No. 829,118. PATENTED AUG. 21, 1906.

N. C. MEEK.

BEDCLOTHES HOLDER.

APPLICATION FILED OCT. 14, 1905.

Fig. 1.

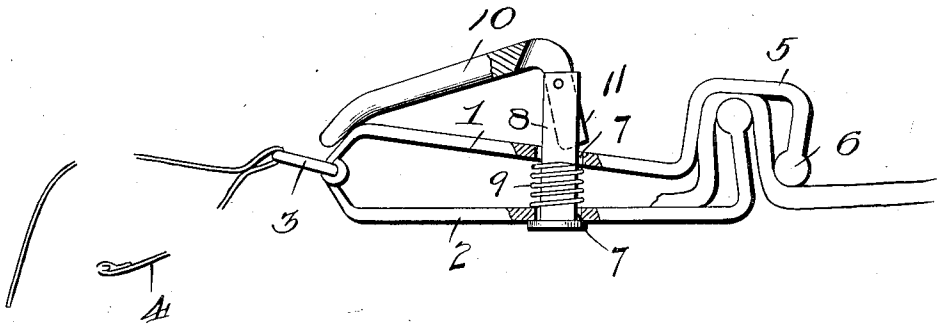
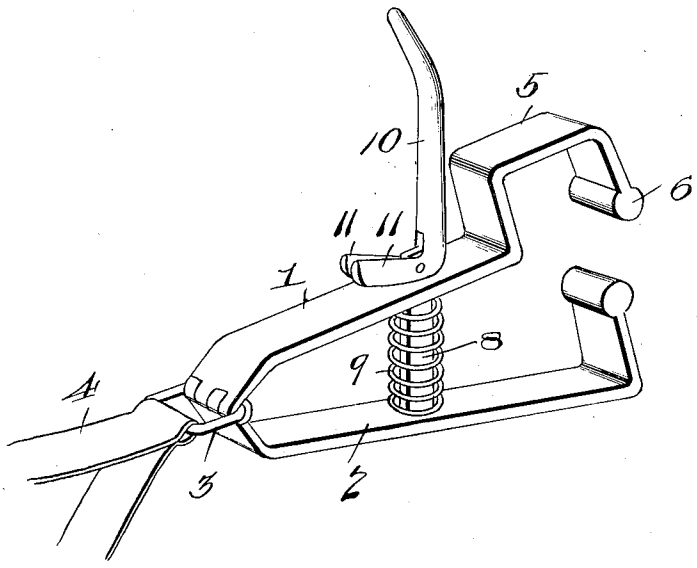


Fig. 2.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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BEDCLOTHES-HOLDER.

No. 829,118. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Aug. 21, 1906.

Application filed October 14, 1905. Serial No. 282,742.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, NELLIE C. MEEK, a citizen of the United States, residing at Fremont, in the county of Sandusky and State of Ohio, have invented new and useful Improvements in Bedclothes-Holders, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to improvements in devices for holding bedclothes in place on a bed, cot, &c., and is designed particularly for use on beds, cots, &c., when occupied by children, invalids, and persons in a restless or delirious state.

The present device is especially designed to afford a firm hold on the bedclothing and yet avoid tearing or rupturing such clothes by the pitching and tossing of the occupant of the bed.

With these ends in view the invention consists in the novel construction, arrangement, and combination of the several parts of the device, as will be hereinafter described, illustrated in the drawings, and more particularly pointed out in the claims hereunto appended.

In the drawings, Figure 1 is a view showing my improved device attached to the bedclothes; and Fig. 2 is a perspective view of the device, showing the details of construction thereof.

Referring to the drawings, the numerals 1 and 2 indicate, respectively, the upper and lower hinged jaws of the device, said jaws being hinged at their rear ends and provided with a suitable link 3, to which is attached a suitable tape or cord 4 for attaching said device to the bed. The upper jaw 1 is of a somewhat greater length than the lower jaw 2 and has its forward end curved to an approximately inverted-U shape 5, and the free leg of said inverted-U shape 5 is provided with a cylindrical termination 6 for a purpose hereinafter stated. The free end of the lower jaw 2 is curved or upturned, so that when the jaws are closed it will enter the U-shape portion of the opposite jaw, as shown, and is provided on its end with a cylindrical termination for a purpose hereinafter stated.

The hinged jaws 1 and 2 are each provided with an elongated opening or slot 7 for the reception of a suitable post 8. This post 8 may be either rigidly or loosely secured in the opening or slot of the lower jaw, if so desired.

The numeral 9 indicates a suitable coiled spring surrounding said post 8 and having its ends preferably bearing against the jaws for the purpose of normally holding said jaws apart.

The numeral 10 indicates an angle-lever having its short arm bifurcated and terminating in two downwardly-extending legs 11 11, as shown. The top of the post 8 is pivotally secured to said angle-lever between the downwardly-projecting legs 11 11 in such position that when the long arm of said angle-lever is pushed downward the legs 11 11 of the short arm will bear upon the top of the upper jaw 1 and force said jaw downward and the inverted-U-shape portion 5 thereof over and upon the upturned end of the lower jaw. The angle-lever 10 is so shaped that when the long arm of said lever is forced down against the upper jaw the downwardly-extending legs 11 11 of the short arm will be at a point slightly in advance of the vertical plane of its pivotal connection and will be firmly locked against accidental displacement by the upward stress of the upper jaw.

The operation of the device is as follows: The long arm of the angle-lever 10 is elevated, and the spring 9, surrounding said post 8, will force the jaws apart. The clothes to be held are then inserted in the jaws over the upturned end of the lower jaw. The angle-lever 10 is then turned down and the jaws brought together, when said bedclothes will be firmly and securely held thereby. By reason of the cylindrical terminations or ends of the jaws the clothes held thereby will not be torn or ruptured, as has heretofore been the case, by any stress or strain that may be placed on the clothes incident to the pitching and tossing of the occupant of the bed.

It is evident that minor structural modifications may be made in this device without departing from the spirit of this invention. I therefore do not limit myself to the exact forms herein shown.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim, and desire to secure by Letters Patent of the United States, is—

1. In a device of the character described, the combination with two oppositely-disposed hinged jaws, one of said jaws having its free end terminating in an, approximately, U-shape portion, and the opposite jaw having its end turned to set into said U-shape portion when said jaws are closed, the outer ends of both jaws being provided with curved or cylindrical terminations; of an elongated opening or slot in one of said jaws, a suitable post secured in the opposite of said jaws and

having its free end projecting through said slot, a spring for holding said jaws normally apart, and an angle-lever pivoted to the free end of said post to the outside of the jaw, adapted, when turned down against said jaw, to lock the jaws together, and when turned up out of engagement with said jaw, to permit the said jaws to open.

2. In a device of the character described, the combination of two oppositely-disposed hinged jaws, one of said jaws having its free end terminating in an, approximately, U-shape portion, and the opposite jaw having its free end turned to set into said U-shape portion when said jaws are closed, the extreme outer end of each jaw being provided with a curved or cylindrical termination; of an elongated opening or slot in one of said jaws, a suitable post secured in the opposite of said jaws and having its free end projecting through said slot, a coiled spring surrounding said post between said jaws, and an angle-lever having the short arm thereof bifurcated and pivoted between said bifurcations to the free end of said post to the outside of the jaw, adapted when turned down against said jaw to lock the jaws together, and when turned out of engagement with said jaw, to permit the said jaws to be opened by the pressure of said spring.

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

NELLIE C. MEEK.

Witnesses:

ROBERT B. MEEK,

JOHN J. LEHMANN.