

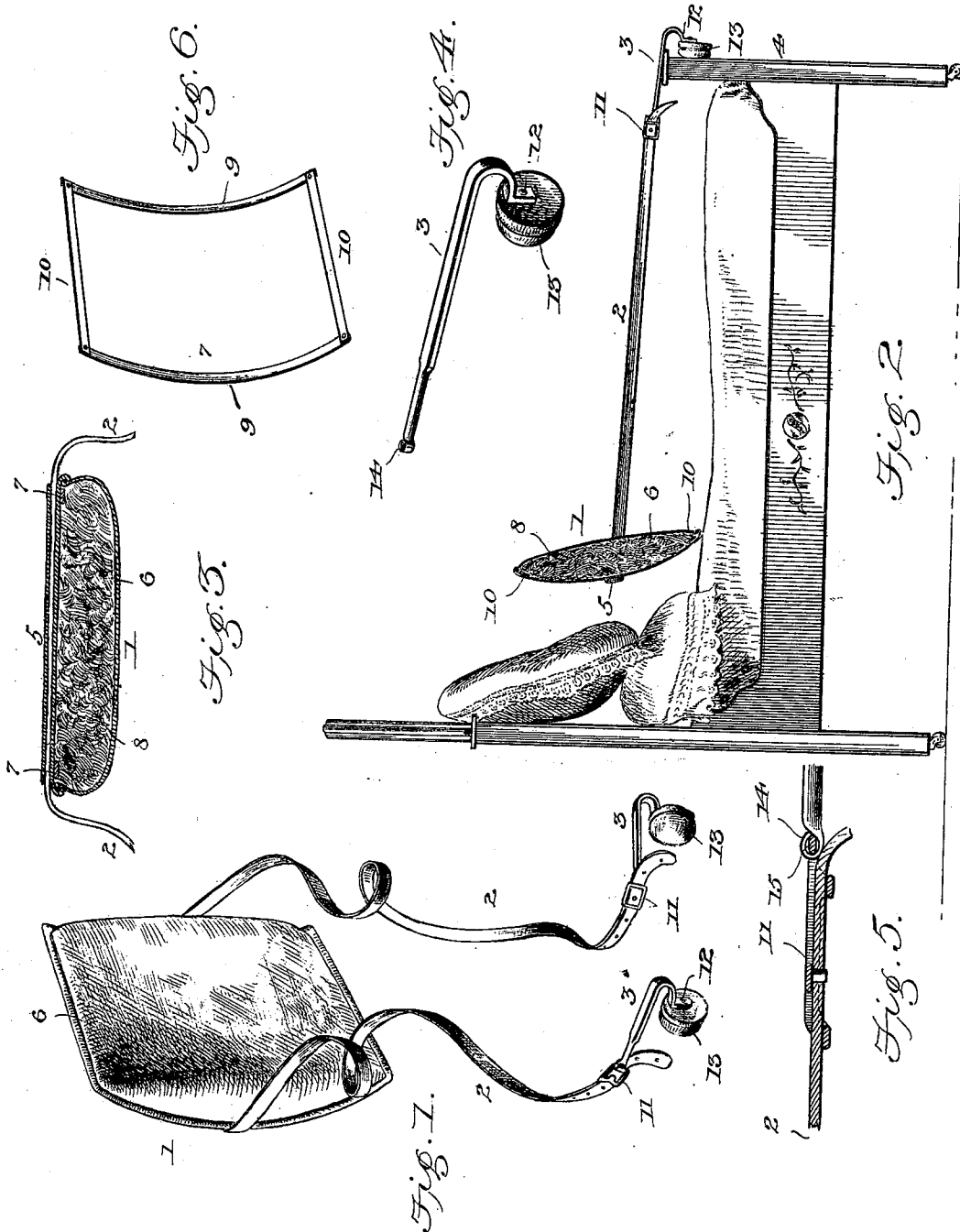
No. 627,663.

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G. L. WALDEN.
SUPPORT FOR INVALIDS.

(Application filed Oct. 19, 1898.)

(No Model.)



Witnesses
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By his Attorneys,

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

GILBERT L. WALDEN, OF NEW MARKET, VIRGINIA.

SUPPORT FOR INVALIDS.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 627,663, dated June 27, 1899.

Application filed October 19, 1898. Serial No. 694,009. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, GILBERT L. WALDEN, a citizen of the United States, residing at New Market, in the county of Shenandoah and State of Virginia, have invented a new and useful Support for Invalids and Patients, of which the following is a specification.

The invention relates to improvements in supports for invalids and patients.

10 The object of the present invention is to improve the construction of supports for invalids, patients, and others, and to provide a simple, inexpensive, and efficient device adapted to be readily applied to any ordinary
15 bedstead and capable of supporting a person in a sitting or semireclining position.

A further object of the invention is to provide a device of this character adapted to be readily applied to a person without inconveniencing him and capable of engaging a wooden
20 bedstead without marring the finish or otherwise injuring the same.

