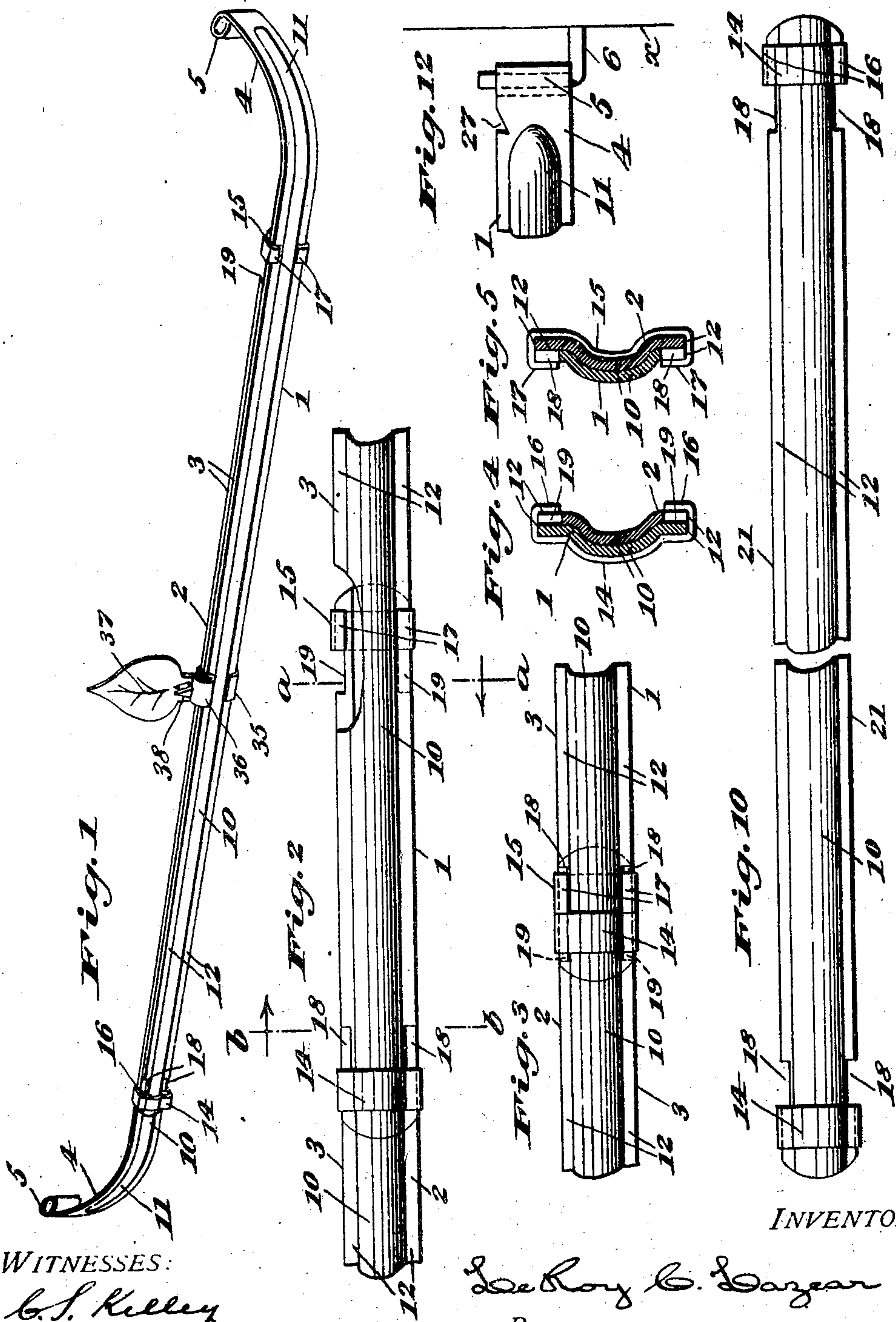


LE ROY C. LAZEAR.  
CURTAIN SUPPORTING ROD.  
APPLICATION FILED OCT. 27, 1906.

