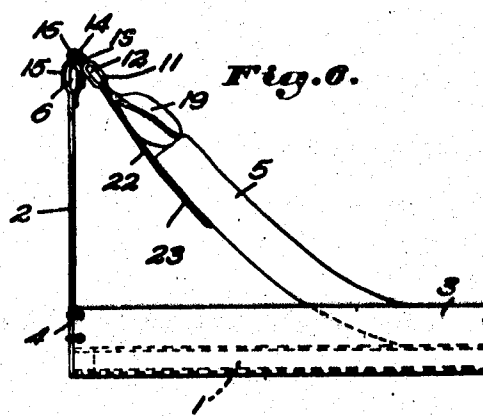
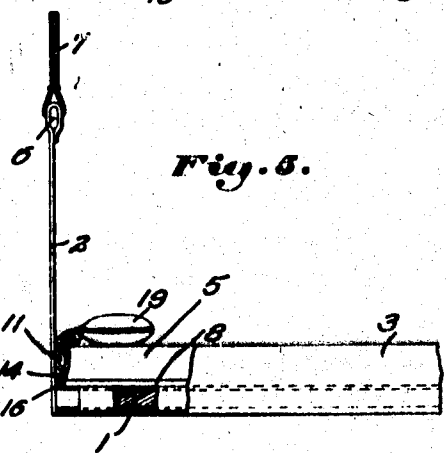
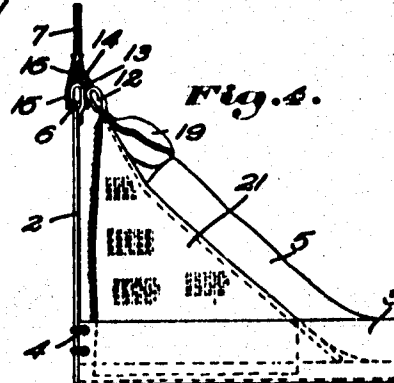
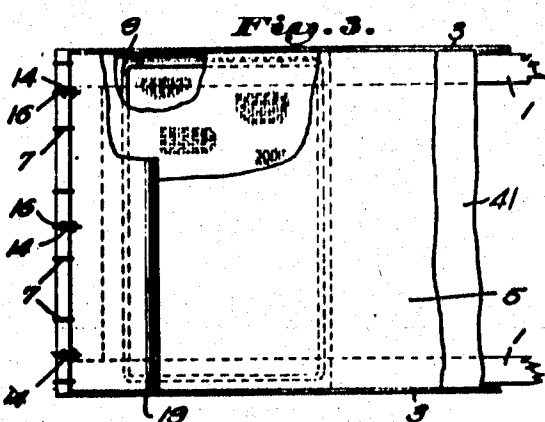
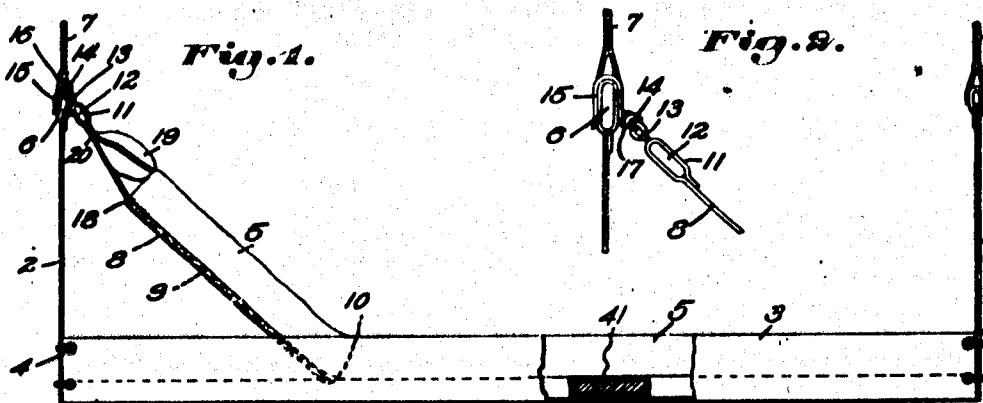


I. E. PALMER.
 HEAD AND SHOULDER SUPPORT FOR COUCH HAMMOCKS, &c.
 APPLICATION FILED JUNE 24, 1910.

972,713.

