

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLIAM HINES, OF MIDDLETOWN, CONNECTICUT.

HAMMOCK.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 572,424, dated December 1, 1896.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM HINES, a citizen of the United States, and a resident of Middletown, in the county of Middlesex and State of Connecticut, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Hammocks; and I do 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 of the drawings is a representation of a perspective view showing invention as in application. Fig. 2 is a face view of front end of hammock. Fig. 3 is a perspective view of devices for supporting and adjusting the tension of pillow. Figs. 4 and 5 are cross-sections taken through stretching-bar. Fig. 6 is a perspective view of one of clips D. Fig. 7 is a section through pillow on line *x x*, Fig. 2.

This invention has relation to certain new and useful improvements in hammocks, and has for one of its objects the provision of improved end binders and a novel manner of connecting thereto the suspension-cords, whereby the usual end loops of the hammock-body are obviated.

A further object consists in the provision of a spring-pillow of improved character.

With these objects in view the invention consists in the novel construction and combination of parts, all as hereinafter described, and pointed out in the appended claims.

Referring to the accompanying drawings, the letter A designates the body of the hammock, which is preferably of woven fabric with an open hem *a* at each end portion.

B B designate the suspension-rods, one of which is inserted through each hem.

C C are the stretching bars or binders, which are bent or bowed to give the hammock the desired shape, as are also the rods B B. The inner face of each of these bars is formed with a longitudinal groove *b*, designed to seat one of the said rods.

H indicates the suspension-cords, which are preferably arranged in the following manner at each end of the hammock: Formed

horizontally through each bar C and communicating with the groove *b* thereof are a series of holes *c*, and secured to the upper face of said bar adjacent to each of these holes is a clip D. One end of the suspension-cord is secured to one of these clips at one end of the bar and, passing through a perforation *d* of said clip, runs to the suspension ring or loop E, around the bar *e* of which it is looped, as indicated at *h*, thence back to the clip through the perforation *d* thereof, through the adjacent hole *c* of the bar, around the rod B in the groove of said bar, thence out through the same hole *c* and perforation *d* to the ring E, around which it is again looped, and is then carried to the next clip, through which it extends, and also through bar C and around the rod B, thence back to the ring or loop E. In this manner the suspension-cord is carried back and forth from said loop or ring to each of the clips D, at each of which it is looped through the bar C and around the rod B. The perforations *d* are partially in the downwardly-bent end portions of the clip, and a similar perforation is usually made at each end portion thereof in order that they may be perfectly reversible. The inner end portion of each clip extends down across the groove *b* and over the rod B.

I will now proceed to describe the second part of the invention, which relates to the pillow.

Secured on each end portion of one of the stretcher-bars C is a bolster K, whose arms project at right angles to the length of the said bar. Hinged to each of these bolsters is a frame L, which extends underneath the pillow P toward the center thereof, and whose lateral arms engage the grooved edges of a pillow-bearing block L', which is supported thereby and which can be moved on said arms back and forth toward and away from the end of the bar C. Said blocks are also each supported on a coiled spring M, whose upper end is made fast thereto, and whose lower end is carried through a staple *m* on the bar C and is engaged by a strap *n*, which depends within the spring from the said block. Connecting these two pillow-bearing devices is one or more tightening-straps O, (two being shown.) One end of each of these straps is secured to the under side of one of

the blocks L', from which it is carried under the pillow to a loop or ring P', through which it passes, thence back to and around the end of the bar of the frame L, thence across underneath the pillow to the frame L of the opposite pillow-bearing. Passing around the end bar of this frame, it is carried back to the ring or loop P' and is secured thereto. The pillow P may be a stuffed pillow of any suitable character, its ends being connected to the outer ends or edges of the blocks L'.

It will be apparent that any tendency of the pillow to sag at the center may be overcome by pulling the rings or loops P toward the center, thereby drawing the two blocks L' toward each other and stretching the pillow in an endwise direction.

R is a strap (one or more of which may be employed) which is secured to the under side of the pillow and connects its opposite edges, thereby keeping it in shape. The tightening-straps run between this strap and the under side of the pillow.

It will be observed that the manner in which the cords H are connected to the stretcher-bars C, by means of the rods B and the clasps D, causes said cords to pull from both sides of said bars. Consequently when the hammock is weighted they are held rigid; that is to say, they are kept from twisting forward and back, whereby the pillow is held perfectly steady and is prevented from rocking and twisting. The greater the weight in the hammock the more rigidly is the pillow held against any such movement, while it yields perfectly in the direction of the pressure of the head thereon. The construction is also a very strong and durable one.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. The combination of the hammock-body, and the suspension-rod inserted through the hem thereof, of the bowed binding or stretching bar grooved on its inner face to seat said rod and having perforations communicating with the said grooves, the suspension ring or loop, and the suspension-cords gathered at said ring or loop, and running therefrom to and through the said bar, and looped around the said rod, substantially as specified.

2. In a hammock, the combination of the hammock-body, the bowed suspension-rod engaging the end hem thereof, the bowed stretcher-bar grooved to seat said rod, and perforated, the perforated clips secured to said bar, the suspension ring or loop, and the suspension-cords gathered at said ring or loop

and looped around the said rod through the perforations of the clips and of the said bar, 60 substantially as specified.

3. In a hammock, the combination of the hammock-body, the bowed suspension-rods inserted through the end hems thereof, the bowed stretcher-bars grooved on their inner faces to seat the said rods, the perforated clips secured to said bars, the suspension rings or loops, and the suspension-cords, the cord at each end being continuous, and extending back and forth from the suspension-rod to the said ring or loop, through said bar or clips, as described. 70

4. The combination with the hammock-body, the bowed suspension-rod inserted through the hem thereof, the bowed stretcher-bar grooved to seat said rod, and perforated for the suspension-cords, the suspension ring or loop, and the cord gathered at said ring or loop, and looped around said rod through the perforations of said stretcher-bar, of a pillow carried by said bar, substantially as specified. 80

5. The combination with the stretcher-bar, of the end bolsters secured thereon, the frames hinged or pivoted to said bolsters, the pillow-bearing blocks carried by said frames, the springs upon which said blocks rest, and the pillow carried by said blocks, substantially as specified. 85

6. The combination with the stretcher-bar, of the end bolsters secured thereto, the frames hinged to said bolsters, the pillow-blocks adjustable on said frames, the springs underneath said blocks, the pillow connected to said blocks, and the tightening-straps whereby said pillow may be stretched endwise through the adjustment of the said blocks, substantially as specified. 95

7. The combination of a hammock-body, the bowed suspension-rods inserted through the end hems thereof, the bowed stretcher-bars grooved to seat said rods, the perforated clips secured to said bars, the suspension rings or loops, and the suspension-cords gathered at said rings or loops and looped around said rods through the perforation of said clips and of said bars, together with hinged or pivoted pillow-blocks carried by one of said bars, the pillow, and means for stretching the same lengthwise, substantially as specified. 105

In testimony whereof I affix my signature in presence of two witnesses. 110

WILLIAM HINES.

Witnesses:

DANIEL J. DONAHOE,
WALTER B. FERGUSON.