(No Model.)

R. B. COFFMAN.

BED.

No. 598,473. Patented Feb. 1, 1898.

Fig. 1.

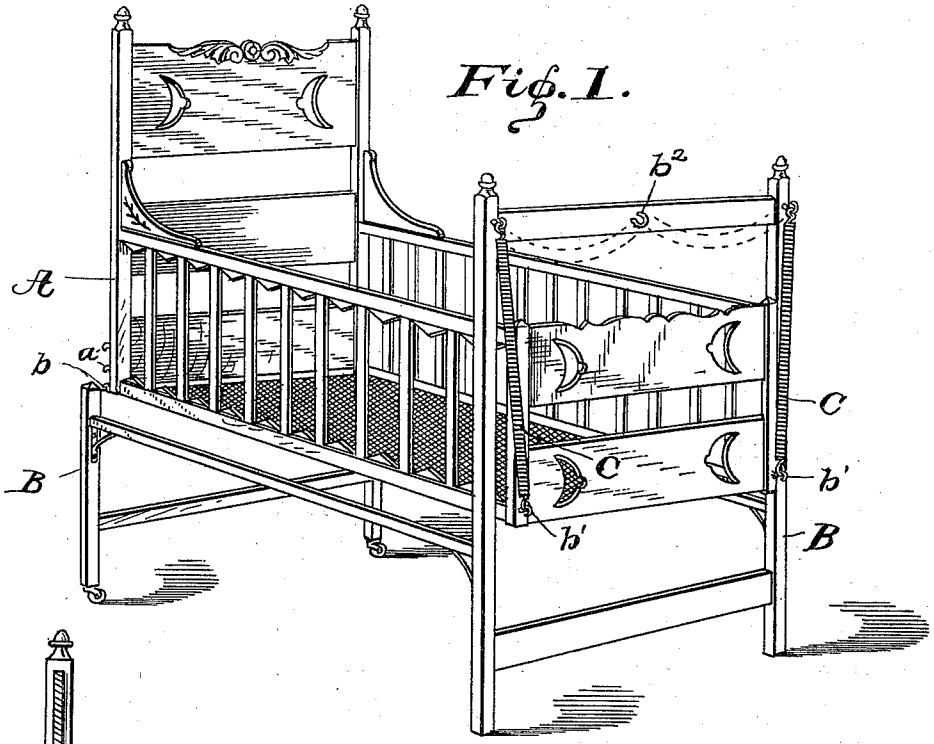
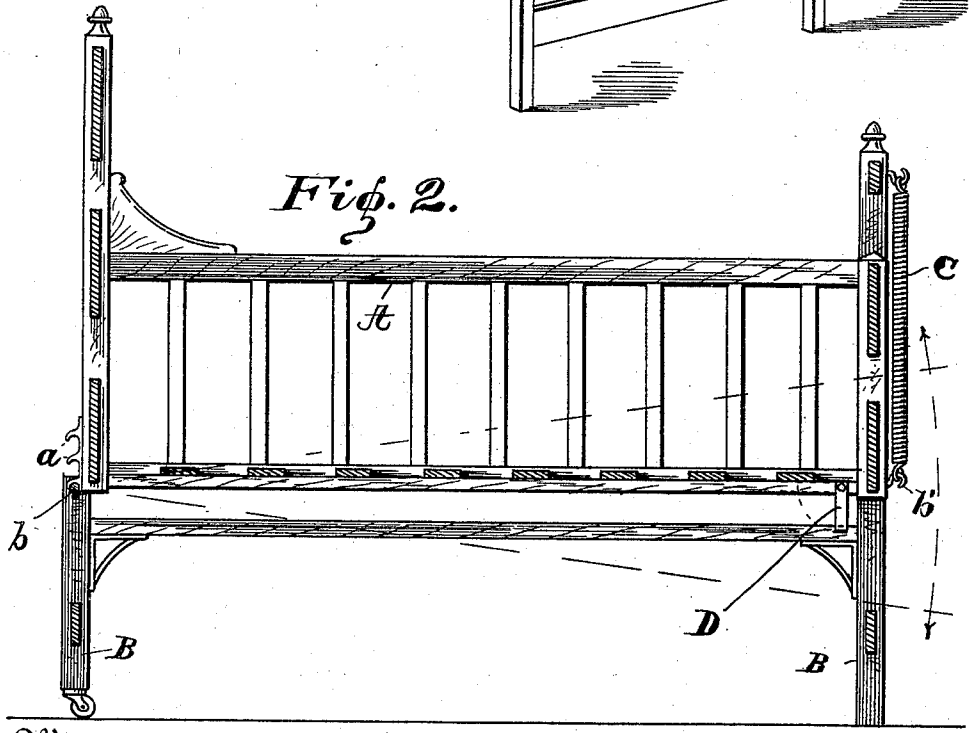


Fig. 2.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

RALPH B. COFFMAN, OF INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA, ASSIGNOR OF ONE-HALF TO MARY E. DEARINGER, OF SAME PLACE.

