

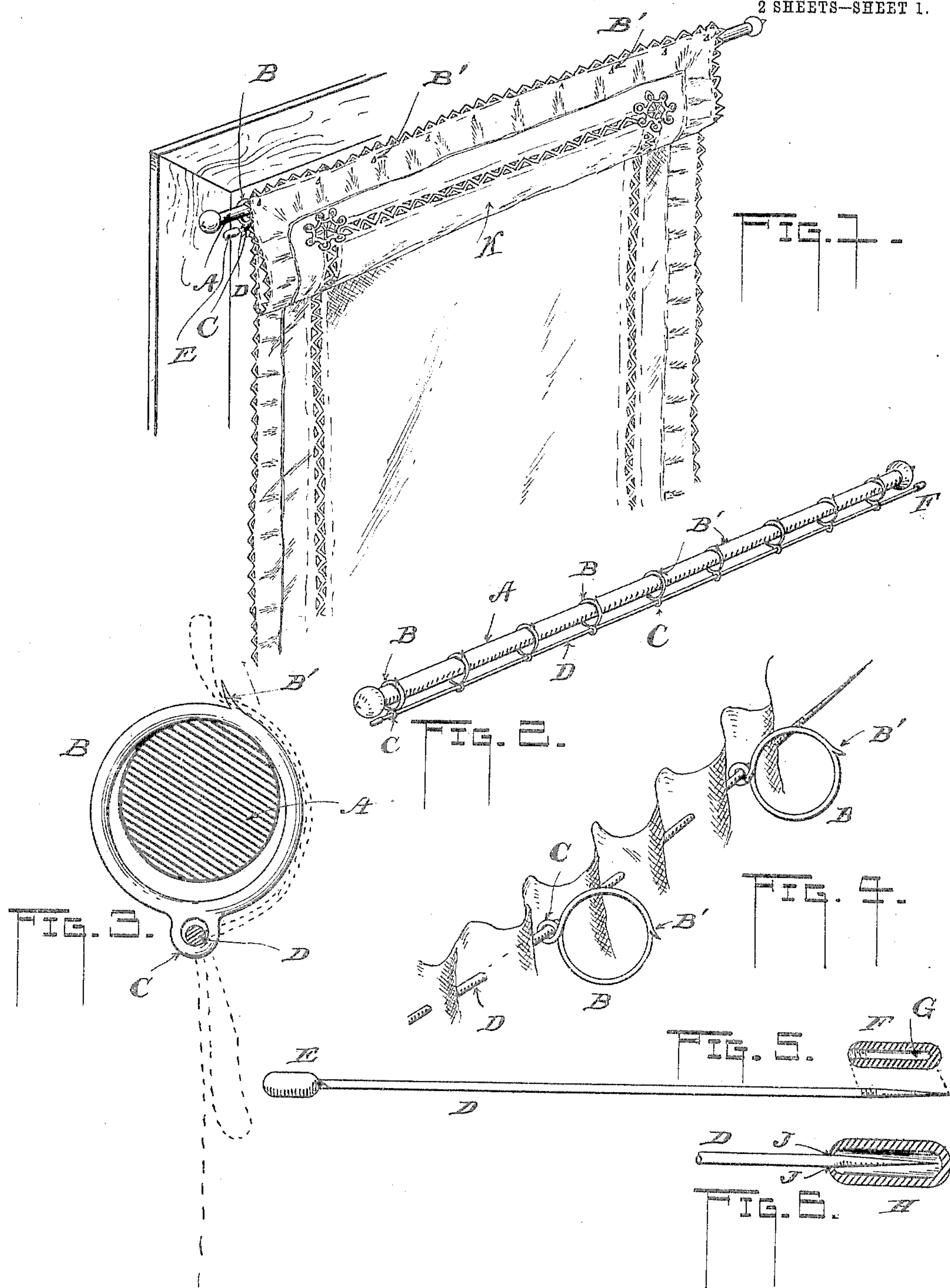
No. 793,854.

PATENTED JULY 4, 1905.

K. SPICKERMAN.
MEANS FOR HANGING LACE CURTAINS.

APPLICATION FILED AUG. 4, 1904.