Patented Oct. 11, 1910

2 SHEETS-SHEET 1



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2 SHEETS—SHEET 2.

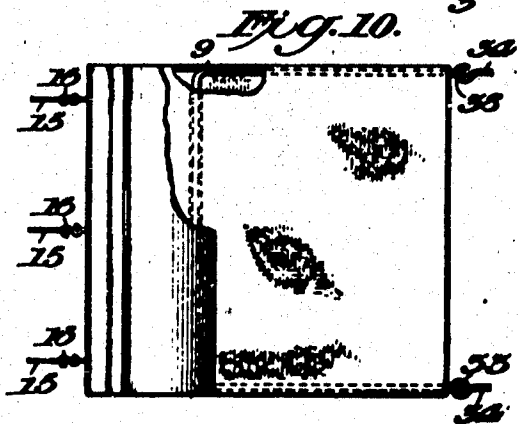
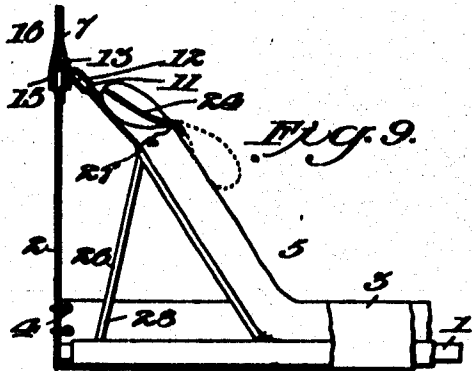
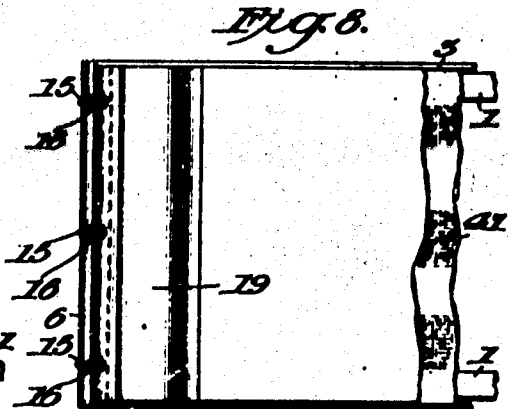
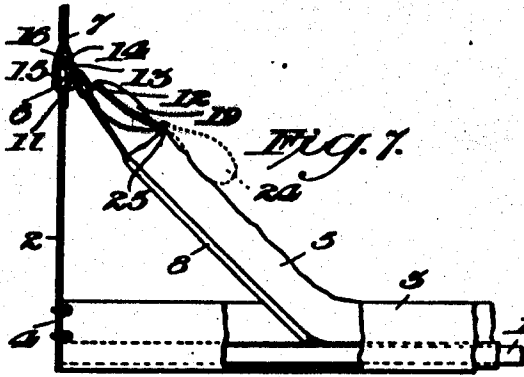


FIG. 11.

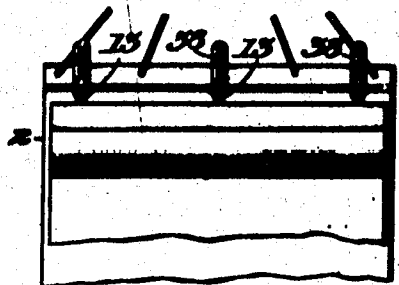
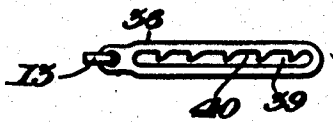


FIG. 12.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ISAAC E. PALMER, OF MIDDLETOWN, CONNECTICUT, ASSIGNOR TO THE I. E. PALMER CO., OF MIDDLETOWN, CONNECTICUT, A CORPORATION OF CONNECTICUT.

HEAD AND SHOULDER SUPPORT FOR COUCH-HAMMOCKS, &c.

972,713.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Oct. 11, 1910.

Application filed June 24, 1910. Serial No. 568,682.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ISAAC E. PALMER, a citizen of the United States, and a resident of Middletown, in the county of Middlesex and State of Connecticut, have invented an Improvement in Head and Shoulder Supports for Couch-Hammocks, &c., of which the following description, in connection with the accompanying drawings, is a specification, like letters on the drawings representing like parts.

This invention relates to head and shoulder supports for couch hammocks, etc., and is in part a division of my co-pending application No. 547,637, filed March 7, 1910, and is in its entirety a continuation of said application.

