

M. E. J. Marr,

Cradle,

No 76,336,

Patented Apr. 7, 1868.

Fig. 1.

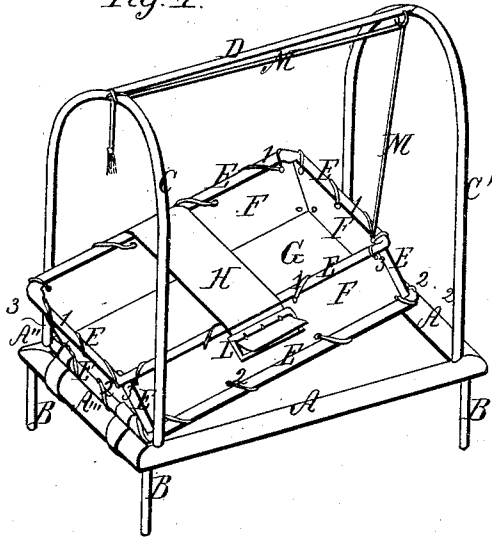
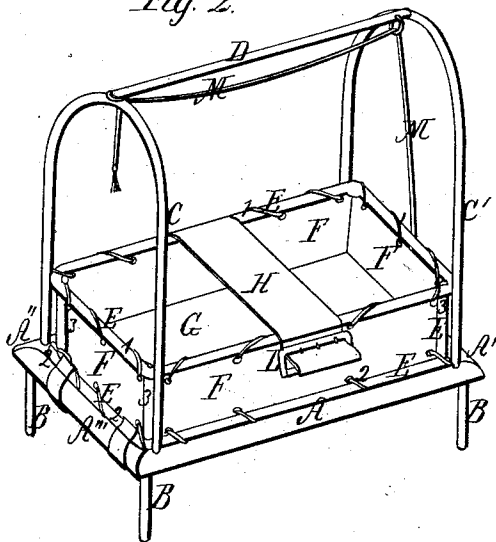


Fig. 2.



Witnesses;

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MARY E. J. MARR, OF JEFFERSON, LOUISIANA.

Letters Patent No. 76,336, dated April 7, 1868.

IMPROVED CHILD'S BED.

The Schedule referred to in these Letters Patent and making part of the same.

TO ALL WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

Be it known that I, MARY E. J. MARR, of Jefferson, in the parish of Jefferson, and State of Louisiana, have invented a certain new, useful, and improved Child's Bed, of which I hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description, reference being had to the annexed drawings, making a part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of my improvement, in which it is shown in an inclined position, and

Figure 2 a similar view of it in its usual horizontal position.

As the name by which I have designated it imports, my invention is designed chiefly for the use and benefit of infants, my object being to provide a resting-place for them, which shall be at once safe, cool, or warm, as the occasion may require, and susceptible of being changed from one position to another, so that the occupant may be relieved of the fatigue involved in or incident to being kept continually lying down, and at the same time diverted by an opportunity of seeing neighboring objects, &c., which it could not enjoy without a greater or less elevation of its head and body; but it may be adapted, with equal benefit, to the use of invalids or other persons, of any age, who cannot sit or stand up, and yet desire to see what is passing around them, or who, for any other reason, find it disagreeably irksome or hurtful constantly to lie in the position entailed by the occupancy of a fixed horizontal bed.

The effect of the use of my invention in the cure of invalids will be exceedingly important and advantageous, especially when compared with the ordinary mode of propping up such persons with bolsters and pillows, &c., because the support it affords to their backs, underneath the whole extent of their bodies, is uniform, whatever may be the degree of elevation to which they are raised, and hence there can never be the painful and sometimes injurious flexure of their bodies that frequently results from the use of bolsters and pillows, &c., which experience has demonstrated it is impossible always to adjust in such manner as to prevent such consequences.

