

(No Model.)

J. H. & G. W. MEEK.
CRADLE.

No. 478,450.

Patented July 5, 1892.

Fig. 1.

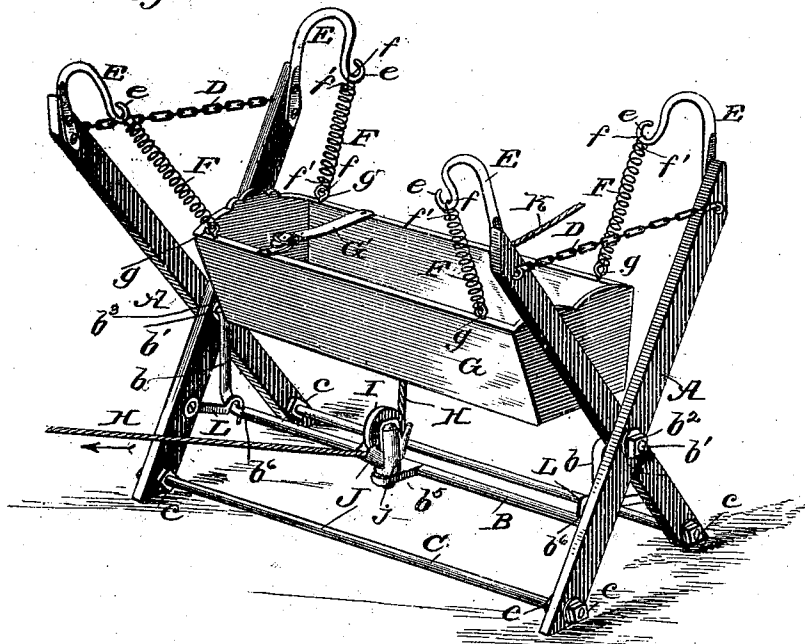
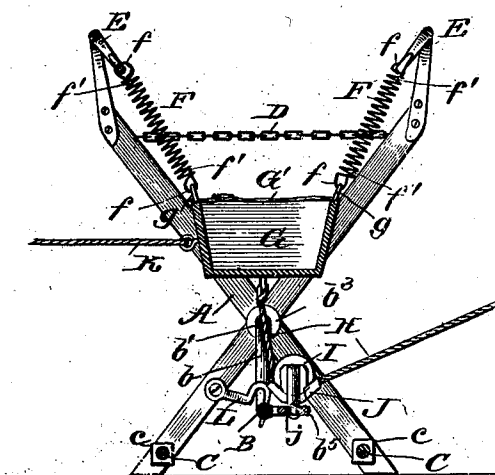


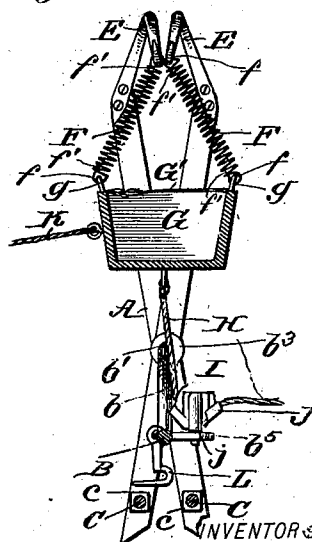
Fig. 2.



WITNESSES:

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Fred G. Dreterich
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Fig. 3.



INVENTOR,

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JAMES H. MEEK AND GEORGE W. MEEK, OF DENISON, TEXAS.

CRADLE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 478,450, dated July 5, 1892.

Application filed January 2, 1892. Serial No. 416,889. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that we, JAMES H. MEEK and GEORGE W. MEEK, residing at Denison, in the county of Grayson and State of Texas, have
5 invented certain new and useful Improvements in Cradles, of which the following is a specification.

Our invention has for its object to provide a hanging cradle suspended from its supporting-frame in such a manner as to render it
10 capable of vertical, lengthwise, and sidewise movements, such supporting-frame and cradle being arranged in such a manner whereby the cradle is capable of being moved, as
15 stated, in an easy, uniform, and steady motion without the danger of tilting over.