2 SHEETS—SHEET 1.



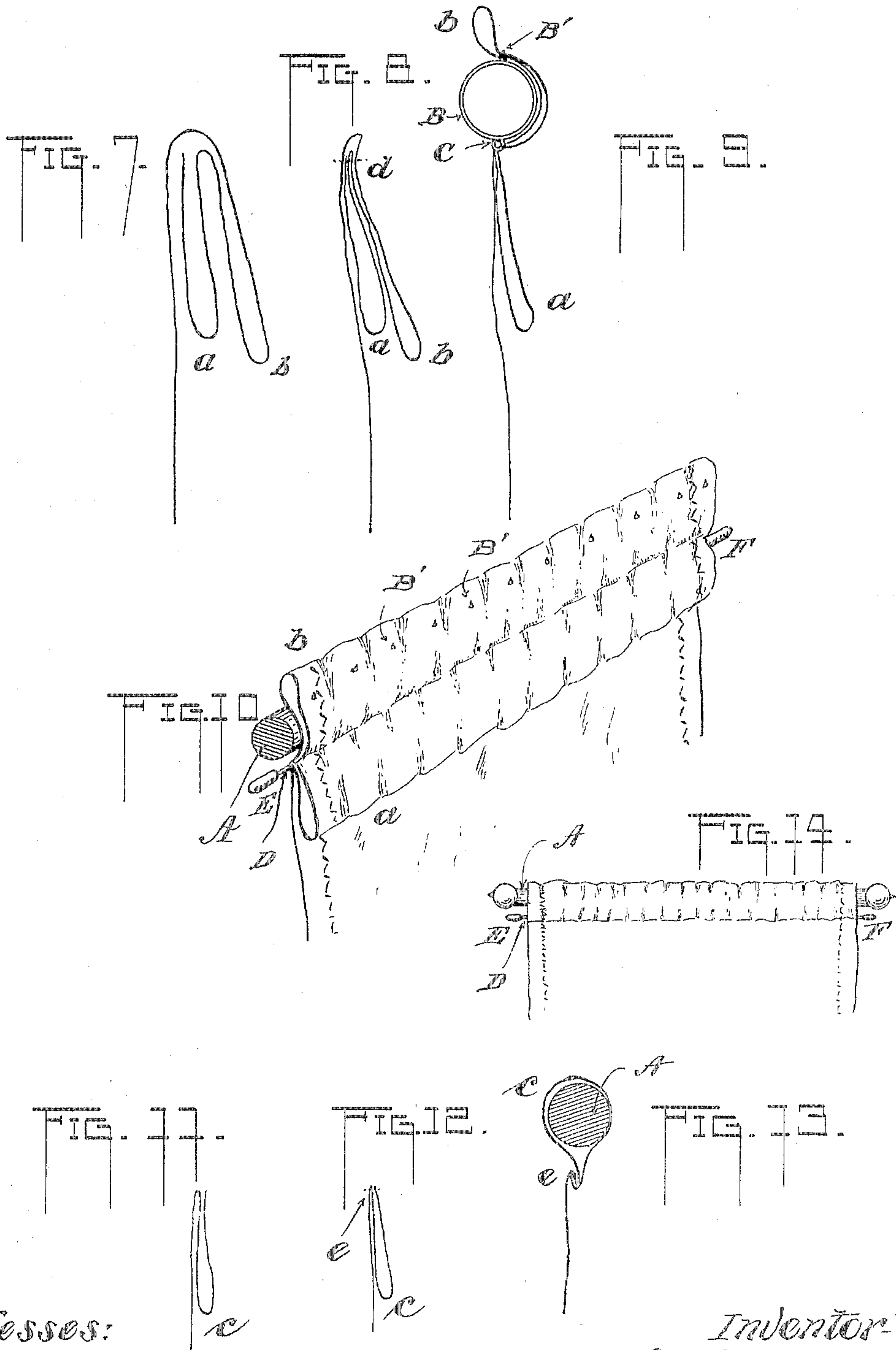
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E. J. Arnold

Inventor-
Kate Spickerman,
By L. M. Thurlow
att'y.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

KATE SPICKERMAN, OF PEORIA, ILLINOIS.

MEANS FOR HANGING LACE CURTAINS.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 793,854, dated July 4, 1905.

Application filed August 4, 1904. Serial No. 219,444.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, KATE SPICKERMAN, a citizen of the United States, residing at Peoria, in the county of Peoria and State of Illinois, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Means for Hanging Lace Curtains; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, which will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same.

This invention has reference to means for hanging curtains of every description, having especial reference, however, to the hanging and adjusting of lace curtains.

