

A. S. LEVY.
 COMBINED MATTRESS AND FLOAT.
 APPLICATION FILED MAY 28, 1912.

1,047,820.

Patented Dec. 17, 1912.

Fig. 1.

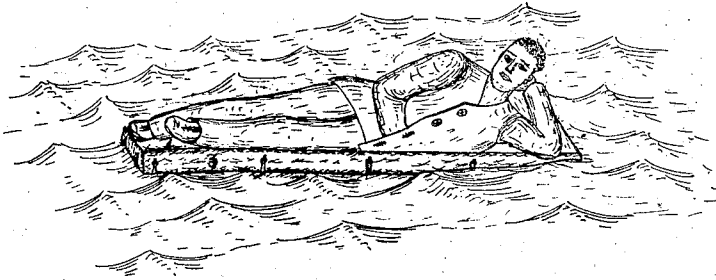


Fig. 3.

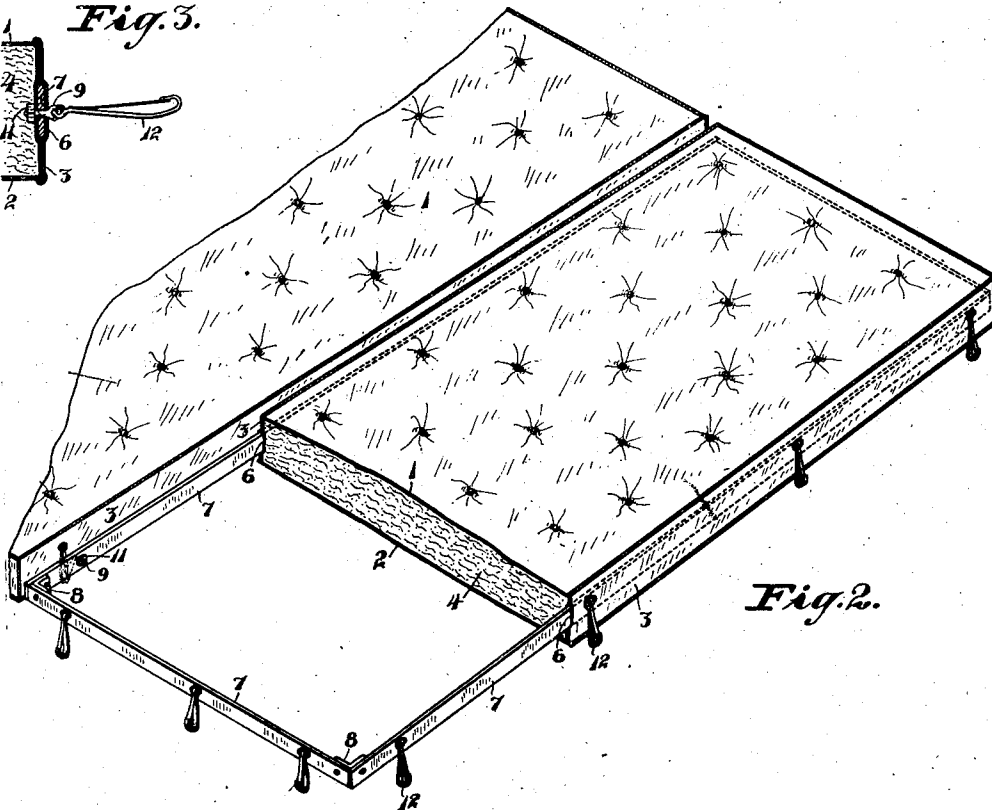
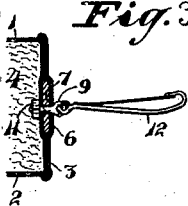


Fig. 2.

WITNESSES

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COMBINED MATTRESS AND FLOAT.

1,047,820.