In order that the principle of the invention may be readily understood, I have disclosed certain embodiments thereof in the accompanying drawings, wherein

Figure 1 is a side elevation with parts broken away showing a couch hammock embodying my invention; Fig. 2 is a detail upon a larger scale of a portion of the construction shown in Fig. 1 and showing a slightly different form of suspension hook; Fig. 3 is a plan view of the head end of a couch hammock embodying my invention; Fig. 4 is a side elevation of the head end of a couch hammock embodying my invention and showing a valance; Fig. 5 is a side elevation of the head end of the hammock shown in Fig. 1 but with the mattress and support flat upon the frame; Fig. 6 is a side elevation of a head end of a hammock showing a slightly modified form of my invention; Figs. 7 and 8 are respectively a side elevation and a plan view of a further form of the invention; Fig. 9 is a side elevation of the head end of a hammock showing a braced head and shoulder support; Fig. 10 is a plan view of a slightly different form of head and shoulder support; and Figs. 11 and 12 are respectively an end elevation and a detail showing adjustable means for connecting the support to the suspension end.

In my co-pending application Serial No. 567,123, filed June 16, 1910, I have disclosed a couch hammock having a head and shoulder support adapted to be suspended from the head suspension end of the hammock and extending at a downward inclination to and resting upon the mattress if the latter be provided, or upon the hammock body if

a mattress be not used. In those embodiments of my invention herein illustrated, the head and shoulder support is connected to or extends to the under face of the mattress, so as to support the latter in an inclined position, and in certain forms thereof is provided with a frame preferably underlying the mattress and giving greater lateral stability to the support, as will be further described.

Referring first to that form of my invention shown in Figs. 1 to 5 inclusive, the frame of the couch hammock is indicated at 1, it being of any suitable material and construction and preferably having side and end members connected detachably or permanently at their meeting ends. The hammock body may be applied in any suitable way to the frame, as, for example, by providing separate suspension ends attached to the ends of the frame or by providing a unitary hammock body having a portion underlying the frame and suspension ends extending upwardly therefrom or in any other desired manner. In Fig. 1, I have shown suspension ends 2--2 supporting the frame 1 and have indicated upstanding sides 3 laced or otherwise secured at 4 to the suspension ends. Upon the frame 1 is superposed a mattress 5 preferably of the entire length of a hammock between the suspension ends. Each suspension end is shown as provided at its upper edge with a spreader 6 and elastic cords or other stringing means 7 preferably attached at intervals to the said spreader.

In accordance with my invention, I provide a head and shoulder support preferably suspended and depending from the head suspension end of the hammock and extending in the forms shown to the under face of the mattress so as to support the head end of the latter at a suitable inclination. Preferably this support is composed of a double layer of fabric 8 between the parts of which is inserted a suitable preferably metallic frame 9 of any desired shape and construction. This frame is preferably of the entire width of the hammock and in the preferred embodiment of my invention rests at its lower end upon the frame 1 of the hammock as represented at 10 in Fig. 1. This frame is preferably thin and flexible. It thus conforms somewhat to the body of the user, and if, when not in use, it is desired to position it flatwise of the mattress,

