M. M. MORRILL.

DETAINING ATTACHMENT FOR BEDS.

APPLICATION FILED JUNE 28, 1915.

1,216,719. Patented Feb. 20, 1917.

Fig. 1

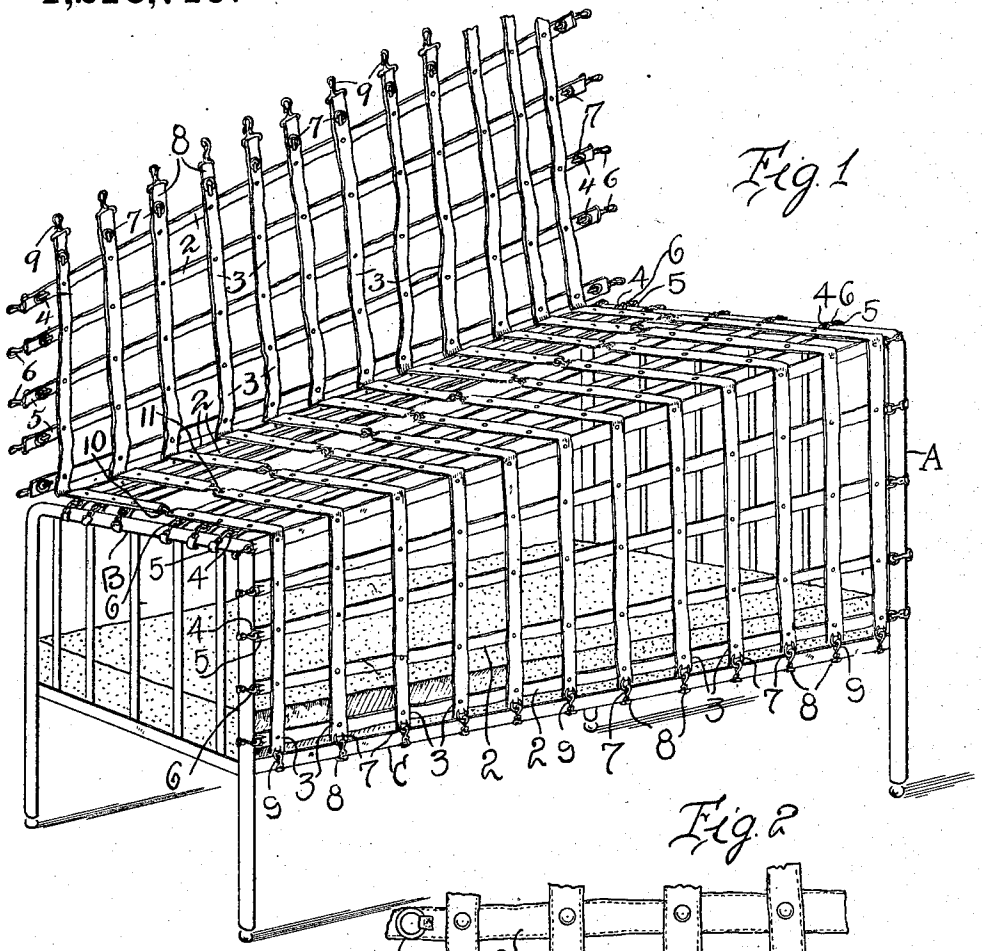


Fig. 2

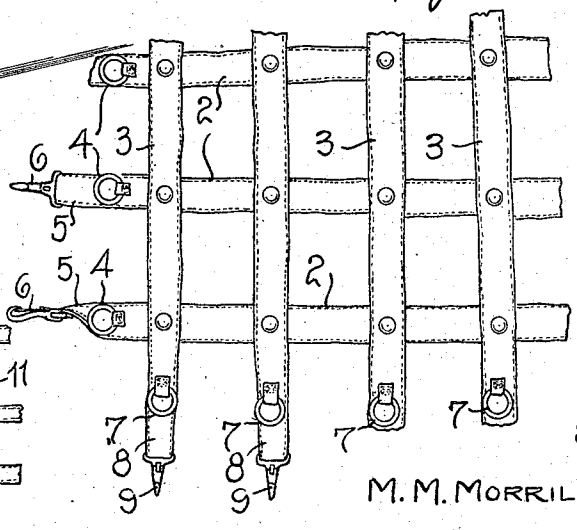
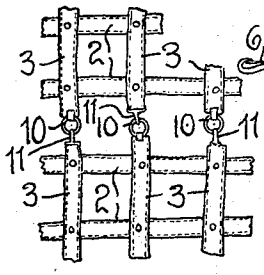


Fig. 3



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DETAINING ATTACHMENT FOR BEDS.

