P. Miles,

Curtain Fixtures,

No. 50,149. Patented Sept. 26, 1865.

Fig. 1.

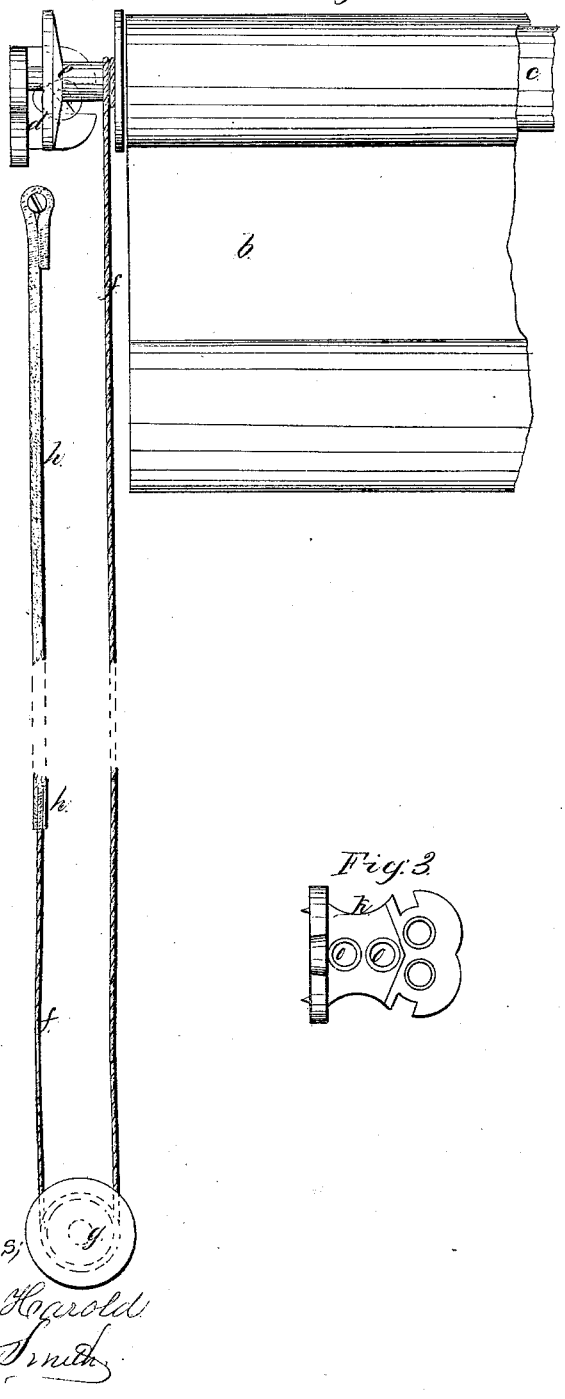

Fig. 2.

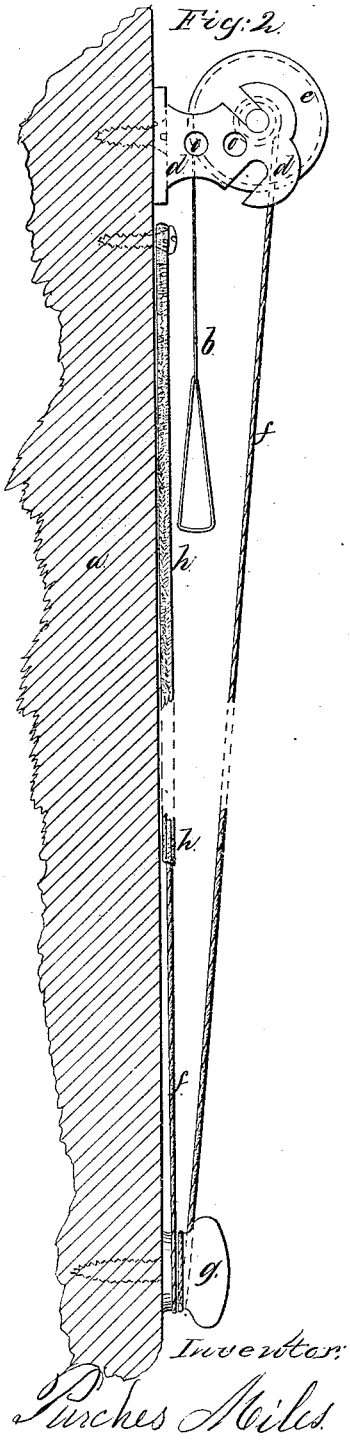

Fig. 3.

