June 11, 1946. J. A. WOLFE 2,401,999

BED ATTACHMENT

Filed April 5, 1944

Fig. 1

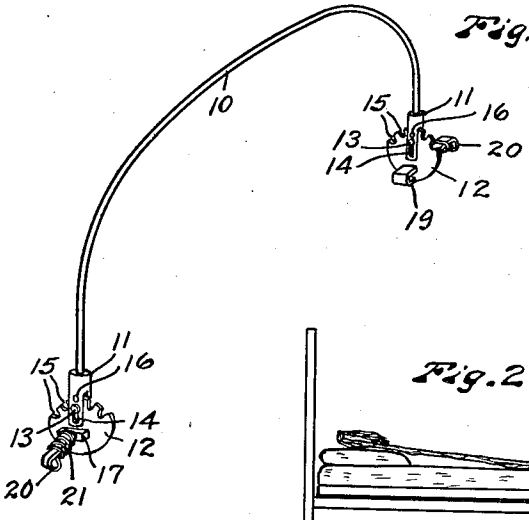


Fig. 2

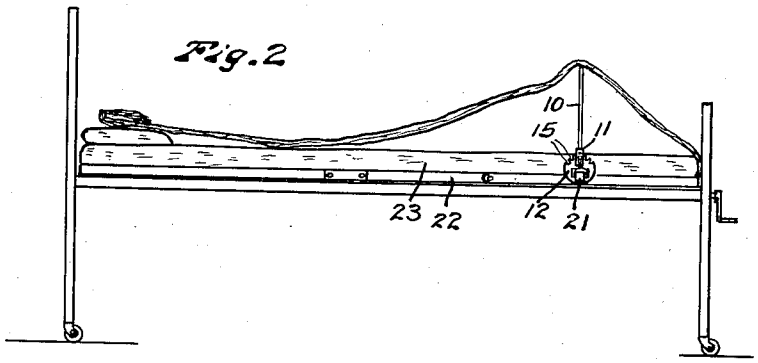


Fig. 3

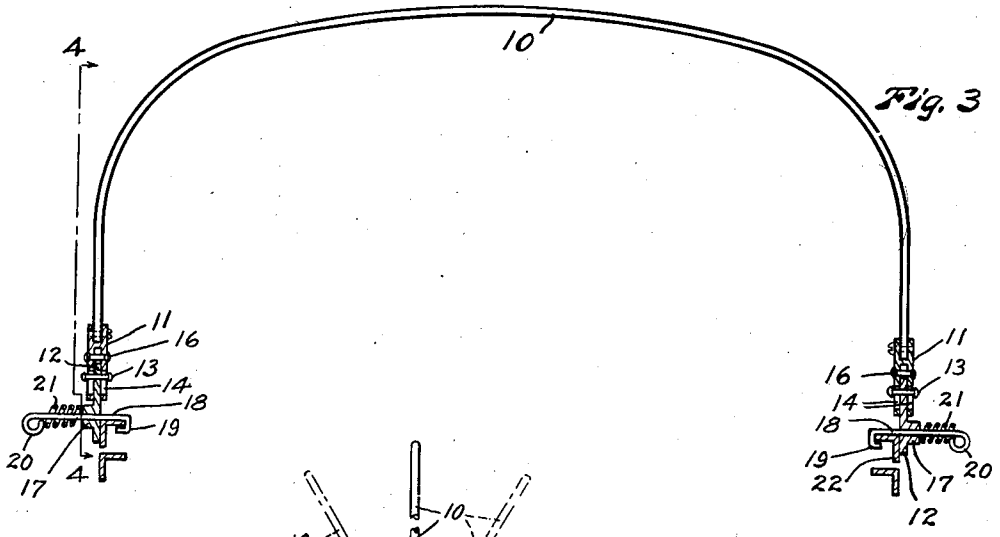
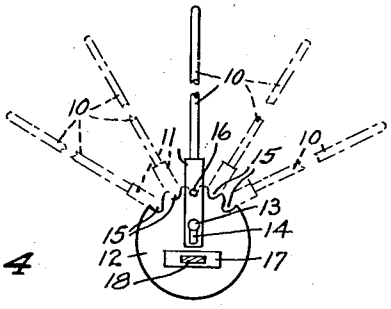


Fig. 4



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

2,401,999

BED ATTACHMENT

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2 Claims. (Cl. 5—319)

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My invention relates to a bed attachment of a type adapted to extend crosswise of a bed between the mattress and bed covers to support the bed covers in spaced relation above the mattress at the location of the attachment.

Invalids and other persons who are obliged to remain in bed for long periods of time often find that the weight of the bed covers resting on parts of the body become very painful. This is particularly true with respect to injured or sore parts of the body.

It is an object of this invention to provide a simple and efficient support for the bed covers which may be quickly and easily applied to a bed at any desired location between the head and foot of said bed and adjusted so that it will support the bed covers clear of any part of the body of a person in the bed.

Another object of this invention is to provide a bed covers support that is quickly and easily adjustable both vertically and longitudinally with respect to the bed.

Another object of this invention is to provide a bed covers support that is carried on the side frame members of the bed and does not rest on the mattress but extends crosswise of the bed between the mattress and the bed covers.

Another object is to provide a bed covers support that may be carried by an auxiliary bed frame which is angularly adjustable relative to a main bed frame, this being a type of bed frame commonly found in hospital beds.

Another object is to provide a bed covers support that will not obstruct access to injured parts of a patient above which bed covers are supported.