2 SHEETS—SHEET 1.



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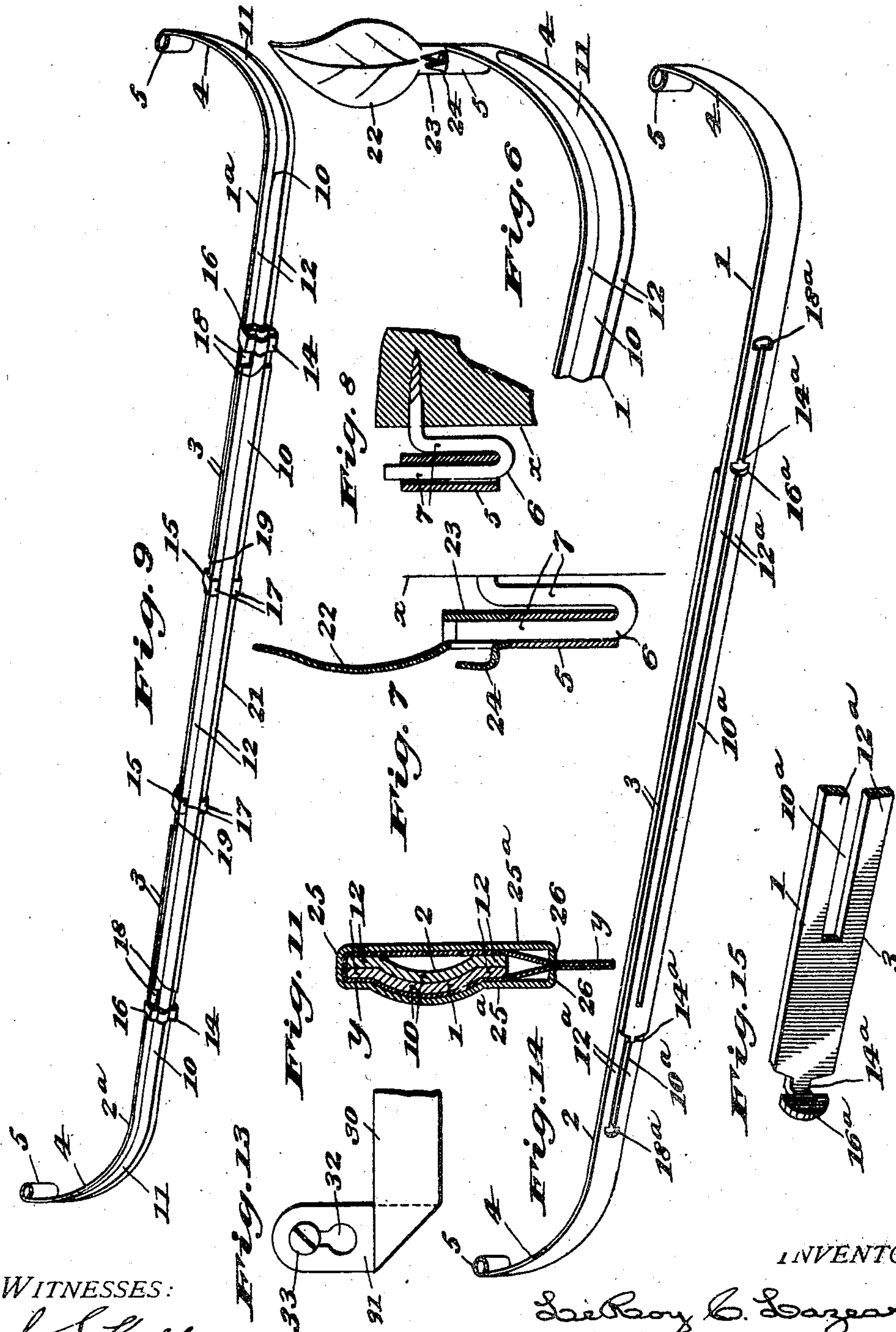
No. 847,344.

PATENTED MAR. 19, 1907.

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2 SHEETS - SHEET 2.



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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

LE ROY C. LAZEAR, OF CHICAGO, ILLINOIS.

## CURTAIN-SUPPORTING ROD.

No. 847,344.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented March 19, 1907.

Application filed October 27, 1906. Serial No. 340,903.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, LE ROY C. LAZEAR, a citizen of the United States, and a resident of Chicago, in the county of Cook and State of Illinois, have invented certain Improvements in Curtain-Supporting Rods, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to certain improvements in that class of devices which are designed for the support of curtains, portières, and the like at windows, doorways, &c.; and the object of the invention is to provide a device of this character of a simple and comparatively inexpensive nature and of a light, strong, and durable construction, which shall be adjustable as to length to permit of convenient use in different situations, and which shall be adapted for use for the effective support of curtains, portières, and the like without liability of sagging at its central part.

