

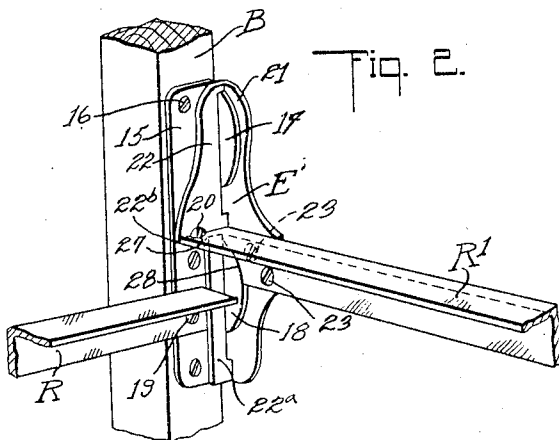
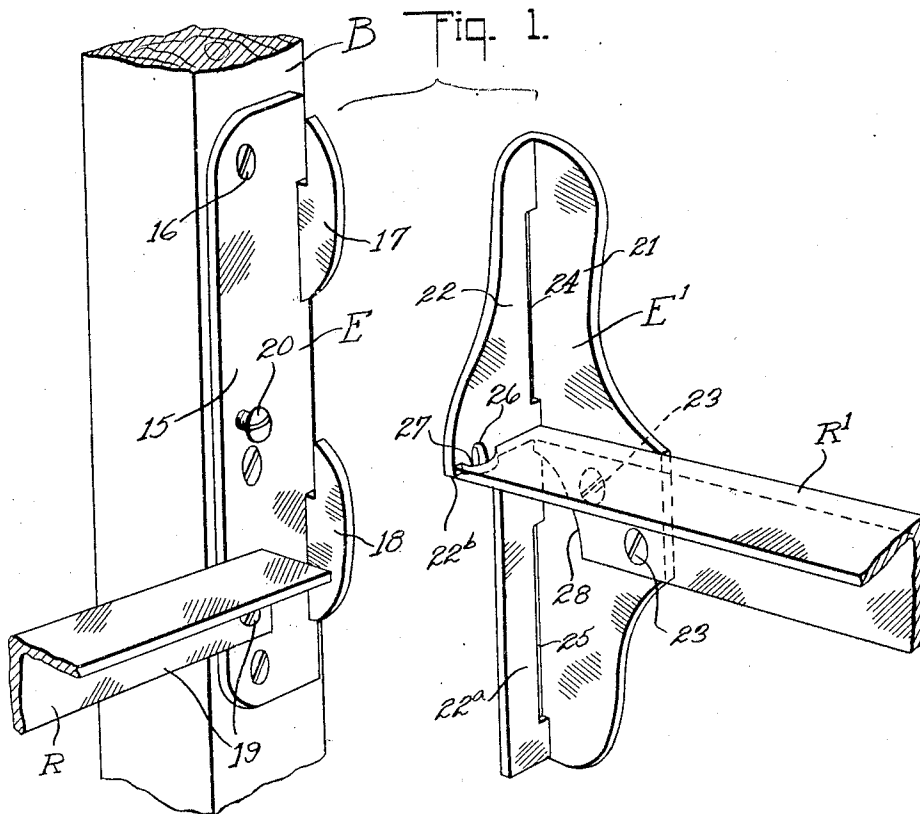
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CONNECTER FOR RAILS

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CONNECTER FOR RAILS

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My invention relates to connectors for rails, and particularly, although not necessarily, to connectors for the rails of beds.

A purpose of my invention is the provision of a bed rail connector which is characterized by its structural simplicity, low cost of manufacture, ready applicability to the conventional bed rails and posts, and effectiveness in maintaining the adjacent ends of a pair of bed rails connected to each other and to a bed post in a manner to fixedly secure them against movement relatively and yet permit the easy detaching thereof as required when dismantling the bed.

I will described only one form of bed rail connector embodying my invention and will then point out the novel features in claims.

Fig. 1 is a view showing in perspective one form of connector embodying my invention in applied position to the rails and one post of a bed and with the elements thereof detached from each other; and

Fig. 2 is a view similar to Fig. 1 with the elements of the connector in connected position.

Referring specifically to the drawings, my invention in its present embodiment comprises two main elements designated generally at E and E', the element E being adapted for connection to a bed post B and to an end rail R, while the element E' is adapted for connection to a side rail R', it being understood that the rails R and R' are conventional parts of a bed frame.

The element E, in the present instance, comprises a plate 15 of metal or other suitable material secured to one side of the bed post B by means of screws 16 extending through the plate and into the post at intervals along the length thereof. This plate 15 is elongated in form and is slightly less in width than that of the bed post. Along its outer vertical edge the plate is provided at spaced points with upwardly extending hook members 17 and 18 having rounded outer edges, as illustrated,

for the purpose of facilitating their insertion into slots of the element E' and for another purpose to be described hereinafter. Adjacent the hook member 18 the rail R is secured to the plate 15 by means of a screw 19 while above the hook member 18 and between the latter and the member 17 is a headed projection 20 in the form of a screw and hence adjustable in the plate 15 to vary the spacing of the screw head with respect to the surface of the plate.

