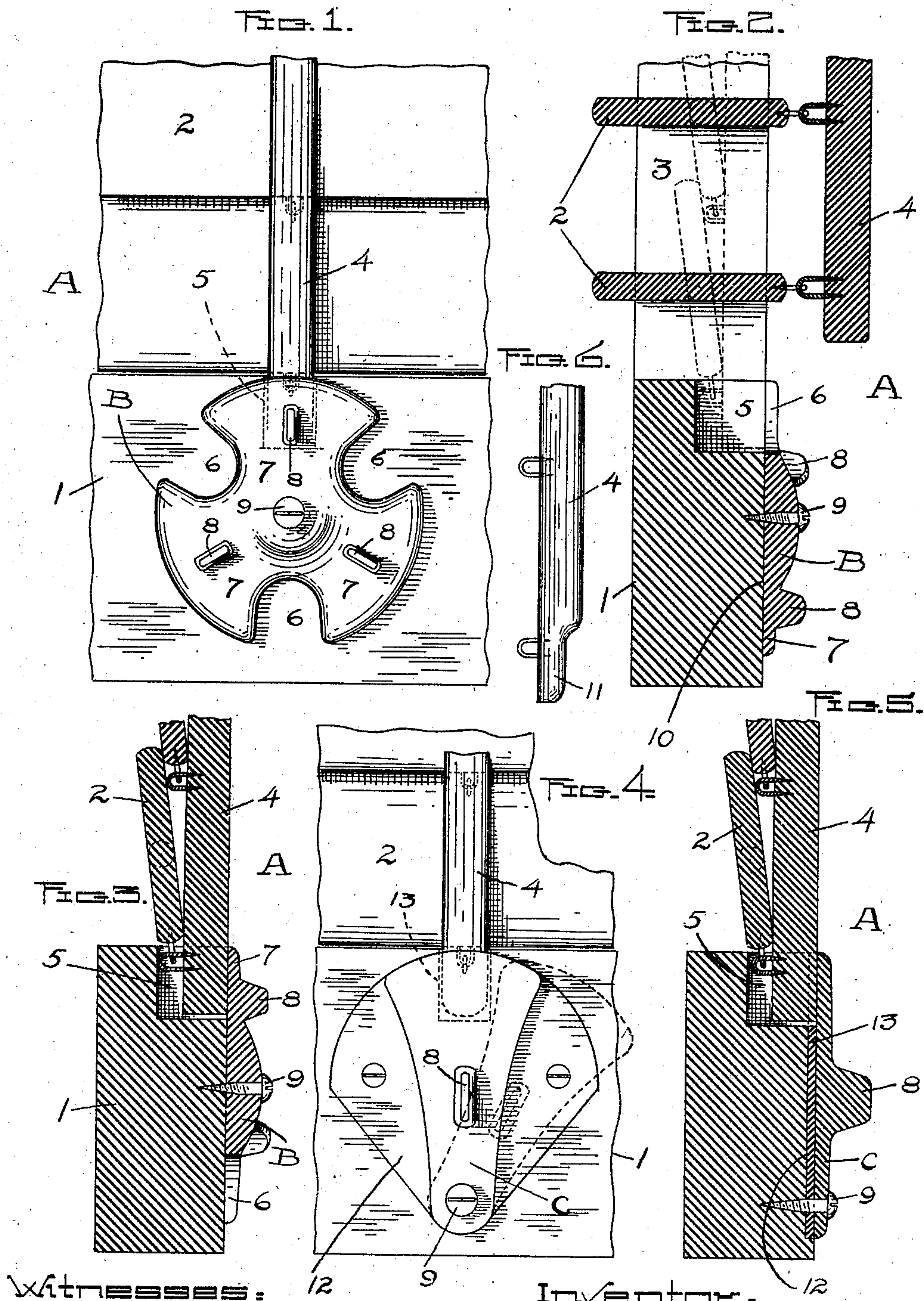


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B. H. PHILLIPPS.
SWIVEL FOR WINDOW BLIND SHUTTERS.

APPLICATION FILED FEB. 15, 1905.



Witnesses:
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

BENJAMIN H. PHILLIPPS, OF FITCHBURG, MASSACHUSETTS.

SWIVEL FOR WINDOW-BLIND SHUTTERS.

No. 815,862.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented March 20, 1906.

Application filed February 15, 1905. Serial No. 245,768.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, BENJAMIN H. PHILLIPPS, of Fitchburg, in the county of Worcester and Commonwealth of Massachusetts, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Swivels for Window-Blind Shutters; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description of the same.

My invention relates to an improvement in fasteners for blinds, and more particularly to that class of blinds or shutters provided with a series of pivotally-mounted slats having a bar secured thereto in the usual manner.

The object of my invention is to provide a neat and simple device adapted to engage the slat-bar to retain or lock the slats in closed position, the device being inexpensive to manufacture and place on the market.

