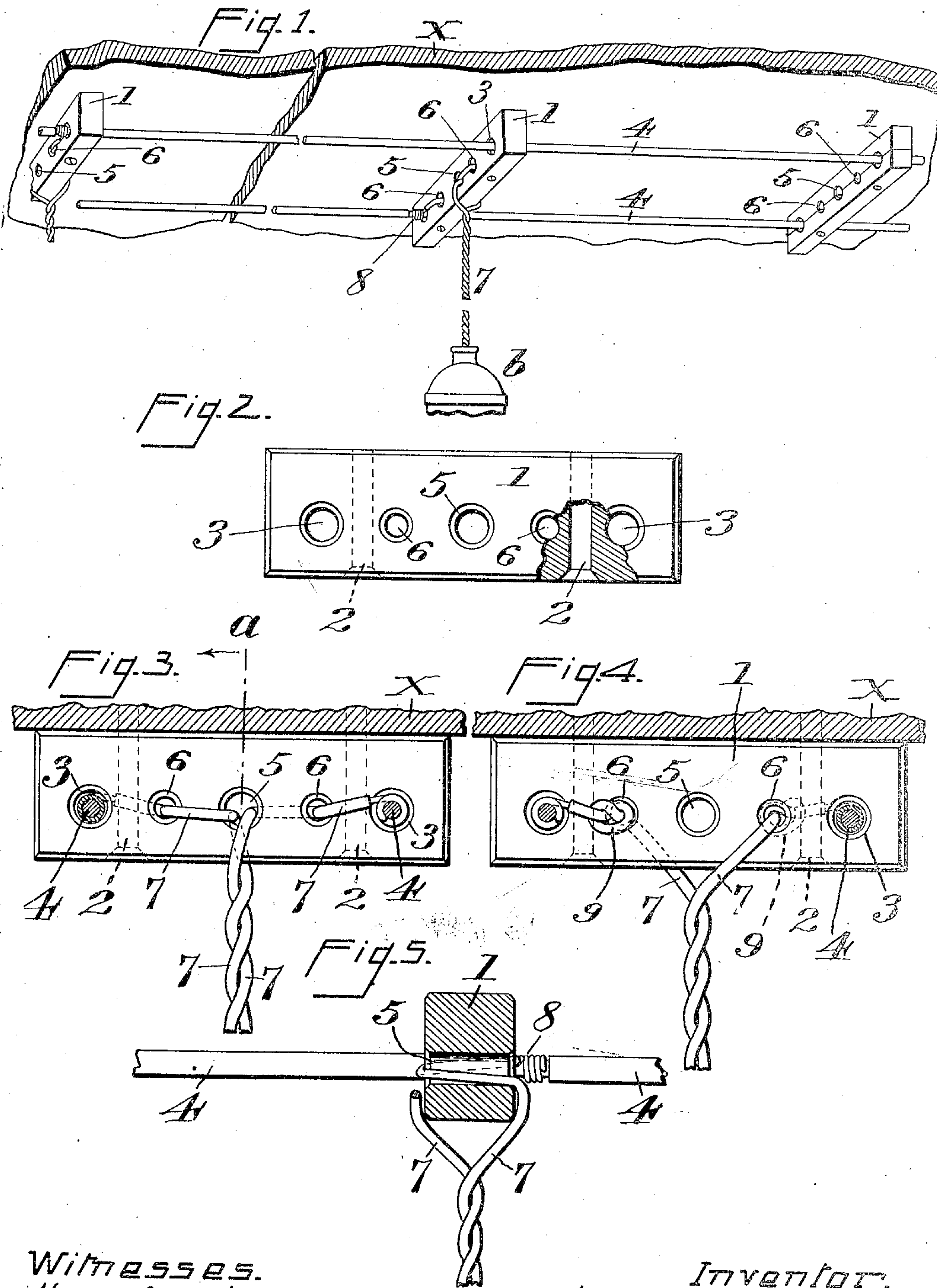


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CLEAT FOR ELECTRIC WIRES.
APPLICATION FILED MAY 13, 1907.

934,463.

Patented Sept. 21, 1909.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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CLEAT FOR ELECTRIC WIRES.

934,463.

Specification of Letters Patent, Patented Sept. 21, 1909.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM F. RITTER, a citizen of the United States of America, and a resident of Cincinnati, in the county of Hamilton and State of Ohio, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Cleats for Electric Wires, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to an improvement in cleats used for supporting electric wires in open work on ceilings and elsewhere, and its object is to provide a cleat that combines in supporting not only the electric conductor-wires but also electric lamps and other devices that are to be connected in circuit with said conductor-wires.

