No. 635,638. Patented Oct. 24, 1899.

T. BALLANTINE.

CHILD'S CARRIAGE.

(Application filed July 24, 1899.)

(No Model.) 2 Sheets—Sheet 1.

Fig. 1.

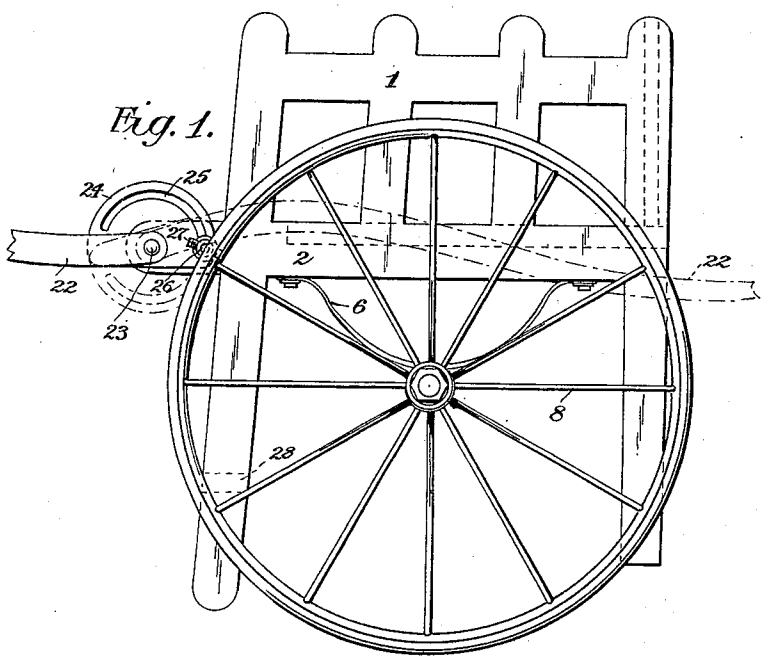
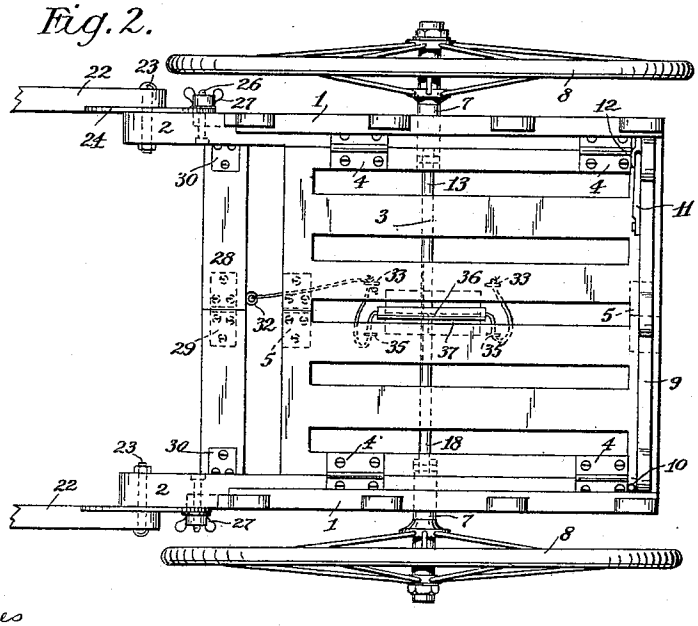


Fig. 2.



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Fig. 3.

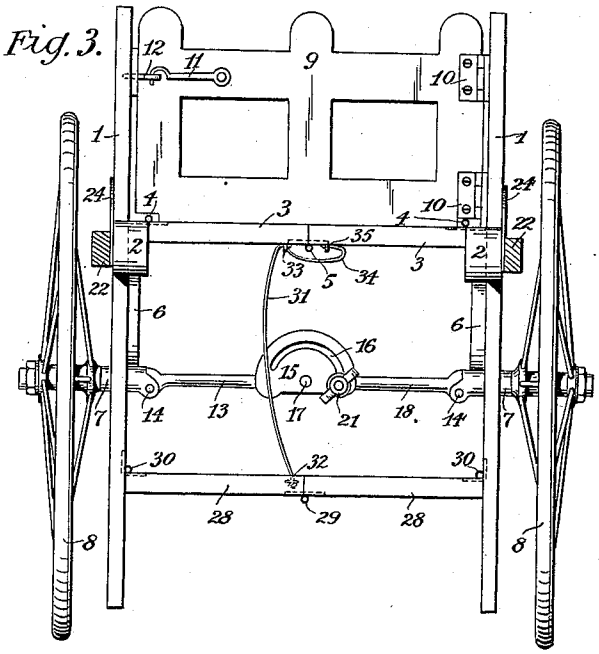


Fig. 4.