My invention further consists in certain novel details of construction and combination of parts, such as will be more fully described hereinafter, and particularly pointed out in the claim.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is a view in front elevation of one form of my invention applied to a blind or shutter and showing the slats in closed position. Fig. 2 is a view in vertical cross-section, showing the slats in open position, as when released from the fastener. Fig. 3 is a similar view showing the slats closed, in which position they are held by my fastener. Fig. 4 is a view in front elevation of a slightly-different form of my improved fastener. Fig. 5 is a view in vertical cross-section, showing the slats closed and held in such position by that form of my invention shown in Fig. 4; and Fig. 6 is a detail view of one end of a slat-bar as formed when used in combination with my fastener.

A indicates a blind or shutter which is provided with a rail 1 and slats 2 2 pivotally hung at their opposite ends in any approved manner (not shown) to the side rails 3. Loosely secured to the slats and extending transversely thereof is the slat-bar 4, which preferably is connected to one edge of each slat at or near its longitudinal center, although this is not essential. A recess 5 is also formed in the bottom rail, as shown, to receive the end of the slat-bar, which at one limit of its movement is seated in the recess, and when at such limit of its movement the slats occupy the closed position shown in Figs. 1, 3, 4, and 5.

Thus far I have only outlined a customary

form of window blind or shutter; but in connection therewith I shall now describe my invention, the advantages of which are obvious, since it often happens that the slats after being closed will open automatically and remain normally in such position, especially when the recess 5 is located in the mid or top rail of the blind, whereby light is let into the room and an inspection thereof permitted. The slats may also be held in closed position to exclude rain or snow. In order to retain the slats in such closed position, I provide a pivotally-supported fastener, comprising a plate or button B, which may be circular in form, as shown in Fig. 1, and provided with a series of equidistant peripheral slots 6 6, whereby the button is divided into a series of segments 7 7, each of which segments carries upon its outer face a lug or ear 8, adapted to be grasped between the thumb and finger of the operator. The plate or button may be convex on its outer face, as shown, and is swiveled or journaled upon a screw 9 or other suitable fastening means passing through an aperture located centrally of the button, whose inner face 10 lies flat against the surface of the rail 1 and adjacent the recess 5 thereof. Now it will be understood that this plate or button and the recess may be located either at the top or bottom of the blind or in both places; but for convenience I have shown them located on the lower rail. Ordinarily it will be found that the end of the slat-bar 4 is not seated far enough in the recess to cause it to lie flush with the outer surface of the rail, and on this account I find it necessary when applying my fastener to blinds already constructed to reduce the end of the slat-bar, as shown in Fig. 6 at 11, in order that it may lie flush with the rail when received in the groove.

In manufacturing the blinds equipped with my fastener it will merely be necessary to hang the slats relative to the vertical rails in such position that the slat-bar when received in the recess 5 will lie flush with the outer face of the recessed rail.

From the foregoing it will be seen that by moving the slat-bar so that the slats occupy a closed position the end of the slat-bar is received in the recess 5, whereupon the fastener is rotated by means of the ear 8 until a segment 7 lies over and covers the recess 5, whereby to prevent a movement, accidental or otherwise, of the slats from their closed position, it being understood that the slat-

bar must move outwardly and longitudinally in the usual manner in order to permit the slats to be opened. When it is desired to open the slats, the fastener is rotated until one of the slots 6 registers with the recess 5, whereupon the slat-bar may be released and raised or lowered, as the case may be, to swing the slats into horizontal or open position. It will also be observed that, supposing the rail 1 to be a mid-rail, that form of my device shown in Fig. 1 could very easily be made to fasten two series of slats in alinement with each other or to fasten one series of slats while permitting the other to remain open.

In Figs. 4 and 5 I have illustrated a slightly-different form of fastener employed in connection with a similar construction of blind, the fastener comprising a button formed of a single segment C, pivotally supported at one end upon a screw or other fastening means 9 and provided with an ear or lug 8, the free end of the segment being adapted to cover the recess 5 to lock the slats in closed position. In this form also I have shown a wear-plate 12, of any suitable conformation, which is countersunk in the rail 1, as shown, if desired, the wear-plate being provided with a peripheral slot 13, coincident with the recess 5. It is obvious, however, that I could employ this wear-plate in connection with the form shown in Figs. 1, 2, and 3, if it is found desirable, and in connection with Figs. 4 and 5 stops (not shown) might be carried by the

wear-plate and located a suitable distance on either side of the swinging segment-shaped button to limit its movement, although the buttons in either case are held in frictional engagement with the rail 1 or with the wearing-plate 12 in order to prevent accidental movement thereof.

It is evident that slight changes other than those hereinbefore mentioned might be made in the form and arrangement of the several parts described without departing from the spirit and scope of my invention, and hence I do not wish to limit myself to the exact construction herein set forth; but,

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

In a blind, provided with a recessed rail and a plurality of slats movably secured in the blind, the combination of a slat-bar pivotally connected to the slats, one end of the slat-bar being reduced in size and receivable in the recess in the rail and a button movably secured to the rail and adapted to cover and uncover the recess in the rail to lock and release the slat-bar, the edge of the button taking beneath the shouldered portion formed by reducing the end of the slat-bar.

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