1,216,719. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Feb. 20, 1917.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, MARGARET M. MORRILL, a citizen of the United States, residing at Santa Barbara, in the county of Santa Barbara and State of California, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Detaining Attachments for Beds, of which the following is a specification, reference being had to the accompanying drawings.

My invention relates to attachments for beds, and particularly to means for confining a delirious or insane patient to a bed. It is oftentimes necessary in the treatment of sick persons, particularly those who are delirious or insane, that they be prevented from leaving the bed but not prevented, however, from moving about upon the bed. It has been customary heretofore under these circumstances to strap the patient to the bed. This confines the patient to such an extent as to interfere with proper recovery, let alone the comfort of the patient, and does not give the patient that freedom which he may and should have. In order to avoid the objections incident to the use of straps holding the patient entirely upon the bed, it is my object to provide a detaining attachment, which, when disposed upon the ordinary hospital bed will form what may be termed a "cage" extending over the bed, sufficiently strong to prevent the patient falling or throwing himself out of bed, and yet which will give the patient ample freedom of movement, permitting the patient to lie down or sit up as he pleases and turn to one side or the other with perfect freedom and at the same time permit the nurse to feed the patient or otherwise attend to him without the necessity of removing the cage or harness.

A further object of my invention is to provide a device of this character which may be readily attached to beds constructed in accordance with the ordinary hospital requirements, or which may be readily detached therefrom, and further to provide a device which may be readily shifted longitudinally of the bed when necessary in order to permit the remaking of the bed without the entire detachment of the harness or cage from the bed.

My invention is illustrated in the accompanying drawings, wherein:

Figure 1 is a view of the device applied to a bed;

Fig. 2 is a plan view of a portion of the device detached from the bed;

Fig. 3 is a fragmentary plan view showing the manner in which the two sections of the "cage" are connected to each other.

Referring to the drawings it will be seen that my attachment comprises a plurality of longitudinally extending straps or bands 2 which may be made of canvas, leather, or other suitable flexible material, but which are preferably made of heavy canvas. These bands 2 are long enough to extend from the forward end of the bed to the rear end thereof. Intersecting the bands 2 are the transverse bands 3, these bands also being made of webbing or heavy canvas securely riveted or otherwise attached to the longitudinal bands.

To the ends of the bands 2 there are attached at a plurality of points the rings 4 and the straps 5 to which snap hooks 6 are connected. Thus the head and foot ends of the cage may be readily connected to the head and foot bars A and B of the bed. There may be more or less of these straps 5 and rings 4 as may be desired for any particular circumstance of operation, but there should be sufficient to so connect the upper and lower ends of the cage to the bed that the patient cannot escape from the bed by crawling out the upper or lower end thereof. To the side margins of the cage formed by the bands 2 and 3 are attached a plurality of rings 7 and straps 8, each strap at its end being provided with a snap hook 9 or other attaching device. These are adapted to be passed around the side rails C of the bed and firmly attached. It will now be seen that when this device is placed upon a bed and connected at its upper and lower ends to the head and foot rails while the marginal straps 8 are passed around the rails C and connected to the rings 7, that a cage will be formed which is practically rectangular in section, lifted sufficiently high above the bed as to permit the patient to move around or sit up, particularly where the head rails or bars are higher than the foot bars and per-

mit the patient to take any position he pleases but at the same time confining the patient to the bed so that he is unable to escape therefrom without considerable difficulty, and without such action as will plainly indicate his purpose to the nurse.

Preferably I make my improved cage or device in two longitudinal sections, the sections being connected to each other along a median line by means of rings 10 and snap hooks 11. I do not wish to limit myself, however, to the use of rings and snap hooks as tabs or straps might be used which could be tied together so as to hold the sections together on a median line. Neither do I wish to limit myself to the use of straps, snap hooks and rings for connecting the side margins or the end margins of the cage to the rails of the bed as other detachable means may be provided for this purpose.

As before remarked, a device of this character, while very simply made and easily applied, is thoroughly effective for retaining a patient upon the bed, without, however, impeding his movements. When this device is used it places the patient in the best condition for recovery and at the same time relieves the nurse of the strain of constant attention. I do not wish to limit myself to the exact construction illustrated in the drawing as it is obvious that many changes might be made without departing from the spirit of the invention.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim is:

A restraining harness for beds formed of two longitudinal sections, each of said sections comprising flexible longitudinal bands and flexible transverse bands, the longitudinal bands being provided at both ends with means whereby they may be connected to the foot and head rails of a bed, the lateral ends of the second named bands being formed with means whereby they may be connected to the longitudinal rails of a bed, the inner ends of the transverse bands of both sections being provided with means whereby they may be detachably connected to each other.

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

MARGARET M. MORRILL.

Witnesses:
E. G. HAYWARD,
J. C. BENTON.

Copies of this patent may be obtained for five cents each, by addressing the "Commissioner of Patents, Washington, D. C."