No. 645,543. Patented Mar. 20, 1900.

J. G. BIRCH.

# TELESCOPIC SUPPORTER FOR CURTAINS, DRAPERIES, DISPLAY CARDS, &c

(Application filed Oct. 14, 1899.)

(No Model.)

Fig. 1.

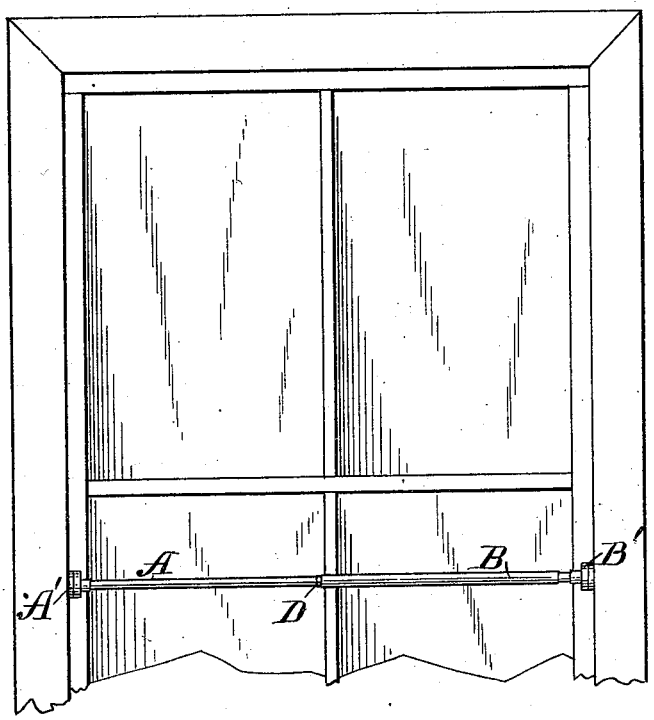



Fig. 2.

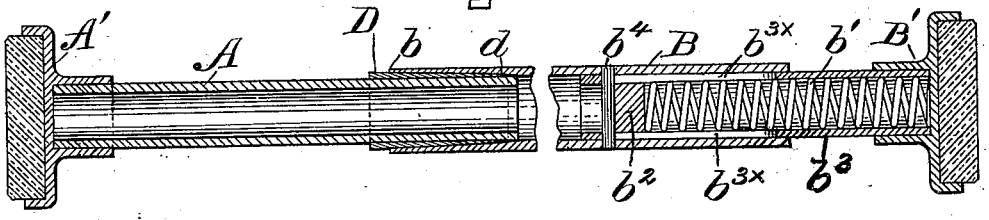



Fig. 4.

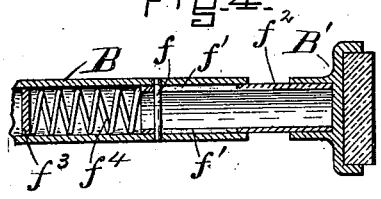
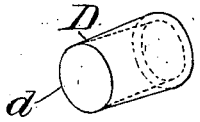



Fig. 3.




WITNESSES.

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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOSEPH G. BIRCH, OF NEWTON, MASSACHUSETTS, ASSIGNOR TO THE PHOENIX MANUFACTURING COMPANY, OF SOUTH BERWICK, MAINE.

## TELESCOPIC SUPPORTER FOR CURTAINS, DRAPERIES, DISPLAY-CARDS, &c.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 645,543, dated March 20, 1900.

Application filed October 14, 1899. Serial No. 733,603. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, JOSEPH G. BIRCH, a citizen of the United States, residing at Newton, in the county of Middlesex and State of Massachusetts, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Telescopic Supporters for Curtains, Draperies, Display-Cards, and other Things, of which the following is a specification, reference being had therein to the accompanying drawings.

Figure 1 is a view showing one of my new telescopic supports in place between window-jambs and in that position adapted to support a curtain, for example. Fig. 2 is a lengthwise central section of the telescopic holder. Fig. 3 is a perspective view of the annular wedge. Fig. 4 shows a modification of the preferred form of construction whereby an adjustable head of the holder is held operatively in place.

The object of my invention is to produce an improved telescopic holder for supporting window-curtains, portières, advertisements, articles of manufacture, garment hooks and supports, and anything else desired, the telescopic members of my new holder being very nearly of the same diameter and adapted to be firmly locked in adjusted position.

