No. 686,649.

Patented Nov. 12, 1901.

C. J. FOLLETT.

FOLDING COT.

(Application filed Jan. 14, 1901.)

(No Model.)

2 Sheets—Sheet 1.

Fig. 3.

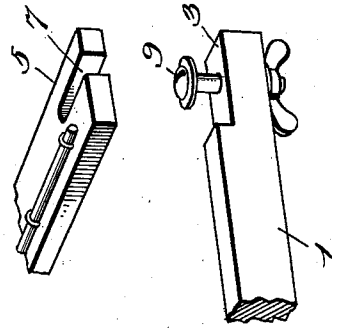


Fig. 1.

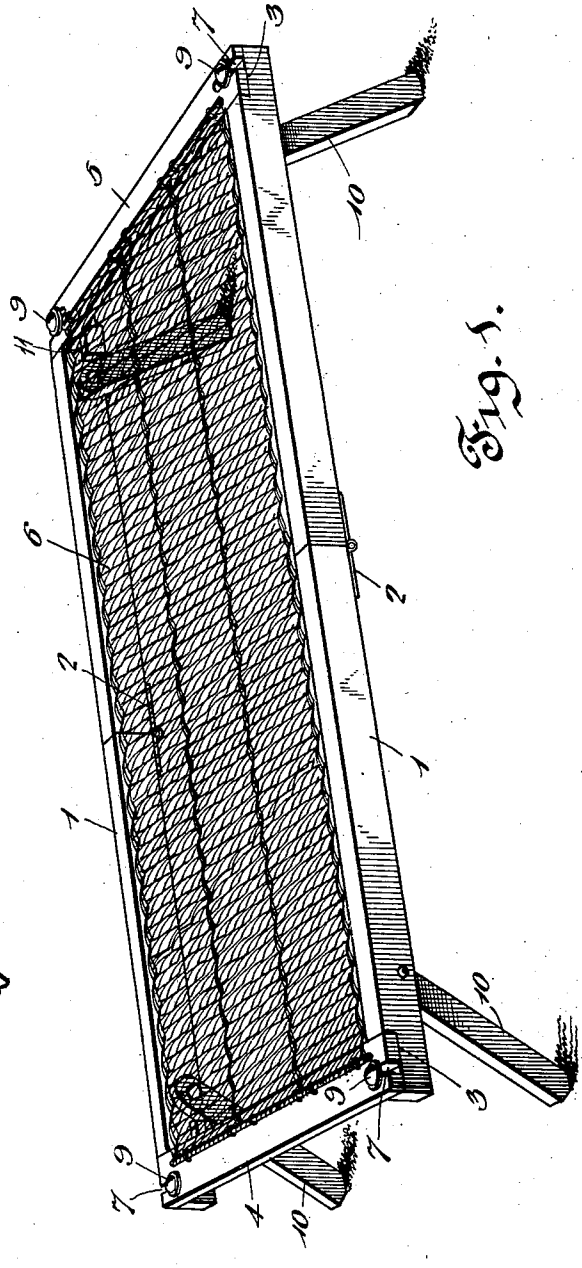
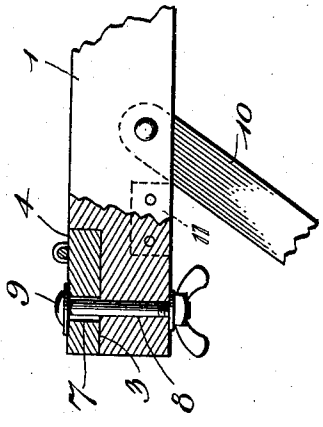


Fig. 2.



Witnesses

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Fig. 5.

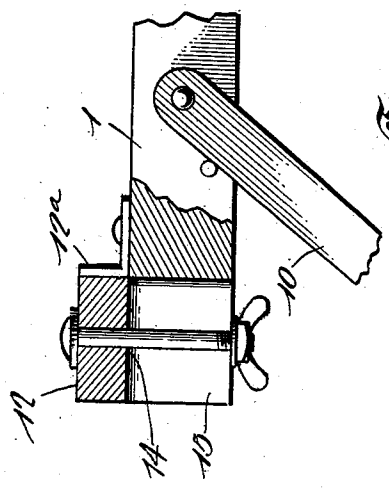


Fig. 7.

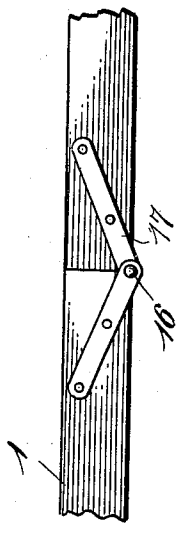


Fig. 4.

