J. CLIFF.

CRADLE.

APPLICATION FILED JAN. 10, 1910.

953,897. Patented Apr. 5, 1910.

2 SHEETS—SHEET 1.

Fig. 1.

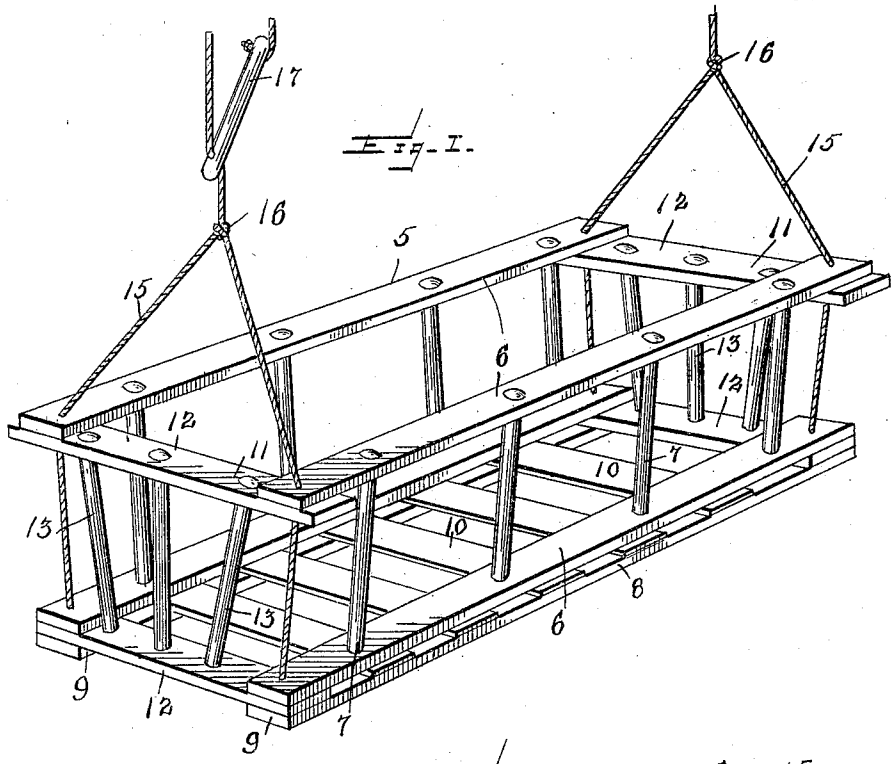
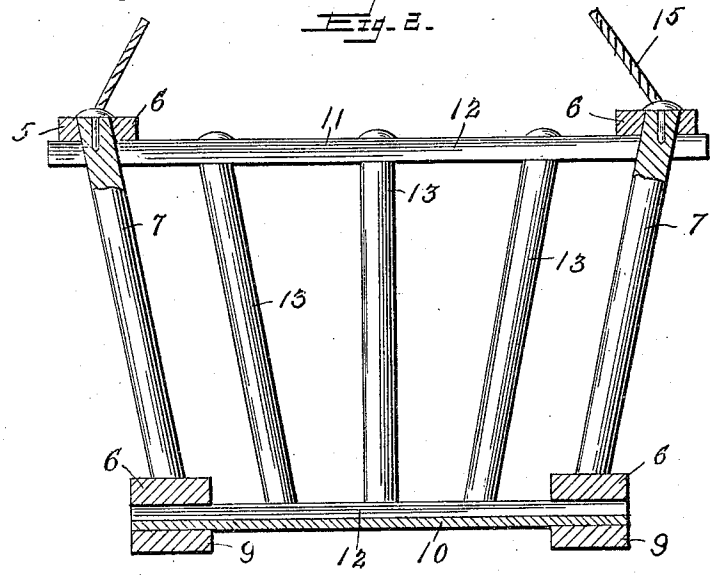



Fig. 2.




Witnesses

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2 SHEETS—SHEET 2.

Fig. 3.