Specification of Letters Patent.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ABRAM SLAGER LEVY, a citizen of the United States, residing at San Francisco, in the county of San Francisco and State of California, have invented new and useful Improvements in Combined Mattresses and Floats, of which the following is a specification.

One object of the present invention is to provide a mattress, for use on board ships, which, in case of necessity, as by reason of the sinking of the ship, can be used as a raft or float, to support in the water one or more persons thereon.

A further object is to provide such a mattress which can be quickly and easily attached by a flexible connection to one or more similar mattresses to form a raft or float of considerable magnitude, and therefore on which the occupants will be well protected from the water in rough weather.

In the accompanying drawing, Figure 1 is a perspective view of my improved mattress in use as a float; Fig. 2 is a broken perspective view of two such mattresses attached together; Fig. 3 is an enlarged sectional view of an edge of the mattress.

On referring to the drawing, it will be seen that my improved mattress is of the usual rectangular form and has the top 1 and the bottom 2, formed of a single thickness of ticking, connected by vertical edges 3 each having a double thickness of ticking. Said mattress is filled with some material 4, as kapok floss, which will absorb moisture very slowly, and be of very small weight in proportion to its bulk. In longitudinal pockets 6 formed midway of each vertical edge are contained bars 7 of thin flat iron, suitable dimensions of said bars being 1 in. width or height and $\frac{1}{8}$ in. in thickness. These bars at the corners of the mattress are connected by angle irons 8 and thus form a rigid frame, which frame is an important feature of my invention. Since the bars are very thin in proportion to their width or height, the weight of the mattress is not materially increased thereby and yet they very effectually prevent the bending of the mattress in a vertical direction at the sides or ends. An ordinary mattress, even if filled with the proper material, cannot be used as a supporting float, for the reason that it readily bends when subjected to the

forces of its own buoyancy and the weight 55 thereon. It is found that a mattress filled with kapok and suitable in size for the berth of a vessel will support in the water approximately 25 times its own weight if prevented from bending. Through said bars are 60 passed at suitable intervals eye-bolts 9, on the inner ends of which are screwed nuts 11, and the eyes of which engage the eyes of snap hooks 12. Since the eye-bolts pass loosely through the bars, they can be turned 65 about their axes, and therefore also the snap hooks can be turned in any direction. By means of these snap hooks any number of such mattresses can be flexibly, but securely, attached together, forming a raft or float 70 having an extended surface to support thereon ship-wrecked persons, or, if desired, and, if the number of such mattresses be great in proportion to the number of persons to be saved, said mattresses can be connected 75 together on top of one another, so that a person will be supported upon such a raft well above the surface of the water and the injurious effects of immersion in cold water will therefore be avoided. 80

While the above is the preferred form of my invention, I desire it to be understood that the invention is not limited to the precise construction here shown, as the bar need not necessarily be a flat bar, nor need the 85 connections be made by snap hooks. However, I regard it as an essential feature of my invention that the mattress should have means, other than the ticking and filling, for preventing deformation thereof. 90

I claim:—

1. In combination with a mattress having a filling of material not readily absorbent of water, the edges of said mattress having longitudinal pockets, a frame comprising 95 rigid bars in said pockets, and means attached to said bars for connecting said mattress to similar mattresses.

2. In combination with a mattress having a filling of fibrous material not readily 100 absorbent of water, the edges of said mattress having longitudinal pockets, a frame, consisting of bars in said pockets rigidly connected at the corners of the mattress, eye-bolts through said bars, and snap hooks 105 connected to said eye-bolts.

3. In combination with a mattress having a filling of fibrous material not readily

absorbent of water, the edge of said mattress having longitudinal pockets, a rigid frame comprising thin flat bars in said pockets and angle irons connecting said bars at the corners of the mattress, eye-bolts through said bars, and snap hooks connected with said eye-bolts.

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

ABRAM S. LEVY.

Witnesses:

FRANCIS M. WRIGHT,
D. B. RICHARDS.