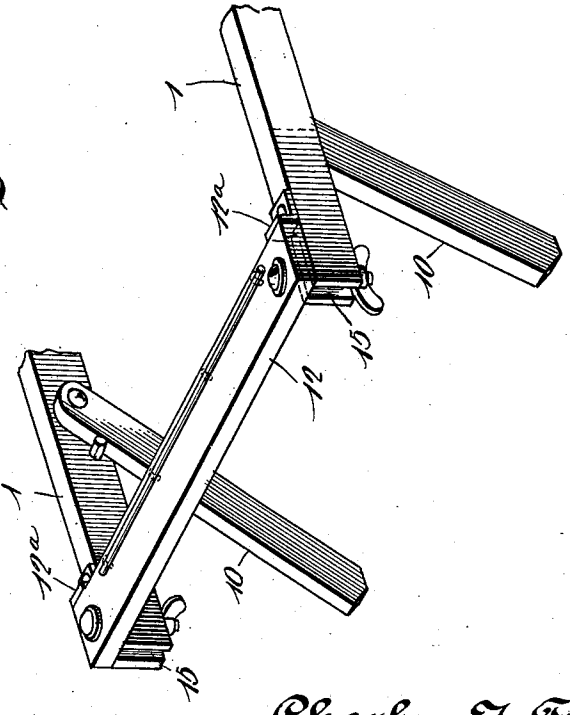
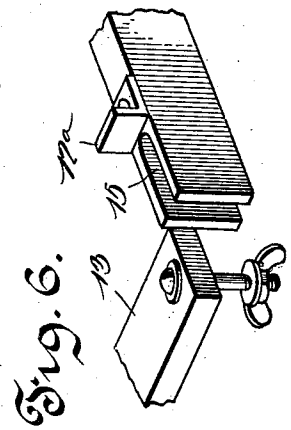


Fig. 6.



Witnesses

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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FOLDING COT.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 686,649, dated November 12, 1901.

Application filed January 14, 1901. Serial No. 43,217. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, CHARLES J. FOLLETT, a citizen of the United States, residing at Laredo, in the county of Webb and State of Texas, have invented a new and useful Folding Cot, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to folding cots for general use, but particularly adapted for army service or by large numbers of persons, such as in camps; and the object of the present construction and the minor modifications thereof is to provide a simple and effective form of cot that can be easily reduced to compact form for transportation or storage and readily set up in operative position for use, the several parts being strong and durable and comparatively inexpensive in the cost of manufacture.

The invention consists in the construction and arrangement of the several parts, which will be more fully hereinafter described and claimed.

In the drawings, Figure 1 is a perspective view of a cot embodying the features of the invention. Fig. 2 is a sectional elevation of a portion of the same. Fig. 3 shows detail perspective views of parts of the improved cot. Fig. 4 is a detail perspective view of a portion of a cot, showing a modification of the invention. Fig. 5 is a sectional elevation of a portion of the modified form of the cot. Fig. 6 shows perspective views of portions of the modified form of the cot. Fig. 7 is a side elevation of portions of rails of the cot, showing a different form of hinge.

Similar numerals of reference are employed to indicate corresponding parts in the several views.

The numeral 1 designates the opposite side rails of the cot, as shown by Fig. 1 and partially shown by Figs. 2 and 3, each side rail being formed in two parts of equal length and having the inner ends hinged by a strap-hinge 2, applied to the under edges thereof and adapted to break in folding in a direction opposite that to which the weight of the person resting on the cot is applied, so that there will be no liability of an accidental movement of the said rails of the cot when in practical use. The complete side rails are of the usual length, and the upper portions of the opposite terminals are formed with horizontal mortises 3 of a depth equal to the thickness of the head and foot bars 4 and 5, transversely extending from one rail to the other and terminally seated in the said mortises. To the said foot and end bars a woven spring-wire webbing 6 is secured, as shown, and is stretched to the required degree when the rails 1 are arranged in operative position, but loosened when the rails and remaining parts are separated for folding. In this connection it will be understood that any kind of wire-web-stretching means may be applied to the head and foot bars, and instead of the woven-wire web a fabric web may be employed. The opposite terminals of the head and foot bars are formed with slots 7, one in each terminal, which open outwardly therefrom and extend longitudinally thereof, and engaging the said slots and apertures 8 in the mortised terminals of the side rails are clamping-bolts 9, having heads that bear on the upper surfaces of the head and foot bars over the slots of the latter and lower screw-threaded extremities supplied with adjustable nuts to bear against the under edges of the rails, washers being mounted on the bolts and interposed between the heads and nuts thereof and the bars and rails. It will also be understood that the end bars 4 and 5 are in no sense web-stretching devices as ordinarily understood in this art, as it is proposed to employ independent mechanism for this purpose, as already indicated; but they do draw the web taut to a certain degree when applied in operative position on the rails and are braced to resist the strain of the web by the mortised construction of the rail-terminals, as set forth. The particular construction set forth has been devised to facilitate the assemblage and disconnection of the rails and bars and to adapt the several parts to be reduced to compact and convenient form for storage or transportation. By loosening the clamping-bolts 9 the side rails 1 can be drawn outwardly in a sidewise direction from the end bars 4 and 5 without completely detaching the bolts from said rails, and thus always have the said bolts in convenient position for immediate use and prevent loss of the same. The rails have opposite legs 10 pivoted to the inner sides thereof and adapted to fold inwardly, and when extended for use said legs will bear against stop projections 11 for ob-