The invention consists in certain novel principles and features of the construction and combinations and arrangements of the several parts of the improved curtain-supporting rod whereby certain important advantages are attained and the device is rendered simpler, cheaper, and otherwise better adapted and more convenient for use, all as will be hereinafter fully set forth.

The novel features of the invention will be carefully defined in the claims.

In the accompanying drawings, which serve to illustrate the invention, Figure 1 is a perspective view of the improved curtain-supporting rod. Fig. 2 is a fragmentary view of the central portion of the device, with its members slid endwise upon one another for engagement of the locking devices. Fig. 3 is a fragmentary view similar to Fig. 2, but showing the members slid upon one another to a position permitting of disengagement of their locking devices. Fig. 4 is a transverse sectional view, drawn upon an enlarged scale and taken through the rod in the plane indicated by the line *a a* in Fig. 2, for illustrating one set of the locking devices for holding the members in sliding relation. Fig. 5 is a view similar to Fig. 4, but taken in the plane indicated by the line *b b* in Fig. 2, for illustrating the other set of locking devices for holding the members of the improved curtain-rod in relation. Fig. 6 is a fragmentary perspective view showing one end portion of the improved curtain-rod for illustration of improved means comprised in my invention for holding the outer part of the curtain to

prevent it from slipping endwise along the rod. Fig. 7 is a sectional view taken vertically through the curtain-rod in the plane of the axis of the supporting-screw and showing certain features of said means for preventing movement of the curtain endwise along the rod. Fig. 8 is a view showing an improved form of supporting-screw designed for engagement with the flattened rod in such manner as to prevent tilting or turning thereof. Fig. 9 is a perspective view similar to Fig. 1, but illustrating a modified form of my improved curtain-rod wherein an intermediate or extension member is provided having adjustable connection with the end members of the rod. Fig. 10 is a broken elevation of said intermediate or extension member detached and enlarged. Fig. 11 is a sectional view somewhat similar to Figs. 4 and 5, but illustrating a securing means comprised in my invention and adapted for application to the central part of the curtain-rod for preventing movement of the meeting edges of the curtains away from each other. Fig. 12 is a fragmentary view of the end portion of the improved curtain-rod and showing a modified form of the means for preventing the outer edge of the curtain from slipping endwise upon the rod. Fig. 13 is a fragmentary view of the end portion of the rod, showing a modified formation of the supporting means for holding the rod upon a window-frame or other support. Fig. 14 is a perspective view similar to Figs. 1 and 9 and showing a modified form of the curtain-rod embodying my improvements; and Fig. 15 is a fragmentary perspective view showing one end portion of one of the members of this modified form of curtain-rod for illustration of the locking means carried thereby.

Referring first to Figs. 1 to 8, it will be seen that the improved curtain-supporting rod comprises two parts or members 1 and 2, similarly formed from elongated pieces or strips of metal of flattened formation in cross-section and having straight body portions 3 3 lapped upon and adapted to be slid endwise along each other in order to permit longitudinal adjustment of the curtain-rod for accommodating the device for use at windows or other openings of different widths. The opposite ends of the respective parts or members 1 and 2 are also provided with similar rearwardly curved or directed portions 4 4, the extremities of which are bent or curved to produce vertically-extended tubular eyes



or sockets 5 5, wherein are adapted to be received, as shown in Fig. 7, the vertical portions of supporting screws or pins 6, adapted to be set in the woodwork *x* of the window or other frame in convenient position for supporting the curtain-rod extended across the window or other opening. By this curved or bent construction of the ends of the members 1 and 2 it will be seen that the device is made capable of ready and convenient application and removal to and from position for use, the eyes or sockets 5 5 being adapted to be readily slipped in and out of engagement with the vertical portions of the supporting-screws 6 6, and it will also be evident that the curved formation of the end portions 4 of the members serves to cause the straight body portions 3 3 of the members to stand out in front of and beyond the plane of the window or other casing, so that the curtain or drapery supported by the improved rod shall be out of the way of the shade-roller ordinarily present at windows and also impart a unique effect to the drapery.

