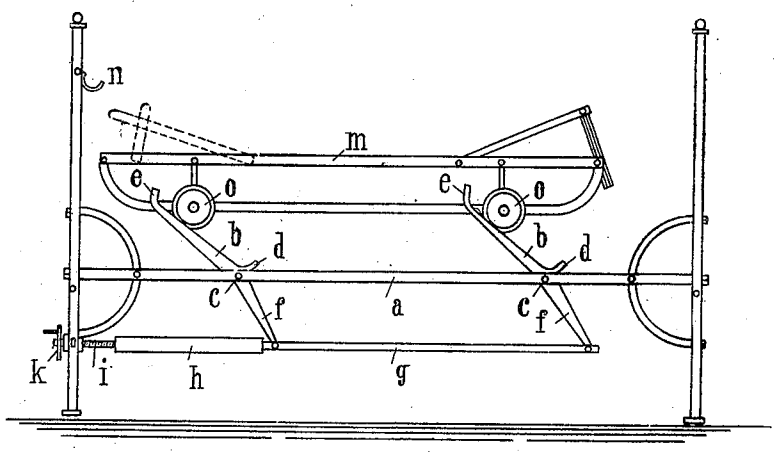
No. 890,069. PATENTED JUNE 9, 1908.

M. KOEHLER.

FRACTURE APPARATUS FOR STRETCHING PARTS OF THE HUMAN BODY.

APPLICATION FILED APR. 17, 1907.



Witnesses:
Gustav Hillbrock.
Wilhelm Grünfeld

Inventor:
Max Koehler.

THE NORRIS PETERS CO., WASHINGTON, D. C.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

MAX KOEHLER, OF HOHENLOHEHÜTTE, GERMANY.

FRACTURE APPARATUS FOR STRETCHING PARTS OF THE HUMAN BODY.

No. 890,069. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented June 9, 1908.

Application filed April 17, 1907. Serial No. 368,755.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, MAX KOEHLER, physician, a subject of the King of Prussia and German Emperor, residing at Hohenlohehütte, in Oberschlesien, Germany, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Fracture Apparatus for Stretching Parts of the Human Body, of which the following is a specification.

The present invention refers to an arrangement for stretching the human body on a bed by means of the weight of the body itself.

In order to always keep the body in a horizontal position the bed movable in longitudinal direction was arranged on an adjustable inclined plane, and the horizontal position was obtained by an arrangement provided opposite the ways allowing of a vertical adjustment. This arrangement was however too complicated for sick-beds. Instead the movable bed is supported on four rollers on parallel levers arranged in pairs on both sides of the bottom frame, which levers form inclined planes and can be adjusted by a mutual tightening and adjusting gear so that the bed will always remain in a horizontal position.

In the accompanying drawing the new arrangement is exemplified in side elevation.

To the horizontal beam —*a*— of the bed frame is revolubly secured by means of hinges —*c*—*c*— on each side of the bed a pair of levers —*b*—*b*—. The levers —*b*—*b*— form an inclined surface which is limited at either end by semicircular portions —*d*—*d*— and —*e*—*e*— respectively. Beyond the pivoting points —*c*—*c*— the levers —*b*—*b*— are extended and coupled together by means of rod —*g*—. The latter is again coupled with a long tubular nut —*h*— in which turns a screw spindle —*i*—. Screw spindle —*i*— is secured against axial movement by two collars in the bottom part of the bed frame and provided with a handwheel —*k*—. By turning said hand-wheel —*k*— the levers —*b*—*b*— are adjusted and thereby also the bed —*m*— resting on rollers —*o*—*o*— on these levers.

The bed —*m*— can be arranged in such a manner, that it is made with its lower parts folding, which may be adjusted and secured in vertical direction in known manner. If now the bed *m* is loaded with the body to be stretched and the body is fastened with the limb to be stretched to the hook —*n*— of the bed-top, the bed —*m*— will always tend to roll down the inclined planes of the levers, and in consequence the bed will exert by itself a pull on the body resting thereon and thereby stretch the limb.

It is understood that this device is to be used for stretching various parts of the body at will.

Having now described my invention what I claim and desire to secure by Letters Patent of the United States is:

1. In a fracture apparatus the combination of the bed carrying the rollers, with the parallel levers pivoted to bars upon both sides of the bed frame, substantially as described.

2. In a fracture apparatus the combination of the bed carrying the rollers, with the parallel levers pivoted to bars upon both sides of the bed frame and with the adjusting gear to regulate the height of the bed and retain it always in a horizontal position, substantially as described.

3. In a fracture apparatus the combination of the bed carrying the rollers, with the parallel levers pivoted to bars upon both sides of the bed frame and with the adjusting gear to regulate the height of the bed and retain it always in a horizontal position, all the various parts of device being detachably connected to each other, substantially as described.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand in the presence of two witnesses.

MAX KOEHLER

Witnesses:
WOLDEMAR HAUPT,
HENRY HASPER.