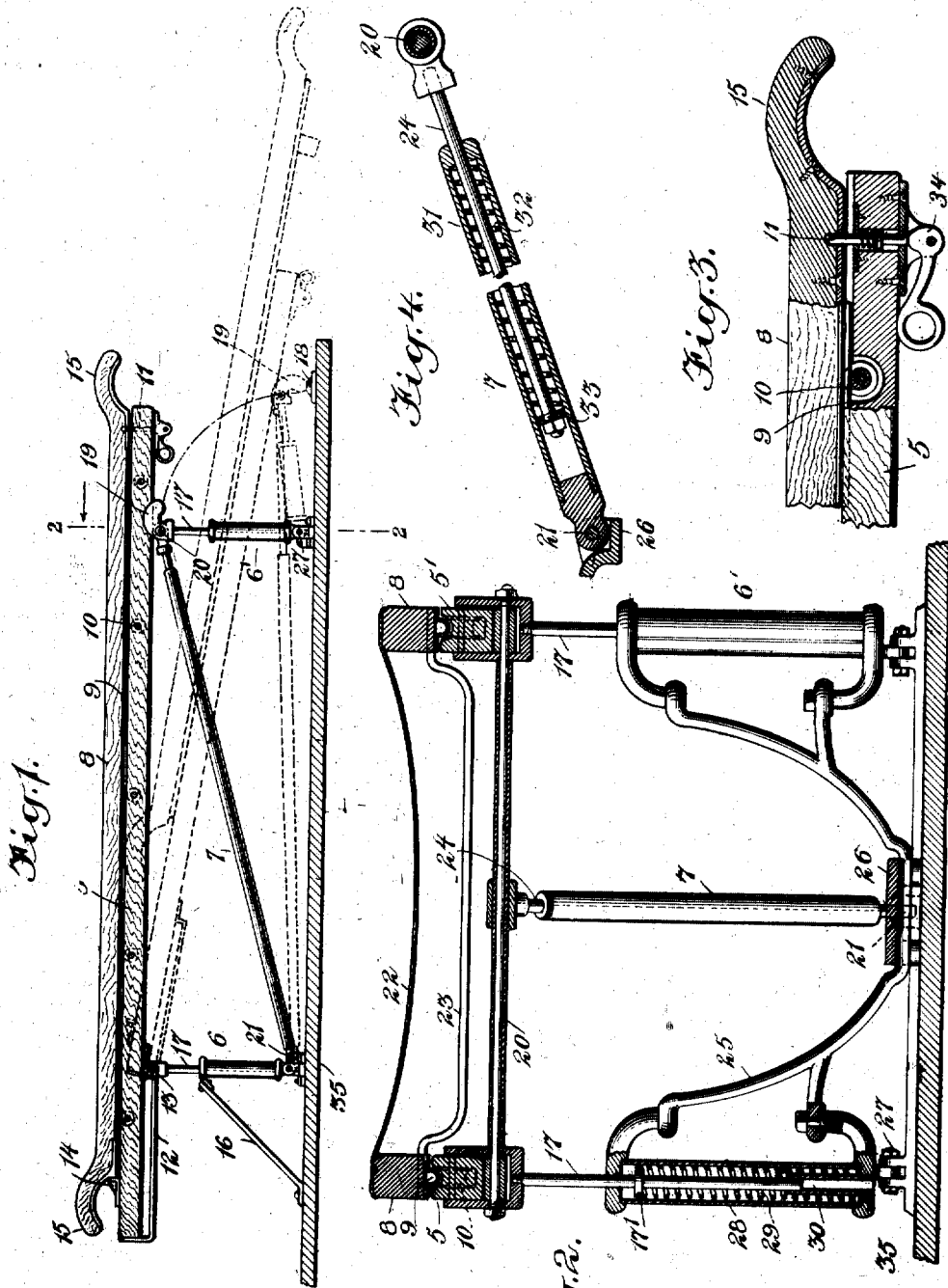


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 RESILIENT AMBULANCE COT AND STRETCHER.
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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOHN F. SMITH, a citizen of the United States, residing at Jersey City, in the county of Hudson and State of New Jersey, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Resilient Ambulance Cots and Stretchers, of which the following is a specification.

In the accompanying drawings, which serve to illustrate my invention, Figure 1 is a side elevation of my improved ambulance cot and stretcher, showing by the dotted lines the means by which said cot may be thrown into an inclined position. Fig. 3 is a detailed section of the releasing end of cot showing spring pin holding stretcher in a locked position. Fig. 4 is a detailed section of the counterbalanced brace. Fig. 2 is a front vertical sectional view through 2—2 of Fig. 1.

This invention relates to certain improvements in cots and stretchers, such as are expressly designed for ambulance and hospital service, and the object of the invention is to provide a cot with a stretcher in combination simple, strong and inexpensive, and at the same time giving ease and comfort to the patient.

In the ambulances of to-day, the arrangement employed to receive the patient within the ambulance, also for removing the patient therefrom, is complicated and requires the services of a person inside the ambulance to adjust the cot or stretcher, while in the present invention such is not the case, the arrangement of the device being of such a peculiar construction that the bed portion of the same upon which the patient lies can be thrown rearward to rest in an inclined position whereby the bed which constitutes the stretcher will project from the rear of the wagon to such an extent that the stretcher bearing the patient can be removed from the body of the cot easily; also on account of the stretcher being movably connected, the same can be drawn out still farther until the second person is enabled to take the necessary hold at front handles to lift the stretcher entirely from the body. The dotted lines shown in Fig. 1 of the drawings represent the upper portion of the cot thrown backward to assume an inclined position as aforesaid. Also the supports of the cot being constructed of springs incased in a shell or tube answer a two-fold purpose

in that they serve not only as legs to the device but also afford resiliency to the bed.

