

No. 856,580.

PATENTED JUNE 11, 1907.

L. C. HANTSKE.
SELF ROCKING CRADLE.
APPLICATION FILED OCT. 2, 1906.

Fig. 1.

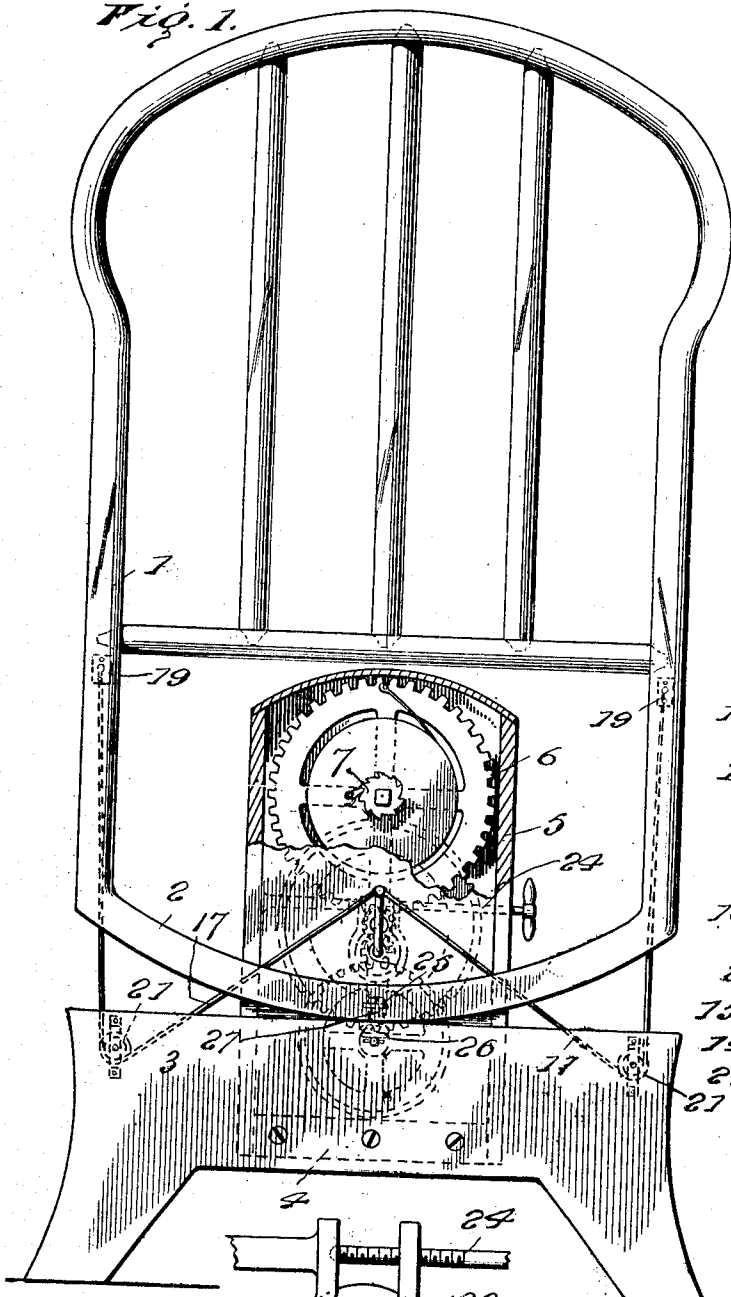


Fig. 5.

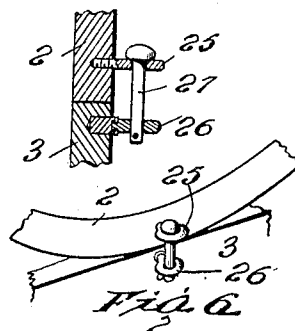


Fig. 6.

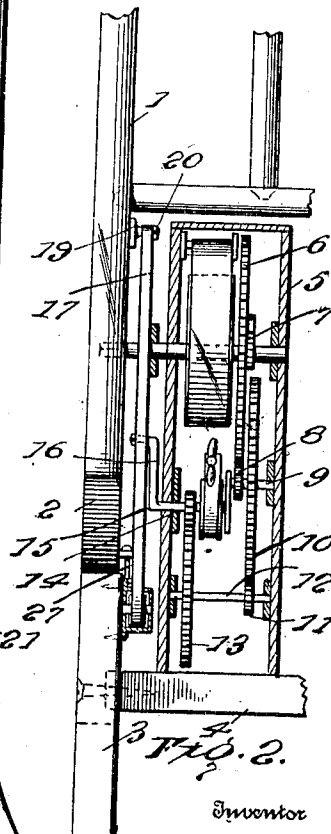


Fig. 3.

Witnesses

Fig. 3.

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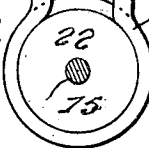


Fig. 4.



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SELF-ROCKING CRADLE.

No. 856,580.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented June 11, 1907.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, LEO C. HANTSKE, a citizen of the United States, residing at Baltimore, State of Maryland, have invented certain new and useful improvements in Self-Rocking Cradles, of which the following is a specification.

The primary object of my invention is to provide an improved self-rocking cradle which may be applied practically to a cradle structure of any of the ordinary types, without the necessity of special tools or special knowledge of mechanics, and which will be of simple and durable construction, and of efficient operation.

A further object of the invention is to provide, more specifically, an attachment for a cradle which embodies a spring motor designed to automatically rock the cradle and which also embodies a novel construction and arrangement of actuating straps or cords that may be attached to convenient portions of the cradle to rock the same, and the invention also has for its object to provide improved means for holding the rockers of the cradle in position on the sills or end members of the supporting frame that carries the motor mechanism.