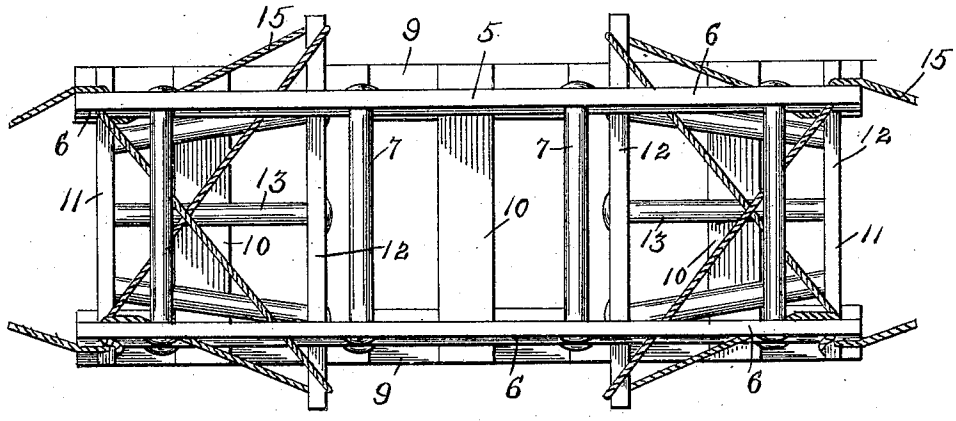
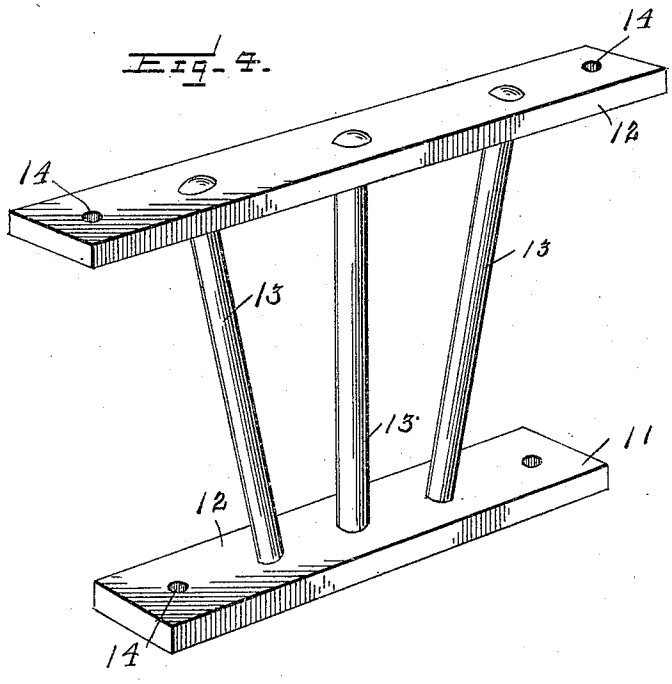



Fig. 4.

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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JEREMIAH CLIFF, OF KANE, PENNSYLVANIA.

## CRADLE.

953,897. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Apr. 5, 1910.

Application filed January 10, 1910. Serial No. 537,327.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, JEREMIAH CLIFF, a citizen of the United States, residing at Kane, in the county of McKean and State of Pennsylvania, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Cradles, of which the following is a specification, reference being had to the accompanying drawings.

This invention has relation to certain new and useful improvements in cradles, and more particularly to a swinging collapsible cradle which is adapted to be suspended from the ceiling and may be quickly arranged in operative position or knocked down and compactly folded.

A further object is to provide a cradle of the above character comprising a plurality of separable sections held in their associated relative positions by means of suspending ropes passing through alined openings in the extremities thereof, and a still further object resides in the provision of suitable means whereby the cradle may be raised or lowered from the floor.

With these and other objects in view, the invention consists of the novel features of construction and the combination and arrangement of parts hereinafter fully described and claimed, and illustrated in the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of my improved cradle showing the same arranged in operative form and suspended from the ceiling; Fig. 2 is a transverse section thereof; Fig. 3 is a top plan view of the cradle knocked down or folded; and Fig. 4 is a detail perspective view of one of the end members.

Referring to the drawings 5 indicates the two outwardly inclined side members each of which comprises the spaced parallel bars 6 connected together and spaced apart by means of the vertical cylindrical posts 7. The bottom 8 likewise comprises two parallel bars 9 which are connected together and spaced apart by a plurality of transverse slats 10 rigidly secured thereto in any preferred manner. The opposite end members 11 of the cradle likewise comprise the parallel bars 12, said bars being spaced apart by means of the vertical posts 13 arranged and secured therebetween. The upper bar of these end members is of greater length than the lower bar and extends beyond the opposite ends of said bar. The extremities of the bars 12 are adapted to be disposed beneath and below the upper and lower parallel bars 6 of the longitudinal side members, said lower bar 12 thus being positioned between the longitudinal bars 9 of the bottom member and the lower longitudinal bars of said side members.