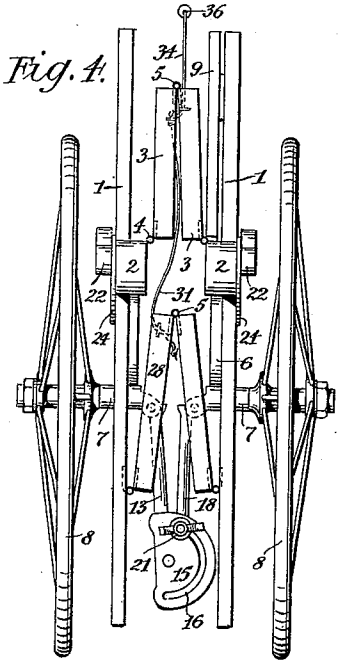


Fig. 5.

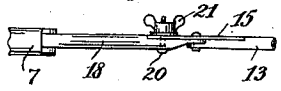


Fig. 6.

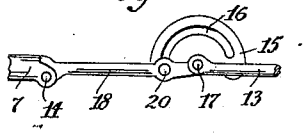
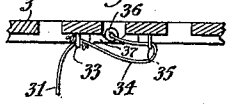


Fig. 7.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

THOMAS BALLANTINE, OF SOUTH MELBOURNE, VICTORIA.

CHILD'S CARRIAGE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 635,638, dated October 24, 1899.

Application filed July 24, 1899. Serial No. 724,988. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, THOMAS BALLANTINE, a subject of the Queen of Great Britain, and a resident of Grant street, South Melbourne, in the Colony of Victoria, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Children's Carriages or Perambulators, of which the following is a specification.

The object of this invention is to provide a child's carriage or perambulator which is collapsible or capable of being folded, so as to occupy a smaller space when stored away and be more readily carried from place to place when not in use or when packed for transport. The perambulator is provided with a handle which will lie out of the way when the carriage is in use, but which when the perambulator is collapsed will form a convenient means for carrying it.

In order to make my invention clear, I will now refer to the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 shows a side elevation of the perambulator; Fig. 2, a plan of same; Fig. 3, a front elevation of same; Fig. 4, a front elevation showing the perambulator collapsed. Figs. 5 and 6 show plan and back views, respectively, of the axle. Fig. 7 is a cross-section through the floor, showing the support for the handle.

In the drawings, 1 represents the side frame of the perambulator, which is constructed of rails and standards rabbeted and secured together.

2 2 are the main rails constituting part of the sides of the perambulator. 3 represents the floor, which is secured to the said rails by hinges 4 4, placed on the top. The floor is constructed in two parts which meet in the center and are there hinged together by hinges 5, set beneath. The body of the perambulator is mounted upon springs 6, supported on the fixed axle 7, which carries the wheels 8 in the usual manner.

The back of the perambulator is closed in by a door or frame 9, which is secured by hinges 10 to the side frame 1. This back-frame has a hook 11 pivoted to it, the hook being arranged to engage with an eyelet 12 on the side plate 1, opposite the hinges.

The axle 7 is bifurcated and receives the end of axle-rod 13, which is secured or hinged thereto by a pin 14. This axle-rod 13 has a segmental plate 15 secured to it (see Figs. 5 and 6) and which is provided with a circular slot 16. A similar axle-rod 18 is pivoted to the plate 15 by pin 17, which pin forms the center for the circular slot 16. The axle-rod 18 has a pin 20 passing through or secured to it and which projects through the slot 16 and is held in position by winged or thumb nut 21, which screws upon said pin.

22 22 represent shafts of the perambulator, which are each pivoted to a main rail 2 by pin 23. A segmental plate 24, similar to 15 and having circular slot 25, is secured one to each of the said shafts. A screw-bolt 26 passes through the said slot and through the main rail 2 and has wing-nut 27, by means of which the segmental plate can be held at either end of the slot.

28 represents the step of the perambulator, which is constructed in two parts (similar to the floor) which meet in the center and are there articulated by a hinge 29, placed underneath, and are secured at their ends to depending arms of the side frame by hinges 30, placed above.

I provide a cord 31, which is held at one end by eyelet 32, secured to the step aforesaid, and at its other end to eyelet 33, secured to the bottom of the floor. A second cord 34 is held at one end by eyelet 33 and passes through an eyelet 35, secured to the opposite part of the floor. This cord passes through a cylindrical tube 36, which forms a handle, and thence through corresponding opposite eyelets to those described—35 and 33—and to the latter of which the cord is secured. A recess is formed for the handle by two beveled fillets 37, which are secured to the bottom of the floor and meet in the center.