Other objects of the invention will be apparent from the following description taken in connection with the accompanying drawing.

In the drawing

Fig. 1 is a perspective view of a bed attachment constructed in accordance with my invention.

Fig. 2 is a side view showing my invention attached to a hospital bed of conventional type.

Fig. 3 is an elevation of my bed attachment showing the same attached to the frame of a hospital bed, the side rail portions of the bed being shown in cross section.

Fig. 4 is a fragmentary elevation looking in the direction of broken line 4—4 of Fig. 3, and showing by full lines one position of the arched bed covers support and by broken lines other positions of the arched bed covers support.

Like reference numerals designate like parts throughout the several views.

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In accordance with my invention I provide an arch shaped bed covers support 10 that is adapted to extend crosswise of a bed between the bed covers and the mattress to support any desired portion of the bed covers at any desired height above the mattress and thereby relieve any portion of the body of a person in the bed of the weight of said covers. The bed covers support 10 is provided at each end with a mounting means, such as a fixedly secured forked member 11. Each forked member 11 fits over a plate 12 and is adjustably connected with said plate 12 by a cross pin or rivet 13. The rivet 13 is rigid with the plate 12 and extends through longitudinal slots 14 in the forked member 11. This provides for relative adjustment between the plate 12 and the forked member 11.

The upper edge portion of each plate 12 is provided with a plurality of inwardly directed notches 15 for the reception of a fixed member, such as a cross pin 16, that is carried by the forked member 11. By moving the forked member 11 outwardly relative to the plate 12 the cross pin 16 may be withdrawn clear of the notches 15 and thus allow the forked member to be angularly adjusted relative to the plate 12. When the cross pin 16 is seated in a notch 15 the forked member 11 is locked against movement relative to the plate 12.

Each plate 12 has a boss 17 provided thereon. A clamp member 18 extends crosswise through each plate 12 and boss 17. Each clamp member 18 has a hook 19 on its inner end portion and has a hand-hold 20 on its outer end portion. A compression spring 21 is provided on each clamp member 18 between the hand-hold 20 and the adjacent plate 12 and boss 17. The clamp member 18 is movable transversely relative to the plate 12 by which it is carried and the spring 21 is adapted to yieldingly hold the clamp member in engagement with any member, such as a bed rail 22 with which it is engaged.

This device may be quickly and easily attached to a bed by positioning the arch member 10 crosswise of the bed above the mattress 23 and attaching the two clamp members 18 to the bed rails 22 at opposite sides of the bed by pushing said clamp members inwardly against the pressure of the springs 21 until the hook portions of the clamp members are in a position to engage the bed rails then releasing the clamps. After the clamp members are thus attached they will hold the plates 12 in fixed positions and the arch shaped member 10 may be adjusted angularly by positioning the pins 16 in different notches 15.

Angular movement of the arch member 10 adjusts this member both longitudinally and vertically relative to the bed. When this arch member 10 is positioned substantially upright or at right angles relative to the bed frame it will support the bed covers high enough above the bed so that these covers will be clear of the larger portions of the body of a patient, such as the hips, abdomen or chest. If the arch member 10 is positioned at an incline other than right angles to the bed frame the bed covers will still be supported by said arched member but will not be elevated so high above the bed frame and mattress.

Preferably the length of the slots 14, position of the pins 13 and shape of the plates 12 are such as to preclude lowering of the arch member 10 below the position said arch member 10 will occupy when the cross pins 16 are in the last or end notches 15 of the plates 12. This makes it substantially impossible for an attendant to let the arch member 10 drop on or rest on the body of a patient.

In the drawing I show the invention applied to a typical hospital bed in which the side frame members are adjustable in sections. When my device is thus applied it will be secured to the adjustable sections of the bed frame and will move with these sections. If desired my device may be secured to the side rails of an ordinary bed frame and will function in the same manner.

Obviously changes in this invention may be made within the scope and spirit of the following claims.

I claim:

1. In bed covers supporting means for use on a bed having angularly adjustable bed frame sections, a mattress and bed covers, an arch shaped member adapted to extend crosswise of the bed between the mattress and bed covers; a forked member secured to the end portion of said arch shaped member; a plate fitting into the bifurcated portion of said forked member; slot and pin means pivotally interconnecting said forked member and said plate and providing limited longitudinal movement of said forked member relative to said plate; a clamp hook carried by said plate and movable transversely thereof and adapted to releasably engage with the side rail of a bed frame section; spring means yieldingly urging said clamp hook into engaged position; a plurality of spaced apart notches in the upper edge portion of said plate; and notch engaging means in said forked member selectively engageable with said notches in said plate.

2. Bed covers supporting means for use on a bed having side rails, comprising two plates each having an arcuate notched upper edge portion; readily attachable and detachable means adapted to releasably and detachably secure the respective plates to opposite side rails of the bed with the notched portions of the plates extending above the side rails of the bed; an arch shaped bed covers supporting member extending crosswise of the bed and having end portions that are positioned adjacent the respective plates; a notch engaging member rigid with each end portion of said bed covers supporting member and selectively engageable in the notches in the adjacent plate to hold said bed covers supporting member in different positions; and slot and pin means pivotally connecting each end portion of said bed covers supporting member with the adjacent plate and providing longitudinal movement of the end portions of the bed covers supporting member relative to the plates, whereby said notch engaging members may be moved into engaged or disengaged positions relative to the notches in said plates.

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