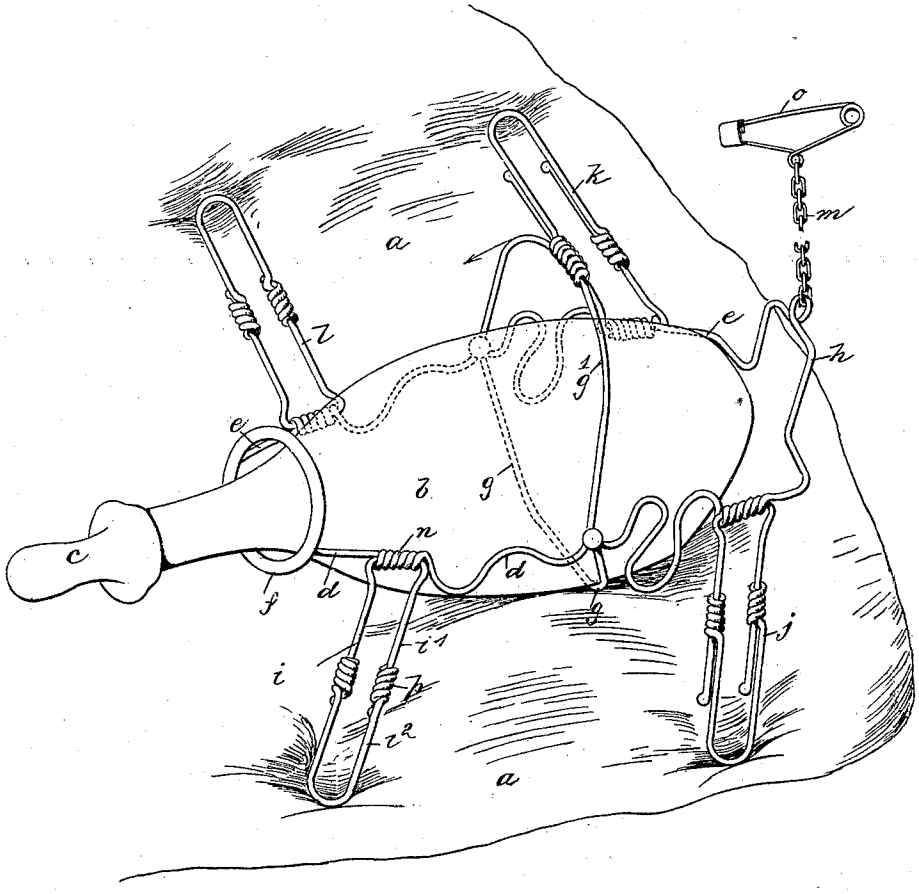
(No Model.)

C. H. LEONARD.

NURSING OR FEEDING BOTTLE HOLDER.

No. 469,480. Patented Feb. 23, 1892.



Witnesses
V. P. Wilson.
Fred. S. Kemper.

Inventor
Charles H. Leonard
By his Attorneys
Gifford & Lawton.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

CHARLES H. LEONARD, OF ELIZABETH, NEW JERSEY.

NURSING OR FEEDING BOTTLE HOLDER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 469,480, dated February 23, 1892.

Application filed October 19, 1891. Serial No. 409,131. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, CHARLES H. LEONARD, of Elizabeth, Union county, in the State of New Jersey, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Nursing or Feeding Bottle Holders, of which the following is a specification.

The holder which is the subject of this invention is more particularly intended for holding a bottle containing liquid food in position for use by a child or invalid in an inclined position.

The accompanying drawing represents an ordinary nursing-bottle supported by the holder upon a pillow in position for use.

a is the pillow.

b is the bottle, which is represented as resting upon one edge in a position inclining downwardly at the neck, so that the liquid contents tend to flow from the bottle.

c is the ordinary nursing-nipple, which, owing to the position in which the bottle is supported, is held convenient for the mouth of the child or person whose head is resting upon the pillow.

d and *e* are members on opposite sides of the bottle by which it is confined on each side. These members in their preferable form, as shown in the drawing, each consist of wires or narrow bands extending from the shoulder to the rear of the bottle, conforming more or less with the side sweep of the bottle; but the extent of surface from end to end of the bottle, which these members cover, is to a large extent immaterial, since contact with the bottle at a single point on each side will be sufficient for the performance of their principal function, which is to confine the bottle from any undue movements sidewise.

f is a member connected with the members *d* and *e*, confining the bottle in front of its shoulder. In the preferable form shown in the drawing this member *f* consists of a ring large enough to admit the passage of the head and neck of the bottle and encircling the neck in front of the shoulder; but the extent to which this member surrounds the neck is to a large extent immaterial, since its principal function is to prevent any undue forward movement of the bottle and to fix the elevation of the forward portion of the bottle. In performing these functions it sustains the weight and forward thrust of the bottle, so as to remove them from the mouth of the user, thus maintaining the nipple *c* in position for use independently of the mouth and permitting the mouth after being removed to always find the nipple in position upon returning to it. In some cases the member *f* might even be dispensed with, as where the bottle should be embraced by the side members *d* and *e* with sufficient firmness to perform the functions of the member *f* just alluded to.

g g' is a member connected with the side members *d* and *e* and extending around the bottle, the lower member *g* of which forms a support to the bottle at some point in the rear of the member *f*. This member *g g'* is pivoted to the members *d* and *e* at the points of attachment, so the member can swing back and forth. The upper part *g'* of the member is longer than the lower part *g*, whereby the frame can swing down on the forward part of the bottle, and the lower member is inclined rearward and at an angle with respect to the upper member, whereby as the upper member *g'* is swung forward in the direction of the arrow the lower member *g* will be raised thereby, tilting the forward end of the bottle down and insuring the flow of milk, when but little remains in the bottle, into the nipple *c*.

h is a member which is preferably employed for connecting at the rear the two members *d* and *e* and is formed with an elevation at the center, as shown, to form a more efficient support for the bottle.

