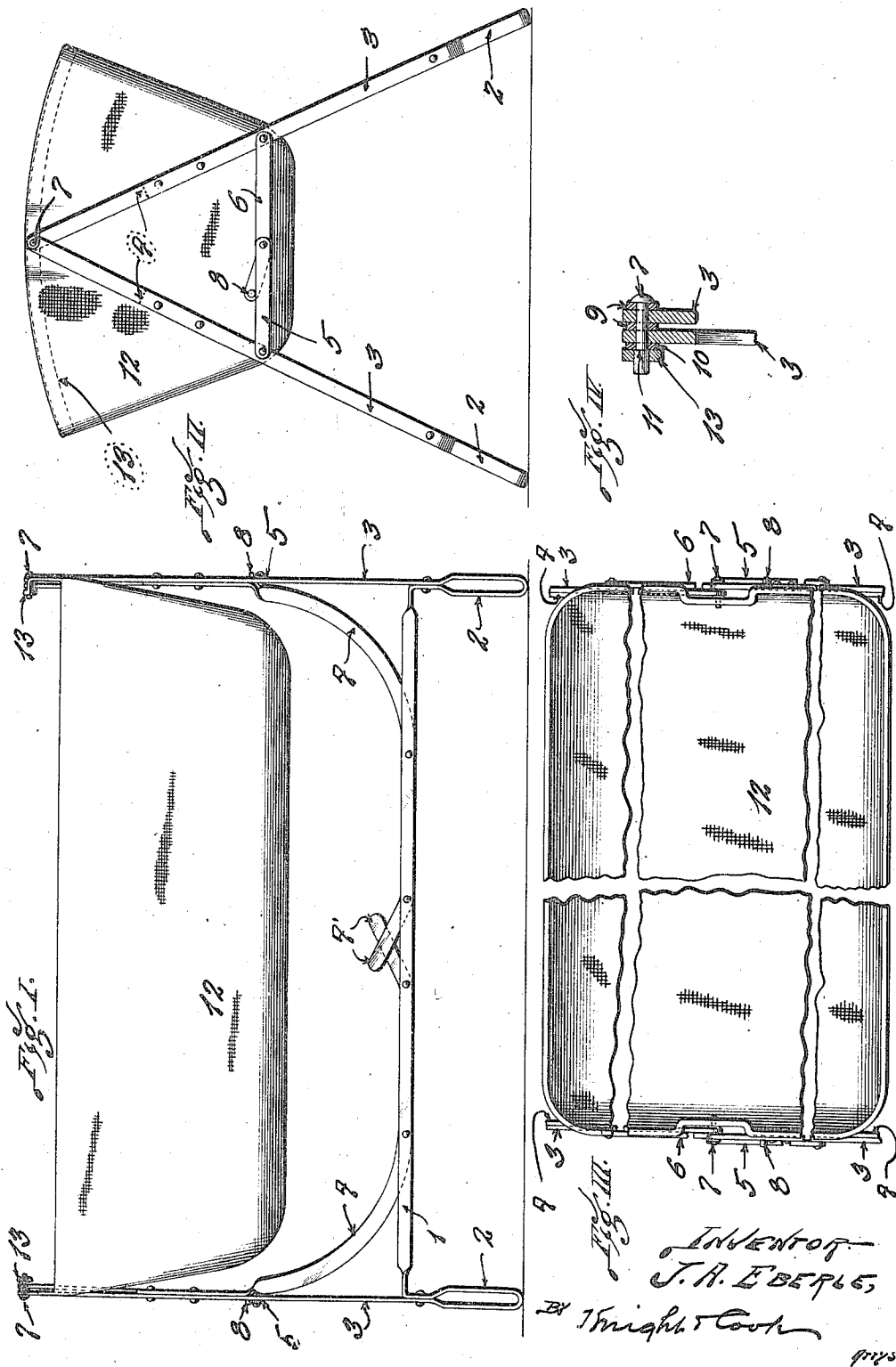


J. A. EBERLE.
FOLDABLE BED OR CRADLE.
APPLICATION FILED JULY 21, 1917.

1,266,927.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOHN A. EBERLE, OF ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI.

FOLDABLE BED OR CRADLE.

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Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented May 21, 1918.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOHN A. EBERLE, a citizen of the United States of America, and a resident of the city of St. Louis, in the State of Missouri, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Foldable Beds or Cradles, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, forming a part of this specification.

My invention relates to improvements in beds or cradles, the main object being to produce a strong, simple and inexpensive child's bed or cradle. With this object in view, the invention comprises a few simple parts combined with each other in a particular manner to produce an inexpensive foldable frame, and a simple bed or cot suspended from the upper end of said frame.