An opening 14 is provided in each of the extremities of each of the parallel bars of the side, end and bottom members of the cradle. When the various members are arranged in their assembled positions, these openings register with each other and a suspending cord or rope 15 is passed through the openings 14, one end of each of said ropes being tied or otherwise secured to the rope between its ends, as shown at 16. The remaining end portion of the rope is passed through an aperture in one end of the adjusting pin 17, and the extremity of the rope is inserted through a similar aperture in the opposite end of said pin and knotted or otherwise prevented from removal therefrom. That portion of each of the ropes beyond the secured end 16 thereof, is thus doubled upon itself and is adapted to be passed over a hook secured in the ceiling whereby the cradle may be suspended for swinging movement above the floor. The adjusting pins 17 are moved upwardly and downwardly upon the rope to position the cradle at any desired height above the floor, said pins being adapted to twist the ropes and bind the same against the edges of the opening in the end thereof through which the rope moves owing to the weight of the cradle and its occupant. These pins are of a well known form and comprise no part of my present invention and it will be understood that any other means may be employed for raising or lowering the frame.

As shown in Fig. 1, the various members may be quickly arranged in their proper positions by suspending the cradle from the ceiling in the manner above described, said members being drawn into their proper relative positions, and requiring but little adjustment upon the part of the operator. No bolts, screws or other fastening devices are used to secure the several members and the suspending ropes alone are depended upon to retain the collapsible sides and ends in their proper positions upon the bottom member. When the cradle is no longer desired for use, however, the ropes may be released from the hooks, and as the cords 15 are re-

leased of all strain, the longitudinal side members 5 will move outwardly away from the same. As shown in Fig. 1, these members are normally inclined outwardly from the base member 8 and their natural inclination is therefore to move apart when the suspending cords are detached from the ceiling hooks. The end members 11 are then folded inwardly upon the base member and the side members 5 can then be disposed upon each other and upon the end members. The suspending cords may then be wrapped about the members when so folded and the cradle thus compactly arranged for storage or transportation purposes.

From the foregoing it is believed that the operation and many advantages of my invention will be apparent without requiring a further description. The cost of manufacture is extremely small and the convenience and utility of the cradle constructed in the manner above set forth is obvious.

The cradle may be quickly set up or knocked down, and is adjustable to any desired height.

The cradle will occupy but small space when arranged for use and owing to the fact that the same may be swung to and fro by the movement of the occupant, it will require but little attention.

While I have above set forth what I believe to be the preferred embodiment of the invention, it will be understood that various minor modifications may be resorted to without materially departing from the essential features or sacrificing any of the advantages thereof.

Having thus described the invention what is claimed is:

1. A device of the character described comprising separate parallel side and end members and a bottom member, said members being collapsible upon each other and means for suspending said members adapted to cause the same to assume their relative open positions.

2. A device of the character described comprising parallel side and end members and a bottom member, said members being collapsible upon each other and means movably disposed through the ends of said members for elevating the same and cause the members to assume their relative assembled open positions.

3. A device of the character described comprising a bottom member, vertical end members arranged thereon, side members disposed between said end members and inclined outwardly, each of said members having openings in its extremities and suspending ropes extending through said openings and adapted to permit of the folding of said members upon each other, said suspending ropes causing the members to assume their relative assembled open positions when elevated.

4. A device of the character described comprising a bottom member formed of parallel bars connected by a plurality of transverse slats, vertical end members disposed upon the ends of said bottom member composed of spaced parallel bars rigidly connected together, the upper bar extending beyond the ends of the lower bar, side members each formed of spaced parallel longitudinal bars rigidly connected together and disposed upon the lower and upper bars of said end members, the extremities of each of the parallel bars of said members being provided with an opening, said openings being adapted to register with each other, suspending ropes passing through the openings in the ends of said bars adapted to retain the members in their proper assembled relative position, said side members being inclined outwardly away from each other and means for adjusting the height of the cradle above the floor, said end and side members being adapted to be collapsed upon the bottom member when the strain upon the suspending ropes is removed.

In testimony whereof I hereunto affix my signature in the presence of two witnesses.

JEREMIAH CLIFF.

Witnesses:
LENA O'ROURKE,
LOUIS MEYERS.