And my invention consists of two distinct parts, but which are yet inseparably connected together, the one being substantially the same as an ordinary bedstead, in its general features of external construction and form, and which, therefore, for purposes of distinction, I may call the bedstead proper; the other a super-vibrating frame, which, being hinged to the bedstead proper at its foot, presents the immediate means for accomplishing the end I have especially in view, after certain adjuncts, to which I shall more particularly refer, have been added to it.

In the construction or manufacture of my improvement, any suitable material may be employed, but willow or metal would, in my opinion, be found generally to be the best, because of their capability of being wrought into light and elegant forms, and because they possess great strength and durability.

But my invention will be more easily and clearly understood by reference to the drawings, on which, at both the figures, the same letters denote the same parts.

On the drawings, A A' A'' A''' mark the horizontal side and end-pieces of the bedstead proper, and B the supporting corner-posts or legs thereof. C C D represent an arched frame for the support of a light textile bar to protect the child from mosquitoes, flies, and other like annoying insects.

I remark here that the bedstead, as delineated on the drawings, is merely illustrative, and that I do not confine myself to the particular form of any part thereof, as there exhibited, but reserve the right to adopt any other that I may consider desirable.

Hinged to the foot of the bedstead proper is the frame E, which is so ordered as to rest upon the horizontal pieces or supports A A' A'' A''', as shown at fig. 2, when it is desired the child should lie in a horizontal position. This frame E, it will be perceived, is of skeleton formation, consisting of a lower and an upper part respectively, marked 1 and 2; which are held together by four corner rods or bars marked 3. The interval or open space between the said superior and inferior parts 1 and 2 should be about eight inches, more or less, according to circumstances, and be filled by strong linen or other suitable cloth, drawn and laced tightly, as shown at both the figures. The space enclosed by or within the lower part, 2, of the frame is also filled by a linen cloth, G, which, having eyelet-holes around its edges, is also to be laced tightly, as shown. This cloth, G, constitutes the bottom of the frame E, whilst the cloth between the parts 1 and 2, and which is marked F, forms the

sides and ends of it. The frame E, when thus provided with sides, ends, and a bottom, is transformed thereby into an oblong box without a cover, into which the child is laid with its feet towards the hinged end. Secured firmly to one side of this box is the band H, which, crossing the same transversely, is secured to the other side by the buckle L. In some cases it may be necessary to use two, or even three cross-bands, in order to make the security of the child absolute, but, as a general thing, one will be sufficient. The cord M, being secured to the unhinged end, affords a means for elevating and holding the frame E at any desired angle.

In the warm season of the year, the linen upon the sides and ends of the frame E should be of as open texture as possible, in order to allow of a free circulation of air through the same. For the same reason it may also be proper to use a similar fabric for the bottom, G. In cold seasons, thicker cloth may more appropriately be employed for precisely the opposite reason. The bottom, G, may or may not be covered with a thin, soft mattress, or folded blanket, or the like, as the fancy or judgment of the mother may deem best.

In the practice or actual use of my invention, the child is put within the frame E. If it sleeps, or remains quiet, although awake, the frame may be left in a horizontal position, as shown at fig. 2; but if it be restless, or for any other reason it becomes proper to elevate its head and body, the frame is raised by means of the cord M, as shown at fig. 1, or to some greater or less angle, according to circumstances. Effectually prevented from falling out by the band H, and delighted with the continual change of its position, the child remains quiet and happy. Hence it will be observed that my invention, in addition to its other advantages, practically dispenses with the necessity of having a nurse for the child.

In applying my invention to the use of adults, the only necessary change will be to make it larger, and, in some cases, to take off the cloth sides.

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

The bedstead proper, herein described, consisting of the horizontal pieces A A' A'' A''', posts B, and arched frame C C' D, in combination with the frame E, when the latter is constructed as herein described, and provided with a cloth bottom, G, and cloth sides and ends F, and transverse cross-band H, and is hinged to the bedstead proper, substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

MARY E. J. MARR.

Witnesses:

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