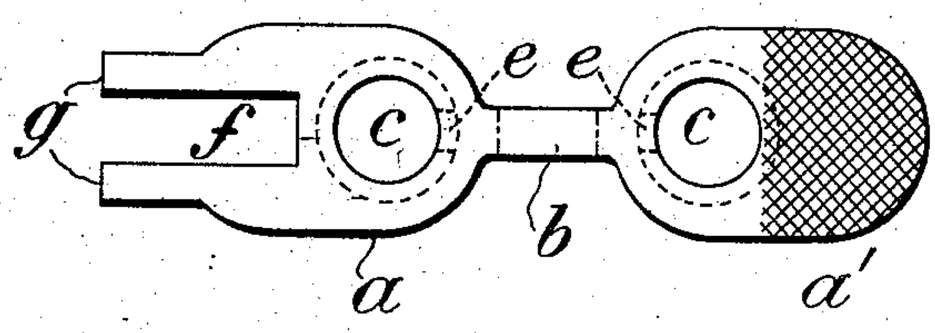


FIG. 4.

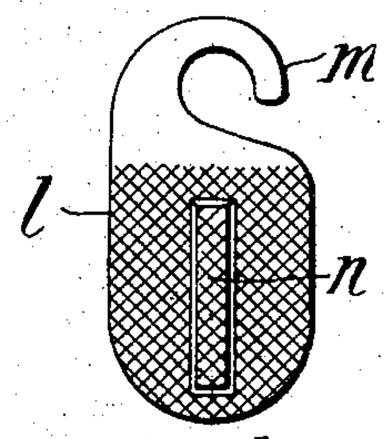
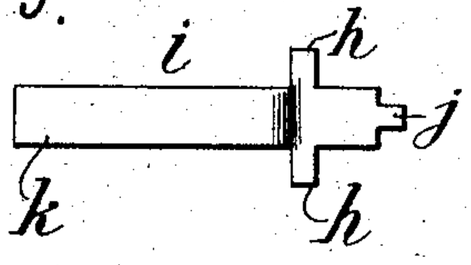


FIG. 5.



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No. 781,296. Patented January 31, 1905.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ALBERT L. PARKER, OF ROME, NEW YORK.

CURTAIN-RING.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 781,296, dated January 31, 1905.

Application filed March 10, 1904. Serial No. 197,596.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ALBERT L. PARKER, a citizen of the United States, and a resident of Rome, in the county of Oneida and State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Curtain-Rings, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to rings for curtain-poles and other purposes, and aims to provide certain improvements therein.

As heretofore constructed curtain-rings have usually been made of wood or metal and have been provided with eyelets to which the curtain or other hanging has been sewed or pinned. Such modes of attachment have involved certain disadvantages, which it is the object of my invention to avoid. To this end in the preferred form of my invention I construct a ring which is provided with a recess in its body which is adapted to receive the edge of the curtain, and I provide a clamping means for holding the curtain in place therein. Preferably the clamping means is so constructed as to hold the curtain with a grasp which is sufficiently light to permit the latter to be drawn without tearing from the clamp in case of accident.

My invention provides certain other novel features, which will be hereinafter more fully described.

Referring to the drawings, which illustrate my invention as applied to a metallic curtain-ring, Figure 1 is a side elevation of the ring, showing a section of a curtain held in place therein. Fig. 2 is a fragmentary sectional view on an enlarged scale. Fig. 3 is a plan of the blank which is adapted to form the body portion of the clamp I prefer to use. Fig. 4 is a plan of the clamping-plate, and Fig. 5 is a plan of the clamping-lever.

Referring to the drawings, let A designate the body of the ring, which may be of wood, iron, brass, or other suitable material. It is usually formed by drawing a sheet-metal strip into tubular form and simultaneously giving it a spiral shape, the coiled tubing being then placed upon a bar or rod and sawed lengthwise of the coil, thereby cutting the latter into as many rings as there are convolutions in the coil. The ends of the spiral-shaped ring thus formed have been heretofore bent into contact, the eyelet being ordinarily inserted at the point of juncture of the ends, which latter are then united by brazing or otherwise.

The use of an eyelet as a point of attachment for the curtain is subject to certain disadvantages. Heretofore the curtain has been sewed to the eyelet or has been connected to it by means of pins which are inserted in the curtain and hooked through the eyelet. In either case there has been a considerable gap between the top of the curtain and the pole, and there has been a great liability of tearing the curtain when the latter is subjected to any considerable strain. Sewing the curtain to the rings has involved a waste of time, while the use of pins causes an unsightly appearance. In the preferred construction of my improved ring I avoid these several disadvantages. To this end I construct the ring with a recess formed in the body thereof, which is designed to receive the edge of the curtain, which recess is preferably equal, or nearly so, in depth to the full thickness of the ring. It is preferably formed by cutting out a portion of the body thereof during the operation of separating the lengths of the spiral tubing and is conveniently done by the use of two saws spaced the proper distance apart. The ends of the ring are then connected in any suitable manner, so as to prevent sidewise movement, and if a clamp is to be used it is placed within or near the recess, so as to hold the curtain when it is inserted in the latter. When in place, the edge of the curtain may extend up to the inner surface of the ring, thus avoiding the gap or space now usually seen between the curtain and pole. The curtain may be secured in place in any suitable manner; but, as before stated, I prefer to provide a clamp for this purpose, and by preference I so construct the latter that it serves as a means for rigidly connecting the ends of the ring. It is a practical necessity that the ends should be rigidly connected so that the ring shall be stiff and unyielding, as otherwise distortion of the ring will result. In the construction shown this connection is in the form of a metal strip bridging the recess and connected to the two ends of the ring, and for convenience in the illustrated construction the clamp

