

(No Model.)

C. V. REEVES.
HEAD REST FOR BEDS.

No. 471,895.

Patented Mar. 29, 1892.

Fig. 1.

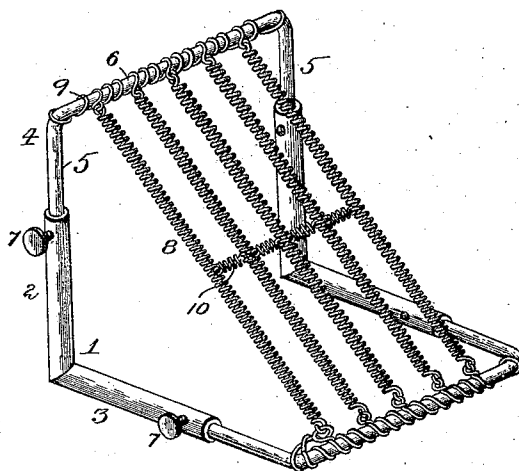


Fig. 2.

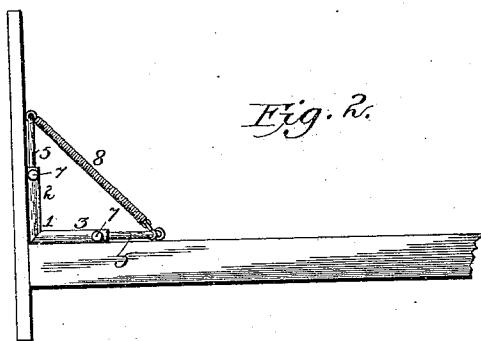
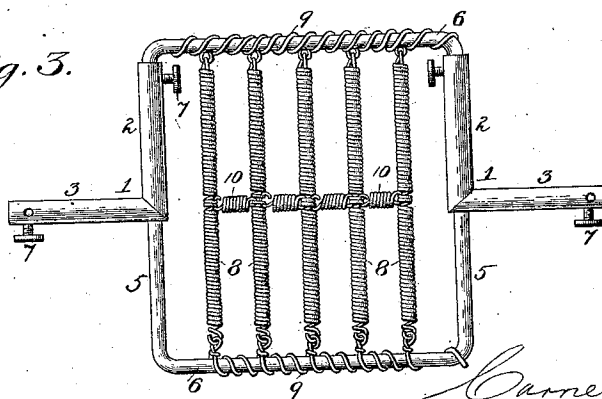


Fig. 3.



Witnesses

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HEAD-REST FOR BEDS.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 471,895, dated March 29, 1892.

Application filed November 27, 1891. Serial No. 413,306. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, CARRIE V. REEVES, a citizen of the United States, residing at Baltimore, State of Maryland, have invented new and useful Improvements in Head-Rests for Beds, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to head-rests for invalid-beds and other analogous uses, the object thereof being to provide simple and inexpensive means by which a considerable range of adjustment may be obtained in the inclination of the supporting fabric without materially increasing the dimensions of the frame as compared with those having a less range of adjustment.

It is my purpose, in other words, to provide a head-rest having two independent adjustments for inclination, first, viz: a horizontal adjustment, whereby the transverse bar to which the lower edge of the supporting fabric is attached is drawn away from or moved toward the head of the couch, thereby putting the supporting fabric under increased or diminished tension and inclining it at a respectively smaller or greater angle with the horizontal, and, second, a vertical adjustment, whereby the transverse bar to which the raised edge of the fabric is attached shall be raised or lowered either independently or in conjunction with the horizontal adjustment, whereby the angle of inclination may be varied and the elastic fabric subjected to greater or less tension, or the angle of inclination preserved substantially, but the elastic supporting fabric stretched to have increased or decreased area and a greater or less elastic tension to adapt it to a larger or smaller person and to different weights.

It is my purpose, finally, to provide a head-rest adapted to the use of invalids and others, consisting of but two different parts, each duplicated, the whole capable of being almost instantaneously knocked down flat and packed in the smallest possible compass without detached parts, and by reason of the simplicity of its duplicate parts being adapted to reversal when in use, end for end and side for side, to prevent unequal wear and local sagging of the fabric.

The invention consists in the several novel features of construction and new combina-

tions of parts hereinafter fully set forth, and then more particularly pointed out and defined in the claims which conclude this specification.

To enable others to understand and to make, construct, and use my said invention, I will proceed to describe the same in detail, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of a head-rest constructed in accordance with my invention. Fig. 2 is an end elevation of the same. Fig. 3 is a plan view showing one method of stowing or packing the head-rest.