For a full description of the invention and the merits thereof and also to acquire a knowledge of the details of construction of the means for effecting the result, reference is to be had to the following description and accompanying drawings, in which:

Figure 1 is an end elevation of a cradle embodying the improvements of my invention. Fig. 2 is a side elevation of one end of the cradle. Fig. 3 is a detail view of a regulating or brake mechanism employed. Fig. 4 is a detail perspective view illustrating the connection between the actuating strap and its crank. Fig. 5 is a detail sectional view illustrating the means for holding the rockers of the cradle on the supporting frame. Fig. 6 is a perspective view of the parts illustrated in Fig. 5.

Corresponding and like parts are referred to in the following description and indicated in all the views of the drawings by the same reference characters.

Referring to the drawings the numeral 1 designates a cradle which may be of any of the ordinary designs or types, and 2 designates the rockers thereof.

3 designates one end of a supporting frame, the two ends of which are connected together by longitudinal bars 4.

Mounted upon the bars 4 or otherwise secured within the frame, is a motor casing 5 within which is mounted the spring actuated master wheel 6 having a ratchet and pawl mechanism 7, the pinion 8 meshing with said master wheel and mounted upon the shaft 9. the gear wheel 10 also secured upon said shaft and meshing with the pinion 11 on a counter shaft 12, and the gear wheel 13 secured on the shaft 12 and meshing with a pinion 14 on the actuating crank shaft 15.

To the outwardly projecting end of the crank 16 of the shaft 15, the actuating strap 17 is connected preferably by means of a loop or eye 18 intermediate of its length and loosely receiving the said end of the crank. The actuating strap or cord 17 passes from the crank shaft in opposite directions under pulleys 21 mounted in boxes on one side of the adjacent end member of the frame, and the ends of said strap pass upwardly from these pulleys and are provided at their extremities with loops which are slipped over pins 19 projecting from plates secured to the end of the cradle, the said loops of the strap being secured on said pins by nuts 20 or similar detachable fastening means.

It is to be understood that the two rockers 2 of the cradle are supported upon the end members of the supporting frame, as indicated in Fig. 1. Hence, as the gearing before described is actuated by the spring operated master wheel 6, the crank shaft 15 will be rotated and the crank 16 revolved to first pull upon one end of the actuating strap or cord 17 and then upon the other end, the pull alternating and obviously causing the cradle to rock from side to side. Preferably the pins 19 and pulleys 21 are in vertical alinement with each other so that a direct downward pull will be exerted on each side of the cradle alternately.

In order to regulate the speed with which the cradle rocks, and to stop it entirely if desired, I have in the present instance provided a friction drum 22, fixed on the crank shaft 15 and have also provided a friction band 23 preferably of flexible metal, said band partially encircling the drum as indicated best in Fig. 3. One end of this band is stationary and is secured to the motor casing 5 by a

cross bar or the like, while the other end of said band is provided with a screw threaded aperture in which the threaded end of a regulating rod 24 works. By manipulating this rod, the band 23 may be caused to frictionally engage the periphery of the drum 22 to a greater or less degree, for the purposes above set forth.

It is essential in an apparatus of this character that means be provided to hold the rockers of the cradle in their proper position upon the upper edge of the end members 3.

In the present instance I have illustrated for this purpose, loops or eyes 25 and 26, secured respectively to the rockers and to the said end members of the supporting frame, at the middle of the rockers, as illustrated in Fig. 1. The lowermost loop or eye 26 which is secured to each of the end members 3 of the supporting frame, is adapted to have a swiveling or rocking movement in a vertical plane, and a connecting pin 27 is inserted through both of said eyes and has a slightly oscillatory movement with the lower eye when the cradle is rocked. By this arrangement it is obvious that the cradle will be free to rock about its median line while at the same time all sidewise slipping of the rockers on the end members of the supporting frame will be prevented.

From the foregoing description in connection with the accompanying drawings, it will be seen that I have provided a very simple and efficient construction of self-rocking cradle, the parts of which will be durable and not liable to get out of order.

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

1. A device of the character described, comprising a supporting framework, a cradle mounted to rock on said framework, a motor driven crank shaft in said framework, pulleys mounted in the framework below one of

the rockers of the cradle, and an actuating strap connected at an intermediate point to the crank of said shaft, said crank extending in opposite directions from said shaft and underneath said pulleys and thence extending upwardly, the ends of said strap being connected to the opposite sides of said cradle at points substantially vertical to the pulleys whereby as the crank turns a direct downward pull will be exerted first upon one side of the cradle and then upon the other.

2. A device of the character described, comprising a supporting frame work, a cradle mounted to rock on said frame work, a motor driven crank shaft mounted in said frame work, pulleys mounted in the frame work below one of the rockers of the cradle, and an actuating strap connected at an intermediate point to the crank of said shaft, said strap extending in opposite directions from said crank and underneath said pulleys and thence extending upwardly, the ends of said strap being connected to opposite sides of the cradle.

3. A device of the character described, comprising a supporting frame work, a cradle mounted to rock on said framework, a motor driven crank shaft mounted in said frame work, pulleys mounted in the frame work below one of the rockers of the cradle, and an actuating strap having an eye at an intermediate point designed to receive one end of the crank of said shaft, said strap extending in opposite directions from the eye and underneath said pulleys and thence upwardly, the ends of said strap being connected to the opposite sides of the cradle.

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

LEO C. HANTSKE. [L. s.]

Witnesses:

ARTHUR BALLACH,
CONRAD LEHR.