No. 667,621. Patented Feb. 5, 1901.

H. C. FLEMING.

OBSTETRICAL DEVICE.

(Application filed June 30, 1899.)

(No Model.)

Fig. 1.

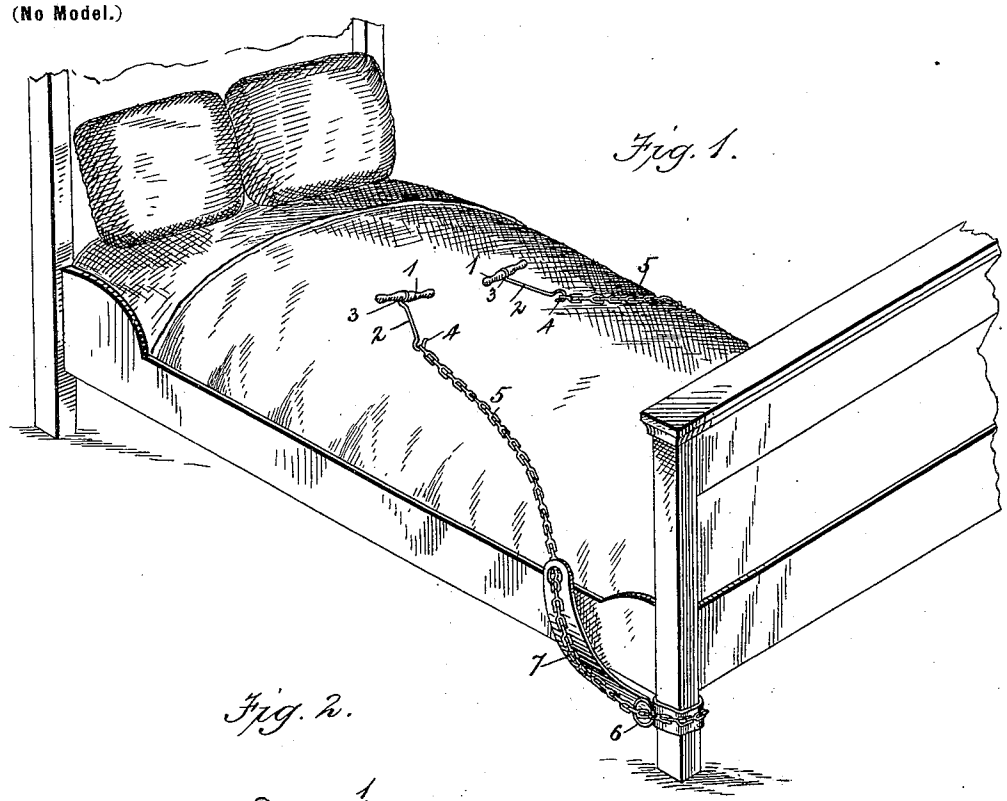


Fig. 2.

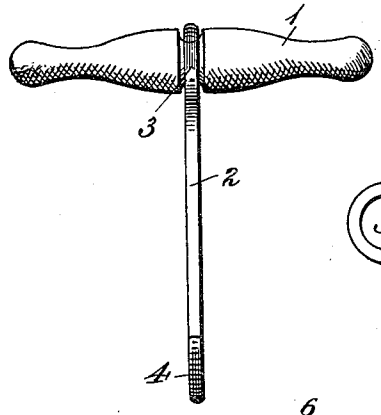


Fig. 3.

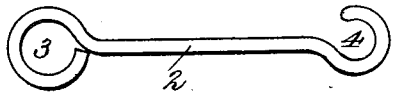


Fig. 4

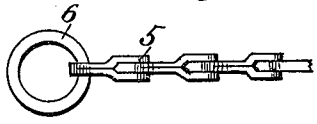


Fig. 5.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

HANNAH C. FLEMING, OF FALLS CITY, NEBRASKA.

OBSTETRICAL DEVICE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 667,621, dated February 5, 1901.

Application filed June 30, 1899. Serial No. 722,391. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, HANNAH C. FLEMING, a citizen of the United States, residing at Falls City, in the county of Richardson and State of Nebraska, have invented a new and useful Obstetrical Device, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to improvements in labor-assisting devices.

It has for its object to provide a device of this character to be used as a support for women in childbirth and to expedite delivery.

My improved labor-assister combines the advantages of simplicity and efficiency. It may be readily attached to any bed and be made ready for use in a few minutes and as easily detached when the operation is completed.

In the drawings which accompany this specification and of which they form a part, Figure 1 is a perspective view showing my device attached to a bed. Fig. 2 is a detailed view showing one handle with the hook attached thereto. Fig. 3 is a side elevation of the hook member. Fig. 4 is a view of the chain. Fig. 5 shows the leather casing.

In the drawings like numerals of reference denote like parts wherever they occur.

The numerals 1 denote handles of convenient size for the patient to grasp. A link 2, with a ring 3 at one end and an open-mouthed hook 4 at the other, is attached to the handle 1 by means of the ring which is sprung over the handle. A chain 5, having open links of sufficient dimensions to permit hook 4 to be engaged therein, is shown in the drawings. This chain has a link of large size or a ring 6 at one end. Two chains of this character are used; but as they are both alike only one will be described. A leather casing 7 is used by slipping it over the chain to keep it from injuring the bed.

My device when in use is secured to the foot-posts of the bed underneath the side pieces. The leather casing 7 is threaded on the chain 5. The attachment to the bed-post is made by passing the ring end of the chains around the opposite foot-posts and then threading the free ends of the chains through the rings 6. The free ends of the chains are then brought up and laid on top of the bed. The hooks 4 are then engaged one in each chain at points therein depending on the height of the patient. The patient lying upon her back on the bed grasps one of the handles in each hand and plants her feet firmly against the footboard. She is thus provided with a firm support, the advantages of which are obvious. The length of the appliance can be adjusted by letting out or dropping links, and this adjustment can be altered during the progress of the labor, if desired.

I am aware that there has been patented a slipper device for assisting women in childbirth, the foot of the patient being inserted in such slipper device; but I am not aware that any machine or device similar in any respect to mine has ever been invented and used.

I do not wish to be limited as to details of construction, as these may be changed or varied within the scope of the appended claims in many particulars without departing from the spirit of my invention.

Having thus completely described my invention, what I claim, and wish to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. In a labor-assisting device, flexible members, means for securing said flexible members to bed-posts at one of their ends, and handles provided with means constructed and arranged to permit of ready engagement and disengagement with said flexible members at any desired point thereof, substantially as and for the purpose described.

2. In a labor-assisting device, the combination of flexible link members, means for securing said link members to bed-posts, a flexible guard for said link members and handles provided with means constructed and arranged to permit of ready engagement and disengagement with said flexible members at any desired point thereof, substantially as and for the purpose described.

3. In a labor-assisting device, the combination of handles, links having a ring at one end and an open-mouthed hook at the other, said rings being secured to said handles, flexible open-linked members detachably connected

to said hooks near one end, and oppositely secured to bed-posts, a flexible guard for said link members, substantially as described.

4. In a labor-assisting device, the combination of open-linked members secured at one end to bed-posts, and handles provided with open-mouthed hooks detachably engaging said open-link members, substantially as described.

HANNAH C. FLEMING.

Witnesses:
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