The invention consists in the construction and novel combination and arrangement of
25 parts, as hereinafter fully described, illustrated in the accompanying drawings, and pointed out in the claims hereto appended.

In the drawings, Figure 1 is a perspective view of a support for invalids constructed in
30 accordance with this invention. Fig. 2 is a longitudinal sectional view showing the same applied to a bed. Fig. 3 is a transverse sectional view of the cushion or rest, illustrating the manner of attaching the strap or other
35 flexible connection with the same. Fig. 4 is a detail perspective view of one of the bed-engaging hooks. Fig. 5 is a detail sectional view illustrating the manner of connecting the straps with the hooks. Fig. 6 is a detail
40 perspective view of the rectangular frame of the cushion or rest.

Like numerals of reference designate corresponding parts in all the figures of the drawings.

45 1 designates a rectangular cushion or rest designed to be arranged within a bed at the back of a patient or invalid to support the same in a sitting or semireclining position and connected with the foot of the bed by
50 means of straps 2 or other flexible connections and hooks 3 for engaging the foot of the bed 4. The straps or other flexible connec-

tions extend from opposite sides of the cushion or rest, at the center thereof, and preferably consist of a continuous strap extended across
55 the back or rear face of the cushion or support and secured to the same. That portion of the strap which extends across the rear face of the cushion or rest is preferably arranged within a casing 5 of rubber or other suitable
60 material.

The cushion or rest, which may be of any desired construction, preferably consists of a rubber covering or casing 6, arranged on a
65 rectangular frame 7 and provided with a suitable filling 8 of a material which will render the cushion or rest soft and elastic, so that the said cushion or rest will yield readily to the back of a patient.

The rectangular frame is constructed of resilient metal, the sides 9 being curved and presenting concave front faces, and the top and bottom pieces 10 of the frame possess
70 greater elasticity than the side pieces and permit the cushion or rest to bow or curve transversely when subjected to the strain incident to its use. By this construction the cushion, which is curved from top to bottom, is rendered yielding and flexible and is adapted to provide a comfortable support for a patient
75 or invalid.

The outer ends of the side straps are adjustably connected by suitable buckles 11 with hooks 3, which are preferably constructed of flat metal, as shown, and which are
85 adapted to receive the upper rods or bars of the foot of an iron bedstead within them. In order to enable the hooks to engage a wooden bedstead without scratching or otherwise
90 marring the finish, the bills of the hooks are provided with arms 12, arranged at right angles to the shanks and having pads 13 secured to their inner faces. The pads 13, which are preferably circular, are adapted to fit
95 against the outer face of the footboard of a bed, and they enable the hooks to be interlocked with the same without damaging the wood.

The inner ends of the shanks of the hooks are reduced and provided with eyes 14 to receive loops 15 of the buckles 11, whereby the
100 latter are hinged to the hooks. The said buckles may be of any preferred construction, and they permit the side straps or con-

nections to be adjusted to accommodate the device to the size of the bed and the position of the patient or other person using it.

The invention has the following advantages: The device, which is simple and comparatively inexpensive in construction, is adapted to be readily applied to any ordinary bedstead and does not necessitate any alteration in the construction thereof or scratch or otherwise mar the finish of the same. It is adapted to be readily placed behind the back of a person without causing him any inconvenience or annoyance and is capable of supporting him in a sitting or semireclining position, and it may also be used with great advantage in obstetrics. The cushion or rest possesses great elasticity and is adapted to bow or curve transversely and longitudinally to conform to the configuration of a patient, and as the covering or casing of the cushion or rest presents smooth unbroken faces it may be readily cleaned and maintained in proper position for use. It is light and portable and may be readily carried by a physician.

Changes in the form, proportion, and minor detail of construction may be resorted to without departing from the spirit or sacrificing any of the advantages of this invention.

What is claimed is—

1. A device of the class described comprising a cushion or rest designed to be placed in a bed to support a person, a hook adapted to engage the foot of an iron bedstead and provided at its bill with an outwardly-extending

transverse arm, a pad mounted on the arm for engaging a wooden bedstead, and a connection between the hook and the cushion, substantially as described.

2. A device of the class described comprising a cushion or rest, a pair of hooks adapted to engage the foot of an iron bedstead and provided at their bills with outwardly-extending arms and having eyes at their shanks, buckles having loops linked into the eyes, side straps extending from the cushion or rest to the buckles, and pads mounted on the outwardly-extending arms and adapted to engage a wooden bedstead, substantially as described.

3. A device of the class described provided with a cushion comprising a substantially rectangular casing or covering, a suitable filling arranged therein, and the rectangular frame arranged within the casing or covering at the edges thereof and composed of the curved side bars 9 and the resilient transverse bars 10 arranged parallel with each other and connecting the ends of the curved side bars, said resilient bars 10 being adapted to permit the cushion to bow or yield transversely, substantially as described.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing as my own I have hereto affixed my signature in the presence of two witnesses.

GILBERT L. WALDEN.

Witnesses:

JOHN H. SIGGERS,
C. W. BENNICK.