The invention has for its aim and object the hanging and quick adjustment of lace curtains which by the old methods have been extremely difficult to properly and quickly adjust.

In the appended drawings, forming a part of this application, Figure 1 is a perspective view of a portion of a window-frame, showing a curtain-rod and a lace curtain hung from it. Fig. 2 is a perspective view of a curtain-rod, showing a much smaller rod or "needle," as I shall term it, supported beneath the first by means of a series of rings. Fig. 3 is a cross-section of the curtain-rod, showing the rings and needle hung thereon. Fig. 4 is a perspective view of a portion of a curtain, showing a needle run therethrough and rings on the needle. Fig. 5 is a view of a needle, showing a screw-knob for the pointed end thereof. Fig. 6 is a portion of the pointed end of the needle with a friction-knob thereon, being a modified form. Fig. 7 is a view showing the manner of folding the end of the curtain to constitute plaits. Fig. 8 is the same closed together ready to run the needle through it. Fig. 9 is the same carried on the rings. Fig. 10 is a perspective view of the same, showing its appearance when completed. Fig. 11 is a view showing a different fold. Fig. 12 is the same closed together. Fig. 13 is the same placed upon the curtain-rod. Fig. 14 is a front view of the curtain folded as shown in Fig. 13, using the needle without the rings before mentioned.

A indicates the curtain-rod of any desired

length suitable to the window or other opening with which it is to be used.

B indicates a series of rings adapted to be strung along the rod and by which the curtain is supported. The rings are provided with eyes, as at C, through which passes a needle D. The latter is made from spring-wire of steel or brass and if of steel may be nicked to prevent rusting, but if of brass may be used as it is. A knob E is placed on one end of the needle in a fixed manner, while the opposite end is pointed so that it will readily pass through the goods of which the curtains are made. A knob is likewise provided for this end, as shown in cross-section in Fig. 5 at F, the same having a socket G, into which the point is inserted and protected. As shown in the figure named, the needle is provided with several screw-threads and likewise the open end of the socket G to correspond. By this means the knob is securely held from slipping off. As a matter of fact, the threads should be quite fine, so as not to catch the threads and delicate warp of the curtains when the needle is passed thereinto.

In Fig. 6 is a modified form of the needle-point and knob. The latter member (shown by H) is similar to the one at E, except that it is not provided with the screw-threads, merely having a sharp edge at J to frictionally engage the smooth needle, which is also destitute of screw-threads.

Those persons who have had experience in hanging and adjusting curtains are well aware of the difficulty encountered in getting the curtains to hang straight. It is customary to first form a loop at the upper end of the curtain, through which the rod is passed. There are of course other methods of hanging; but in any of them, including the one just described, the same difficulty is found, and that is that unless the sewing has been done with the utmost care and precision the curtain is certain to hang unevenly or bulge at one place or another, making an untidy effect, which a careful person will not endure. It then becomes necessary to take out the threads and do the sewing over again; but in the meantime the curtain becomes stretched and out

of shape by the handling given it. Furthermore, if the curtain is already out of shape by being improperly laundered it is almost impossible to properly hang it by the method
 5 described. Again, if it is desired to make the curtains of such a length as to just hang above the window-sill without dragging a still more difficult job is met, since if finally properly and satisfactorily hung at the top a cer-
 10 tain amount of bastings and trials must be undertaken before the desired results are attained. Having had experience of this nature I have devised the means herein described and shown whereby all these difficulties are
 15 overcome, and having described the various parts I will now explain the mode of operation.

The needle, whose point has been exposed by the removal of the protecting-knob, is
 20 passed through the curtain by "gathering" the latter, as shown in Fig. 4, and while doing this one of the rings B is inserted at intervals, the needle being allowed to pass through the eyes C of said rings, as shown in
 25 said figure. The curtain-rod is then passed through the series of rings and placed upon its support in the window-frame. Now if it be found that the curtain does not hang just right the needle is withdrawn in an instant
 30 and again run through as before to rectify the difficulty before met. It will be seen that this can be done so quickly and easily that the work can be accomplished in a mere fraction of the time ordinarily needed. The work is
 35 so easy, in fact, that a person need not let the curtain hang improperly because it is too much trouble to rectify it, as in the older methods, but may alter it at once. When, as
 40 before stated, it is desired to only allow the curtain to nearly reach the window-sill, the needle can be run through at such a point in the length of said curtain as to bring the lower end to just the place required, this being accomplished very readily. The extra
 45 length at the top may be folded over in plaits in an ornamental manner. In Fig. 1 one plait is thus shown at K to illustrate this point, it being understood that the plaits are first created and placed in the position in which they
 50 are to remain and the needle then passed therethrough, by which they are held in a fixed position.

