

(No Model.)

L. P. NELSON.

MATTRESS.

No. 341,387.

Patented May 4, 1886.

Fig. 1.

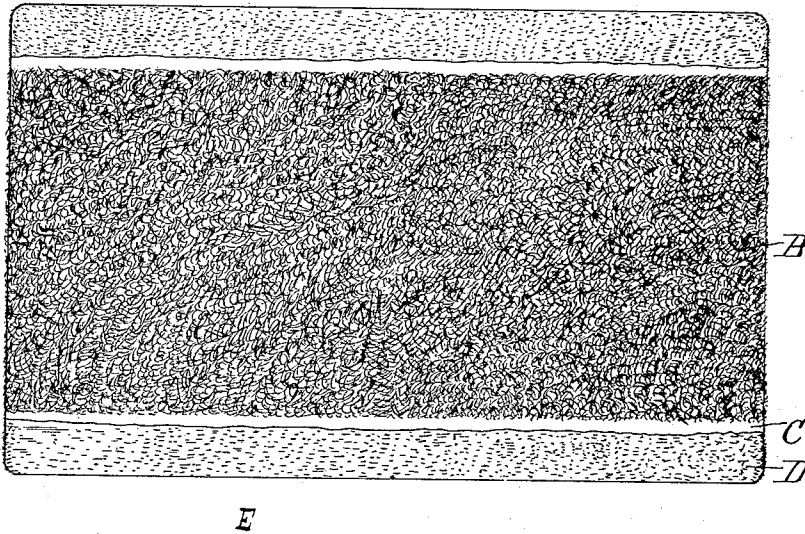


Fig. 2.

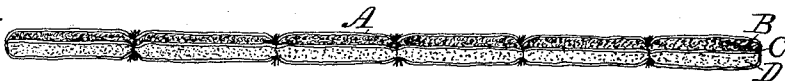
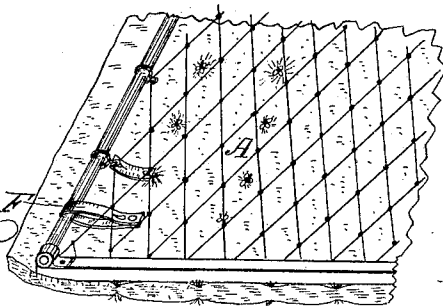


Fig. 3.



Fig. 4.



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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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## MATTRESS.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 341,387, dated May 4, 1886.

Application filed October 23, 1885. Serial No. 180,754. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, LARS P. NELSON, a citizen of the United States, residing at Chicago, in the county of Cook and State of Illinois, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Mattresses; and I do hereby 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.

My invention relates to an improvement in the construction of mattresses; and it consists of certain features and their arrangement, as more fully hereinafter described and claimed. It is illustrated in the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a plan view of the body with cover removed; Fig. 2, a longitudinal section with cover on; Fig. 3, a transverse section; Fig. 4, a perspective view of a portion of the mattress when applied to a bed-bottom.

In the drawings, A represents an ordinary ticking or covering for the outside of the mattress. For a filling I use, first, a layer of curled hair, B; on that I place a thin muslin sheeting, C, impregnated with carbolic and boracic acids dissolved in a concoction of cayenne pepper or other suitable disinfectant and antiseptic substances, and on top of this a thin layer, D, of wool or cotton or other fibrous substance, and then I stitch these layers and ticking together.

In two edges of the mattress, on the long sides thereof, I place one or two thicknesses of cotton-batting, or wool only or other suitable substance, to the width of several inches, for the purpose hereinafter described. This side filling can be put into the ticking before the mattress is stitched, or, the sides of the ticking being left open, it can be placed within the ticking after the central portion of the mattress has been finished, and the sides then closed.