Our invention also has for its object to provide a cradle of the kind stated in which the cradle and its supporting-frame are so arranged that the frame may be folded up to
20 be set aside without the necessity of removing the cradle from the frame or detaching any of the component parts of the frame.

To these ends our invention consists in the
25 peculiar combination and novel arrangement of parts, all of which will be hereinafter fully described in the annexed specification, and particularly pointed out in the claims, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of our improved cradle. Fig. 2 is a transverse section thereof; and Fig. 3 is a similar section showing the supporting-frame folded up.

35 The main supporting-frame consists of the crossed bars A A, which are held together by means of a rod B, the central or body portion of which is disposed at a point below the axial connection of the bars, for a purpose
40 hereinafter explained, while the outer ends thereof are bent up, as at *b b*, and formed into outwardly-extending axle portions *b' b'*, upon which the said arms are mounted, such arms being held thereon by the nuts *b²* and washers *b³*, as shown. The lower ends of the opposite pair of bars A are braced and connected with each other by the brace-rods C C,
45 which are securely held to such arms by the jam-nuts *c c*; and the upper ends of each set
50 of the said bars A A are limited in their outward movement by means of the chains D D,

which are secured to the said bars A, as clearly shown in Fig. 1.

Upon the upper end of each of the arms A are secured goose-neck castings E, formed
55 with hook members *e*, to which are secured the upper ends of the four supporting-springs F, the lower ends of which are connected to eyes *g*, disposed at the four corners of the cradle-body G, which may be of any preferred
60 shape, and is provided with the usual restraining-strap G' near its head portion.

To form a secure fastening, the ends of the springs F are secured to the hooks *e* and the eyes *g*, as most clearly shown in Fig. 1, by
65 reference to which it will be seen the ends *f'* of the loop *f* are bent in and inserted into the coiled portion, which holds the ends *f'* from pulling out. It will be noticed that by suspending the cradle-body in the manner
70 shown it is capable of movement in almost every direction, and by securing the springs to the four corners thereof it is securely held from tipping over and its movement is rendered more uniform and at the same time
75 provides a support of considerable strength.

H indicates a cord, which is secured to the bottom of the cradle-body and is passed under a sheave I and out to one side to within
80 convenient reach of the operator, and to provide for imparting a vertical movement to the cradle the sheave I is swivelly mounted in a bracket member *b⁵*, formed centrally of and integral with the rod B, as most clearly
85 shown in Fig. 3, and to hold the cord in place on the sheave I, as it is turned to the position desired, a guard J is provided, which is secured to the sheave-shank *j*, as shown. It
90 will be also noticed that when the cord H is pulled in the direction indicated by the arrow the cradle is drawn down toward the pulley I, such movement being permitted by the rod B being bent in the manner before stated, and by releasing the cord the tensile strain
95 on the springs will draw the cradle upward.

K indicates a cord secured to the side of the cradle, by means of which it can be moved
100 sidewise, the sidewise pull on a pair of springs serving to produce a tensile strain sufficient to pull the body back to its normal position.

L indicates pivoted hooks secured to the cross-bars A, as shown, and which are ar-

ranged to hook into openings b^6 in the rod B and lock the frame to its open position.

When it is desired to set the cradle aside, the hooks L are lifted from engagement with the rod B and the arm closed into the position shown in Fig. 3, which movement is accomplished without removing the body G or detaching any of the parts of the frame.

Having thus described our invention, what we claim, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. A swinging cradle comprising the folding end bars A, the cross-bar B, having a depressed portion b , and end projections b^2 , forming the pivotal axes for the bars A, the catches L, pivoted to the end bars and adapted to engage the depressed part b of the bar B, the cradle G, and the spring-suspensions

F, connecting the cradle with the upper ends of the arms, all arranged substantially as shown, and for the purpose described.

2. The combination, with the crossed bars A A, the rod B, having a depressed portion b , and projections b^2 , forming the axial bearing for the bars A A, and with a lateral extension b^5 , the cradle G, and the spring connections F, of the sheaves I, swiveled on the extension b^5 of the bars B, the guard or shield J, and the cord H, secured to the bottom of the cradle and passed under the sheave, substantially as shown, and for the purpose described.

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GEORGE W. MEEK.

Witnesses:

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