In the said drawings, the reference-numeral 1 indicates one of the two duplicate angle-brackets constituting the rigid supports for the adjustable members of the head-rest. These angle-brackets consist, usually, of portions of metallic pipe bent at or near the middle at a right angle, or substantially so, thus forming arms 2 and 3, either of which may constitute the supporting-base. The length of the tubular arms may be varied considerably, if desired, and one may be of greater length than the other should circumstances require it. These angle-brackets I usually form of brass; but any other suitable material may be used, such as metal or an alloy or composition of metals, or even wood. The arms 2 and 3 also may be tubular for a portion of their length only and the brackets may be solid at their vertices; but I prefer for cheapness to use tubing, which combines strength and lightness in a suitable degree.

The numeral 4 indicates one of the supports for the fabric, usually formed of metal or other suitable material and consisting of two substantially parallel arms 5, united by a straight bar 6, formed in one piece with the arms 2 and 3 and lying at right angles to said arms. The length of the intermediate bar 6 is usually about equal to the width of the bed in order that the head-rest may sustain both pillows and preserve the symmetry of the bed.

The arms 5 are inserted in either the horizontal or the vertical arms 2 or 3, and they are fastened at suitable points by means of clamping-screws 7, tapped through the walls of the tubular portions near their open ends. Any other suitable form of clamping or locking device may be used in place of screws—

such, for example, as cams—and these devices may be arranged either upon the external or the internal portions of the tubular arms. It should be noted, however, that by simply reversing the duplicate brackets the fastenings may be brought outside or inside, as described. There are two of the supporting-bars 5, either being a substantial duplicate of the other.

The supporting fabric I form, preferably, of helical springs of small diameter and closely coiled. Coils 8 of this kind are connected at their ends to the bars 6 in any preferred manner—as, for example, by hooking the said ends into a wire 9, wound spirally upon each bar 6. These springs are placed at any required interval and are connected transversely by short coils 10, arranged intermediately. I have shown in the drawings a single series of these intermediate coils; but a plurality of series may be used, if desirable. I may also use any form of supporting fabric having sufficient elasticity longitudinally. Either bar 6 may be adjusted separately, or both conjointly. If less inclination be desired than can be afforded by dropping the upper bar, the duplicate bar may be drawn horizontally away from the angle-brackets till the required adjustment is made. The opposite effect is produced by raising the upper bar 6. By adjusting both about equally the inclination of the fabric may be maintained without change; but the area of the fabric will be enlarged and its tension increased, this being at times an adjustment of much importance to adapt the head-rest to the use of very heavy persons. By reversing the device, either end for end or bottom for top, the wear may be caused to fall upon nearly all points equally and the unequal stretching of the fabric is to a considerable degree avoided.

By releasing the clamping-screws or other locking devices and drawing either pair of arms 5 out of their tubular seats the angle-brackets may be laid flat by simply turning their horizontal portions axially, the vertical arms being usually turned inward or toward each other. The fabric is then laid down, and, if necessary, it may be brought into substantially the same horizontal plane with the angle-brackets by simply turning the vertical arms of the latter outward or away from each other. In either position the parts composing the head-rests are all connected together

and there are no loose parts to become lost or misplaced. In the manner described the entire head-rest may be quickly and easily stowed beneath the mattress of an ordinary bed.

I may form threaded openings 12 for the set-screws upon more than one part of each arm 2 and 3 of the angle-brackets to enable the screws 7 to be inserted in different directions or to be so placed when the angle-brackets are turned down flat that their milled heads will not rest upon the floor or upon the surface sustaining the folding head-rest.

What I claim is—

1. A head-rest for invalid-beds and other uses, consisting of angle-brackets, each having two tubular rigid arms substantially at a right angle with each other, transverse bars extending from bracket to bracket and having parallel arms entering the tubular arms and fastened therein at any suitable point, and a fabric connected to said transverse bars, substantially as described.

2. In a head-rest, the combination, with angle-brackets, each having a horizontal and a vertical arm, of supporting-bars having parallel arms entering the said arms of the angle-brackets, means for locking the same at any point of adjustment, and an elastic fabric connected to said supporting-bars, substantially as described.

3. In a head-rest, the combination, with angle-brackets, each consisting of a section of metallic pipe bent between the ends to form a horizontal and a vertical arm, of supporting-bars having rigid arms parallel with each other and at right angles with the intermediate supporting-bars to enable them to be inserted and adjusted longitudinally in the horizontal or vertical arms of the angle-brackets, clamping devices locking the same at suitable points of adjustment, and a fabric composed of helical springs attached at their ends to the supporting-bars and having intermediate transverse elastic connection, substantially as described.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand and affixed my seal in presence of two subscribing witnesses.

CARRIE V. REEVES. [L. s.]

Witnesses:

J. M. HALLMAN,
A. M. JOHNSON.