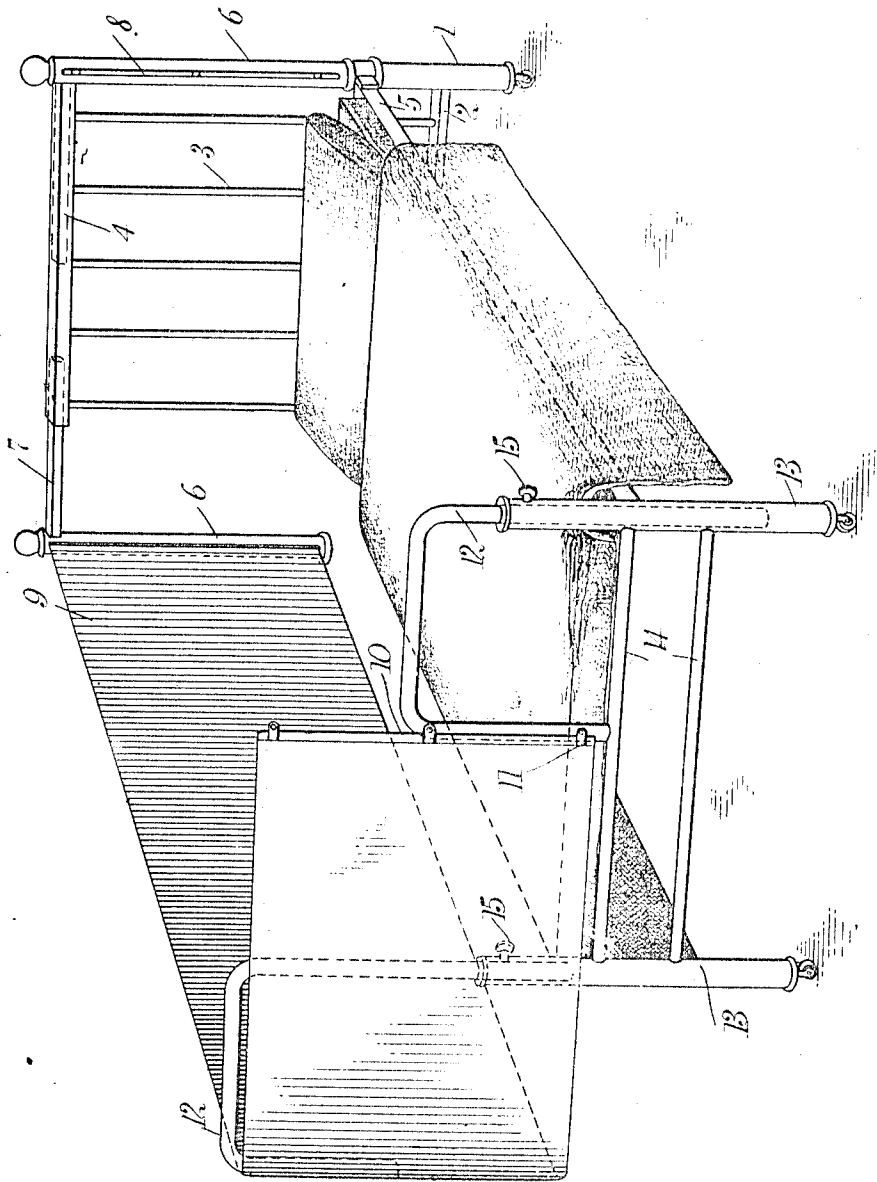


F. B. EASTON.
 SCREEN BED.
 APPLICATION FILED MAR. 16, 1912.

1,040,909.

Patented Oct. 8, 1912.



WITNESSES

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FRANK B. EASTON, OF NEW YORK, N. Y.

SCREEN-BED.

1,040,909.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Oct. 8, 1912.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, FRANK B. EASTON, a citizen of the United States, and a resident of the city of New York, borough of Manhattan, in the county and State of New York, have invented a new and Improved Screen-Bed, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description.

My invention relates to an improvement in hospital beds and is provided with means for screening the bed on both sides of the same when the occupant of the bed requires medical attention. Heretofore it has been the custom to use portable screens to hide the bed from view on such occasions. These screens are more or less inconvenient because they take up space and cannot always be moved about from one bed to another. My invention obviates these disadvantages by building the screen into the structure of the bed so that it can be called into use at a moment's notice. The bed, when the screen is not needed, presents the same appearance as an ordinary bed.

Reference is to be had to the accompanying drawings forming a part of this specification, in which the figure represents a perspective view of a bed screened along one side of the same, and showing the manner in which the screen is attached.

My improved bed comprises a pair of legs 1, supporting the head of the same and connected by means of a cross-bar 2. From this cross-bar 2 rises a number of upright rods 3, connected to a cross-bar 4 at the top, this cross-bar 4 being hollow for a purpose which will be described later. The legs 1 support one end of the frame on which the mattress is carried at their tops, the bars constituting this frame being secured to the legs 1 in any convenient manner.

The tops of the legs 1 at the level of the mattress-carrying frame are flat, and upon these flat tops rest posts 6, having lateral arms 7 extending therefrom at their tops which pass into the hollow cross-bar 4, and have telescoping engagement therewith. The posts 6 are hollow and have longitudinal slots 8, these slots facing the foot of the bed to permit the body of the screen to pass therethrough.