By preference the supporting screws or pins 6 are constructed in the form shown in Figs. 7 and 8, being centrally bent to produce parallel spaced members 7 7, one of which has its upper part bent over outwardly or rearwardly at a right angle and screw-threaded or otherwise adapted to penetrate the woodwork of the window or other casing in a well-known way. By this construction when set in the woodwork the supporting screw or pin has a vertically-extended U-shaped portion in close proximity to the supporting-surface *x*, and the outermost member 7 of said U-shaped portion is designed to receive the tubular eye or socket 5 at the end of the curtain-rod to give effective support thereto. In this way accidental turning of the supporting-screw in the woodwork is entirely prevented, and since it is evident that in certain cases the bent ends 4 4 of the members 1 and 2 may be omitted and the eyes or sockets produced directly upon the ends of the body portions 3, as shown in Fig. 8, a material advantage is attained, such straight form of curtain-rod being especially liable to be moved endwise in such a manner as to turn or swing the screws 6 from proper vertical position, whereby the rod might be permitted to fall from the screws. By preference the outer members 7 of the supporting screws or pins 6, wherewith the eyes 5 of the curtain-rod have supporting engagement, are made of greater length than the rearmost members 7 thereof, and their lengths are such that their upper end portions are adapted to extend above the sockets 5, as clearly shown in Figs. 7 and 8, and said extended upper end portions of such outer members 7 are adapted to receive detachable heads or enlargements 22, which may be given any desired form and ornamentation, so that a highly ornate ap-

pearance may be imparted to the ends of the improved rod. By preference such heads or enlargements, as shown in Figs. 6 and 7, will have their lower parts formed into tubular shanks or eyes 23, capable of detachable engagement with said projecting upper ends of the outer members 7 of screws 6, and said shanks 23 will be provided with integral hooks or pointed projections 24, adapted for engagement in the texture of the curtain or drapery supported upon the improved rod in such a way as to prevent the outer edge portions thereof from slipping inwardly along the rod away from the supporting-screws. Where the curved formation of the ends of the curtain-rod are employed, the curtains are particularly liable to slip in this way off of said curved end portions, and this is altogether avoided by providing the retaining means comprising the hooks 24 upon the ornamental heads 22. Said retaining means when combined with said heads or enlargements 22, as shown in Figs. 6 and 7, also serves to prevent accidental displacement of the heads or enlargements from the projecting portions of the supporting-screws.

In Fig. 12 I have shown a modified formation of the retaining means for preventing slipping of the curtain along the improved rod away from the supporting-screws, such modified formation comprising notches produced in the upper edge portion of the flattened curtain member, as shown at 27, whereby a tooth-like portion is afforded for engagement in the texture of the curtain or drapery to prevent such undesirable movement along the curtain-rod. Where the curtain or drapery is mounted on rings in a well-known way, one of such rings at the outer edge of the curtain or drapery may be engaged with the retaining means to accomplish the desired result.

In the use of the device the engagement of the eyes or sockets 5 5 at opposite ends of the curtain-rod with the supporting hooks or pins effectively holds the members from longitudinal movement along each other, whereby it will be understood that said members are maintained in proper longitudinal adjustment while the curtain-rod is in use. Since the engagement of the reciprocal guiding means of the members must be sufficiently loose to permit ready adjustment thereof, it is evident that the provision of means for holding the members in adjusted relation is of considerable importance in practice.

The body portions 3 3 of the members of the improved rod are lapped flush upon and are adapted for sliding movement endwise along one another for permitting longitudinal adjustment of the rod to accommodate windows or other openings of different widths, and said body portions are also provided with corresponding central and lon-



itudinally-extended corrugations 10 10, which are caused to project along the front faces of the members to produce a finish and which are adapted by engagement one with-  
 5 in the other to produce a guide extended lengthwise of the body portions of the members to facilitate the adjustment of the members lengthwise one upon the other. Said corrugations also add materially to the rigid-  
 10 ity and strength of the rod and are extended, as shown at 11, along the rearwardly-curved end portions 4 4 of the members, so as to materially strengthen and stiffen the same.

By means of the central corrugations 10 10 each member of the improved curtain-rod is provided with parallel spaced guide-surfaces 12 12 along its upper and lower edges, and at its end opposite to the rearwardly-curved part 4 each member of the  
 20 rod carries a locking device adapted for detachable sliding engagement with such guide-surfaces 12 12 of the other member, the said locking devices for the respective  
 25 members 1 and 2 comprising metal clips 14 and 15, which may, if desired, be made integral with the members whereon they are carried, although it is usually desirable for economic reasons to form said clips separately and to attach them to the respective  
 30 members in any preferred way.

