June 21, 1949. H. F. SHAW 2,473,914

LATCH FOR DROP-SIDE CRIBS

Filed Feb. 24, 1945

Fig. 1.

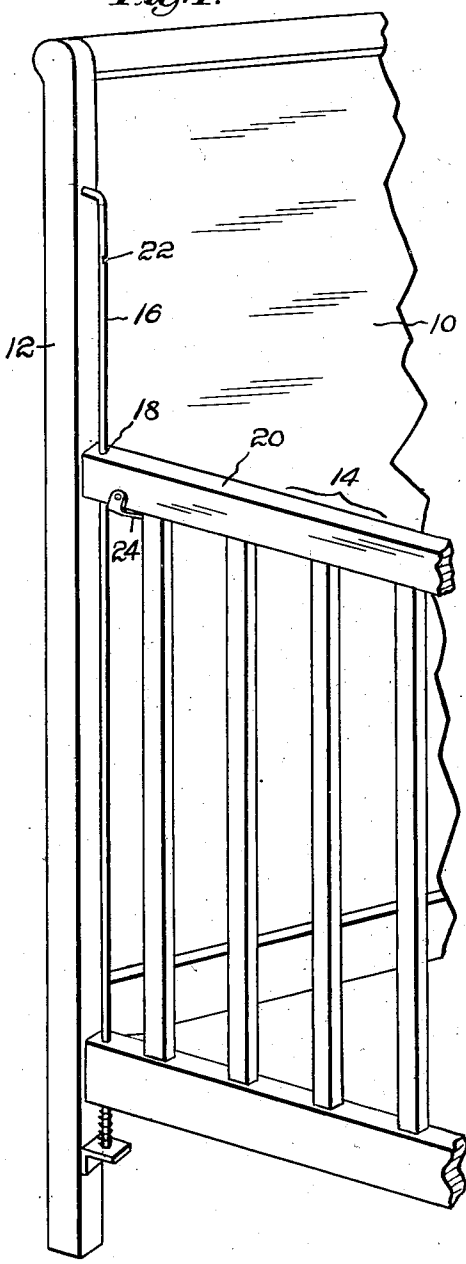


Fig. 2.

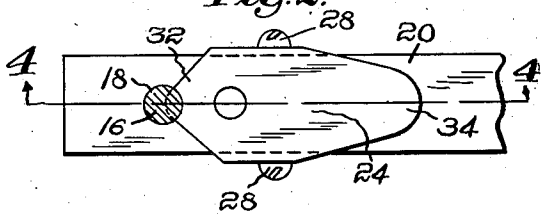


Fig. 3.

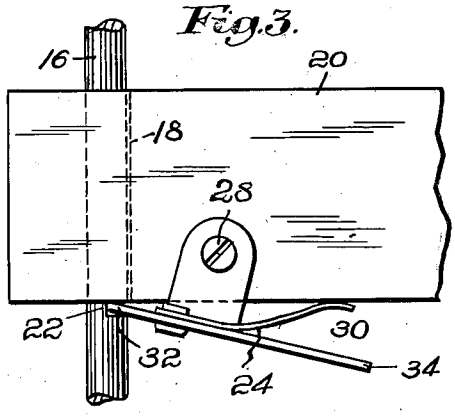
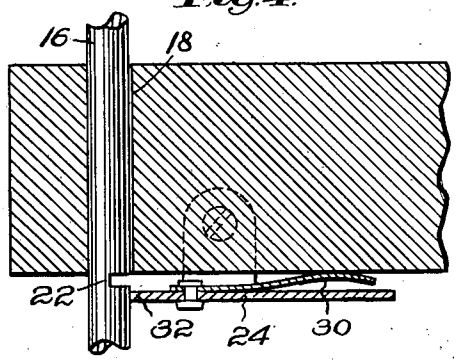


Fig. 4.



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LATCH FOR DROP-SIDE CRIBS

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3 Claims. (Cl. 5—100)

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This invention relates to drop-side cribs and the object is to provide an improved construction wherein the drop side is easily manipulated but securely held, the construction being simple, inexpensive and neat.

My invention will be well understood from the following description taken in connection with the accompanying drawings wherein I have shown an illustrative embodiment of the invention by way of example and wherein—

Fig. 1 is a perspective view of one corner of a drop-side crib with the side in lowered position:

Fig. 2 is a bottom plan view of the end portion of the top rail of the side;

Fig. 3 is an elevation thereof; and

Fig. 4 is a section on the line 4—4 of Fig. 2 showing the parts in another position.