Figure I is a side elevation of a cradle constructed in accordance with the invention.

Fig. II is an end view.

Fig. III is a fragmentary plan view.

Fig. IV is an enlarged vertical section showing one of the pivotal connections at the upper portion of the frame.

The frame herein shown comprises two side frame members, made exactly alike, and each consisting of a longitudinal connecting member 1, downturned loops 2 at the ends of said connecting member forming feet for the bed, and inclined legs 3 extending upwardly from said loops. The connecting member 1, the loops 2 and the legs 3 of each side frame are integrally connected together, all of said parts being preferably formed by bending a plain, flat metal bar. Curved braces 4 extend downwardly from the legs 3 of each frame to the longitudinal connecting member 1. These braces are riveted to the members 1 and 3, and their inner ends are preferably turned upwardly, as shown at 4' in Fig. I, for the purpose of adding an ornamental finish to the frame. The upturned ends 4' perform no mechanical function.

Toggle links 5 and 6 cooperate with the inclined legs 3 to form A-shaped frames at the ends of the structure. 7 designates pivot pins whereby the legs 3 are connected at the upper ends of the A-shaped frames.

The toggle links 5 and 6 serve as means for locking the frame structure in the unfolded or extended condition shown in the drawings. These links are pivoted to the

legs 3 as shown most clearly in Fig. II, the link 6 being provided with an extension 6' provided with a projecting pin 8, which engages the link 5 to limit the downward movement of the toggle. When the parts occupy the position shown in Fig. III the axis of the middle toggle pivot is slightly below the dead center, and a further downward movement is prevented by the pin 8 which then engages the link 5. The frame structure can be readily folded by breaking the toggles and moving the legs 3 toward each other about the axis of pivots 7. Each pivot 7 passes through washers 9 and 10 (Fig. IV) and it is enlarged at its inner end to form a shoulder 11 which engages the washer 10. The legs 3 and the washers 9 and 10 are thus permanently connected by the pivot pin, and the enlarged portion of said pin constitutes a pivotal support for the bed or cot, as will be presently described.

The bed or cot preferably consists of a sheet of fabric forming a soft, flexible body portion 12 and a continuous metal frame or band 13 to which the top margins of the fabric are secured. The ends of this metal frame or band 13 are perforated to receive the enlarged inner ends of the pivots 7, as shown most clearly in Fig. IV. The frame or band 13 is springable or yieldable, and its ends may be sprung or forced toward each other to disconnect the bed from the pivots.

It will be observed that the frame herein shown is a substantial and inexpensive structure. It can be firmly locked in its extended condition by the toggles. The bed itself constitute a comfortable crib or cradle, and it can be very easily applied to and removed from the pivots 7 which connect the two main members of the frame by springing the ends toward each other as the bed is lifted to or from the frame.

I claim:

1. A cradle comprising a supporting frame having a pair of inclined legs at each end, the legs of each pair being pivotally connected together at their upper ends, links connecting the legs of each pair, longitudinal members connecting the legs of one pair to the legs of the other pair, curved stiffening braces extending diagonally from the legs to the longitudinal members and secured thereto to provide a rigid frame longitudinally, the pivots at the upper ends of said legs being extended toward each other,

and a bed having a top marginal frame sprung onto the extended portions of said pivots.

2. A cradle comprising a supporting
5 frame having a pair of inclined legs at each end, the legs of each pair being pivotally connected together at their upper ends, links connecting the legs of each pair, longitu-
10 dinal members connecting the legs of one pair to the legs of the other pair, the pivots at the upper ends of said legs being extended toward each other, and a bed supported on the extended portions of said pivots, said bed being provided with a yieldable top
15 marginal frame adapted to receive said extended portions of the pivots, and the end members of said top marginal frame being movable toward each other to disconnect the bed from the pivots.

3. A foldable bed comprising a pair of 20 side frames each of which includes a longitudinal connecting member, down-turned loops at the ends of said connecting member forming feet for the bed and inclined legs extending upwardly from said loops, the 25 longitudinal connecting member, loops and legs of each side frame being integrally connected together, braces extending downwardly from the legs of each frame to the longitudinal connecting member, toggles co- 30 operating with said inclined legs to form A-shaped end frames, pivots whereby the legs are connected at the upper ends of the A-shaped frames, and a bed suspended from said pivots. 35

In testimony that I claim the foregoing I hereunto affix my signature.

JOHN A. EBERLE.

Copies of this patent may be obtained for five cents each, by addressing the "Commissioner of Patents, Washington, D. C."