As herein shown, the clip 14 is formed of a strip of metal the central portion of which is fixedly held upon the outer surface of the member 1 and the ends of which are rearwardly bent across the upper and lower  
 35 margins or edges of the lapped body portions of the members 1 and 2 and have their extremities 16 carried over and bent toward each other upon the rear side of the guiding-surfaces 12 12 at upper and lower edges of  
 40 the member 2, while the clip 15 is formed from a strip of metal the central portion of which is fixed upon the rear surface of the member 2 and has its ends bent forward  
 45 above and beneath the edges of the body portions of members 2 and 1, its extremities being bent toward each other for engagement upon the forward sides of the guide-faces 12 12  
 50 of the member 1, as shown at 17 17 on the drawings. By this construction it will be seen that in the longitudinal adjustment of the rod the overturned end portions 16 and 17  
 55 of the clips 14 and 15 are adapted to engage and slide along the guide-faces 12 12 of the respective members in such a manner as to securely hold the members in relation during  
 60 such adjustment, and in order to permit of readily detaching the members from each other I provide the guide-faces 12 12 of each member adjacent to its clip with corresponding notches, the notches 18 18 of the guide-faces of the member 1 being adjacent to the  
 65 clip 14 thereof and being adapted for the passage of the bent ends 17 17 of the clip 15 on member 2 and the notches 19 19 in the

guide-faces of said member 2 being adjacent to the clip 15 thereof and adapted for the passage of the bent ends 16 16 of the clip 14 on the member 1. In this way it will be seen that when the members are slid end-  
 70 wise upon one another to their fullest extent, so that the clips 14 and 15 contact upon one another, as shown in Fig. 3, the notches of each member will register with the inturned extremities of the clip on the other member,  
 75 so that said extremities of the clips may be drawn through said notches for disengagement of the members; but when said members are slid upon each other from said extreme position the notches will be with-  
 80 drawn from registry with said inturned ends of the clips, as shown in Figs. 1 and 2, and the members will thereby be securely locked in relation.

In connection with the improved curtain-rod constructed as above described I prefer  
 85 to provide means detachably held thereon for engagement with the meeting edges of the curtains where a pair of curtains are supported upon the one rod or with the cen-  
 90 ter of the curtain or drapery in other cases in such manner as to prevent separation of the meeting edges of the curtains at the rod when the curtains are drawn apart or displacement of the central part of the curtain  
 95 or drapery from any cause, and this means, as shown in Fig. 1, comprises a clip 37, formed from metal in any desired or ornamental contour with its lower part provided  
 100 with forwardly-bent parts 35 and 36, spaced apart one above the other and adapted to be sprung over the lapped body portions of the members. The clip 37 is provided with a  
 105 hook 38, adapted for engagement in the texture of the curtains or drapery in such a way as to effectively prevent disarrangement of the central parts thereof. This clip may  
 110 also be ornamented in such a way as to add materially to the appearance of the curtain-rod.

A modified formation of this last-described retaining means is illustrated in the sectional  
 115 view, Fig. 11, and comprises a metal clip 25 in inverted-U shape, with pendent arms or members 25<sup>a</sup> 25<sup>a</sup>, spaced apart to take in  
 120 front of and behind the lapped body portions of the members outside of the curtain, (indicated at y,) with lower end portions pendent below the curtain-rod and provided with  
 125 teeth or projections 26 26 opposite and bent toward each other in such a way as to grip between them the meeting edges of the curtains to prevent said edges from being separated from each other. Such clips may also  
 130 be employed in lieu of pins or the like for draping or looping the curtains over the improved rod, whereby it is made possible to readily hang the curtain after the rod has been placed in position upon its supporting-  
 135 screws.



As above described, the improved curtain-rod is made in but two parts or members; but it is evident that for use at windows or in other situations where greater length of the rod is desirable the device may be constructed in a greater number of parts or members. Such a structure I have shown in Figs. 9 and 10, wherein members 1<sup>a</sup> and 2<sup>a</sup>, similar to members 1 and 2 above described, are provided for use in connection with an intermediate or auxiliary extension member 21. This extension member 21 consists of a strip of flattened metal centrally corrugated and adapted to be lapped outside of the members 1<sup>a</sup> and 2<sup>a</sup>, as shown at 3 in Fig. 9, its end portions being provided with clips 14 14, similar to those of the member 1 in the preceding construction and having extremities 16, adapted for registry with notches 19 19 in the members 1<sup>a</sup> and 2<sup>a</sup> and also having notches 18 18, adapted for registry with the inturned extremities of clips 15 15 on said members 1<sup>a</sup> and 2<sup>a</sup> and similar to the clip 15 upon the member 2 of the preceding construction, whereby when the members are adjusted to an extreme position they may be detached from each other and when otherwise adjusted are securely held in relation.

