T. B. WAY.

CRADLE.

No. 179,144. Patented June 27, 1876.

Fig. 3.

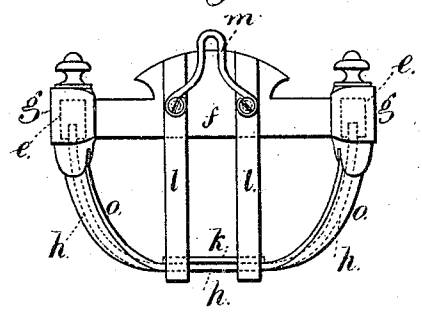


Fig. 2.

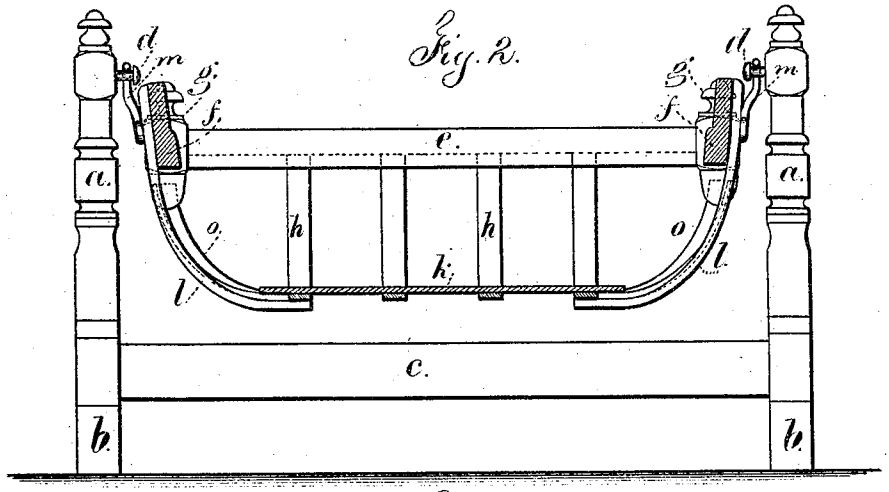
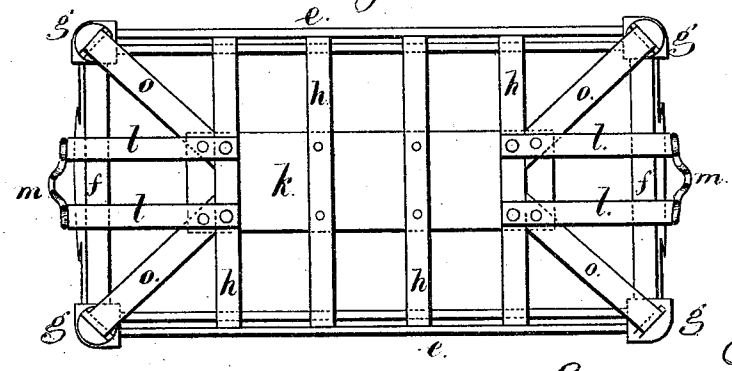


Fig. 1.



Witnesses

Chas. H. Smith

Harold Sewell

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Atty.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

THOMAS B. WAY, OF HOBOKEN, NEW JERSEY.

IMPROVEMENT IN CRADLES.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **179,144**, dated June 27, 1876; application filed November 18, 1875.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, THOMAS B. WAY, of Hoboken, in the county of Hudson and State of New Jersey, have invented an Improvement in Cradles, of which the following is a specification:

Cradles have been made of an open-work basket, suspended at the ends by metallic straps attached to the top band; but most generally the cradle has been made with wooden ends framed to corner-posts. These wooden ends are liable to split and the mortises and tenons to pull apart.

My invention is made for combining with the cradle-frame a bottom that is connected to the suspending-straps by means of bent slats that relieve the frame, the weight resting upon the bottom of the cradle, and transfer such weight directly to the straps.

In the drawing, Figure 1 is an inverted plan of the cradle. Fig. 2 is a vertical section longitudinally of the cradle, with its supports in elevation; and Fig. 3 is an end view of said cradle.

The posts *a*, feet *b*, and connecting-rail *c* illustrate a means for suspending the cradle from the pivots or gudgeons *d*, that project inwardly from the said posts. The cradle itself is made of the frame having side pieces *e*, end pieces *f*, and corner-posts *g*. These are framed together with mortises and tenons, or otherwise secured together. The transverse slats or bands *h* are bent into a nearly semicircular form, and inserted at their ends into mortises in the side pieces *e*. These slats pass below the bottom board *k*. The longitudinal bands *l* are attached at their ends to the outer surfaces of the end pieces *f*, and they extend down beneath the bottom board *k*, and, by preference, extend to the slats *h*. They may extend from end to end of the cradle. It is best to make these longitudinal bands of two thicknesses or strips of wood, so that they will bend easily. These wooden portions, being firmly secured together at their points of intersection, make a very strong and durable cradle, and the metallic loops or straps *m* are attached to the bands *l* at the head and foot of the cradle, and extend over the pivots *d*, so that the suspending devices of the cradle are very strong, and not liable to break away by the weight placed in the cradle, or the strain in swinging or handling such cradle. The posts or corner-pieces *g* are each made with a diagonal slot in the lower end, and into this is attached one end of the band *o*, that passes to the bottom board *k*, and forms a curved rib at each corner of the cradle, that serves to prevent any diagonal movement of the bottom of the cradle relatively to the top frame, and also to partially fill the space between the longitudinal and transverse slats or bands.

In the cradle represented in Letters Patent No. 163,288 the curved bands passing from the bottom to the rim are not connected directly with the metallic suspending-loops; hence the weight is liable to separate the rim and the bands. This is avoided by my construction.

I claim as my invention—

1. The cradle made with the longitudinal bands *l*, extending from the surface of the end pieces *f* to the bottom of the cradle, and to which longitudinal bands the metallic loops *m* are connected, substantially as set forth.

2. The corner pieces or posts *g*, each made with a diagonal slot, into which is secured the band *o*, that extends to the bottom of the cradle, as and for the purposes set forth.

Signed by me this 15th day of November, A. D. 1875.

THOMAS B. WAY.

Witnesses:

GEO. T. PINCKNEY,

CHAS. H. SMITH.