No. 681,573. Patented Aug. 27, 1901.

W. W. NICHOLS.

MATTRESS.

(Application filed Jan. 12, 1901.)

(No Model.)

FIG. 1.

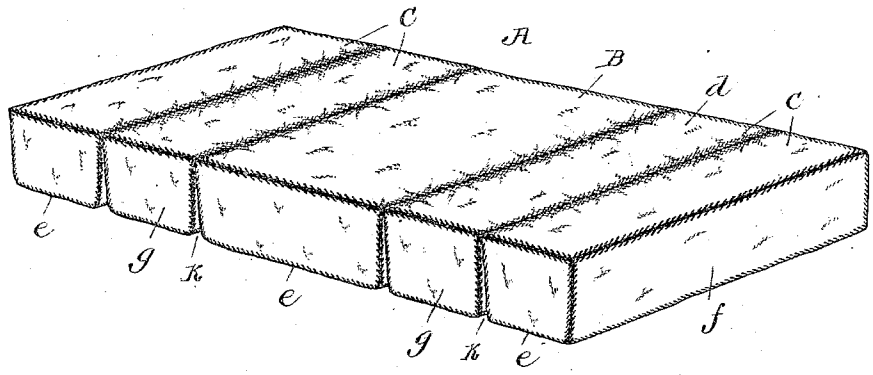


FIG. 2.

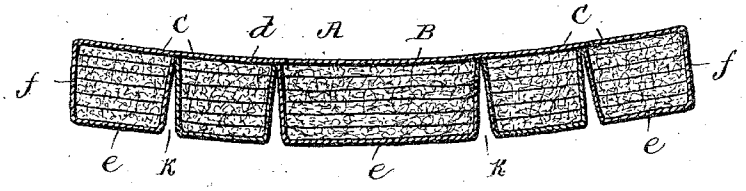
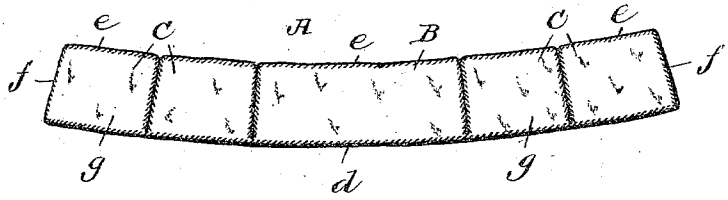


FIG. 3.



ATTEST-

Harry L. Ames.
George M Anderson

INVENTOR-

William W. Nichols.

By E. W. Anderson-
his Atty.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLIAM W. NICHOLS, OF ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI.

MATTRESS.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 681,573, dated August 27, 1901.

Application filed January 12, 1901. Serial No. 43,085. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM W. NICHOLS, a citizen of the United States, and a resident of the city of St. Louis, and State of Missouri, have made a certain new and useful Invention in Mattresses; and I declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and to letters of reference marked thereon, which form a part of this specification.

Figure 1 is a perspective view of my mattress. Fig. 2 is a longitudinal section of the same. Fig. 3 is a side elevation of the same.

The invention has relation to sectional mattresses; and it consists in the novel construction and combinations of parts, as hereinafter set forth.

In the accompanying drawings the letter A designates the mattress, which consists of the middle section B and the series of sections C, connected thereto, forming the head and foot portions of the mattress. The section B is about twice the length of a section C, measuring along the length of the mattress.

In constructing this mattress the sections are made of trapezoidal form in cross-section, tapering slightly downwardly, and consist each of an upper or continuous surface *d*, a lower or separated surface *e*, sides *f*, and ends *g*. In this manner the mattress is formed to consist of a series of cushions whereof the middle one is about twice the length of any of the other sections. The cloth forming the continuous surface of the mattress is entire, and the portions of cloth forming the other parts of the sections are sewed to the continuous-surface cloth. The sections are filled with rectangular sheets of felt, which are smoothly laid upon each other in the sections, so that their regular form is preserved, upon which depends much of their utility. Whenever any section or compartment so made becomes indented or mashed down, it is easy to restore it to form by manipulation. In this respect the felt filling is different from other fillings which will not preserve the rectangular form or any approximation thereto. The middle section B, covering double the extent of any other section, is designed to support the main portion of the body in a comfortable manner, the extremities, which are comparatively light, being supported by the smaller sections. The adjacent sides of sections are designed to have an oblique direction with relation to each other to leave between the sections ventilating intervals *k*, extending from one surface of the mattress to the other or continuous surface. This continuous surface is therefore placed upward for summer use on account of the provision for the circulation of air through the intervals between the sections below it; but in cold weather the sectional surface of the mattress is placed uppermost, so that the weight of the occupant of the bed will cause the sides of the sections to be pressed together, closing the intervals throughout their entire length and breadth, so that they will not admit air. In this manner the mattress is rendered warm and comfortable in winter.

The mattress is readily folded up in a wall on the broad middle section and can be stored away in small compass. As most of the wear is on the middle section, this can be replaced when necessary without disturbing the other sections.

The squared filling of felt sheets serves an important purpose in this invention in preserving the form of the sections, upon which the ventilation and closure depend.

The sections are easily filled with the felt sheets, as each section has an end piece of cloth which is detachable, being easily ripped out and sewed in again after filling.

Having described this invention, what I claim, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. The herein-described, reversible mattress, consisting of a series of head and foot sections, and a middle section of about double the length of the other said sections, each said section being of trapezoidal form in cross-section, the parallel sides of such trapezoids forming the upper and lower surfaces of the mattress, substantially as specified.

2. The herein-described, reversible mattress, consisting of a series of head and foot sections, and a middle section of about double the length of the other said sections, each said

section being of trapezoidal form in cross-section, and being filled with sheets of felt, the parallel sides of such trapezoids forming the upper and lower surfaces of the mattress, substantially as specified.

3. The herein-described reversible mattress, consisting of a series of sections, each said section being of trapezoidal form in cross-section, the parallel sides of such trapezoids forming the upper and lower surfaces of the mattress, substantially as specified.

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

WILLIAM W. NICHOLS.

Witnesses:
M. C. NICHOLS,
JNO. A. STARCK.