is so designed as to provide such a strip, although such connecting portion may be otherwise provided, if desired. In the construction shown I have designated the clamp by the letter B. It is formed with two plates *a* and *a'*, which are connected by a strip or tongue *b*. Each of the plates *a a'* is formed with a cup-shaped depression *c*, over which the ends *d* of the ring fit and to which they are connected by punching down portions of the metal of the ring into holes *e*, as shown in Fig. 2, thus riveting the parts together. One of the plates, *a*, is formed with a longitudinal slot *f* and two tongues *g*, the latter being curled to form bearings to receive projections *h h*, (see Fig. 5,) formed on the clamping-lever *i*. The latter is constructed to clamp the curtain against the plate *a'*, its end *j* extending across the space between the plates *a a'* when the clamp is closed, as in Fig. 1. In this position the handle portion *k* of the lever lies along the outer face of the ring. When the clamp is opened, the end *j* passes into the slot *f* in the plate *a* out of the way of the curtain, so that the latter may be withdrawn. I prefer to interpose a loose clamping-plate *l* between the lever and the plate *a'* in order that the curtain shall be held in place by frictional contact, so that if it is violently pulled it will slip from the clamp without injury. This plate is preferably formed with a hook *m*, which fits over some convenient portion of the ring—as, for instance, the strip *b*, (see Fig. 2)—so that the plate hangs loosely until the clamp is closed. To hold the plate *l* against lateral movement, it may be formed with a depression *n*, within which works the end *j* of the lever. The opposing faces of the plates *a'* and *l* may be roughened, if desired, to assist in holding the curtain.

Fig. 3 shows the body portion of the clamp after it has been blanked out, and Figs. 4 and 5 illustrate the plate *l* and lever *i* detached.

I do not wish to limit myself to the construction herein illustrated, as many changes may be made therein without departing from the spirit of the invention.

I claim as my invention the following-defined novel features, substantially as hereinbefore specified, namely:

1. A ring having a recess adapted to receive a curtain or similar article, and having a portion bridging said recess and rigidly holding the adjacent parts of said ring against relative movement.

2. A ring having a recess adapted to receive a curtain or similar article, and having a portion bridging said recess and rigidly holding the adjacent parts of said ring against relative movement, and means for holding such article in said recess.

3. A ring formed of a piece of tubing bent to ring form and having sufficient rigidity to prevent its distortion, said ring having a recess and a connecting portion holding the adjacent parts against relative movement, and means for holding a curtain or similar article in said recess.

4. A ring having a recess in its body, and having a portion bridging said recess and holding the adjacent parts of said ring against relative movement, and a means for clamping a curtain or similar article arranged in said recess.

5. A ring having a recess in its body, and a clamp in said recess adapted to receive a curtain or similar article, to hold the same therein, including a lever having a part adapted to extend transversely of said recess.

6. A ring having a recess in its body, and a clamp in said recess adapted to receive a curtain or similar article, and to hold the same therein, including a lever having a part adapted to extend transversely of said recess and a plate moved by said lever to clamp the curtain.

7. A ring having its ends spaced apart so as to form a recess, and a clamp within said recess, said clamp having portions engaging the ends of said ring whereby to connect the latter and hold the same rigidly against relative displacement.

8. A tubular ring having its ends spaced apart so as to form a recess adapted to receive a curtain or like article, and a clamp for such article having oppositely-extending portions fitting within the ends of said ring and secured against movement therein, and a connecting portion between such extending portions.

9. A tubular ring having its ends spaced apart so as to form a recess, and a clamp having oppositely-extending portions *c c* fitting within the ends of said ring, and riveted therein, and having a tongue *b*.

10. A tubular ring having its ends spaced apart so as to form a recess, and a clamp having oppositely-extending portions *c c* fitting within the ends of said ring, and riveted therein, and having a tongue *b*, lever *i* and plate *l*.

11. The combination of a ring and a clamp secured thereto and adapted to receive a curtain or similar article, said clamp having a lever *i*, plate *l* loosely attached to the clamp, and plate *a'*.

12. The combination of a ring and a clamp secured thereto and adapted to receive a curtain or similar article, said clamp having a plate *a*, formed with tongues *g*, curled to form bearings, a lever *i* working in said bearings, a plate *a'* opposite said plate *a*, and a loose plate *l* adapted to be forced toward said plate *a'* by said lever *i*.

In witness whereof I have hereunto signed my name in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

ALBERT L. PARKER.

Witnesses:
THOMAS F. WALLACE,
FRED WHITE.