Each of the posts 6 will contain an ordinary spring roller, and to these rollers the screens 9 will be secured, passing out through the slots 8 and terminating at their outer ends in bars 10 having clips 11 to en-

able one or both of these screens to be secured in extended position and conceal the bed and the occupant thereof entirely from view, if desired.

At the foot of the bed are a pair of legs 13 connected by means of cross-bars 14, and likewise serving to support the foot of the mattress frame 5. This frame will be connected to the legs 13 in any convenient manner, this feature forming no part of my invention. The legs 13 are each hollow, and each receives a U-shaped bar 12. The arms of these U-shaped bars are unequal, the longer arm having telescoping engagement with its respective leg or post 13. 15 is a thumb-screw mounted in the top of each post 13 to enable the longer arm of each U-shaped bar to be secured in adjusted position. The U-shaped bars 12 can of course be revolved around the hollow post 13 as axes, and can be adjusted so that their shorter arms will be located adjacent each other and rest upon the upper bar 14, in which position these U-shaped bars will form in effect a rail for the foot of the bed; or they can be turned through half a circle and lifted until they occupy the position shown by the U-shaped bar on the left of the figure, in which position they will serve as a brace for the body of the screen 9. The section of the bar 12 connecting the two arms of these U-shaped bars will of course not be greater than half the width of the bed, and the arms 7 are passed into the bar 4 at the head of the bed will be substantially half the length of this bar 4. When it is desired to make use of the screen on one side of the bed, the post 6 is moved laterally outward, as shown at the left of the figure, in which position it will be supported and held against rotating around the bar 4 as an axis, by the arm 7, this arm being squared, or having some other polygonal shape, and the bore of the bar 4 having a corresponding shape, as will be readily understood. At the same time, the U-shaped bar on the same side of the head at the foot thereof will be lifted and turned through half a circle outward, and then fastened in position by means of the thumb-screw 15. The bar 10 will then be grasped by hand to pull the screen out, and this screen will be passed around the shorter arm of the U-shaped bar 12, and the clips 11 fastened to the shorter arm of the other U-shaped bar 12, which will be located adjacent the mid-

dle of the bed at the foot thereof. When the screen is in this position it will hide the bed and the occupant on that side, and the doctor or nurse who is to attend the patient will have plenty of room between the screen and the edge of the bed to do whatever is necessary under the circumstances.

If it be desired to screen the bed on the other side also, the post 6 at the right is pulled outward, and when the U-shaped bar 12 on the right at the foot of the bed is swung outward into corresponding position and fastened by the screw 15, the two screens can be fastened together at the foot of the bed by causing the clips 11 of the one to engage the bar 10 of the other. This will screen the bed substantially on all sides.

From the above description it will be seen that by making my screen as part of the frame of the bed, the bed can be screened at any time without the necessity of moving around any additional pieces of furniture; and when the occasion for using the screen is passed, the clips 11 need only be detached to make the spring rollers in the posts 6 wind up the screen and withdraw it. The U-shaped bars can then be swung back to permit their shorter arms to rest upon the upper bar 14 and be secured against movement by the locking devices 15. The bed will then look like an ordinary bed, and the screen can be had at an instant's notice when again required for use.

My invention has the further advantage that it is exceedingly simple and the bed incorporating the same can be constructed at a low cost. The invention when applied will not in any way interfere with the purpose for which the bed is required, but it will greatly add to the utility and convenience of beds designed for hospitals and other sick rooms.

I wish to have it understood that the above description and drawings are illustrative only, and that I do not care to be limited to the exact details shown and described, except in so far as is expressly indicated in the accompanying claims.

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

1. In an improvement of the kind de-

scribed, a bed having a screen attached to one end, means for extending said screen from said end to the other end of said bed and securing the same to the other end, and means for spacing said screen from a side of said bed.

2. In an improvement of the kind described, a bed having a hollow cross-bar at one end thereof, a post having a lateral arm extending into said cross-bar, a screen carried by said post, whereby, when said post is moved to withdraw said arm in part from the bar and the screen carried by said post extended, the said screen will be spaced from the side of the bed, and means for securing the outer end of the screen to the other end of the bed.

3. In an improvement of the kind described, the combination of a bed having a screen secured to one end of the same, said bed having a hollow post at the other end, a U-shaped bar pivotally and slidably mounted in said post, and means carried by said post for securing said arm in adjusted position, whereby, when the U-shaped bar is swung into position to project laterally from the bed and the screen extended and secured to the foot of the bed, the said U-shaped bar will cause said screen to be spaced from the side of the bed.

4. In an improvement of the kind described, the combination of a bed having a hollow cross bar at one end, a post having an arm extending laterally therefrom received by said cross-bar, a screen carried by said post, a hollow post located at the other end of the bed, a U-shaped bar pivotally and rotatably carried by said hollow post, and means for securing said U-shaped bar in adjusted position, whereby, when the post is moved to withdraw the arm in part from the hollow bar, and the U-shaped arm is secured in position to project laterally from the bed and the screen extended, the screen will be spaced from the side of the bed.

In testimony whereof I have signed my name to this specification in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

FRANK B. EASTON.

Witnesses:

WILLIAM F. NICKEL,
PHILIP D. ROLLHAUS.