In the drawings illustrating the principle of my invention and the best mode now known to me of applying that principle, A is the inner telescopic member, and B the outer telescopic member, within which member A is received.

Member A is provided with an annular wedge D, which is of a uniform interior diameter and slides freely on member A. The outer surface of the annular wedge D is tapered to a thin edge *d*, which is toward the inner end of the outer telescopic member B. The outer end of the telescopic member B is tapered outwardly at *b* on the inside, so as to nicely receive the annular wedge when it is moved into the inner end of the outer member B to lock the members A and B together, the member A being preferably a close-sliding fit within the chamber of the member B.

Member A is provided with a head A′, the outer end of which is preferably faced with rubber. Head A′ is preferably, but not necessarily, mounted non-adjustably on member A. The outer end of member B is provided with a head B′, which is telescopically mounted on member B. Head B′ is normally held distended with reference to member B by means of a spring *b′*, mounted in the outer end portion of member B and bottomed conveniently upon the block $b^2$, loosely within the chambered shank or end portion $b^3$ of member B′. Head B′ is accordingly provided with a tubular shank $b^3$, having one or more (in this case two) diametrically-opposite lengthwise slots $b^{3\times}$. A pin $b^4$ passes through member B into and through the slots $b^{3\times}$ and holds block $b^2$ loosely in place as a support for the inner end of the spring *b′*.

Member B is preferably a hollow cylinder, as shown. The pin $b^4$ holds the shank $b^3$ of head B′ in place. In accordance with my invention at least one of the heads referred to is combined with its adjacent telescopic member by means of an interposed spring, which normally holds the head outwardly. It will be plain to all mechanics that either or both of these heads may be mounted yieldingly on the telescopic members in various ways, and I do not intend to confine my invention to the precise mode shown of making the distensible head. Head B′ is preferably provided at its outer end with a yielding pad, so that the holder may be put up between window-jambs or the like without marring the woodwork or other parts against which the ends are pressed.

In putting up holders embodying this invention it may be supposed that the left hand will grip member A, with the thumb upon the annular wedge, the annular wedge being at a slight distance from the inner end or mouth of member B, and that the right hand will grip the member B the holder being so held and shortened to permit the heads to pass between opposed jambs or the like, and the members A and B moved to lengthen the holder with sufficient force to force the movable head B′ inwardly against the tension of the spring *b′*, and when the telescopic members A and B have been sufficiently distended to cause the spring to exert a strong pressure the annular wedge is moved into the mouth of member B readily by the thumb of the left hand, thus locking the members A and B firmly together and allowing the spring to exert its full distending force to keep the holder firmly

in place. To remove the holder if it has been thus put in place, it is only necessary to move it endwise in the direction of the spring, and thereby compress the spring slightly or enough to shorten the holder sufficiently for easy removal. Thereupon the member B may be readily pulled away from the wedge and off member A for the removal of the curtains or the like.

In Fig. 4, showing a modification, the adjustable head B′ is held in telescopic member B by a pin $f$ through walls of member B and diametrically-opposite slots $f'$ in shank $f^2$ of head B′, shank $f^2$ having a close sliding fit in the chamber of member B. A disk or other abutment $f^3$ for the spring $f^4$ is mounted within the chamber of member B at a suitable distance from that end which receives the shank $f^2$, and the distending-spring $f^4$ is mounted between abutment $f^3$ and the inner end of shank $f^2$, the latter resting on the outer end of the spring, which keeps the head B′ normally distended with reference to member B. The mode of operation of this form is the same in effect as that of the preferred construction.

What I claim is—

In an adjustable supporting device, the combination of an inner telescopic member having a head on its outer end; a head which has a shank for the other end of the device; an outer telescopic member within one end of which the inner telescopic member is received and within the other end of which said head-shank is received; an annular wedge slidable on the inner telescopic member, between the head of said inner member and the adjacent end of the outer member; and elastic means which keep the head on said shank normally distended in relation to said outer member which is provided with a mouth within which said annular wedge is received; said outer telescopic member being endwise movable, in either direction, between and in relation to said wedge and shank.

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

JOSEPH G. BIRCH.

Witnesses:
E. A. ALLEN,
EDWARD S. BEACH.