Witnesses;
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PURCHES MILES, OF NEW YORK, N. Y.

CURTAIN-FIXTURE.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **50,149**, dated September 26, 1865.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, PURCHES MILES, of the city and State of New York, have invented, made, and applied to use a certain new and useful Improvement in Curtain-Fixtures; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of my said invention, reference being had to the annexed drawings, making part of this specification, wherein—

Figure 1 is an elevation of my fixture, showing part of the curtain and roller. Fig. 2 is a view of the same endwise of the roller; and Fig. 3 is a side view of one of the brackets.

Similar marks of reference denote the same parts.

Various characters of curtain-fixtures have heretofore been made in which the curtain runs down by its own weight, or by a weighted slat at the bottom end, which operation winds a cord upon a spool at the end of the roller, and in some instances the tassel to said cord has been weighted, so as to balance the curtain and cause it to remain at any point at which it may be placed.

All curtain-fixtures of this general class are objectionable on account of the length of cord that remains loose when the curtain is wound up, and also on account of the fact that in most cases the curtain or a tassel thereon has to be seized to pull down the shade. This produces strain and unnecessary wear on the shade or curtain.

The nature of my said invention consists in a friction knob or button applied to the cord that passes from the aforesaid spool, in combination with a spring or equivalent device that takes up the slack of the cord after it passes around the said friction button or knob. By this device the friction on the cord holds the shade at any point to which it may be raised or lowered, and the act of pulling on the cord to draw up the shade relieves the strain of the cord, so that the spring can draw the cord around the said knob and take up the slack; and when the cord leading to the spring is drawn upon, the strain of said spring is relieved, so that the weight of the curtain will cause the roller to revolve and wind up the cord on the spool, drawing said cord around the friction-knob; but when the cord is drawn by the spring or its equivalent acting to keep it tight on one side of the said button, and by the weight of the curtain acting to keep the cord tight on the other side of said button or knob, then the friction of the cord upon the said button or knob is sufficient to prevent either force moving the cord.

In the drawings, *a* represents a portion of the window-casing or other part where the curtain is affixed. *b* is the curtain; *c*, the roller upon which it is wound; *d*, the bracket sustaining the axis-pin of the roller, which bracket is more fully described hereinafter. *e* is the spool for the cord *f*, that passes off in any convenient direction, and goes around the button or knob *g*, that is formed of any suitable shape or material. I prefer and use a porcelain knob. The cord *f* then passes away in any convenient direction to a spring, *h*, or other device for taking up the slack of the cord as aforesaid.

I prefer and use an india-rubber cord for the spring, but a contractile helical spring or a weight might be employed for the same purpose. I prefer that the cord *f* pass once and a half around the knob *g*, and pass upward nearly parallel to the cord in that portion which passes from the spool *e* to the knob *g*, in order that the two cords may be easily accessible and may stand in the same relative position to each other and to the shade or curtain that the cords do in the usual rack-and-pulley fixture.

The bracket *d* at the spool end of the roller is formed, as seen in Fig. 2, with notches for the reception of the axis of the roller, which notches pass in diagonally from each side, so that the bracket can project from the window-casing or hang down from the top of the casing, and said bracket can be employed at either end of the roller, as most convenient. The other bracket, *k*, Fig. 3, has two holes in it, corresponding in position with the bottoms of the diagonal slots or notches in *d*, and both brackets are provided with screw-holes at *o o*, so that they can be attached flatwise to the opposite inner faces of the window-casing, if most convenient.

What I claim, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. A friction knob, button, or analogous device, in combination with the cord passing from the spool of the curtain-roller, and a spring or