It will be noted that in Figs. 2, 3, and 4 the rings B are shown provided with hooks or
 55 points B'. These are for the purpose of hooking the upper free edge of the curtain over them to hold that edge in an upright position. Fig. 1 shows the hooks protruding through the curtain; but this has been exaggerated to fully show the idea. Fig. 3 also
 60 shows how the material is hooked over the point B'. Of course the hooks or points described may be used or not, as desired. Also the eyes C and rings B may be cast or formed

in one piece of any desired size, or the rings 65 may be made from wire, as shown in Fig. 4. It will be seen that I do not intend to confine myself to any particular structure in putting forth my invention.

Where an extra wide window is to be cur- 70 tained, a needle of the full width of the window may be used for a curtain of equal width, or if two curtains are to be employed a needle may be provided for each, as best suits the taste or convenience. By having the 75 knobs on the ends of the needle that member is prevented slipping through the eyes C when the curtains are up. As before stated, Fig. 1 shows the end of the curtain hung upon the hooks B'; but as it is customary to buy cur- 80 tains in the piece to be cut up into the desired lengths the end may be folded over in some such manner as that shown in Fig. 7. It will be noted that two loops *a* and *b* are formed. The needle is designed to pass 85 through the five thicknesses of curtain, and the point at which the needle is inserted is indicated at *d* in Fig. 8, and as the material is gathered as before mentioned the rings B are inserted until all are in. Then when the rings 90 are placed upon the rod A the loop *b* is raised and hung upon the points B', before described. The curtain then appears as shown in Fig. 10, the needle being entirely concealed from view by raising said loop *b*. In this way any de- 95 sired drapery may be formed to suit the wants of the user and as many plaits may be formed as desired, it being merely necessary to take up the goods in folds in the manner described. It is quite evident that the rings B need not 100 necessarily be employed, since the curtain may be hung upon the rod A, if desired, the needle performing the same office as before. To illustrate this, the last four figures of the drawings are provided, in which the first one, 105 Fig. 11, shows the end of the curtain folded upon itself, leaving the depending loop *c*. At *e* in Fig. 12 is the point at which the needle is to be inserted. In Fig. 13 the loop *c* is raised after the needle has been passed through 110 the goods and the curtain-rod A run through said loop. By this operation it will be seen that the needle is again covered from view as before, it being behind the loop. Fig. 14 shows how the curtain looks when completed. 115

From the foregoing it is clearly seen that I do not wish to confine myself to the use of the rings B, since the curtain may be used as well without as with them, it being quite as easy to adjust the curtain, since the needle can be 120 withdrawn and entered as many times as found necessary to properly arrange said curtain.

I claim—

1. In curtain-supporting means, the com- 125 bination of a curtain-pole supported on the window-casing, a series of rings carried on the pole each thereof having an eye at the bot-

tom beneath the pole, a pointed projection
formed on each ring substantially diametric-
ally opposite the eye and substantially at the
top of the ring, a needle of substantially the
5 same length as the pole for passing through
all of the eyes of the rings and the entire
width of the curtain, said needle passing al-
ternately through a series of folds of the cur-
tain, then an eye of the rings, and again a se-
10 ries of folds as shown, the projections on the
rings adapted for supporting a fold of the
curtain raised from below the curtain-pole to
hide the latter, the rings and the needle from
view as set forth.

15 2. In curtain-hanging means, a pole sup-
ported on the window-casing, a series of rings
carried on the pole, each ring having an eye
thereon, a hook also on each ring substan-
tially diametrically opposite the eye, a needle
20 of substantially the same length as the cur-

tain-pole adapted to pass through the eyes of
the rings and the entire width of the curtain,
said needle passing alternately through a se-
ries of folds of the curtain and an eye, thence
again a series of folds as shown, the hooks on 25
the rings adapted for receiving and support-
ing a fold of the curtain said fold being raised
and suspended from the hooks to hide the
pole, the needle and the rings from view as
shown, the needle having at one end a fixed 30
and at the other a removable protecting mem-
ber adapted to screw thereon for the pur-
poses explained.

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

KATE SPICKERMAN.

Witnesses:

E. J. ABERSOL,

T. J. SPICKERMAN.