When all of the members are constructed and arranged as shown in the drawings, the bottle is inclosed in a skeleton frame, from which it can be removed by lifting the rear portion upwardly and withdrawing the neck and head through the member *f*, the whole constituting a confinement of the neck from movement in any direction by the ring formed of the member *f*, and a confinement of the body from movement in any direction excepting upwardly.

I will now describe the support by which this frame is supported on the pillow. This support, in the preferable form shown in the

drawing, consists of four members *i j k l*, two on each side, so arranged as to maintain the frame in a state of equilibrium with the elevation of the member *f* so disposed with reference to the elevation of the member *g g'* that the bottle is held inclined downwardly toward the mouth. Each of the members of the support is hinged or similarly fastened at its top to a member of the frame, as one of the side members *d* or *e*, so as to permit of being raised or lowered to properly adjust the holders, and each member of the support is also preferably made extensible, which may be accomplished by a telescoping joint between the sections *i'* and *i²*. I prefer to form the hinge or fastening *n*, by which the support is attached to the frame in the manner shown in the drawings, in which the wire or band forming the side member is twisted or coiled around the upper part of the support, as at *n*. The coil of the wire naturally hugs the inner wire of the support, thus forming a frictional hinge, which insures the support staying in any position in which it is placed. In the same manner the coils *p* form a frictional joint for the extensible sections *i'* and *i²* of the support.

The support comprising the members *i*, *j*, *k*, and *l*, when constructed with its several members hinged and extensible, is particularly adapted for the purposes of this invention, because while the lower edge of the bottle may rest upon and impress itself into the surface of the pillow the several members of the support may be adjusted as to length and position to properly adapt them to the surface of the pillow in such manner that they may serve as efficient supports for almost any relationship between the mouth of the user and the position of the pillow. To the rear of the frame is preferably connected a chain *m*, provided at its end with a pin *o*, adapted to be secured to the pillow or otherwise, so as to prevent the frame from being thrown entirely off the pillow by accident and also to sustain the forward thrust or pressure of the whole structure and relieve the mouth.

The structure which I have just described I prefer to construct of metal or hard-rubber bars, bands, or straps; but obviously other materials may be employed, and I do not wish to confine myself to any particular material.

In the foregoing description I wish to be understood as giving only what I now regard as the best of various forms which I have devised for the embodiment of my invention differing from each other in arrangement, form, and number of parts, and I therefore do not wish to be limited in any of these particulars to the construction shown.

I claim—

1. In a bottle-holder, in combination, a frame whereon the bottle is held and a leg connected with the frame on each side of the bottle, said legs being disconnected from each other excepting through said frame and being connected with said frame, substantially as described.

2. In a bottle-holder, in combination, a frame wherein the bottle is held and a leg connected with the frame on each side of the bottle, each of said legs being pivoted substantially as described, whereby it may be set at varying angles transversely of the bottle.

3. In a bottle-holder, in combination, a frame wherein the bottle is held and an extensible leg connected with the frame on each side of the bottle, substantially as described.

4. In a bottle-holder, in combination, a neck-support, a frame extending rearwardly therefrom on two sides of the bottle, and two independent legs connected with the frame on each side of the bottle, the legs on each side having separate and independent points of attachment with the frame, substantially as described.

5. In a bottle-holder, in combination, a neck-support, a frame extending rearwardly therefrom on two sides of the bottle, a band extending between the side frames under the bilge of the bottle, and means whereby the whole is supported, the whole being constructed and arranged substantially as described, whereby an opening is provided above the rear of the bottle through which the bottle may be retracted from the frame.

6. In a bottle-holder, in combination, a neck-support, a frame extending rearwardly therefrom on two sides of the bottle, legs whereby the frame is supported, and a band extending under the bilge of the bottle and pivotally connected with the side frames to swing fore and aft, substantially as described.

7. In a bottle-holder, in combination, a frame wherein the bottle is held and four independent legs, two connected with the frame at separate points on each side of the bottle, substantially as described.

8. In a bottle-holder, in combination, a neck-support, a frame extending rearwardly therefrom on two sides of the bottle, legs whereby the frame is supported, and means connected with the rear of the frame, whereby it may be secured to a fixture to sustain the forward pressure, substantially as described.

9. A bottle-holder consisting of a ring inclosing the neck of the bottle forward of the shoulder, two side members extending rearwardly from said ring, a member whereby said side members are connected at the rear, and two independent legs connected with each side member, substantially as described.

10. A bottle-holder consisting of four connected members, two of which are arranged on opposite sides, a third forward of the shoulder, and a fourth pivoted to the side members and extending under the bilge of the bottle and capable of being swung backward and upward to raise the rear of the bottle, while the other members are undisturbed, substantially as described.

11. In a bottle-holder, in combination, a

frame containing the side members *d* and *e* and the supports therefor, the former being coiled around the upper part of each of the supports, substantially as described.

12. In a bottle-holder, in combination, a frame wherein the bottle is held and legs constructed each in two sections, one section being coiled around the other, substantially as described.

CHAS. H. LEONARD.

Witnesses:
FRED. S. KEMPER,
J. E. GREER.