BED.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 598,473, dated February 1, 1898.

Application filed August 9, 1897. Serial No. 647,524. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, RALPH B. COFFMAN, a citizen of the United States, residing at Indianapolis, in the county of Marion and State of Indiana, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Beds, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to elastically-supported cradles and beds; and the objects are, first, to impart a maximum movement to the foot of the bed, which decreases gradually in amplitude from the foot to the head, where the minimum movement will be practically nothing, thereby conducing to the health and comfort of the occupant, and, second, to provide means for rendering the bed practical for people of different weight.

I accomplish the objects of the invention by the mechanism illustrated in the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a view in perspective of a child's bed equipped with my improvements; and Fig. 2 is a view in longitudinal vertical section of the bed as shown in Fig. 1, except that the adjustable leg is down in position to counteract the swinging movement of the bed.

Similar letters of reference indicate like parts throughout both views of the drawings.

In the annexed drawings, A represents the body of the bed, which is suspended from a frame B. The front posts of this frame are connected by the transverse rod *b*, and outside hooks *a* on the head of the bed sustain that end by engagement with the rod in the manner as shown in the drawings. The frame-posts at the foot of the bed are projected up above the bed-body, and from them the bed-body is suspended by means of the springs C C, which will preferably be spirally-wound wire springs, but may be of any suitable elastic material, as rubber or the like. Outside hooks *b'* on the foot of the bed-body provide means for detachably fastening the springs C C to said body, and the latter will be suspended by said springs.

The bed-body will vibrate about the rod *b*, and the tension of the springs should be sufficient to maintain the foot of the bed approximately on a level with the head when the occupant is lying quietly in the bed. A plurality of hooks *a*, arranged in vertical series, will be provided, whereby when the weight is so great that the bed inclines constantly toward the foot the head can be lowered by changing the rod into one of the upper hooks. The drawings illustrate a child's bed, and the rod is in the lowest hook; but as the child grows in size the hooks above will be brought successively into use, and when the springs are finally inadequate to support the child the vibrating feature of the bed may be dispensed with by swinging the legs D down into contact with the longitudinal bars connecting the head and foot posts of the frame together, whereby both ends of the bed-body will be immovably supported.

The legs D are short wooden or metal bars, which are pivotally secured to the bed-rail and are long enough to reach the top of the longitudinal bars connecting the head and foot posts of the frame and support the foot end of the bed on a level with the head. The legs are pivotally secured, whereby they may be folded up against the side of the bed-rail when not in use.

When the springs C C are not required to support the bed, they can be removed from the hooks *b'* and the lower ends caught over the hook b^2 on the frame.

It is not desired to limit this invention to child's beds, because the same swinging movement applied to beds for all sizes of people will add greatly to the comfort of those who occupy them, and for heavy people the necessary strength in the means of suspension will be secured by increasing the number of springs, by which the foot of the bed-body will be suspended from the supporting-frame.

As the swinging movement of the bed has a tendency to cause the bed to slide forward over the floor, I prefer to use rollers only under the two front posts of the frame. The posts at the foot being without rollers, will increase the friction and prevent the crawling forward of the bed.

By pivoting the bed-body at the head and elastically suspending the foot the motion will be imparted almost wholly to the middle and lower extremities of the body, and the head will remain comparatively quiet.

Having thus fully described my invention, what I claim as new, and wish to secure by Letters Patent of the United States, is--

1. In a bed, the combination, with a portable frame having a transverse rod, of a bed-body having a double series of vertically-arranged hooks to engage said transverse rod on the frame said hooks being at the head end of the bed, and springs connected at one of their ends with the frame and at their other ends with the bed-body, all substantially as described and for the purposes specified.

2. The combination, with a frame, of a bed-body pivotally secured at its head end to the frame and elastically suspended therefrom at its foot end and having legs pivoted to said bed-body close to the foot of the bed and adapted to be turned down against the frame, substantially as described and for the purposes specified.

In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and seal, at Indianapolis, Indiana, this 19th day of July, A. D. 1897.

RALPH B. COFFMAN. [L. S.]

Witnesses:
J. A. MINTURN,
CARL SCHLEGEL.