Fig. 1 shows one corner of a crib having an end member 10 having a post 12 between which and its counterpart at the other end of the crib is received the drop side 14. On the posts 12 is mounted a vertical slideway herein shown as consisting of a rod 16 in spaced relation to the post and passing through holes 18 in the top and bottom rails of the side. The construction as so far described and illustrated is conventional. In Fig. 1 the side is shown in lowered position. The bed bottom, spring, mattress, etc., are omitted.

The end portions of the top rail 20 of the side at either end thereof (one only being illustrated) are provided with latches of a form to be described. I have herein shown a notch 22 near the upper end of the rod providing an upwardly facing shoulder to be engaged by the latch to support the side in raised position. Herein the notches are on the sides of the rods which face toward the opposite end of the crib. While the side 14 in its lowered position may rest as usual on the bottom arm of the slideway, I prefer to provide a notch which will be engaged by the latch in the lower position of the side to rigidify the structure.

The latch shown in the drawing comprises a plate 24 opposing the under side of the top rail and having ears 26 extending therefrom at either side of the rail by means of which it is pivoted thereto as by means of the screws 28. A spring 30 herein shown as riveted to the upper side of the plate between the ears engages the opposed surface of the rail and normally tilts the plate to the angular position shown in Fig. 3. The plate at one side of the center, the left viewing Figs. 2, 3 and 4, comprises a nose portion 32 to engage the shoulder on the slideway rod, while

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at the other side of center there is provided a tail portion 34 which may be engaged by the fingers when the top rail is grasped to tilt the plate against the force of the spring from the position of Fig. 3 to the position of Fig. 4.

In the position of Fig. 3 the nose 32 intersects the aperture 18 in the rail and enters the notch 22 so that the weight of the side 14 jams the nose between the rail 20 and the downwardly facing shoulder of the notch, the rod being backed up at the right, viewing Fig. 3, by engagement with the margin of the hole. If, however, the rail is grasped and the tail portions 34 of the latches at the respective ends thereof pressed upwardly, conveniently with a slight upward movement of the side as a whole, they may be swung to the position of Fig. 4 with the nose portion moved out of alignment with the aperture and free from the notch and the side may then be lowered or raised as the case may be. With the latch in the position of Fig. 4, it will slide along the side of the rod until the nose portion comes opposite the notch 22 when it will automatically snap into the same.

I am aware that the invention may be embodied in other specific forms without departing from the spirit or essential attributes thereof, and I therefore desire the present embodiment to be considered in all respects as illustrative and not restrictive, as is in fact clear in several matters from the description itself. Reference is to be had to the appended claims to indicate those principles of the invention exemplified by the particular embodiment described and which I desire to secure by Letters Patent.

I claim:

1. In a crib comprising end members supporting vertical guide rods and a drop side arranged between them having top and bottom rails provided with apertures to pass said rods for vertical movement of the side along the same, the rods presenting horizontal shoulders, latches at the ends of the top rail, each comprising a plate underlying the rail, pivoted on a horizontal axis, spring pressed to a normal position inclined to the rail and having a nose portion which then intersects the aperture and is adapted to underlie a shoulder, the plate having a tail portion by pressure on which it may be swung against the spring to free said nose portion from the rod.

2. In a crib comprising end members supporting vertical guide rods and a drop side arranged between them having top and bottom rails provided with apertures to pass said rods for verti-

cal movement of the side along the same, the rods presenting horizontal shoulders, latches at the ends of the top rail, each comprising a plate underlying the same having ears overlying the sides thereof and pivoted thereto, the plate having a nose portion at one end and a finger engageable tail portion at the other, a spring between the plate and the rail normally tilting said tail portion downwardly and the nose portion upwardly to intersect the aperture and engage above the shoulder, the latch being retractible from said position to free the side by operation of its tail portion against the spring.

3. In a crib comprising end members supporting vertical guide rods and a drop side arranged between them having top and bottom rails provided with apertures to pass said rods for vertical movement of the side along the same, the rods presenting horizontal shoulders, latches at the ends of the top rail mounted to swing on a horizontal axis transverse to the plane of the drop side and spaced from the rod and each having an engaging portion remote from its axis and a spring yieldably pressing the latch about its axis to a position interposed between said shoulder and the margin of the aperture to jam between the same and having a finger engageable portion for swinging it away from said position to release the side.

HAROLD F. SHAW.

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