As shown in Fig. 1 the device takes the form of a cot with the bed portion detachably attached thereto, arranged to be lifted therefrom to assume the form of a stretcher with the usual handles at both ends.

Numeral 8 represents the bed portion of the cot; it also represents the stretcher employed to carry the sick as aforesaid.

5 represents the upper portion of the body of the cot upon which the bed or stretcher will rest, upon guide rollers 10 connected thereto. Upon the under side of said stretcher a metal track or projection 9 is laid to engage the said rollers for the purpose of removing the stretcher from the body of the cot. Also for the purpose of easily moving it rearward or forward to place the sick in the proper position when entering the ambulance. The upper portion 5, is held in position by supports or brackets 6 and 6¹, it will be noted that the front or head support 6 remains in a fixed position held so by tie rod 16, while rear supports 6¹ are movable in that the same are pivotally connected at the base by pin 27 and at the top are connected to frame 5 by the plunger rod being pivotally connected by pin 20, the plunger rod 17 being employed to connect the supports 6 and 6¹ to frame 5, the plunger resting on spring 29, incased by shell 28, and held by head 17¹ connected to the upper end of rod 17, consequently the rod will move up and down within the guide 30 when weight is applied on the stretcher bed, by this means said spring 29 affords ease and comfort to the sick in a manner that is obvious.

Numeral 7 represents a counter-balance brace employed for the purpose of holding support 6¹ in a vertical position rigidly when the cot is in its proper position in an ambulance; and at the same time permits the cot to be thrown rearward on account of the elasticity of compression spring 32 inclosed by shell 31, the plunger rod 24 working within the shell having at its lower end a projection 33 which works against the spring, by this means the brace 7 may be lengthened as the device is being thrown into an inclined position. The brace may be attached in a manner shown or otherwise as may be preferred, possibly the brace may be arranged to assist in holding supports 6¹ in a

horizontal plane when the stretcher is to be removed as aforesaid, said brace is connected or held in position to work on pivot 21 at the foot of support 6 by which it is 5 connected to the base, and at the rear is arranged to work on pivot 20 by which it is connected to projection 19 at the head of plunger 17, this arrangement permits supports 6¹ to be removed rearward and downward by the rod 24 working against the 10 spring incased in brace 7, consequently the stretcher can be thrown rearward and held in place at the head end of the cot by guide 12. This portion is fully illustrated by the 15 dotted lines in Fig. 1.

25 is a frame-work employed to connect the supports 6¹ in such a manner that they may act together when manipulated in lowering the cot. Midway between the supports bracket 26 is employed to connect or 20 attach the frame with the supports 6¹ to the floor 35 sometimes employed, which floor may be fastened to the floor of the ambulance by bolts, screws or otherwise as may be 25 preferred. It will be noted that the use of floor 35 may not always be deemed necessary, possibly, the floor of an ambulance or other support can be employed as an equivalent.

11 is a spring controlling pin for the purpose of locking the stretcher to the body of 30 the cot. Any other means may be employed.

12 is a guide attached to the head end of members 5 for the purpose of supporting the 35 ends and limiting the said members in their rearward motion by stop 13.

14 is a stop attached to guide member 5 for the purpose of controlling the forward 40 motion of the stretcher.

15 are the handles usually employed at either end of stretcher for carrying same when not resting on cot. 22 is the canvas or 45 other material attached as usual to the frame of said stretcher constituting the bed.

23 is a brace rod connecting the sides of the stretcher.

18 is a cushion pad on which projection 19 or the upper portion of the cot will rest 50 drawings by the dotted lines in Fig. 1.

34 is a trip for controlling spring pin 11, in that when the pressure exerted by the

trip is off the pin is thrown out of engagement.

As regards attaching the stretcher to the 55 body of the cot, I do not confine myself alone to the means illustrated as there are many ways and means known and in use that may be employed in lieu of the above. Also in the construction, the various 60 minor details employed in the makeup of the device do not represent the only mode or means now in use or that may be employed to carry out in each case the purpose of the invention. Consequently it will be 65 understood that I do not confine myself to the details of construction shown as they may vary, and the essentials of the invention still be employed.

Having thus described my invention, what 70 I claim and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. A combination ambulance cot and stretcher comprising a resilient cot frame and detachably attached cot bed or stretcher, 75 said cot frame consisting of a base resilient supports 6 rigidly connected thereto, resilient supports 6¹ pivotally connected to the base at its rear end, counter-balance brace 7 adapted to hold support 6¹ in a vertical position, and frame 5 resting upon said 80 supports, said bed or stretcher to lie detachably attached, upon member 5, as and for the purpose set forth.

2. A combination ambulance cot and 85 stretcher comprising a resilient cot frame and detachably attached cot bed or stretcher, said cot frame consisting of member 5 with 90 rollers 10 connected thereto, upon which said cot bed or stretcher will rest, the said cot being held in position by spring supports 6, and pivotally connected spring supports 6¹, counterbalanced brace 7 provided with 95 resilient plunger 24 in conjunction with spring supports 6¹ to permit the cot being thrown rearward into an inclined position, said cot bed or stretcher 8 being provided with handles 15, and means to detachably 100 attach same, as and for the purpose set forth.

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