The invention consists in a cleat having a longitudinal series of five transverse straight holes or passage-ways pierced therethrough and, also, the customary pair of screw-holes pierced at right-angles to said transverse holes, the two opposite-end transverse holes being provided for supporting the usual conductor-wires and the intermediate three transverse holes being provided for the engagement of the wires leading circuitously from said conductor-wires to the electric lamp or other device supported thereby, and the cleat thus combining in its construction a substitute for the customary rosettes used for suspending electric lamps or the like.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is a fragmentary view of a ceiling showing attached thereto three of my cleats in position supporting a pair of conductor-wires and the upper part of a lamp-socket; Fig. 2, a front elevation of my device, showing a part thereof in section to illustrate one of the usual screw-holes; Fig. 3, a front elevation of my device, showing it attached to a fragmentary section of a ceiling, the conductor-wires being shown in place therein and the suspension-wires for the lamp or other device being shown engaged with all the transverse holes intervening between the end transverse holes that accommodate said conductor-wires; Fig. 4, another front elevation similar to Fig. 3, but showing the two wires of the lamp-suspension means engaging but two of said intervening holes; and Fig. 5, a transverse section of my device, taken on the dotted-line indicated at *a* of Fig. 3, and showing the circuitous manner in which the lamp-suspension means engages

the center hole or passage-way in the cleat and its connection with one of the conductor-wires.

In the drawings, 1 indicates a rectangular block, of any suitable material, comprising my cleat.

2, 2 are the customary screw-holes made in the cleat for use in the attachment thereof to a ceiling, such as shown at X in Figs. 1, 3 and 4, or elsewhere in position for supporting electric lamps or the like.

3, 3 represent straight transverse holes or passage-ways pierced in the cleat, one at each end as customary and at a right-angle to the adjacent screw-hole 2. 4, 4 represent the usual conductor-wires passed through said holes 3 and supported by the cleat 1.

5 represents a straight central hole or passage-way pierced in the cleat parallel to the holes 3, and 6, 6 are straight transverse holes pierced in said cleat, one at either side said hole 5 and parallel thereto.

7, 7 represent the two wires comprising the suspension means for the lamp or other device that is to be supported for use, such lamp or other device being indicated at *b* in Fig. 1.

I will now describe how my cleat is to be used. Screws are inserted through the holes 2, 2, as customary, and used for attaching the cleat to the ceiling or other surface where the electric device is to be hung or supported. The conductor-wires 4, 4 are passed through the holes 3, 3, and rest therein for support. The upper end of the twisted lamp supporting cord, made up of wires 7, 7, is untwisted a suitable distance downward and, for ordinary use in suspending and energizing an incandescent electric-lamp or the like, the upper ends of the wires 7, 7 are each passed through the center hole 5, but in opposite directions (as seen in Figs. 1 and 3); then such ends are passed through the holes 6, 6, one of such ends passing along one side of the cleat toward one conductor-wire 4 and the other end passing along the other side of the cleat to the other conductor-wire 4. The insulation at the extreme ends of said wires 7, 7 is stripped or bared from the metal and such metal is coiled or wrapped around a bared portion of the several conductor-wires 4, 4 in the usual manner, as best seen at 8 in Fig. 5. It will be seen that the passing of the upper ends of the wires 7, 7 in opposite di-

rections through the center hole 5 and thence at opposite sides of the cleat to and through the holes 6, 6, provides a circuitous series of bights or bends in such wires that they will not slip through said holes 5 and 6 and a very firm attachment of the suspension wires is made that supplies a decided substitute for the customary separate rosettes without materially increasing the cost of the cleat and with a very material decrease in the labor required in supporting a lamp or the like.

In Fig. 4, I have shown a supporting means that is designed to carry greater weight than that seen in Fig. 3, the upper untwisted ends of the lamp-cord being passed from opposite sides of the cleat through the holes 6, 6, then knotting said ends at 9, 9, so that the wires will not slip backward through said holes 6, 6, the center hole 5 not being necessary to use in this supporting means. The extreme outer ends of said upper ends of the wires 7, 7, beyond said knots 9, 9 are bared and coiled around bared portions of the conductor-wires 4, 4, the same as described in connection with Fig. 3.

It will be seen in Fig. 1 that the cleat to the right is a split one, it being otherwise of the same construction as the other two cleats shown in said figure. This split feature is intended to carry out the same purpose that split cleats of the ordinary kind are used for, in stringing the conductor-wires

along ceilings or elsewhere to support lamps or the like.

An important advantage is attained as a result of using my form of cleat, as there is no strain whatever on the conductor-wires nor on the wound connections of the bared ends of the wires 7, 7.

I claim:—

A supporting-cleat for conductor and suspension electric-wires, the same comprising an elongated block having transversely-pierced therethrough a longitudinal series of parallel, straight and smooth holes, a large hole being at the center, a large hole at either end and a small hole intervening said large center hole and each of said large end holes, and suitable screw receiving holes pierced across the width of the device at right-angles to said longitudinal series of different-sized transverse holes, the whole being suitably adapted to be attached in place to support a lamp or other object having suspension feed-wires from the large central and the intermediate small holes, through which holes the suspension feed-wires are circuitously passed or threaded and, also, to receive and support the conductor-wires in the opposite large end holes.

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Witnesses:

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