

THE BASSETT CURTAIN FIXTURE.

We illustrate on this page an excellent device for an adjustable and self-locking window curtain, which has been patented by Mr. F. H. Bassett, of Saranac Lake, N. Y., and is being manufactured and sold by The Holmes & Bassett Company of Waterbury, Conn.

Figs. 1 to 4 show the device as applied to railroad and street cars. Figs. 5 to 9 show the invention as applied to the windows of private dwellings, offices and public buildings.

It will be seen that, as applied to car windows, the curtain has a single adjustment, consisting of the unrolling of the curtain to any depth desired; and that, as applied to domestic or municipal buildings, it has a double adjustment; inasmuch as it can not only

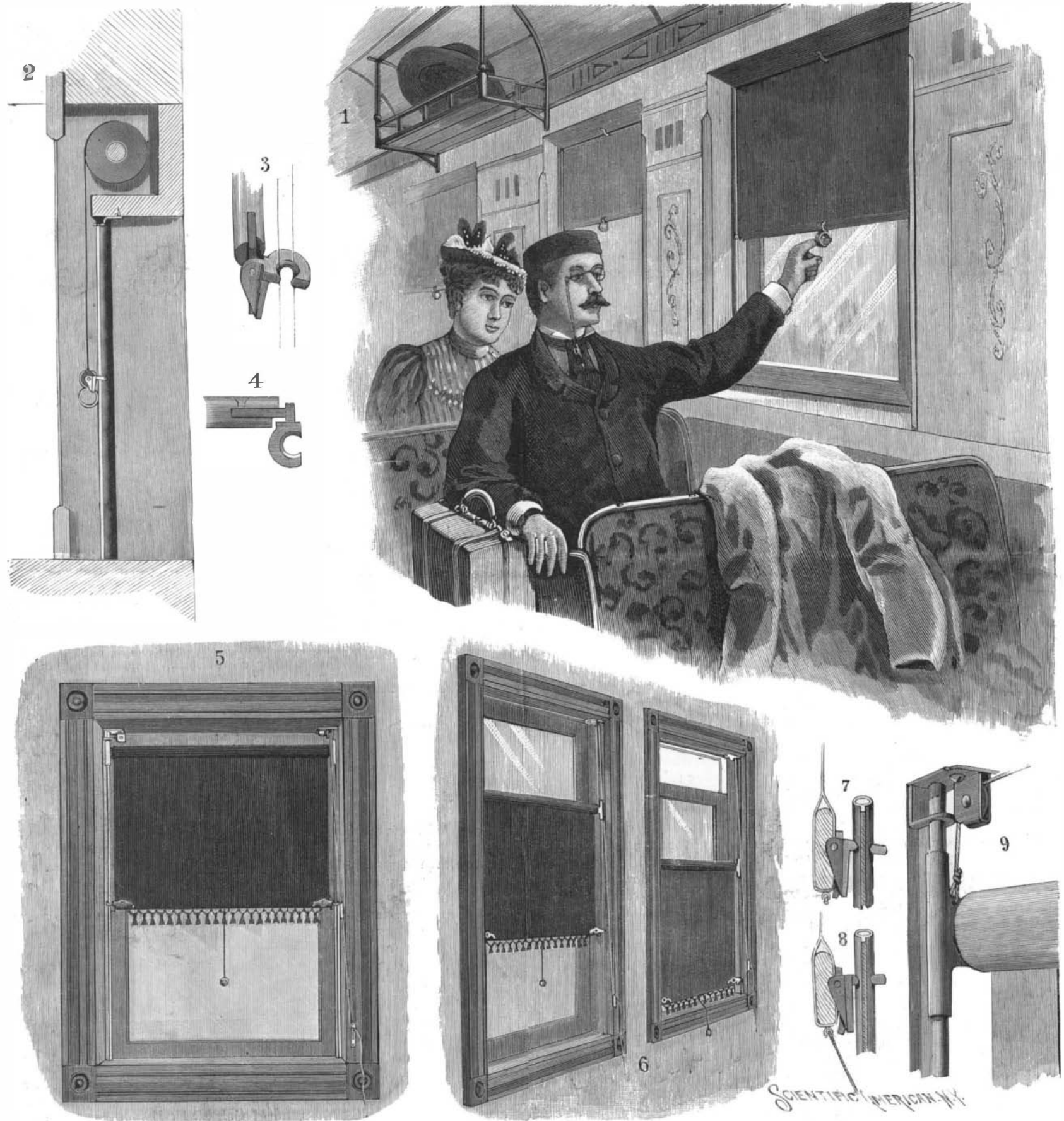
showing the roller blind partially drawn down, the curtain rod with its clutches engaging the vertical guide rods; Figs. 3 and 4 are detail views of the clutches, showing the method of this attachment to the ends of the curtain rod.