it presents no substantial obstruction to the body of the user. In Fig. 3, the said frame 9 is shown as a substantially rectangular wire loop secured in place by sewing or otherwise if desired. The said frame may be of any suitable extent in the direction of the length of the mattress, but preferably does not extend beyond the head end thereof if connected thereto, thus permitting the mattress and frame to be positioned flatwise of the hammock when it is not desired to use the support as such. The fabric 8 extends longitudinally beyond the frame as indicated at 8' and is preferably provided with suitable means for attaching it to the head suspension end. The strip or band 8' constitutes the means for suspending the frame at the head end of the hammock and receives the strain incident to the use of the rest or support and substantially prevents the bulging of the head end of the hammock that would occur were the frame at its head end to be directly engaged and supported by the head suspension end of the hammock. For the purpose stated, I have shown the said fabric as provided with a pocket 11 in which is inserted a spreader 12 having secured thereto at suitable intervals screw eyes 13. Attached to said screw eyes by wire links 14 having each end bent as shown are hooks 15 of substantially U shape and adapted to straddle tightly the spreader 6 of the head suspension end. The hooks 15 are connected in suitable manner to the links 14, as by eyes 16 at their apices or eyes 17 formed upon the inner leg of the hook as shown in Fig. 2. The construction shown in Fig. 2 may be employed to prevent any possibility of distortion of the spreader 6 by the pull thereon of the head and shoulder support. Preferably, though not necessarily, the mattress 5 is sewed at suitable points to the support 8, as, for example, along the under side of the head of the mattress as indicated at 18 in Fig. 1, or may be otherwise attached thereto. I preferably provide a pillow such as indicated at 19 to be positioned at the end of the mattress when the support is in use. This pillow is preferably attached by sewing or otherwise to either the head and shoulder support or the mattress. In Fig. 1, I have shown it as sewed at 20 to the said support. It is preferably sewed only along its upper edge if the frame is to be positioned beneath the mattress, so that the pillow may overlie the mattress when the latter is flat. I may provide suitable means to cover or conceal the space between the head suspension end and the mattress when the support is in use, as by employing valances 21 secured to the lateral edges of said support, as indicated in Fig. 4, and extending if desired to or below the upper edge of the upstanding sides 8. When the mattress and support are posi-

tioned flatwise the said valances may be tucked under the mattress in an obvious manner. When it is desired to position the mattress flatwise upon the frame, the hooks 15 are removed from the spreader 6 and said hooks and links 14 are tucked in at the head end of the mattress as indicated in Fig. 5. In such position of the parts the pillow 19 overlies the head end of the mattress so as to receive the head of the occupant in the usual manner.

It will be noted that in the several forms shown, the head end of the frame is maintained in substantially fixed relation with respect to the head end of the hammock; that is to say, the frame is not liable to swing from side to side or to tilt, twist or rock when in use, although, of course, conforming itself to the general position of the user.

In that form of my invention shown in Fig. 6, I dispense with a frame and secure the cloth 22 constituting the support to the head end of the mattress and preferably to the under side thereof by suitable lines of stitching as indicated at 23. Otherwise the construction may be the same as that shown in Fig. 1. It is obvious that in this as well as in the other forms of my invention to be described the mattress and the support may be positioned flatwise when it is not desired to use the latter.

I have heretofore stated that the pillow 19 may be attached either to the support or to the mattress. In Figs. 7 and 8, I have represented pillow 24 secured at 25 to the mattress. In this case the support may be of any suitable character and when the support is used the pillow is positioned at the head end of the mattress upon the support as indicated in said Fig. 7, but when the mattress is positioned flatwise upon the frame, then the pillow is thrown into the dotted line position indicated in said figure. The frame and its supporting strip 8' are here shown as of the general type illustrated in Fig. 1.

I may provide means to change the angle of the support, so as, for example, to project the extreme head end of the mattress into somewhat more elevated position and thus provide means supporting more effectively the back of the neck of the occupant. To that end, I may employ, as indicated in Fig. 9, a pair of braces 26 hinged at their upper ends at 27 to the upper corners of the frame 9 and at their lower ends 28 engaging the frame between the mattress and the upstanding edges of the hammock. It is obvious that by swinging the lower ends of these braces, the angle of inclination of the support may be altered without effecting the attachment of the support to the head suspension end of the hammock and also without requiring any adjustment of the foot end of the support with relation to the

frame of the hammock. In the construction here shown the frame itself and the strip or band 8' are of the general type heretofore described.

5 In the forms of the invention shown in Figs. 7 to 9, the support may or may not be attached to the mattress. It is not necessary that the support be attached to the mattress, although suitably underlying the
10 same. If the support be not attached to the mattress, it may or may not be attached at its lower end to the frame of the hammock. I may, however, provide means for so attaching its lower end. In Fig. 10, I have
15 shown the frame as of substantially inverted U shape and provided at its lower end with eyes 33 receiving pivoted pins 34 adapted to be seated in any desired sockets ranging longitudinally along the side members of
20 the frame thereby permitting longitudinal play or adjustment along the hammock. It is evident that in using the frame of my invention shown in Fig. 10, the mattress may be positioned flatwise without detaching the
25 pins 34 from the frame, as by detaching the support from the suspension end, the former may itself be positioned flatwise upon the frame, as described in connection with Figs. 1 and 5. This depends, of course, upon the
30 relative position of the sockets with respect to the head end of the hammock.