vious reasons. When the side rails 1 are disconnected from the head and foot or end bars 4 and 5, the legs 10 are turned inwardly and said rails folded to just half their normal length. One of the bars 4 or 5 is then grasped and the web rolled thereon and the rails bundled therewith and suitably secured by a surrounding device. One of the most convenient modes of bundling the parts is to fold the rails and place them on the web before the latter is rolled and pass it around said rails and then tie or strap the completed bundle. When putting the parts together, the rails are opened and the loose bolts 9 slipped into the slots in the ends of the bars 4 and 5 and then tightened. The mortised construction of the terminals of the rails also provides a flush fitting for the bars, this arrangement being of material importance in view of the adaptability of either end of the cot to serve as the head end.

The form of the cot shown by Figs. 4, 5, and 6 embodies the same structure in the main as that just described, except that the end or head and foot bars 12 and 13 do not have terminal-slots, but simply vertical openings 14 therethrough for the bolts 9 and carry the bolts therewith when the parts are separated. In this instance the terminals of the rails are formed with longitudinal slots 15, which open outwardly endwise therefrom and receive the bolts. This is a reversal of the construction heretofore set forth, and in separating the parts the bolts are loosened and the rails turned up or tilted to move the bolts out through the open terminals of the slots in the ends of the bars and the same bundling operation proceeded with as before described. In this construction the horizontal mortises 3 are dispensed with and angle-braces 12^a are employed for holding the bed or cot bottom 6, (shown by Fig. 1,) and thus permit adjustable features for the latter to be employed and coact with said braces.

In Fig. 7 the rail-sections are shown joined by a different form of hinge 16 and consisting of straps 17, secured to either the outer or inner side thereof and disposed at a downward angle of inclination, with their lower ends pivotally attached. The effect and operation of this hinge is the same as the form heretofore set forth.

From the foregoing description, wherein changes in the construction have been fully set forth, it will be understood that the improved cot is intended to be equipped with all the attachments which the user may demand in addition to the particular construction embodying the features of the invention, and though the preferred forms have been described it is obviously apparent that changes in the form, size, proportions, and minor details may be resorted to without departing from the principle of the invention.

Having thus described the invention, what is claimed as new is—

1. In a cot, the combination of side rails each composed of two sections of equal length and hinged at the inner ends, folding legs on the said rails, head and foot bars removably secured to said rails, the terminals of one of the latter parts in each instance being slotted in the longitudinal direction thereof, and clamping-bolts carried by one of the said latter parts and engaging the slotted terminals of the other, the direction of the slots in said terminals permitting movement of one of the parts directly engaged by the bolts when the latter are lowered to allow the head and foot bars to be disconnected without detaching the said bolts from the unslotted terminals of the adjacent parts.

2. In a cot, the combination of side rails each composed of two sections of equal length hinged at the inner ends and having upper terminal longitudinally-extending mortises, folding legs on the said rails, head and foot bars removably secured to the mortised terminals of the said rails, the terminals of one of the latter parts at each end having outwardly-opening slots extending in the longitudinal direction thereof, and clamping-bolts carried by one of said latter parts and removably engaging the slotted terminals of the other so that said parts can be separated without disconnecting the bolts from the part carrying the same, the direction of the slots in said terminals permitting movement of one of the parts directly engaged by the bolts when the latter are lowered to allow the head and foot bars to be disconnected without detaching the said bolts from the unslotted terminals of the adjacent parts.

3. In a cot, the combination of side rails each composed of two sections of equal length hinged at the inner ends and having upper terminal longitudinally-extending mortises and also provided with folding legs, head and foot bars for the attachment of a web disposed in said mortised terminals of the rails and formed with terminal slots extending longitudinally thereof and opening outwardly endwise therefrom, and clamping-bolts carried by the terminals of the rails and removably engaging the said slots of the foot and head bars, whereby the said rails may be drawn sidewise from the bars without entirely disconnecting the bolts, the said bars being adapted to have a web attached thereto, the direction of the slots in said terminals permitting movement of one of the parts directly engaged by the bolts when the latter are lowered to allow the head and foot bars to be disconnected without detaching the said bolts from the unslotted terminals of the adjacent parts.

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

CHAS. J. FOLLETT.

Witnesses:
HUGH A. MCCLELLAND,
J. L. RICHMOND.