My invention is adapted to be used especially with a bed-bottom composed of knitted or woven cord, woven wire, or any other bed-spring of a yielding nature, and with which are employed side rails constructed with encircling wires, rods, or bands, to which the straps F or other fastening devices may be secured. With such a bed-bottom a thick mat-

tress is entirely unnecessary, and with certain kinds of cord and wire springs the use of a mattress can be entirely dispensed with; but when a mattress is employed a thin one is all that is necessary or desirable, and consequently my invention consist of a thin light mattress, in which I use many times less the quantity of material necessary in the construction of the usual forms of that article, and in which I prefer to fill one side with a layer of hair or moss, or their equivalents, and the other side with a layer of cotton or wool, or their equivalents. The cotton may be used for sleeping on in cold weather, and the hair side in hot weather. To further adapt my mattress to such a bed-bottom, having side rails, wires, or rods, I attach straps F to the under side of the mattress, which are adapted to engage with hooks, flat staples, or buttons on the side rails, or passed entirely around the tubular side rails, rods, or wires, and to be buttoned onto a button riveted onto the inner end of the strap, near its fastening in the mattress. In the use of so thin a mattress some fastening device like these straps is necessary, in order to hold the same in place, keep it smooth, and prevent it gathering in the middle of the bed and leaving the side rails or edges of the bed exposed.

The mattress is made as much wider than the bed-bottom as the side filling, E, extends beyond the central filling, so that when the mattress is strapped on the side rails of the bed-bottom this overlapping side filling may be tucked down over the side rails of the bed-bottom and between them and the sides of the bed-frame, and thus cord or wire spring and the side rails, rods, or wire of the bed-bottom are completely covered and without possibility of being uncovered or exposed by the sleeper, and the entire space between the side rails and the bed-frame is covered by a soft and pliable mattress.

The mattress may be stitched together in such a way that it can with very little trouble be cut open, and the wool, cotton, and the impregnated muslin sheet removed, renovated, or renewed whenever desired.

Other fastening devices than the straps F may be employed, and the arrangement of the layers of hair or cotton or similar equivalent

substances above and below the disinfected sheet may be the reverse of what is shown in the drawings; or either of said substances for filling may be excluded altogether and the mattress filled only with hair, wool, or cotton, or their equivalents.

Although I have described my invention as peculiarly adapted for use with a wire or netted bed-bottom, it is obvious that it can be used in any position that a thin mattress is desirable.

I am aware of a mattress or cushion containing curled hair or other equivalent elastic stuffing material, combined with shavings or chips of cedar contained in a bag and embedded in the mattress, for the purpose of keeping the mattress free from insects, as described in Walton's patent, No. 69,376, October 1, 1867; but my mattress and disinfecting-sheet are of a different construction altogether and perform very different functions. The disinfecting-sheet I employ is not confined in its function as a deodorizer to prevent the incursions of moths and other insects. It does not produce any bunching in the middle of the mattress, like a bag of shavings, but is simply a thin, smooth, light sheet, and it performs the additional function of separating layers of different elastic material.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim is—

1. A mattress composed of layers of hair and cotton separated by a sheet impregnated with a suitable disinfectant and antiseptic, substantially as described.

2. A mattress the body of which is composed of separate layers of hair, cotton, or wool, in combination with side fillings of cotton or wool, substantially as described.

3. In a mattress, a sheet of suitable material impregnated with a suitable disinfectant and extending through the body of the mattress, substantially as described.

4. The combination of the layers of hair and cotton, the separating disinfecting-sheet, and the side fillings of cotton or wool, substantially as described.

5. A light mattress provided with the side fillings, in combination with the side rails over which said side fillings are extended, and fastening devices for securing said sides of the mattress in such position to the side rails, substantially as described.

6. A combined elastic mattress and elastic bed-bottom, the body of said mattress filled with elastic material in layers, and provided with side fillings of similar material as an outside lining to said layers, and the said bed-bottom composed of springs and side rails, and fastening devices by which the said sides of the mattress are secured over the side rails, substantially as described.

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

LARS P. NELSON.

Witnesses:

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