I may if desired provide a suitable means for adjustably connecting the shoulder support to the head suspension end of the hammock. For example, I may provide adjustable connections between the hooks 15 and the fabric 8 or spreader 12 thereof. For this purpose, I have in Figs. 11 and 12, shown links 38 having longitudinal slots 39
40 with notches 40. The lower bent ends of the links 14 may be engaged with any of the desired notches, so as longitudinally to adjust the head rest in an obvious manner. Any other suitable adjusting means may be
45 provided. Otherwise the rest or support may be of the general type already described.

It is obvious that any suitable seating may be employed in connection with the
50 frame 1, the seating being preferably of either wire or cloth. In Figs. 1, 3 and elsewhere, I have indicated a textile seating 41 applied in any suitable manner to the frame.

It is apparent from the foregoing description that the shoulder support herein disclosed is of simple yet effective construction and that if desired it may readily be detached from the head suspension end, so as to permit the mattress to be positioned
60 flatwise upon the frame of the hammock.

Having thus described one illustrative embodiment of my invention, I desire it to be understood that although specific terms are employed, they are used in a generic and
65 descriptive sense and not for purposes of

limitation, the scope of the invention being set forth in the following claims.

Claims:

1. A head and shoulder rest or support adapted for use with a couch hammock having a substantially flat body portion and upright suspension ends, said rest or support being flexible transversely and longitudinally of the hammock and positionable beneath the hammock mattress when the latter is inclined or flat, said rest or support having at its head end means for detachably suspending it at the head suspension end of the hammock whereby the strain of support is wholly transferred to the hammock head end suspension means, said rest or support at its lower end having a longitudinally sliding engagement with the flat portion of the hammock, whereby when the rest or support suspension means are detached from the hammock head suspension means, the rest or support may be slid toward the foot end of the hammock sufficiently to permit the flatwise positioning of said rest or support at the base of the head suspension end of the hammock, said rest or support having attached thereto along its upper end a pillow positionable upon the mattress when the latter is flat and at the head end thereof when the mattress is inclined.

2. A head and shoulder rest or support adapted for use with a couch hammock having a substantially flat body portion and upright suspension ends, said rest or support having a frame positionable at an incline beneath the head and shoulders of the user, and having at its head end suspension means, and a flexible connection between the latter and said head end of the frame and extending longitudinally of the frame, said suspension means being detachably engageable with the hammock head end suspension means, and said frame at its lower end having longitudinal play along the flat portion of the hammock.

3. A head and shoulder rest or support adapted for use with a couch hammock, having a substantially flat body portion and upright suspension ends, said rest or support being positionable at an incline beneath the head and shoulders of the user, suspension means therefor, and a pillow attached along its own upper transverse edge only, to the head end of said rest or support, whereby when the rest or support is positioned flatwise of the hammock the pillow is adapted to be superposed upon the hammock mattress and when the rest or support is inclined, it is adapted to lie at the head end of the mattress when the latter is supported in inclined position by said frame.

4. A head and shoulder rest or support adapted for use with a couch hammock, having a substantially flat body portion and up-

right suspension ends, said rest or support having a thin frame readily flexible transversely of the hammock so as to present no substantial obstruction to the hammock's occupant when said frame is positioned flatwise thereon, said frame being positionable at an incline beneath the head and shoulders of the user, and having at its head end means for detachably suspending it at the head suspension end of the hammock, said frame at its lower end having longitudinal play along the flat portion of the hammock.

5. A head and shoulder rest or support adapted for use with a couch hammock, having a substantially flat body portion and upright suspension ends, said rest or support having a wire frame flexible longitudinally and transversely of the hammock to present no substantial obstruction when flat, and positionable at an incline beneath the head and shoulders of the user and having at its head end means for detachably suspending it at the head suspension end of the hammock, said frame at its lower end having longitudinal play along the flat portion of the hammock.

6. A head and shoulder rest or support adapted for use with a couch hammock, having a substantially flat body portion and upright suspension ends, said rest or support having a frame positionable at an incline beneath the head and shoulders of the user, said frame having at its head end means for supporting the same at an incline as stated, said frame at its lower end having longitudinal play along the flat portion of the hammock, and a pillow attached along its upper transverse edge only, adjacent the upper end of said frame, whereby said pillow, when the rest or support is positioned flatwise of the hammock, may be superposed upon the hammock mattress, and when the rest or support is inclined, may lie at the head end of the mattress when the latter is supported in inclined position by the frame.