The element E' is constructed from a relatively short length of angle iron so as to provide portions 21 and 22 disposed at right angles to each other, the portion 21 being secured to the rail R' by means of screws 23 and in such manner that the end of the rail is in abutting relation to the portion 22. At its point of connection with the portion 21, the portion 22 is provided with vertical slots 24 and 25 disposed at opposite sides of the rail R' and positioned to receive the hook members 17 and 18, respectively. Beneath the horizontal portion of the rail R' the portion 22 is reduced in width, as indicated at 22^a, in order that the portion may be accommodated between the rail R and the lower hook member 18 when the element E' is in applied position on the element E.

By the reduced portion 22^a a right angle shoulder 22^b is formed at the upper end of the reduced portion which is flush with the under side of the horizontal portion of the rail R'. To accommodate the screw 20, the shoulder 22^b is formed with a recess 26 to receive the shank of the screw while the adjacent edge of the rail R' is provided with a relatively large recess 27 for receiving the head of the screw 20.

In the applied position of the element E' on the element E, as illustrated in Fig. 2, the hook members 17 and 18 are first extended into the slots 24 and 25 when the element E' is forced downwardly causing the hook member to engage the element E' at the inner side

of the portion 22 so as to lie contiguous to the inner side of the portion 21. The element E' may be forced downwardly until the screw 20 passes into the recesses 26 and 27 thus causing the portion 22 to engage beneath the head of the screw. In this manner the screw acts to lock the portion 22 against outward movement with respect to the plate 15, and by virtue of its spaced position with respect to the hook members 17 and 18 it will be manifest that it functions to secure the element E' against horizontal wobbling movement on the element E. Thus the two elements are fixedly secured to each other against wobbling movement horizontally so that in actual practice movement of the bed rails with respect to each other and to the post B is prevented and as a consequence a rigid bed frame is produced. It will, of course, be understood that the locking function of the screw 20 does not prevent the ready detaching of the element E' from the element E when it is desired to dismount the bed frame, as the element E' can be readily removed from the hook members 17 and 18 by forcing the element E' upwardly until free of the hook members and the screw 20.

In the connected position of the elements E and E' it is important to note that the rail R' seats on the lower hook member 18 by reason of a curved edge 28 on the vertical portion of the rail R'. The curvature of this edge corresponds to that of the outer edge of the hook member 18 so that in the connected position of the elements E and E' the hook member coacts with the rail R' in limiting the downward movement of the element E' on the element E so as to relieve the screw 20 of undue strain or stress and yet permit the screw to perform its locking function.

By virtue of the fact that the head projection 20 is adjustable in the plate 15, the spacing of the screw head can be varied as required to accommodate elements E' having portions 22 of different thicknesses, and in a manner to cause the head of the screw to effectively secure the element against horizontal wobbling movement. As a consequence, with four connectors constructed in accordance with my invention applied to the four corners of a bed frame, a strong and rigid frame is produced with the rails firmly held in right angular relation and yet capable of being readily detached from each other when required.

Although I have herein shown and described only one form of connector for rails embodying my invention, it is to be understood that various changes and modifications may be made herein without departing from the spirit of the invention and the spirit and scope of the appended claims.

I claim:

1. In combination, an element adapted to be secured to a bed post and having spaced

hook members thereon, a second element having slots receiving the hook members, a bed rail secured to the second element and having a portion adapted to seat on one of said hook members, when the two elements are connected to each other, and coacting means on the elements for detachably securing the latter to each other in a relation to the hook members to secure the latter against wobbling movement in said slots.

2. In combination, an element adapted to be secured to a bed post and having spaced hook members thereon, a second element of angular form having slots spaced to receive the hook members so as to be supported on the first element by said members, said slots being adjacent the corner of the second element so that the hook members when within the slots will be contiguous to that surface of the element disposed at an angle to the first element, means on the confronting surfaces of the elements coacting to retain the hook members against horizontal wobbling movement in respect to the second element, and a bed rail secured to the second element and constructed to seat on the lower hook member in the manner and for the purpose described.

3. In combination, an element adapted to be secured to a bed rail and having a pair of spaced hook members, a second element having slots receiving the hook members and reduced in width to provide a transverse shoulder between its ends, a bed rail secured to the second element and having one end adjacent and above said shoulder, recesses in the said rail end and transverse shoulder, and a headed member on the first element between and laterally of the hook members to pass into the said recesses and engaged with the second element in a manner to coact with the hook members in securing the two elements against wobbling movement.

4. In combination, an element adapted to be secured to a bed post and to a bed rail, a pair of hook members on the element, one of which is adjacent but spaced from the confronting end of the said bed rail, a second element having slots receiving the hook members and reduced in width to provide a transverse shoulder between the ends thereof and a relatively narrow portion below said shoulder, said narrow portion being received between the said hook member and the confronting end of said bed rail, a bed rail secured to the second element and having one end adjacent and above said shoulder, recesses in the said rail end and transverse shoulder, and a headed member on the first element between and laterally of the hook members to pass into the said recesses and engage the second element in a manner to secure the two elements against wobbling movement.

5. A combination as embodied in claim 4

wherein said bed rail end is provided with a portion adapted to seat on one of the hook members.

5 6. In combination, an element adapted to be secured to a bed post and having spaced hook members thereon, a second element hav-
ing slots receiving the hook members, and a
bed rail secured to the second element and
10 having a portion adapted to seat on one of said hook members, when the two elements are connected to each other.

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