In this invention, the curtain is provided with the customary coil spring on the roller, but the usual pawl and ratchet are wanting. In place of these a couple of pivoted clutches or jaws are provided, one at each end of the curtain rod, which engage and slide vertically upon two guides that are adjusted, one on each side of the curtain, against the sides of the window frame.

From the above description it will be seen that, since the pin on which the clutch is hung lies in the

sharp inner edges of jaws cease to grip the guide rods, and the curtain rolls up. To take out the shade so that it may be dusted on both sides, it is only necessary to turn the button as shown at the top of the window frame and lift the curtain rod over the top of the guides, which for this purpose do not reach quite to the top of the frame.

In the second form of curtain, for use in residences, offices, etc., the roller, instead of being fastened on stationary brackets to the window frame, is hung upon two sleeves which themselves slide up in the before-mentioned guide rods, as shown in Fig. 9. The sleeves are held in position by two cords, which pass up and over two pulleys attached to the top of the window frame one on each side, as shown in Fig. 5. The two



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be unrolled to any point desired and securely locked at that point, but the whole curtain, as thus unrolled, is capable of being itself adjusted vertically to shelter whatever portion of the total window space may be desired.

A perfect window curtain should be simple in its mechanism, it should possess few parts, it should be strong enough to withstand the rough handling to which it is certain at times to be subjected, and lastly and most important of all, the locking device should be thoroughly secure and reliable.

It is claimed that the device herewith illustrated fully meets these requirements, and that this is the first time that the problem of self-locking has been worked out from the right point of view.

In the views, Fig. 1 shows the curtain as applied to the windows of a railroad car, Fig. 2 is a side elevation,

axis of the curtain rod, and the center of the jaws of said clutch is about half an inch horizontally from the pin under the vertical pull of the curtain, the sharp edges of the jaws will exercise a gripping or binding action on the guide rods, Figs. 3 and 7, and will serve to hold the curtain, and prevent it from rolling up. The harder the curtain is pulled vertically, the tighter the jaws will bite. Moreover, it is evident that the gripping action will take place immediately upon letting go of the curtain, and that to whatever depth the curtain be drawn, it will stay there. To release the curtain, it is only necessary to pull the ring that is attached at the middle of the rod, inward. This presses the vertical plate at the end of the curtain rod against the lower portion of the vertical part of the clutch, causing it to rotate and bring the jaws into a horizontal position as in Fig. 8. In this position the

cords unite in a single cord on the right hand side of the curtain and are secured on a suitable belying pin. If it is desired to shade only the lower half of the window, as in Fig. 6, the curtain is pulled down to full length, the cord that holds the roller is released, and under the action of the coil spring the curtain rolls down from above, the roller sliding down upon the guides by means of the sleeves above mentioned.

To adjust the shade from the bottom, the clutches are released by pulling the cord from the window as shown in Fig. 8, and the blind is rolled up by means of the spring roller to the desired position, where it will stop by letting go the cord; thus it will be seen that any space of the window may be shaded. In this curtain the plate which carries the clutches is secured to the flat curtain stick as shown in Figs. 5, 7 and 8.