The *modus operandi* of the invention is as follows: The carriage or perambulator when in use will be set, as illustrated on Figs. 1, 2, and 3 of the accompanying drawings, with the back frame or door 9 set with the hook 11 in the eyelet 12 and with the wing-nut 21 tightened up, so as to lock the axles 13 18 in a horizontal position and in line with one another. The shafts will be set in the position shown in full lines, Fig. 1, with the attached segmental plate locked in position by the wing-nut 27. The handle 36 will lie snugly

on its recess 37, (see Fig. 2,) with the cords loose, and the carriage will now be rigid and ready for ordinary use. When it is desired to fold the perambulator, (for convenience in carrying or storing same,) the hook 11 will be released from the eyelet 12 and the frame 9 swung upon its hinges, so as to lie against the side frame 1, on which it is hinged, and the wing-nut 21 will be unscrewed, so as to allow the axle-rod 18 to move radially upon its center pin 17. The handle 36 will then be taken and a pull be exerted upon same, so as to cause the meeting parts of the floor to be raised, which action will also cause the step to be similarly raised by reason of the connecting-cord 31. The step will thus be turned into approximately a vertical position, as shown in Fig. 4, and at the same time the axle-rods 13 and 18 will be caused to turn upon their hinges downwardly into an approximately vertical position, the bolt 20 traveling meanwhile within the slot 16 until it reaches the opposite extremity of same. The wing-nut 21 will now be locked in its new position and will prevent the perambulator from moving into its open position until released, and while in this position it may be conveniently carried by means of the handles 36. The shafts 22 are put into the dotted position, Fig. 1, by loosening the winged nuts 27 27 and by lifting the shafts over on their center pins 23 23 until they assume the dotted position shown. The winged nuts 27 27 are then again tightened, so as to keep the shafts secure in their altered arrangement.

I do not confine myself to the exact details of construction herein shown, as these may readily be varied without departing from the nature of my invention. For instance, the frame or door 9 may be placed across the center of the cart—that is to say, in line with the axle—another hinged foot-board added to the back of perambulator, and the length of the flooring sufficiently extended so as to form a double-seated carriage in which each child sits with its back to the other. Where warm wrappings are required, particularly for very young infants, two hinged frames, as 9, may be employed—that is to say, one at the back and front, respectively—and the four-sided body thus formed can hold the infant's bedding. Should a sunshade or rain-cover be desired, an upright rod can be attached to each of the four corners, and at their tops a small frame could be affixed from which might hang the necessary covering from wind, sun, or rain. These latter fittings must of course be removed before the cart is collapsed.

Having now particularly described and ascertained the nature of my said invention and in what manner the same is to performed, I declare that what I claim is—

1. In combination a perambulator having hinged floor, axle having two hinged parts pivoted together in the center with means for locking said parts in a horizontal position in line or approximately each in a vertical position substantially as and for the purposes set forth.

2. In combination hinged axle-rod as 13 carrying slotted segmental plate as 15, hinged axle-rod as 18 pivotally connected to said plate and having a pin passing through slot of plate with means of securing same in position substantially as and for the purposes set forth.

3. In a folding carriage, the combination with the main rails, of the shafts pivoted to the main rails, a segment-plate secured to each shaft and lapping upon the main rails, said segment-plates each having a circular mortise and a screw-bolt passing through the mortise and through the main rails, and a wing-nut by means of which the segment-plates may be held in any desired position, substantially as specified.

4. In combination cord as 31 connecting hinged step with hinged floor, cord as 34 connecting the two parts of floor and having a handle as 36 substantially as and for the purposes set forth.

5. In a folding carriage the combination of the frame of rails and standards secured together, shafts pivoted to the main rails, segmental mortised plates secured to the shafts, bolts passing through the mortised plates and through the main rails, thumb-nuts for holding the said plates in position, the foot-board in two parts hinged together in the center and secured at the ends to depending arms of the side rails, a door or back frame hinged to one side frame and means for securing it to the other side frame, substantially as set forth.

6. In combination perambulator having hinged back-frame with means for securing same to side frame, floor in two parts hinged to side frames and together in the center, step in two parts hinged to side frame and together in the center, a connecting-cord between the said floor and step, a handle, an axle having two hinged parts pivoted together in the center and having means for radiating and securing same in position in a horizontal line and in substantially a vertical position, shafts pivoted to the side rails and means for holding same in a forward or back position substantially as set forth.

Signed at Melbourne, in the Colony of Victoria, Australia, this 26th day of May, 1899.

THOS. BALLANTINE.

Witnesses:
A. O. SACHSE,
A. HARKER.