7. A head and shoulder rest or support adapted for use with a couch hammock, having a substantially flat body portion and upright suspension ends, said rest or support having a frame thin and readily flexible longitudinally and transversely of the hammock to present no substantial obstruction when flat, and positionable at an incline beneath the head and shoulders of the user, said frame having at its head end means for supporting it at an incline as described, and having at its lower end longitudinal play along the flat portion of the hammock.

8. A head and shoulder rest or support adapted for use with a couch hammock, having a substantially flat body portion and upright suspension ends, said rest or support having a frame positionable at an incline beneath the head and shoulders of the

user said frame having a cloth strip secured transversely thereto at its head end, frame suspension means connected to said cloth strip whereby said frame may be suspended by said cloth strip at the head suspension end of the hammock, said frame at its lower end having longitudinal play along the flat portion of the hammock.

9. A head and shoulder rest or support adapted for use with a couch hammock, having a substantially flat body portion and upright suspension ends, said rest or support having a frame positionable at an incline beneath the head and shoulders of the user, said frame having at its head end means for supporting the same at an incline as stated, and at its lower end having longitudinal play along the flat portion of the hammock, said rest or support having at its head end a pillow attached thereto along its upper edge only, said pillow, when the rest or support is positioned flatwise of the hammock, being adapted to be superimposed upon the hammock mattress, and when the rest or support is inclined, to lie at the head end of the mattress when the latter is supported in inclined position by the frame, and substantially triangular valances at the side edges of said frame.

10. A head and shoulder rest or support for couch hammocks, comprising a thin flexible frame having suspension means at its head end, said frame being attached to the under side of the hammock mattress at its head end, whereby when said member is suspended, the head end of the mattress is supported at an incline, and whereby when the frame is flat, the mattress may rest flatwise thereon and the frame present no substantial obstruction to the hammock user.

11. A head and shoulder rest or support for couch hammocks, &c., comprising a frame positionable at an angle beneath the head and shoulders of the user, said frame having no substantial bearing engagement at its upper end with the head end of the hammock, a flexible strip or band connected to the frame and extending longitudinally of the frame from the head end thereof, and frame suspension means connected to said strip or band whereby said strip or band constitutes the sole head-end-support for said rest or support, said strip or band and suspension means holding the head end of the frame in substantially fixed relation to the head end of the hammock.

12. A head and shoulder rest or support for couch hammocks, &c., comprising a thin flexible frame presenting no substantial obstruction to the hammock user when flat, said frame being positioned at an angle beneath the head and shoulders of the user, a flexible suspension strip or band connected to the frame and extending longitudinally of the frame from the head end thereof, and

frame suspension means connected to said strip or band and detachable from its support whereby the frame may be positioned flatwise.

13. A head and shoulder rest or support for couch hammocks, &c., comprising a thin flexible frame presenting no substantial obstruction to the hammock user when flat, said frame being positionable at an incline beneath the head and shoulders of the user, a flexible suspension strip or band connected to the frame and extending longitudinally of the frame from the head end thereof, a pillow attached along its upper transverse edge only to said strip or band and having its lower edge loose, and frame suspension means connected to said strip or band.

14. A head and shoulder rest or support for couch hammocks, &c., comprising a frame extending at a downward incline beneath the head and shoulders of the user at the head end of the hammock, and flexible suspension means connected to said frame and suspending said frame at the head end of the hammock in substantially fixed relation to said head end, said frame being substantially wholly supported at its head end

by said suspension means, whereby in use said frame pulls downward upon the hammock-head suspension means, and bulging of the hammock-head end by the frame is substantially avoided.

15. A head and shoulder rest or support for couch hammocks consisting of a frame positioned at an incline beneath the head and shoulders of the user and at its head end being substantially out of contact and bearing-support with the head end of the hammock when in use, said frame having at its head end suspension means for suspending the frame at the head suspension end of the hammock and supporting said frame in substantially fixed relation to the head end of the hammock, said suspension means receiving the strain of frame suspension when in use and preventing bulging of the hammock head end by said frame.

In testimony whereof, I have signed my name to this specification, in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

ISAAC E. PALMER.

Witnesses:

FRED. E. FOWLER,
GEO. C. HAINS.