From the above description of my improvements it will be seen that the curtain-rod constructed according to my invention is of an extremely rigid, strong, and durable construction, whereby sagging of its central part is altogether avoided, and it is rendered possible of use in extreme situations where other forms of tubular telescopic rods are altogether unsuited, and it will be evident that the improved rod is also rendered especially desirable for use by reason of the convenience with which it may be adjusted and of the security with which the curtains or draperies are held in position thereon. The device is also of an extremely simple and inexpensive construction, and it will be obvious that it is capable of some modification without material departure from the principles and spirit of the invention, and for this reason I do not desire to be understood as limiting myself to the precise form and arrangement of the several parts herein set forth in carrying out my invention in practice. For example, in some cases the construction shown in Figs. 14 and 15 may be employed, the members 1 and 2 in this form of the rod being provided with central longitudinally-extended slotted openings 10<sup>a</sup>, whereby guide-faces 12<sup>a</sup> 12<sup>a</sup> are produced along the upper and lower edges of said members and parallel with each other similar to the guide-faces 12 12 of the preceding constructions. Each member is also provided at the end of its body portion opposite the rearwardly-curved part 4 with a locking member comprising a reduced neck portion 14<sup>a</sup>, which is bent over at about a right angle and is passed

through the slotted opening 10<sup>a</sup> of the other member, its extremity having a head or enlargement 16<sup>a</sup>, adapted for locking engagement upon the guide-faces 12<sup>a</sup> 12<sup>a</sup> of such other member in such a way as to securely hold the members in relation, while permitting free longitudinal adjustment of one member lengthwise upon the other. The ends of slots 10<sup>a</sup> have enlargements 18<sup>a</sup>, at which the heads 16<sup>a</sup> may be withdrawn upon proper adjustment of the members to permit the same to be readily detached.

Another modified formation is shown in Fig. 13 and consists in a rod formed from flattened metal, as shown at 30, with an end portion folded over at right angles, as seen at 31, to fit flush upon the woodwork of the window or other casing and provided with a keyhole-slot 32, adapted for detachable engagement with a screw 33, set in the woodwork in such a way as to permit the curtain-rod to be readily detached from said screw when desirable, while affording a strong and secure mounting for the end of the rod.

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

1. A curtain-supporting rod comprising members lapped for sliding movement one upon the other and having reciprocal and engaged guiding means for holding them in relation while permitting such sliding movement, the opposite ends of the respective members having rearwardly-directed portions and fastening devices, adapted for location at opposite sides of a window or the like and engageable with said rearwardly-directed portions of the respective members and adapted, when so engaged, to hold said members against sliding movement one upon the other.

2. A curtain-supporting rod comprising members lapped for sliding movement one upon the other and having reciprocal and engaged guiding means for holding them in relation while permitting such sliding movement, said members being formed from flattened material and the opposite ends of the respective members having rearwardly-directed portions integrally formed from the flattened material of which said members are produced and having at their rear extremities curved portions forming eyes or sockets having vertically-extended apertures, and fastening devices, adapted for location at opposite sides of a window or the like and engageable with the vertically-extended apertures of said eyes or sockets of the rearwardly-directed portions of the members and adapted, when so engaged, to hold the said members against sliding movement one upon the other.

3. A curtain-rod comprising members lapped for extension sliding movement one upon the other, one member having a



straight flattened edge portion forming a longitudinally-extended guide-surface and provided with a notch, and the other member having a locking device engaged for sliding movement along said guide-surface and adapted to hold the members in relation, and also adapted, when in registry with the notch in said guide-surface, to be detached therefrom to permit disengaging the members.

4. A curtain-rod comprising members lapped for extension sliding movement one upon the other, one member having straight and parallel flattened parts extended along its opposite edges and forming guide-faces and provided with alined notches and the other member having a locking device comprising parts extended across the edges of said first-named member and engaged over the lateral guide-faces thereof for sliding engagement along the same and adapted, when

in registry with the alined notches in the flattened edge parts of the first-named member, to be passed through said alined notches to permit the members to be detached from each other.

5. The combination of a curtain-rod having a terminal socket, a supporting device having a member engaged in and projecting above said socket, and a curtain-retaining means held upon the projecting portion of said supporting device and having a hook for engagement with a curtain.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto signed my name, at Chicago, Illinois, this 28th day of September, 1906, in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

I.E. ROY C. LAZEAR.

Witnesses:

J. D. CAPLINGER,

W. F. MOORE.